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PRESS RELEASE

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D.A. McMahon: ‘Fresh Start’ event offers people a chance to resolve outstanding warrants

*** Staten Island’s first Summons Day event to be held Saturday ***

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. – Richmond County District Attorney Michael E. McMahon, along with our partners at the Office of Court Administration, NYPD, Legal Aid Society and Central Family Life Center, today announced that Staten Island will hold its first Summons Day event, Fresh Start. This event, which will take place Saturday, 11/19, is designed to offer people who have outstanding New York City summons warrants for loitering, drinking in public, riding a bicycle on the sidewalk, having an unleashed dog, and being in a public park after closing, etc., an opportunity to resolve those warrants, without fear of arrest at a community-based and trusted site. This program applies to summons warrants only, and not misdemeanor, felony, or transit warrants.

“By giving people an opportunity to have a ‘Fresh Start,’ we can build trust between law enforcement and the community and do the right thing by allowing these individuals to access opportunities for better employment, housing, and educational goals, which might otherwise be compromised with a warrant on their record,” said District Attorney Michael E. McMahon. “I would like to thank our partners, including the NYPD, Office of Court Administration, Legal Aid Society, Central Family Life Center and all others who helped to make this day possible.”

“We are pleased to work with the Staten Island District Attorney, the Legal Aid Society and the New York City Police Department to create a comfortable environment for individuals with warrants on these low-level offenses to return to Court on their own, resolve their cases and start anew without the threat of an arrest,” said Hon. Melissa Jackson, Administrative Judge of New York City Criminal Court. “Our judge and court staff have worked tirelessly to

create a courtroom and process to accomplish this in the community and we hope that many will take advantage of this event.”

The Fresh Start event will be held Saturday, 11/19, from 9:00AM–3:30PM at Central Family Life Center, located at 59 Wright Street, Staten Island, N.Y. 10304.

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