PROTECTION & ADVOCACY FOR ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY (PAAT) PROPOSED PROGRAM PRIORITIES OCTOBER 1, 2017 to SEPTEMBER 30, 2018

Priority I
Advocate for and represent individuals with disabilities to obtain Assistive Technology (AT) to maximize independent living, whether in the community or within an institutional setting, with priority given to equipment routinely denied without individual consideration or due to a lack of prior approval for an item.

Priority II
Advocate for individuals with disabilities to have access to AT necessary to maintain or obtain competitive employment.

Priority III
Advocate for individuals with disabilities to receive AT while in school or while transitioning from school to ensure independent living, post-secondary schooling or competitive employment.

Priority IV
Conduct outreach and provide education and technical assistance to ensure that individuals with disabilities, families, advocacy groups, providers and policy makers, including underserved communities, throughout New York State know about DRNY, the P&A system, the PAAT program, and the rights of individuals with disabilities to access AT.

Objectives
- Identify and address systemic barriers to obtaining AT with specific focus on underserved communities including Veterans with AT needs;
- Educate and provide technical assistance to individuals with disabilities, families, providers, vendors, school personnel, advocacy groups and policy makers about the use

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of AT to improve access to independent living, school and post-secondary learning or employment;

- Conduct outreach about the P&A system, the PAAT program, and the rights of individuals with disabilities to access AT.