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MAYOR ADAMS ANNOUNCES CITY HALL, MULTIPLE MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS TO BE LIT BLUE, PINK, AND WHITE IN HONOR OF TRANSGENDER DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

NEW YORK – New York City Mayor Eric Adams today announced that City Hall and other municipal buildings will be lit blue, pink, and white in recognition of Transgender Day of Remembrance — a worldwide observance that honors the memory of transgender people whose lives were lost in acts of anti-transgender violence. Mayor Adams also <u>released a video this past</u> week to highlight Transgender Day of Remembrance and life in the transgender community.

"For too long, our transgender, gender non-conforming, and non-binary communities have been ignored, overlooked, marginalized, and forced into the shadows," said **Mayor Adams**. "Transgender people face disproportionately high numbers of poverty, health care challenges, and mortality rates, which is why it is critical that our city pauses to remember those we have lost and lift up the community as a whole. It is also important to remember that lifting up isn't passive, it's active, and it's about showing respect. Today, and every day, let us say in one voice to our transgender, gender non-conforming, and non-binary neighbors: In New York City, we see you, we respect you, and we stand with you always."

"Hate violence has claimed the lives of too many transgender, gender non-conforming, and non-binary people, so we are shining the lights of this city in memory of the lives lost to anti-transgender bigotry and violence," said **Mayor's Community Affairs Unit Commissioner**Fred Kreizman. "The City of New York will always stand with our TGNCNB community to ensure everyone can be safe and feel safe to be who they are."

In addition to City Hall, the following city buildings will be lit up blue, pink, and white tonight:

City Buildings Being Lit Up:

- Bronx County Courthouse
- The David N. Dinkins Manhattan Municipal Building
- Queens Borough Hall
- Staten Island Borough Hall
- DSNY Spring Street Salt Shed

Transgender Day of Remembrance was started in 1999 by transgender advocate Gwendolyn Ann Smith as a vigil to honor the memory of Rita Hester, a transgender woman who was killed in

1998. The vigil commemorated all the transgender people lost to violence since Rita Hester's death and began an important tradition that has become the annual Transgender Day of Remembrance.

The week before Transgender Day of Remembrance, people and organizers around the country participate in Transgender Awareness Week to help raise visibility for transgender people and address issues the community faces.

Mayor Adams today also <u>paid mournful tribute to the victims in Colorado Springs</u>, <u>Colorado</u> who were senselessly shot in an attack last night at an LGBTQ+ nightclub.

The Adams administration also <u>released a video in honor of Transgender Awareness Week</u> that details the administration's commitment to making New York City a haven for transgender, gender non-conforming, and non-binary (TGNCNB) people, reflected in the investments <u>announced by the Adams administration to support TGNCNB-led nonprofits, legal services</u>, and support for homeless youth.

For more information on New York City's protections against discrimination based on gender identity and expression, visit the NYC Human Rights website.

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