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Contact:

Redmond Haskins
The Legal Aid Society
(929) 441-2384
rhaskins@legal-aid.org

*****FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*****

***LEGAL AID DEcries CITY'S FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH
DISCLOSURE LAWS ON LITIGATION ALLEGING
MISCONDUCT BROUGHT AGAINST NYPD OFFICERS***

(NEW YORK, NY) – The Legal Aid Society condemned the New York City Law Department for failing to comply with [Local Law 166](#), which requires the disclosure of all "actions, claims, complaints, and investigations" regarding civil actions alleging misconduct brought against officers, as [reported](#) today by the *New York Post*.

In July, [CAPstat](#) found over 300 civil actions against New York City police officers that were not included in the Law Department's reporting. The Legal Aid Society alerted the New York City Law Department of this omission. The Law Department responded by admitting its error in excluding some of the actions and committed to rectifying it on future disclosures.

However, the Law Department also argued that Local Law 166 covers only claims that involve intentional or willful police misconduct, excluding any actions filed against the NYPD or its officers for "a wide variety of civil claims, including those involving motor vehicle accidents, employment actions and property management or damage."

The *New York Post* reported that the Law Department also failed to include 432 claims and civil actions brought against the NYPD that were settled prior to court intervention or filed more than five years ago. These settlements total a combined \$22 million.

"The City's Law Department obviously wants to limit the scope of the Local Law 166 to avoid disclosing the extent of police misconduct in New York City. Their narrow interpretation of the Law is a predictable effort to evade transparency and hide the significant costs of police misconduct. Members of the public should not be responsible for monitoring the Law Department's proper compliance with the

law. We urge the Law Department to reconsider their interpretation of the law in the spirit of transparency and accountability,” said **Julie Ciccolini, Data Scientist with the Special Litigation Unit at The Legal Aid Society.**

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The Legal Aid Society exists for one simple yet powerful reason: to ensure that New Yorkers are not denied their right to equal justice because of poverty. For over 140 years, we have protected, defended, and advocated for those who have struggled in silence for far too long. Every day, in every borough, The Legal Aid Society changes the lives of our clients and helps improve our communities.

<https://www.legalaidnyc.org>