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## **TLDEF Responds to Report of Sexual Assault Against Transgender Woman at Stonewall Inn**

New York, NY - The Transgender Legal Defense & Education Fund (TLDEF) responded to news reports that a 25-year-old transgender woman was sexually assaulted last Saturday night in a single-occupancy bathroom at the Stonewall Inn in Manhattan's West Village. The victim sought treatment at Lenox Health Greenwich Village medical center. Police have released surveillance video of the suspect and are asking for the public's help in finding the man who perpetrated the attack. The New York City Anti-Violence Project is planning outreach in the West Village in the coming weeks to hand out safety information and resources.

### **Statement from TLDEF Executive Director Michael Silverman**

"We are extremely disturbed to hear about this sexual assault against a transgender woman and join the New York City LGBT community in condemning the attack. It is very troubling to learn that the incident took place at the Stonewall Inn, known as the birthplace of the LGBT rights movement and a place where all LGBT people should feel safe. Transgender women continue to face tremendous rates of violence and we must all do everything in our power to stop it. Our thoughts are with the woman who experienced this assault. We thank the NYPD for its efforts to find her attacker and bring him to justice."

Anyone with information is asked to call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-577-TIPS (8477).

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**About the Transgender Legal Defense & Education Fund (TLDEF):** TLDEF is committed to ending discrimination based upon gender identity and expression and to achieving equality for transgender people through public education, test-case litigation, direct legal services, and public policy efforts. Read more at: <http://transgenderlegal.org>.