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13 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

14 NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA, SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION

15 CALIFORNIA COALITION FOR WOMEN  
PRISONERS; R.B.; A.H.R.; S.L.; J.L.; J.M.; G.M.;  
16 A.S.; and L.T., individuals on behalf of themselves  
and all others similarly situated,

17 Plaintiffs,

18 v.

19 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA FEDERAL  
BUREAU OF PRISONS, a governmental entity;  
20 BUREAU OF PRISONS DIRECTOR COLETTE  
PETERS, in her official capacity; FCI DUBLIN  
WARDEN THAHESHA JUSINO, in her official  
21 capacity; OFFICER BELLHOUSE, in his individual  
capacity; OFFICER GACAD, in his individual  
22 capacity; OFFICER JONES, in his individual  
capacity; LIEUTENANT JONES, in her individual  
23 capacity; OFFICER LEWIS, in his individual  
capacity; OFFICER NUNLEY, in his individual  
24 capacity; OFFICER POOL, in his individual capacity;  
LIEUTENANT PUTNAM, in his individual capacity;  
25 OFFICER SERRANO, in his individual capacity;  
OFFICER SHIRLEY, in his individual capacity;  
26 OFFICER SMITH, in his individual capacity; and  
OFFICER VASQUEZ, in her individual capacity,

27 Defendants.  
28

Case No. 3:23-cv-04155

**PLAINTIFFS’ NOTICE OF  
MOTION AND MEMORANDUM  
OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES  
IN SUPPORT OF MOTION FOR  
PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION**

Date: October 6, 2023  
Time: 9:30 am.  
Crtrm.: D, 15<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Place: 450 Golden Gate Avenue  
San Francisco, CA 94102

Judge: Hon. Joseph Spero

Trial Date: None Set

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1 **NOTICE OF MOTION AND MOTION**

2 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on October 6, 2023, or as soon thereafter as the matter  
3 may be heard by the above-entitled Court, located at Courtroom D – 15th Floor, 450 Golden Gate  
4 Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94102, Plaintiffs California Coalition for Women Prisoners  
5 (“CCWP”), R.B., A.H.R., S.L., J.L., J.M., G.M., A.S., and L.T. (collectively “proposed class  
6 representatives”) will and hereby do jointly move the Court for entry of an Order requiring  
7 Defendants to take the following immediate actions, and ask that the Court appoint a Special  
8 Master with sufficient resources and power to monitor and ensure Defendants’ compliance:

9 (i) submit to a comprehensive audit, by an outside agency mutually agreed  
10 upon by the Parties, of all policies concerning staff sexual abuse, reporting, and  
retaliation;

11 (ii) after such audit, implement changes to policies as recommended by the  
12 outside auditor and in consultation with organizational Plaintiff California  
Coalition of Women Prisoners (CCWP);

13 (iii) submit to quarterly site visits by the outside agency mutually agreed upon  
14 by the Parties, and provide public quarterly reports concerning: staff sexual abuse  
15 and retaliation, grievances against facility staff, and use of internal punitive  
measures (including use of solitary confinement, strip searches, cell searches, drug  
tests, and transfers);

16 (iv) end the use of solitary confinement or punitive segregation at FCI Dublin  
17 until such a time that it can be ensured that such confinement will not be used as  
18 part of a practice of retaliation against those who experience and report staff sexual  
abuse;

19 (v) develop a substantive process for the return of non-contraband items seized  
from individuals’ cells during searches;

20 (vi) develop and institute policies and procedures to provide high-quality offsite  
21 medical and mental health care for all members of the class, in accordance with  
accepted medical standards;

22 (vii) create a system to provide class members with documentation of reporting  
23 and participation in investigation of staff misconduct, and to streamline and support  
24 requests from class members for related relief (e.g. requests for release to less  
restrictive settings, requests for U-visa certifications); and

25 (viii) ensure that all class members have consistent, timely, and confidential  
26 access to legal counsel, including providing private meeting spaces for all attorney  
visits.

27 This motion is based on the Complaint filed August 16, 2023 (Dkt. 1), the concurrently  
28 filed Motion for Provisional Class Certification, this Notice of Motion and Motion, the

1 Memorandum of Points and Authorities, and the Declarations of C.B. (Dkt 10-1); R.B. (Dkt. 10-  
2 2); J.L. (Dkt. 10-3); J.M. (Dkt. 10-4); G.M. (Dkt. 10-5); A.S. (Dkt. 10-6); J.D. (Dkt. 10-7); C.F.B.  
3 (Dkt. 10-8); S.S. (Dkt. 10-9); N.A. (Dkt. 10-10); L.T. (Dkt. 10-11); S.M. (Dkt. 10-12); T.T. (Dkt.  
4 10-13); A.H.R. (Dkt. 10-14); S.L. (Dkt. 10-15); B.F. (Dkt. 10-16); J.L.H. (Dkt. 10-17); E.A. (Dkt.  
5 10-18); Y.M. (Dkt. 10-19); B.S. (Dkt. 10-20); M.R. (Dkt. 10-21); J.T. (Dkt. 10-22); C.H. (Dkt. 10-  
6 23); A.T. (Dkt. 10-24); T.M. (Dkt. 10-25); C.D. (Dkt. 10-26); A.V. (Dkt. 10-27); M.M. (Dkt. 10-  
7 28); A.S.H. (Dkt. 10-29); C.A.H. (Dkt. 10-30); M.S. (Dkt. 10-31); Z.T.S. (Dkt. 10-32); M.D. (Dkt.  
8 10-33); C.C. (Dkt. 10-34); K.D. (Dkt. 10-35) A.J.F. (Dkt 10-36); N.S. (Dkt 10-37); S.T. (Dkt 10-  
9 38); M.V.R. (Dkt 10-39); J.B.(Dkt 10-40) ; L.B. (Dkt 10-41); F.M.C.(Dkt 10-42); A.R. (Dkt. 10-  
10 43); F.G.A. (Dkt. 10-44); H.G. (Dkt. 10-45); S.Y. (Dkt. 10-46); S.F.V. (Dkt. 10-47) and associated  
11 documents, filed and served concurrently herewith.

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**MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES****I. INTRODUCTION**

When a person is sentenced to time in prison they are deprived of certain liberty interests for a term of years. This deprivation is constitutionally circumscribed, in part, so that when a criminal defendant pleads or is found guilty, they are aware of what the ensuing punishment will entail. Categorically, across all state and federal systems, the punishment for a conviction is not, and cannot be, sexual abuse. But at the Federal Correctional Institute in Dublin, California (“FCI Dublin”), it is.

Those incarcerated at FCI Dublin have been and continue to be subject to a systemic campaign of staff sexual assault, harassment, and retaliation which makes sexual abuse a fact of incarceration at the facility. Dozens of people have been raped or otherwise assaulted by officers and supervisors at FCI Dublin, and hundreds have been sexually harassed, forcibly conscripted as “lookouts”, coerced into performing sexual favors, and/or punished if they do not acquiesce. It is hard to overstate how pervasive the sexual misconduct and retaliation at FCI Dublin is, and how well aware officials at every level were and are of this ongoing problem.

The past and ongoing harms to those incarcerated at FCI Dublin include physical harm, psychological harm, and damage to their well-being and relationships in every way imaginable. All those incarcerated at the facility remain subject to extremely high risk of substantial injury from sexual assault while they remain at FCI Dublin. But the Constitution does not allow guards and supervisors to sexually abuse people in their care and custody. It does not allow the deliberate indifference of FCI Dublin and Bureau of Prison (“BOP”) officials. And it does not allow incarcerated people in FCI Dublin to remain at a substantial risk of serious bodily injury. It is for these reasons that Plaintiffs, as proposed representatives of a putative class of those incarcerated at FCI Dublin, turn to this Court for immediate relief to halt the ongoing constitutional violations at FCI Dublin that have already caused so much harm.

The declarations of those incarcerated and the well-pleaded allegations in the Complaint (Dkt. 1) demonstrate that Plaintiffs are substantially likely to succeed on their claims that conditions at FCI Dublin violate the Eighth Amendment. Other factors also counsel in favor of

1 preliminary relief here, where FCI Dublin and BOP officials have been deliberately indifferent to  
2 the substantial likelihood of serious harm; these harms are imminent and ongoing; and preliminary  
3 relief is not just warranted, but fundamentally necessary to protect those in FCI Dublin.

4 As detailed below, Plaintiffs are highly likely to succeed on the merits of their claims that  
5 the BOP and FCI Dublin, through its officials, are deliberately indifferent to a substantial  
6 likelihood of serious harm, and that their policies and practices violate the Eighth Amendment by  
7 constituting deliberate indifference to a substantial risk of harm. Moreover, Plaintiffs can show  
8 that, absent emergency relief, the substantial risk of sexual abuse and retaliation constitutes an  
9 irreparable harm as Plaintiffs' and other peoples' physical and mental well-being hang in the  
10 balance. Given that Defendants have the almost unfettered ability to control the housing,  
11 practices, personnel and care at FCI Dublin and no legitimate interest in the ongoing sexual assault  
12 of people imprisoned there, the balance of equities tips sharply in favor of Plaintiffs. Finally,  
13 eliminating sexual violence in a carceral setting is inarguably in the public interest, as Congress  
14 identified when it passed the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA).

15 Accordingly, Defendants must be ordered to take immediate measures to protect people  
16 inside FCI Dublin, or to seek the alternatives to confinement if a safe environment cannot be  
17 engineered. On behalf of a class of people currently incarcerated at FCI Dublin and subject to  
18 their ongoing practices, Plaintiffs seek a preliminary injunction requiring Defendants to take the  
19 following immediate actions, and ask that the Court appoint a Special Master with sufficient  
20 resources and power to monitor and ensure Defendants' compliance:

21 (i) submit to a comprehensive audit, by an outside agency mutually agreed  
22 upon by the Parties, of all policies concerning staff sexual abuse, reporting, and  
retaliation;

23 (ii) after such audit, implement changes to policies as recommended by the  
24 outside auditor and in consultation with organizational Plaintiff California  
Coalition of Women Prisoners (CCWP);

25 (iii) submit to quarterly site visits by the outside agency mutually agreed upon  
26 by the Parties, and provide public quarterly reports concerning: staff sexual abuse  
27 and retaliation, grievances against facility staff, and use of internal punitive  
measures (including use of solitary confinement, strip searches, cell searches, drug  
tests, and transfers);

28 (iv) end the use of solitary confinement or punitive segregation at FCI Dublin

1 until such a time that it can be ensured that such confinement will not be used as  
2 part of a practice of retaliation against those who experience and report staff sexual  
abuse;

3 (v) develop a substantive process for the return of non-contraband items seized  
4 from individuals' cells during searches;

5 (vi) develop and institute policies and procedures to provide high-quality offsite  
6 medical and mental health care for all members of the class, in accordance with  
accepted medical standards;

7 (vii) create a system to provide class members with documentation of reporting  
8 and participation in investigation of staff misconduct, and to streamline and support  
requests from class members for related relief (e.g. requests for release to less  
restrictive settings, requests for U-visa certifications); and

9 (viii) ensure that all class members have consistent, timely, and confidential  
10 access to legal counsel, including providing private meeting spaces for all attorney  
visits.

## 11 II. STATEMENT OF FACTS

### 12 A. BOP Has Allowed Staff to Sexually Abuse People in Their Custody, Despite 13 Being Aware of Such Abuse for Decades.

14 Sexual assault and harassment have been ongoing systemic problems in BOP facilities  
15 generally—and at FCI Dublin in particular—for decades. Dkt. 1 ¶¶ 57-62. The modern era at FCI  
16 Dublin has been no different. Dkt. 1. ¶¶ 63-90 (investigations, criminal indictments, convictions,  
17 and plea agreements).

18 In around 2020, the U.S. Attorney's Office began a criminal investigation that has led to  
19 charges against eight former FCI Dublin officials, including the former warden and chaplain.  
20 Seven officials have now been convicted of, or pleaded guilty to, sexually abusing a total of at  
21 least 20 incarcerated women, and court records indicate that all seven of these men committed  
22 additional, uncharged abuse of other incarcerated women. *See, e.g.*, Dec. H.G. ¶¶ 11-18 (Officer  
23 Chavez repeatedly sexually assaulted her). A significant number of additional correctional  
24 officers have been placed on administrative leave pending further criminal investigations,  
25 including as recently as August 2023. *See* Decs. A.H.R. ¶ 4; S.L. ¶ 19. One former officer,  
26 Nicholas Ramos, died by suicide while on administrative leave and under investigation. Many  
27 currently and formerly incarcerated women have reported that Ramos subjected them to abuse  
28 including sexual assault, forcing them to strip, and relentless retaliation. *See* Decs S.F.V. ¶¶ 4-14;



1 N.A. ¶¶ 4-8.

2 Notably, former Warden Ray Garcia was convicted of sexually abusing three incarcerated  
3 women following a jury trial. *See United States v. Garcia*, No. 4:21-cr-00429-YGR (N.D. Cal.).  
4 Prior to his arrest, Garcia had served as the PREA compliance officer at FCI Dublin, where he was  
5 responsible for ensuring compliance with PREA policies and training other employees. Warden  
6 Garcia’s sexual misconduct at FCI Dublin was brazen—in addition to his multiple “girlfriends,”  
7 he also sexually harassed and abused several other women. *See, e.g.*, Decs. M.M. ¶ 4 (Garcia  
8 forced her to strip and dance naked for him); K.D. ¶ 8 (Garcia forced her to strip and dance naked  
9 for him) Y.M. ¶ 4 (witnessed Garcia sexually harass and grope three of her friends); S.Y. ¶¶ 24-  
10 32 (Garcia subjected her to repeated sexual harassment and voyeurism); T.T. ¶ 5 (witnessed  
11 Garcia harassment); Dec. J.B. ¶¶ 4-5 (witnessed Garcia sexually abuse her friend over years); L.T.  
12 ¶ 10.

13 The ongoing investigation has made clear that FCI Dublin staff explicitly target immigrant  
14 women for abuse, leveraging the threat of deportation. *See, e.g.*, Decs. S.F.V. ¶¶ 15-17; H.G. ¶ 13;  
15 S.Y. ¶ 1; Z.T.S. ¶ 17; E.M.A. ¶¶ 6-7; B.S. ¶¶ 6, 12; A.S. ¶ 2. Officers told survivors that they  
16 “looked in their files” and knew that they were subject to immigration detainers, or threatened to  
17 notify immigration authorities if survivors reported their abuse. *See, e.g.*, Dec. H.G. ¶ 13. For  
18 example, Officer Chavez sexually abused multiple Mexican immigrant women— he even proposed  
19 to one woman in front of the entire kitchen staff, then traveled to Mexico to visit her after she was  
20 deported. Decs. E.M.A. ¶¶ 6-7; B.S. ¶ 6. Defendant Officer Smith also bragged about traveling to  
21 Mexico to visit a woman he abused at Dublin who was later deported. Dec. A.S. ¶ 2. At least a  
22 dozen women who were sexually assaulted by FCI Dublin staff have been deported, and dozens  
23 more are currently facing deportation.

24 FCI Dublin staff continue to sexually abuse people in their custody. *See, e.g.*, Decs R.B.  
25 ¶¶ 6, 10; A.R. ¶¶ 5–9. Officers continue to exchange goods or privileges for sexual favors and  
26 threaten people with punishment or hardship if they do not engage in sexual conduct. *See, e.g.*,  
27 Decs. G.M. ¶¶ 5–6, 8–10; M.D. ¶ 21; A.S. ¶ 12. Widespread harassment continues. *See, e.g.*,  
28 Dec. A.S. ¶¶ 20–23. Officers continue to subject incarcerated people to retaliation in the form of

1 solitary confinement, threats and harassment, and wanton and unwarranted cell searches. *See, e.g.*,  
 2 Dec. G.M. ¶¶ 8, 14–16; C.B. ¶¶ 4–7; J.D. ¶¶ 8–11; J.L. ¶ 6. Investigations and accountability are  
 3 almost non-existent, and to the extent there ever is an investigation it often comes from agencies  
 4 outside Defendants’ control. Despite the BOP’s awareness of these long-running conditions and  
 5 problems, the BOP has failed to act; the same conditions that created the cesspool of sexual abuse  
 6 at Dublin persist today.

7 **B. Individuals Incarcerated at FCI Dublin Continue to Face Sexual Assault and**  
 8 **Harassment On An Ongoing Basis.**

9 As recently as August 2023, officers at FCI Dublin have been placed on administrative  
 10 leave pending investigation of allegations of sexual misconduct. Dec. A.S. ¶¶ 14, 16, 21; M.R.  
 11 ¶ 6; A.H.R. ¶ 4; S.L. ¶ 19. Plaintiffs and other putative class members continue to report ongoing  
 12 sexual harassment, abuse, and retaliation. *See, e.g.*, Decs. G.M. ¶¶ 15–16, S.L. ¶¶ 4–7, 9–11, 14,  
 13 17–18, J.L. ¶¶ 4–9, C.H. ¶ 5; C.B. ¶¶ 4–7; J.D. ¶¶ 8–11; A.S. ¶¶ 20–23; C.D. ¶¶ 4-5; A.V. ¶¶ 4-7;  
 14 T.B.M ¶ 5.

15 Countless other declarants report that they have directly experienced abuse and/or  
 16 witnessed this pervasive culture. *See, e.g.* Decs. H.G. ¶¶ 11-19 (Officer Chavez forced her to  
 17 endure repeated digital penetration through threats of the SHU, immigration consequences, and  
 18 loss of time credits); F.G.A. ¶¶ 6-15 (Medical Officer Cohen groped her when she sought medical  
 19 attention); S.F.V. ¶¶ 4-14 (Officer Ramos groped her, told her his explicit sex dreams about her,  
 20 and discriminated against her based on sexual orientation and noncitizen status); A.S.H. ¶ 4  
 21 (Officer Nunley groped her and forced her to perform oral sex, Officer Highouse abused and  
 22 harassed her); S.Y. ¶¶ 7-32 (Officer Bellhouse and Warden Garcia sexually harassed her); E.A. ¶ 5  
 23 (when she refused Officer Ramos’ advances, he stated: “Change your attitude, or I will make your  
 24 life here impossible” ); B.F. ¶ 5 (Officer O’Connor groped her, Officer Caston rubbed his erection  
 25 on her while saying “you’ve been in prison for a long time, I bet you’d love to be fucked”); N.A.  
 26 ¶¶ 4-8 (Officer Ramos harassed, kissed, and assaulted her); S.S. ¶¶ 7-8 (Officer Hendrix watched  
 27 her in the shower, Captain Valera walked in on her naked as recently as April 2023); M.V.R. ¶ 11-  
 28 21(Officer Glassier asked her to pay for hair nets with sex, rubbed his penis on her, and pinched

1 her breasts; Officer O'Connor watched her in the shower); A.T. ¶¶ 4-5 (Officer Cooper entered the  
2 shower and watched her naked and changing); T.M. ¶ 5 (Officer Cooper watched in shower and  
3 while changing); S.M. ¶ 6 (“I once saw Lt. Putnam enter a room where a young Latina woman  
4 was in a suicide smock where she was naked underneath. She dropped the smock, so she was  
5 naked and put her arms around him to give him a big hug and “fix me, daddy”); J.B. ¶¶ 6-7  
6 (Officer Bellhouse forced women to flash him in exchange for hand sanitizer during the COVID-  
7 19 pandemic); M.R. ¶ 5; Z.T.S. ¶¶ 4-23; M.D. ¶¶ 5-13; N.S. ¶ 8; B. S. ¶¶ 4-6; C.C. ¶¶ 5-7.

8 Defendant Officer Smith is a paradigmatic example both of the recent harms at the facility  
9 and the long-term indifference to staff sexual abuse at FCI Dublin. Defendant Smith—known  
10 throughout the prison as “Dirty Dick Smith”—sexually harassed and assaulted countless  
11 incarcerated people at FCI Dublin for years. *See, e.g.*, Decs. L.T.. ¶¶ 5-7; F.M.C. ¶¶ 5-7; A.S.  
12 ¶¶ 5-14; Z.T.S. ¶ 23; J.D. ¶¶ 4-5; C.F.B. ¶¶ 7-8; L.B. ¶¶ 5-6; C.A.H. ¶ 4. For example, Smith  
13 locked F.M.C. in a room and refused to let her out until she flashed him. Dec. F.M.C. ¶ 5. Once,  
14 in late 2015, F.M.C. woke to find Defendant Smith in her room, digitally penetrating her. *Id.* ¶¶ 6-  
15 7. When Plaintiff G.M. was housed in quarantine in around August 2020, Defendant Smith would  
16 regularly watch G.M. and other women shower, and would refuse to give her a towel unless she  
17 walked over to him naked. Dec. G.M. ¶ 9. Smith also made incarcerated women perform sexual  
18 acts in order to receive basic privileges, such as sending mail out, or to receive food or hygiene  
19 products. *Id.* ¶10. While working the night shift, Defendant Smith would often turn on music and  
20 expect women to dance for him, including L.T., in exchange for privileges and time outside of  
21 their cells. Dec. L.T. ¶¶ 5-7. On one occasion, in around June 2021, Officer Smith instructed L.T.  
22 to undress, and he groped her bare breast. *Id.* ¶ 6.

23 Plaintiff A.S. also endured extensive sexual harassment by Defendant Officer Smith, from  
24 October 2020 until August 2021, including up to multiple times a week from November 2020  
25 through March 2021 when the facility was under COVID lockdown. Dec. A.S. ¶ 10. Defendant  
26 Officer Smith would frequently ask Plaintiff A.S. to “show him something,” and comment on how  
27 pretty her breasts looked. *Id.* ¶ 5. In exchange, he would trade her a drink from his office. *Id.* If  
28 she took an extra shower during lockdown, or left her room to get hot water, Defendant Officer

1 Smith would demand to view Plaintiff A.S. naked before he would unlock her room and allow her  
 2 to return inside. *Id.* ¶ 11. Sometimes, Defendant Officer Smith would threaten Plaintiff A.S. with  
 3 disciplinary actions if she did not show him her body. *Id.* On two occasions, Defendant Officer  
 4 Smith called Plaintiff A.S. into his office, once using the intercom, where he asked to see her  
 5 breasts while he masturbated himself over his pants. *Id.* ¶ 13. At other times, Officer Smith  
 6 would pull off the shower curtain and watch Plaintiff A.S. and other women shower. *Id.* ¶¶ 8-9.  
 7 On one occasion in October 2020, Plaintiff A.S. refused to let Defendant Officer Smith see her  
 8 breasts, and Defendant Officer Smith went into her cell and searched through her possessions in  
 9 retaliation, stealing some items and leaving the room in disarray. *Id.* ¶ 12. He told Plaintiff A.S.  
 10 that if she did not do what he said, another officer would “hit” her room again. *Id.* “Hit” meant  
 11 that someone would search her cell without reason and take Plaintiff A.S.’s possessions. *Id.*

12 Plaintiffs L.T., G.M., and A.S. are just three of the *dozens* of people incarcerated at FCI  
 13 Dublin who have been sexually abused and relentlessly harassed by Defendant Officer Smith. *See*  
 14 *e.g.*, Decs. N.S. ¶ 8 (Smith entered N.S.’s cell with his genitals exposed); C.A.H. ¶ 4 (Smith  
 15 groped and raped her); B.S. ¶ 5 (Smith sexually harassed her cellmate, and her cellmate reported  
 16 that “Officer Smith touched her between her legs, and told her that he could do anything for her if  
 17 she slept with him”); J.H.L. ¶ 6 (Smith told her “I’ll give you gloves if you dance for me”); Y.M.  
 18 ¶ 5 (Smith brought in lingerie and bikinis for incarcerated people to wear for him); A.J.F. ¶ 5-6  
 19 (Smith watched her while she was naked and on the toilet); M.R.V. ¶ 15 (Smith told a women to  
 20 show him her breasts or else receive disciplinary charges); T.T. ¶4; J.D. ¶¶ 4–5; A.J.F. ¶¶ 4–8.  
 21 Countless more witnessed his abuse of others—especially Mexican immigrant women whom he  
 22 targeted for extended abuse. *See, e.g.*, Decs. N.S. ¶ 6 (Smith particularly targeted “young, petite  
 23 Mexican women and forced them to expose themselves to shower”); J.L.H. ¶¶ 5-8 (witnessed  
 24 Smith sexually harass multiple women, especially Latina women who could not speak English);  
 25 Z.T.S ¶ 23; C.F.B. ¶¶7–8; T.T. ¶ 4; A.J.F. ¶ 8. In May 2023, Officer Smith was criminally  
 26 indicted for sexual abuse and is awaiting adjudication.

27 Another FCI Dublin official—Defendant Officer Nunley—subjected numerous  
 28 incarcerated women to sexual abuse for months after Warden Garcia was removed. *See, e.g.*, Dec.

1 G.M. ¶ 4. Plaintiff G.M. worked as a telemarketer for Unicor. *Id.* Defendant Officer Nunley  
2 supervised her in this position. *Id.* From approximately January 2021 until September 2021,  
3 Defendant Officer Nunley relentlessly sexually harassed G.M in the call center. He threw notes at  
4 her and told her that he wanted to meet her in the back for sex. *Id.* ¶ 5. He would tell her that he  
5 wanted to have sex with her, and that he would write her letters of recommendation and send  
6 money to her kids in exchange. *Id.* ¶ 7. While at her workstation, in view of others, he would  
7 come up behind her, pull her hair and rub her shoulders. *Id.* ¶ 5. On one occasion, while showing  
8 G.M. pictures of himself at a Raiders game on his computer, Defendant Officer Nunley came up  
9 behind her, rubbed his penis against her backside and attempted to kiss her neck. *Id.* ¶ 6. Plaintiff  
10 G.M. reported her abuse to SIS in July 2022, and spoke to the FBI in August 2022. *Id.* ¶ 14.  
11 Plaintiff G.M. was not the only one abused by Defendant Officer Nunley. Indeed, he sexually  
12 assaulted and harassed numerous other people. *See, e.g.*, Decs. T.T. ¶ 6 (T.T.’s friend was  
13 sexually assaulted by Nunley and was sent a letter with his semen on it); C.H. ¶ 5.

14 Other officers were also engaging in sexual misconduct at this time. Beginning in  
15 July 2021, Plaintiff J.L.’s supervisor, Defendant Officer Jones, began to sexually harass her while  
16 she was working in the kitchen. Dec. J.L. ¶ 4. At first, he would flirt with her. As time went on,  
17 his behavior became assaultive. *Id.* One day, Jones asked J.L to go into the walk-in fridge to get  
18 him something for his meal. *Id.* Once inside, he grabbed J.L., bent her over, and rubbed his penis  
19 against her buttocks over their clothing. *Id.* A few days later, he forcibly pulled up her shirt,  
20 sucked on her right breast, and tried to kiss her. *Id.* The next day, he took J.L. into the warehouse,  
21 where they entered a smaller room with a door. *Id.* ¶ 5. Both of these locations were places where  
22 it was well known there were no security cameras. *Id.* ¶ 5. He pulled down her pants, bent her  
23 over, and vaginally raped her without a condom, banging her head against the wall, then ejaculated  
24 on her face and torso. *Id.* A few days after her rape, Defendant Officer Poole, who also worked in  
25 the kitchen with Officer Jones, began calling J.L “Becky the Slave.” *Id.* Plaintiff J.L understood  
26 “Becky” to be slang for a person who performs oral intercourse. *Id.*

27 Plaintiff J.L. is not the only woman at FCI Dublin who Defendant Officer Jones raped—or  
28 who other officers working in the kitchen at FCI Dublin sexually abused. *See e.g.*, Dec. A.H.R.

1 ¶ 5; Z.T.S. ¶¶ 5–10; M.D. ¶¶ 23–28; C.B. ¶ 5; C.F.B. ¶¶ 4–5; R.B. ¶¶ 5–8; V.C. ¶¶ 4-5; J.T. ¶¶ 4-9  
2 (Officer Jones repeatedly tricked her to see pictures of his penis on his smartwatch and asked if  
3 she wanted him to “stick it in” and when she said she was only interested in women, he said “You  
4 just haven’t been with the right man”); M.R.V. ¶¶ 4-9, 13 (Officer O’Connor harassed her, Officer  
5 Jones retaliated against her when she refused to flirt with him). Several other members of the  
6 kitchen staff, including Defendant Officer Poole, Officer Kinlaw, Officer O’Connor, and Officer  
7 St. Clair remain on administrative leave pending investigation into sexual abuse allegations. *See*,  
8 *e.g.*, Dec C.B. ¶ 7; C.F.B. ¶ 11; C.D ¶ 6. Indeed, combined, these kitchen officers have victimized  
9 dozens of additional putative class members at FCI Dublin—raping them, groping them, harassing  
10 them, threatening them, and ordering others to assist with their abuse.

11 K.D., a survivor of Warden Garcia’s sexual abuse, was also sexually assaulted by kitchen  
12 staff in summer 2021. Dec. K.D. ¶ 12. Warden Garcia would instruct K.D. to be undressed for  
13 him and touch herself while he came by her room while he walked the rounds of the facility. *Id.*  
14 ¶ 8. After K.D. reported Warden Garcia’s abuse and he was placed on administrative leave,  
15 Officer Chavez began to sexually harass K.D., asking her if she would “play for them” as she did  
16 with the Warden. *Id.* ¶ 12. She refused his advances and his behavior became assaultive. On  
17 multiple occasions beginning in the summer of 2021 and continuing into the fall, Officer Chavez  
18 would follow K.D. into the freezer, and grab her buttocks and breasts through her clothes. *Id.*  
19 ¶ 12.

20 K.D. is just one of the many people who were abused by Officer Chavez. *See, e.g.*, Dec.  
21 H.G. ¶ 11-19 (Chavez repeatedly sexually assaulted her, and threatened to have her deported or  
22 placed in the SHU if she reported); B.S. ¶ 6 (Chavez sexually assaulted her friend in the kitchen  
23 refrigerator); E.A. ¶ 5 (Chavez forced her to act as a lookout while he had sex with her friend;  
24 Chavez also proposed to this friend in front of everyone that worked in the kitchen); Z.T.S. ¶¶ 13–  
25 14; M.R.V. ¶¶ 16-21 (Officer Chavez had a sexual relationship with her friend, and transferred  
26 women who he thought was going to report their relationship).

27 Beginning in March 2022, nearly a year after the Warden was placed on administrative  
28 leave, Defendant Officer Gacad began to sexually harass Plaintiff S.L. Dec. S.L. ¶ 4. Defendant

1 Officer Gacad dropped her notes in her cell during rounds, telling her that she was beautiful, that  
2 he was in love with her, and that she was his “future wife.” *Id.* ¶ 4. He brought her gifts, and  
3 using a pseudonym, began sending her electronic messages. After several weeks, their  
4 relationship became sexual. *Id.* ¶¶ 4-5. During a trash run, Defendant Officer Gacad pulled S.L.  
5 into the yard office, groped her body, and kissed her. *Id.* ¶ 5. He groped and kissed her on three  
6 additional occasions. *Id.* ¶ 5-7. After SIS staff confronted Gacad with allegations of abuse, he  
7 quit. In early July 2022, Plaintiff S.L. was shocked to see Defendant Officer Gacad in her parents’  
8 home during a video visit. *Id.* ¶ 9. Defendant Officer Gacad told S.L.’s parents that he loved her  
9 and stayed with them for several weeks. *Id.* He now works with her mother at the same  
10 workplace. *Id.* Plaintiff S.L. is now terrified of being transferred to a facility near home or  
11 returning to her home, where her abuser resides. *Id.* ¶¶ 9, 14.

12 The same is true of Plaintiff A.H.R. Beginning in July 2022, Defendant Officer Vazquez  
13 also began to sexually harass Plaintiff A.H.R.. Dec. A.H.R. ¶ 9. From July until November 2022,  
14 Defendant Officer Vazquez would flirt with Plaintiff A.H. R., provide him with contraband,  
15 hugged him three times, and on one occasion, kissed him on the lips. *Id.* Defendant Officer  
16 Vazquez took A.H.R. into staff offices and allowed him to listen to the calls that his girlfriend,  
17 Plaintiff S.L., was exchanging with Defendant Officer Gacad, in an attempt to interfere with his  
18 relationship. *Id.* ¶ 10. Vazquez was recently placed on administrative leave.

19 More recently, on January 5, 2023, A.R. was assaulted at Dublin during a short, yearlong  
20 sentence. Dec. A.R. ¶ 2. After being attacked by several other incarcerated people on January 17,  
21 2023, A.R. was placed in the SHU. *Id.* ¶ 4. While in a holding cell, Officer Caston began to  
22 sexually harass A.R. He told other officers to look at A.R.’s “big-ass titties.” *Id.* ¶ 5. He refused  
23 to provide A.R. with feminine hygiene products, causing A.R. to menstruate through their  
24 clothing. *Id.* ¶ 6. Several days later, Officer Caston told A.R. to step out of the shower, and while  
25 walking them back to their cell, he grabbed their breast. *Id.* ¶ 7. After sexually assaulting A.R.,  
26 Officer Caston continued to harass them, taunting them to write to SIS, banging on their door at  
27 night to deprive them of sleep, slapping handcuffs on their wrist, interfering with their outgoing  
28 mail, and denying them pencils. *Id.* ¶¶ 9-10. A.R. reported some of Officer Caston’s harassment



1 to SIS at the end of January 2023, but not his physical assault, fearing retaliation. *Id.* ¶ 11. Caston  
2 has sexually assaulted other declarants. Dec. B.F. ¶ 5.

3 Defendant Lt. Jones, a female officer, who began working at FCI Dublin in the wake of the  
4 sex abuse scandal, was well known for screaming at people incarcerated there, including Plaintiff  
5 A.S.—blaming them for the staff walk offs and sexual abuse, and threatening collective  
6 punishment. Decs. G.M ¶ 16; A.S. ¶ 11, J.H.L ¶ 17; J.D. ¶ 11. When she first came to Dublin,  
7 she told people incarcerated there that she was retaliating against them for the things that were  
8 being said about officers there. She told Plaintiff A.S. and her roommates: “I came here because  
9 of everything that’s going on, you can go ahead and write me up, it’s not gonna go anywhere.”  
10 Dec. A.S. ¶ 20. Defendant Jones was placed on administrative leave in March 2023 following  
11 sexual misconduct allegations.

12 These examples are but a few of the reported incidents. The culture of sexual abuse and  
13 harassment persists—threatening everyone. Plaintiffs and other putative class members report  
14 continuing to endure degrading sexual comments and invasions of privacy on a regular basis. *See,*  
15 *e.g.*, Decs. A.S. ¶ 22; J.H.L. ¶ 17 (reporting that retaliation and invasive strip searches have gotten  
16 even worse in the last few months); C.H. ¶ 4–5. For example, Plaintiff R.B. has a medical  
17 condition following a surgery that requires her to give herself enemas in her cell while naked from  
18 below the waist at least once per day. Dec. R.B. ¶ 9. Previously, she was housed alone to protect  
19 her privacy, but in November 2022 Case Manager O’Brien and Unit Manager Groover told R.B.  
20 that she would be getting a roommate. *Id.* ¶ 9. Plaintiff R.B. enema process can take up to two  
21 hours, but FCI Dublin only requires her roommate to leave for twenty minutes. In addition, staff  
22 refuse to allow R.B. to cover her window while she administers the enema. *Id.* ¶ 9. In  
23 March 2023, Officer Cortez went so far as to shine a flashlight on Plaintiff R.B. while she was  
24 administering an enema in her room, causing her intense humiliation and fear. *Id.* ¶ 10. As a  
25 result of this and previous sexual harassment and retaliation she has faced at FCI Dublin, Plaintiff  
26 R.B. has been diagnosed with clinical depression, her hair began to fall out, she lost her ability to  
27 sleep, and had unexplained weight loss. *Id.* ¶ 15.

28 ///



1           **C. Survivors Continue to Face Severe Retaliation for Reporting Abuse, Chilling**  
 2           **Further Reporting.**

3           Sexual abuse at FCI Dublin continues in part because there is a widespread, entrenched  
 4 practice of severe retaliation against survivors who report staff misconduct. Many people  
 5 incarcerated at FCI Dublin are scared to report the abuse they experience out of fear of retaliation.  
 6 This retaliation is not subtle. Survivors who report sexual abuse are verbally threatened,  
 7 physically assaulted, sent to solitary confinement, given false disciplinary tickets, have their cells  
 8 tossed and property destroyed, have their mail (including legal mail) interfered with, strip  
 9 searched, and transferred to other BOP institutions away from their families—and are even  
 10 targeted for further sexual abuse. *See, e.g.*, Decs. A.S. ¶ 17-20; G.M. ¶ 15-16,20; A.H.R. ¶ 17;  
 11 S.L. ¶ 18, F.G.A. ¶ 29; S.F.V. ¶¶ 20-34; S.Y. ¶¶ 40-44; M.R. ¶¶ 9-11; B.S. ¶¶ 11-14; E.A. ¶ 8;  
 12 J.H.L. ¶¶ 16-19; A.J.F. ¶ 7; M.S. ¶¶ 6, 10, 13; N.A. ¶¶ 8,13, 16-18; C.H. ¶¶ 4, 7–10; Z.T.S. ¶¶ 12–  
 13 32; M.D. ¶¶ 69–73; C.B. ¶¶ 6–7; J.D. ¶ 8; C.C. ¶ 8, 10; F.M.C. ¶ 11; T.B.M. ¶¶ 6; L.B. ¶8; C.D.  
 14 ¶¶ 9-10; A.V. ¶¶ 11-13; A.S.H. ¶¶ 5-6; M.M. ¶¶ 7-8; C.A.H. ¶ 8; M.R.V. ¶¶ 4-7, 23-24; J.T.¶¶ 6,  
 15 13-14.

16           For example, Plaintiffs J.M. and G.M. were both placed in the SHU for extended periods  
 17 as retaliation for reporting their abuse. Decs J.M. ¶¶ 12-13; G.M. ¶ 8. In October 2022, soon after  
 18 making a legal call regarding abuse at FCI Dublin, Plaintiff J.M. was placed in the SHU for over  
 19 two weeks, and during that period was prevented from calling her lawyer. Dec J.M. ¶¶ 12-13.  
 20 After filing a PREA complaint about Officers Nunley and Smith and speaking with an FBI officer,  
 21 Plaintiff G.M. was placed in the SHU for four and a half months on a false ticket. Dec. G.M. ¶ 8.  
 22 Since her retaliatory SHU placement, Plaintiff G.M.’s confidential legal mail has been opened, and  
 23 her room has been repeatedly searched, as recently as March 2023. *Id.* ¶ 15. *See also* N.M. ¶¶ 17-  
 24 18 (detailing repeatedly being placed in the SHU as retaliation for reporting abuse from March to  
 25 May 2023); S.S. ¶¶ 8, 11 (being placed in the SHU in April 2023 and had her time extended in the  
 26 SHU after she reported sexual harassment and she received repeated disciplinary tickets in  
 27 retaliation).

28           In addition, beginning in January 2023, Defendants Officer Shirley and Lt. Jones have

1 been retaliating against Plaintiff G.M. and other incarcerated people for reporting their sexual  
2 abuse. Dec. G.M. ¶ 16; J.D. ¶ 11. Officer Shirley asked Plaintiff G.M. if she was “working for  
3 them” and going to “report me to the FBI.” Dec. G.M. ¶ 16. Lt. Jones has threatened to punish  
4 entire units if someone reported an officer. Dec. G.M. ¶ 16; *See also* B.S. ¶ 12 (witnessing  
5 Defendant Officer Shirley and Lt. Jones force women to work in the rain without shoes, stating  
6 “This is my prison, you’ll do what I want”); J.H.L. ¶ 17; M.V.R. ¶ 10 (detailing Lt. Jones  
7 screaming at people and conducting searches of people without cause, and specifically in the rain);  
8 J.T. ¶ 13 (describing retaliation for reporting from Lt. Jones, detailing that Lt. Jones has entered  
9 into the unit and yelled they were “going to learn” if they “wanted to play the write up game.”)

10 Survivors and witnesses of abuse also experienced preemptive retaliation from officers  
11 who suspected they would report their abuse. For example, Defendant Officer Jones, who abused  
12 Plaintiff J.L. threatened her with physical violence after she told another incarcerated person of the  
13 abuse, telling her “to keep her mouth shut,” though she had at the time made no official report.  
14 Dec. J.L ¶ 6. Others incarcerated at FCI Dublin similarly experienced anticipatory retaliation,  
15 such as physical violence and threats of additional violence; sexual assault; verbal abuse and  
16 epithets; threats of retaliatory SHU placements; and being fired from a job because an abusive  
17 officer suspected a survivor would report him. *See e.g.*, Dec. G.M.; E.S. ¶ 13; N.S. ¶¶ 12-14  
18 (officer told her mother that they would hurt N.S. for reporting and stated to N.S. that “If you have  
19 a seizure, I’ll let you die”); B.S. ¶ 12 (officer stated “You can report me all you want. I’ll be here  
20 until the day you get out, you’ll never get rid of me”); Y.M. ¶ 5 (Defendant Officer Smith told  
21 Y.M. if she reported his relationship with her cellmate, her son who was in federal prison “would  
22 get hurt”); C.C. ¶¶ 7-8 (Officer Klinger forcing her to work as lookout and stated “better not  
23 fucking say anything, you’ll get fucked up”); J.T. ¶ 6-7, (Officer Jones yelled that she was  
24 worthless and looked like “raw chicken” when she refused his advances, and was later fired from  
25 her kitchen job so that she would not report); S.M. ¶ 7; C.H. ¶¶ 4, 7–10; Z.T.S. ¶¶ 12–28; M.D.  
26 ¶¶ 25–28; C.B. ¶¶ 4–6, 11; A.J.F ¶ 10. Others were placed in the SHU in what they understood to  
27 be an effort to suppress individual reports of abuse, or a threat of “collective punishment” if they  
28 reported officers’ abuse. *See* Decs. N.S. ¶ 17; Z.T.S. ¶¶ 20–22; M.D. ¶¶ 27, 30–31; J.T. ¶ 13.

1 A significant number of survivors who witnessed retaliation against others for reporting  
 2 their abuse were deterred from reporting their own, fearing they would suffer similar retaliation.  
 3 *See, e.g.*, M.M. ¶ 5; B.S. ¶¶ 11, 13 (saw that people who reported were placed in SHU, had their  
 4 cells searched, and were consistently yelled at); J.L.H ¶¶ 9, 16 (did not report staff sexual  
 5 harassment because she knew others who were put in solitary, were transferred or were further  
 6 harassed); B.F. ¶ 7 (did not report her abuse because she witnessed people be thrown in the SHU  
 7 and knew Defendant Lt. Putnam does not keep reports confidential); M.R.V. ¶¶ 23-24 (did not  
 8 report harassment because she saw that people were searched and put in the SHU for a year and a  
 9 half); C.C. ¶ 12; S.T. ¶ 8; V.C. ¶ 14; R.B. ¶¶ 4, 12–13. For example, Plaintiff A.S. knew that  
 10 officers retaliated against individuals who reported abuse by placing them in the SHU or searching  
 11 their cells and damaging their belongings; because she knew that reporting to SIS “would lead to  
 12 retaliation,” she did not report her abuse. Dec. A.S. ¶ 18. Other survivors, like A.R., fearing  
 13 retaliation, initially reported only some details of their abuse to SIS because they believed that  
 14 implicated officers would receive the details and engage in retaliation. A.R. ¶ 11.

15 **D. Survivors Have No Way To Confidentially Report Abuse.**

16 Even when survivors at FCI Dublin muster the courage to report sexual abuse despite the  
 17 very real and continuing risk of retaliation, they face immense hurdles to ensuring that their abuse  
 18 is effectively addressed by BOP. *See, e.g.*, Dec. A.S. ¶¶ 19–20, 23–24; Z.T.S. ¶¶ 28–29; J.D. ¶ 7;  
 19 C.F.B. ¶ 10; M.S. ¶ 12 (to report abuse, she had to send messages to the DOJ via computer screens  
 20 that could be seen by staff and other incarcerated people). There is no effective way to  
 21 confidentially report sexual assault and abuse by staff at FCI Dublin. *See, e.g.*, Dec. A.S. ¶¶ 15,  
 22 18; Z.T.S. ¶ 25; M.D. ¶¶ 69–71; C.B. ¶ 9; J.D. ¶ 7; C.F.B. ¶ 10. For example, officers failed to  
 23 explain the process of reporting sexual abuse and harassment when people arrived at FCI Dublin  
 24 (or at any point thereafter). *See* Dec. A.S. ¶ 15; C.H. ¶ 6; Z.T.S. ¶ 24; M.D. ¶ 68; C.B. ¶ 8; J.D.  
 25 ¶ 6; C.F.B. ¶ 9. Officers either refused to take allegations seriously or were friends of those  
 26 against whom allegations were made. Dec. C.H. ¶ 7 (when discussing sexual misconduct reports,  
 27 Defendant Lt. Putnam dismissively said, “These are my buds”); J.T. ¶ 11 (she attempted to report  
 28 sexual harassment from Officer Jones to her work supervisor, but then Officer Jones physically

1 threatened that person so nothing was done); Z.T.S. ¶¶ 29, 31; M.D. ¶ 29.

2 Staff also often open mail, including legal mail, or make legal calls difficult for survivors  
3 wishing to report their abuse or get legal help. *See, e.g.*, Dec. B.S. ¶ 10 (staff do not provide  
4 confidential attorney meeting spaces, and when she attempted to make a legal call, her counselor  
5 told her, “You trying to report me, huh?”); E.A. ¶ 12 (officers monitor all forms of  
6 communication, delay legal visits for months, and retaliate against people after attorney visits);  
7 J.H.L. ¶ 15 (it’s difficult to get attorney visits and legal mail is often already opened or not  
8 delivered at all); C.A.H. ¶ 8. When incarcerated persons at FCI Dublin report abuse to staff, their  
9 experiences are often not kept confidential, and are instead shared among staff and even other  
10 incarcerated people. *See* Decs. A.J.F. ¶ 14; A.H.R. ¶ 10.; B.S. ¶ 13 (an officer told her that two  
11 other incarcerated people reported abuse to SIS, even though those reports should be confidential);  
12 J.H.L. ¶ 14. For example, after Plaintiff A.H.R. reported Defendant Officer Gacad’s ongoing  
13 sexual abuse of plaintiff S.L. in 2022, female officers, including Defendants Lt. Jones and Officer  
14 Serrano, taunted and embarrassed her, including telling others “don’t speak to S.L.,” and reading  
15 her mail to others. Dec. A.H.R. ¶ 10. Defendant Officer Serrano called S.L. a “bitch,” blaming  
16 her for Officer Serrano’s boyfriend being walked off for allegations of misconduct. Dec. S.L.  
17 ¶ 17.

18 Even when incarcerated people attempt to report their abuse, officers tasked with  
19 investigating those claims either ignore their reports or tell them to keep quiet. *See, e.g.*, Dec. N.S.  
20 ¶ 10 (Defendant Lt. Putnam recognized that N.S. was abused by Defendant Officer Smith but told  
21 N.S. that he “should keep quiet, do your time, and don’t make problems”); F.G.A. ¶¶ 19-25 (she  
22 attempted to report abuse many times, but no one responded to her reports); Y.M. ¶ 7 (she  
23 attempted to report her friend’s abuse by Defendant Warden Garcia but never receiving a  
24 response); E.A. ¶¶ 9, 13 (she reported her harassment by Chavez, but Defendant Lt. Putnam told  
25 her not to speak about it with anyone else and no one followed up with her); M.S. ¶¶ 10-14 (she  
26 never received a response after filing her abuse six months prior, and that when she informed her  
27 attorney about her abuse, Defendant Lt. Putnam said he read her messages, and interrogated and  
28 intimidated her to prevent her from reporting); N.A. ¶¶ 10-12 (the officers she reported to said

1 things like “out of sight, out of mind” and “don’t put me in this predicament with my coworkers”  
 2 and that Officer Ramos’s behavior was “like when a boy in elementary school pulls you hair  
 3 because he likes you”); S.S. ¶¶ 8, 12 (received no response after reporting sexual harassment);  
 4 S.M. ¶ 5 (reported harassment of one incarcerated person to Officer Lt. Putnam, overheard him tell  
 5 her to “just give [the guard] some”); J.T. ¶¶ 11-12, 15 (reported her abuse to multiple officers  
 6 including her work supervisors, SIS, and individuals from BOP regional office but nothing was  
 7 done); J.H.L. ¶¶ 11-15; A.J.F. ¶ 11; C.H. ¶¶ 4, 7–10; J.D. ¶ 7; C.F.B. ¶ 11; M.R.V. ¶ 25.

8 **E. Survivors of Sexual Abuse and Retaliation at Dublin Have Experienced and**  
 9 **Continue to Experience Grievous Physical, Mental, Dignitary, and Economic**  
**Injuries**

10 As a result of the BOP’s failure to prevent officers’ sexual violence, survivors of sexual  
 11 abuse and retaliation at FCI Dublin suffered grievous harm, with ongoing effects. The injuries  
 12 inflicted upon them by abusive officers include physical pain of rape, mental anguish, extreme  
 13 emotional distress and resulting physical symptoms, economic damages, dignitary harms,  
 14 profound social isolation, and undue invasion of privacy. These effects continue and are likely to  
 15 be exacerbated or recur in the FCI Dublin environment. *See e.g.* Decs. S.L. ¶¶ 13–14, 18, 20; J.L.  
 16 ¶¶ 11–12; G.M. ¶¶ 18–20.; J.H.L. ¶ 10 (sexual harassment from Defendant Officer Smith  
 17 exacerbated childhood trauma and caused panic attacks and insomnia); J.B. ¶ 14 (witnessing  
 18 sexual abuse at FCI Dublin retraumatized past child sexual abuse trauma); M.M. ¶ 9 (sexual abuse  
 19 exacerbated childhood sexual trauma); C.A.H. ¶¶ 4-5 (sexual assault by Smith caused PTSD,  
 20 depression and mood swings).

21 The Plaintiffs in this case have all suffered serious injuries following sexual abuse and  
 22 retaliation at FCI Dublin. For example, Plaintiff R.B. was recently diagnosed with clinical  
 23 depression, and stress and anxiety has caused her hair to fall out, her to lose weight, and interfered  
 24 with her ability to sleep. Dec. R.B. ¶ 20. Plaintiff A.H.R. was forced to quit his job in Food  
 25 Service to avoid witnessing former Officer Jones’ rapes of incarcerated women. Dec. A.H.R.  
 26 ¶¶ 5-6. Plaintiff S.L. has suffered extreme emotional distress as a result of her abuse and is under  
 27 such chronic stress that it has interfered with her menstrual cycle. Dec. S.L. ¶ 20. Plaintiff J.L.  
 28 was diagnosed with PTSD as a result of her abuse by Officer Jones. Dec. J.L. ¶ 11.

1           **F. Survivors of Sexual Abuse and Witnesses to Abuse Are Denied Access to**  
 2           **Mental Health Care and Medical Care to Address Their Mental and Physical**  
 3           **Injuries.**

4           After suffering grievous mental and physical injury, survivors continue to be denied basic  
 5           mental health and medical care. See e.g. Dec. M.D. ¶¶ 46-53.

6                           **1. Mental Health Care Is Wholly Inadequate**

7           Survivors of sexual abuse at FCI Dublin suffered and continue to suffer severe emotional  
 8           distress resulting from their abuse. For example, many survivors have suffered depression,  
 9           suicidality, intense anxiety, panic attacks, post-traumatic stress disorder, and paranoia. See, e.g.,  
 10          Decs. A.J.F. ¶ 15; J.L.H. ¶ 15; V.C. ¶6; C.H. ¶¶ 5, 12; C.F.B. ¶ 12; A.S. ¶ 26; A.T. ¶ 8. Others  
 11          have been unable to obtain adequate mental health care, prolonging or worsening their emotional  
 12          distress. See, e.g., Decs. J.L.H. ¶ 19; G.M. ¶ 18–19; T.T. ¶ 14; C.B. ¶ 12; J.D. ¶ 13; C.F.B. ¶ 12;  
 13          J.B. ¶ 14; M.R.V. ¶ 26.

14          Survivors are not provided with adequate mental health care at FCI Dublin to address the  
 15          psychological trauma that officers' abuse and retaliation has caused. See, e.g., Decs. J.H.L. ¶ 19  
 16          (denied treatment for her insomnia and panic attacks); N.A. ¶ 20; S.S. ¶ 13 (involuntarily  
 17          withdrawn from mood stabilizer medication leading to serious depression and placement on  
 18          suicide watch) F.G.A. ¶¶ 19–20, 36–37; J.D. ¶ 13; M.M. ¶¶ 11-12 (involuntarily withdrawn from  
 19          necessary psychotropic medication); C.A.H. ¶¶ 5-7 (involuntarily withdrawn from psychotropic  
 20          medication, has since become suicidal, and engaged in various acts of self-harm, was punished for  
 21          harming self with disciplinary reports and pepper spray); Y.M. ¶ 9 (friend who was a survivor of  
 22          sexual assault did not receive any mental health care for months and recently began cutting herself  
 23          as a result); E.A. ¶ 14 (suffers anxiety and panic attacks yet she never received any mental health  
 24          treatment is has been denied prescribed medication); C.H. ¶ 12, M.R. ¶ 12.

25          Though FCI Dublin recently re-established an agreement with an outside agency, Tri-  
 26          Valley Haven, to provide mental health services to survivors of sexual abuse at the facility, these  
 27          services were not available at the facility for over a year. Dec. C.H. ¶ 12; C.B. ¶ 12. Even now,  
 28          there is no direct way for survivors to confidentially contact the outside mental health agency, Tri-  
 29          Valley Haven, to request mental health services. Survivors must first put in a request to FCI

1 Dublin staff, who then contact Tri-Valley Haven on their behalf. Dec. C.H. ¶ 12; E.A. ¶ 14 Even  
 2 once contacted, very few survivors at FCI Dublin have been able to see a counselor from Tri-  
 3 Valley Haven in-person or able to speak with them on a confidential line. Dec. B.S. ¶ 14; N.A.  
 4 ¶ 20. Those lucky few are only permitted five, thirty-minute sessions with unlicensed counselors.  
 5 Dec. J.L. ¶ 11. Survivors of abuse at Dublin who BOP subsequently transferred to other facilities  
 6 do not have any access to outside specialized support services from Tri-Valley Haven or other  
 7 analogous organizations.

## 8 **2. Survivors Lack Access to Adequate Medical Care.**

9 Survivors have experienced many physical symptoms of emotional distress, including the  
 10 loss of a menstrual cycle, partial vision loss, hair loss, weight loss. *See, e.g.*, Decs S.L. ¶ 20; R.B.  
 11 ¶ 15; G.M. ¶ 20. Some have also experienced direct physical symptoms of their assaults. *See, e.g.*,  
 12 Dec. A.S.H. ¶ 8 (contracting potential STI from Officer Nunley assault, unable to receive  
 13 necessary treatment). Accessing medical care to address these concerns is next to impossible due  
 14 to both lack of staff and the fact that medical staff have abused individuals in their care, deterring  
 15 others from seeking care or going back for additional care. *See, e.g.*, Dec. T.T. ¶ 15; M.R. ¶¶ 11-  
 16 13; S.T. ¶ 11; F.G.A. ¶¶ 28–29; M.D. ¶¶ 46–53; G.M. ¶ 20; A.S.H. ¶ 8.

17 Many people incarcerated at FCI Dublin have also been denied access to basic medical  
 18 care after reporting sexual abuse. *See, e.g.*, Dec. M.S. ¶¶ 6, 13 (medical retaliation after reporting  
 19 sexual harassment by a medical technician including intentionally delaying care). For example,  
 20 R.B. required an ultrasound of her breast according to a medical doctor, but when the time for her  
 21 appointment came, there was no doctor at FCI Dublin anymore and they figured out the order was  
 22 accidentally written for the wrong breast. Dec. R.B. ¶ 16. FCI could not change the order because  
 23 no doctor was available to change it, so they did the ultrasound on the wrong breast. She is still  
 24 waiting on the facility to send her out for an ultrasound on the correct breast. Dec. R.B. ¶ 17.

25 Others have also experienced significant lack of treatment or delay in treatment. *See, e.g.*,  
 26 Decs. G.M. ¶¶ 19–20; K.D. ¶¶ 15–16; B.S. ¶ 15 (refused anti-seizure medication for weeks); Y.M.  
 27 ¶ 9; E.A. ¶ 15 (denied necessary cancer screenings); J.H.L. ¶ 20 (fell down the stairs and injured  
 28 her ankle, was told “just wait and it will get better”); A.J.F. ¶ 16 (denied care for cyst for two



1 years); M.S. ¶¶ 18-19 (refused treatment for skin boils, and COVID test or medication); C.A.H ¶ 9  
 2 (involuntarily taken off epilepsy medication leading to regular violent seizures causing further  
 3 injury); F.G.A. ¶¶ 33–34, 39–45; M.D. ¶¶ 63–66; C.B. ¶12; J.D. ¶ 14; N.A. ¶ 21; T.B.M. ¶ 13;  
 4 L.B. ¶ 15; A.V. ¶ 14; J.T. ¶ 16.

5 Additionally, medical officers themselves use their status as medical providers to sexually  
 6 abuse incarcerated people. As a result, incarcerated people have no trust in the medical  
 7 professionals in the facility. Y.M. ¶ 9. For example, Medical Officer Cohen groped F.G.A.’s  
 8 breasts when she was dizzy and unable to walk. Dec. F.G.A. ¶¶7-16. When she reported this, she  
 9 faced medical retaliation and medical staff identified her as the one who “put a PREA on [Cohen]”  
 10 and to “be careful” with her. F.G.A. ¶¶29-45. Medical Officer Cohen abused other declarants, as  
 11 well. *See* M.D. ¶¶ 46-53. Other medical professionals commit similar sexual harassment or  
 12 abuse. *See, e.g.*, Dec M.S. ¶¶4-8 (describing repeated sexual harassment by a medical technician,  
 13 including her smacking M.S.’s buttocks, forcing her to take her pants off when it was unnecessary  
 14 for the appointment, and refusing to provide her with a blanket to cover up while she was naked)

### 15 **III. ARGUMENT**

16 Courts should grant preliminary injunctions when: plaintiffs are likely to succeed on the  
 17 merits of their claim; plaintiffs will suffer irreparable harm absent the injunction; the balance of  
 18 the equities tips in plaintiffs’ favor; and an injunction would be in the public interest. *Winter v.*  
 19 *Nat. Res. Def. Council, Inc.*, 555 U.S. 7, 20 (2008). Plaintiffs meet each of these requirements.

#### 20 **A. Plaintiffs are likely to succeed on their Eighth Amendment claims because FCI 21 Dublin’s Policies and Practices Demonstrate Deliberate Indifference to the 22 Serious and Demonstrated Risk of Bodily Harm to those Incarcerated there.**

23 People in prison establish an Eighth Amendment violation warranting injunctive relief by  
 24 showing that Defendants’ policies and practices concerning sexual abuse and retaliation for  
 25 reporting such assault—in their totality—constitute deliberate indifference to a substantial risk of  
 26 suffering serious harm. Specifically, prison staff sexual abuse of incarcerated people constitutes a  
 27 form of torture that violates the Eighth Amendment. *See Bearchild v. Cobban*, 947 F.3d 1130,  
 1144 (9th Cir. 2020). Such abusive sexual contact also violates federal criminal law. *See, e.g.*, 18  
 28 U.S.C. §§ 2243, 2244. In systemic cases, such as here, deliberate indifference can be shown by,



1 inter alia, evidence of “systematic or gross deficiencies in staffing, facilities, equipment, or  
2 procedures.” *Hernandez v. County of Monterey*, 305 F.R.D. 132, 152-53, 155 n. 138 (N.D. Cal.  
3 2015). Importantly, the key question in systemic cases focuses not on individual circumstances  
4 but rather on whether systemic deficiencies “taken as whole” subject people to a “substantial risk  
5 of serious harm.” *See Brown v. Plata*, 563 U.S. 493, 505 n.3 (2011).

6 Here, evidence, including numerous assaults, complaints, indictments, and convictions,  
7 establish not only that FCI Dublin’s practices concerning sexual abuse pose a substantial risk of  
8 serious harm to the class but also that Defendants’ response to that imminent risk—viewed in its  
9 totality and in relation to Defendants’ already inadequate policies concerning reporting,  
10 grievances, medical care, mental health care, and attorney access—constitutes objective deliberate  
11 indifference.

12 First, there is no serious dispute that people within FCI Dublin have been assaulted and  
13 harassed at staggering rates. Even setting aside all of the cases that have gone unreported because  
14 of the well-known retaliation at the facility and inadequate means of reporting, there are still  
15 dozens of grievances, PREA complaints, FTCA claims concerning assault, and other pieces of  
16 civil litigation seeking to address the ongoing crisis at FCI Dublin. Dkt. 1 ¶ 6 (listing civil cases).

17 The declarations of putative class members bear out the same. This is to say nothing of the  
18 numerous investigations, indictments, prosecutions and convictions of the former Warden,  
19 Chaplain, and numerous other officers that have been initiated by the Department of Justice. Eight  
20 former officers have been charged with sexual misconduct for incidents spanning from 2019 into  
21 2021 with more charges likely forthcoming. Dkt 1 ¶ 5 (listing criminal cases).

22 Second, the evidence overwhelmingly shows that—on a systematic scale—Defendants  
23 have been objectively and subjectively deliberately indifferent to the safety of those incarcerated  
24 at FCI Dublin. That evidence shows that Defendants knew and know of the sexual assaults and  
25 harassment in the facility, have failed to promulgate and implement necessary protocols and  
26 practices to protect people they know to vulnerable; have allowed—either explicitly or through  
27 intentional neglect—retaliation against those who might report abuse, and have systematically  
28 underprovided for mental health and medical treatment in the wake of such assaults. *See, e.g.,*

1 Decs R.B. 12–16; K.D. ¶¶ 15–16; C.H. ¶¶ 4, 7–10; S.L. ¶¶ 10–11, 13, 17–18; G.M. ¶¶ 19–20;  
2 ¶¶ A.S. 18–25; F.G.A. ¶ 17-26; Z.T.S. ¶¶ 25–32; M.D. ¶¶ 69–73; C.A.H. ¶¶ 5, 8-9. As detailed in  
3 the description above and the attached declarations of numerous current and former residents of  
4 FCI Dublin, the facility’s response to learning of the pervasive practices concerning sexual abuse  
5 have been seriously deficient. High level officers tasked with investigating complaints of abuse  
6 either ignore such allegations or participate in retaliation against complainants, and no substantive  
7 safeguards have been established to protect against sexual abuse despite the rampant nature of the  
8 problem and explicit requests from plaintiffs and advocacy groups. Further, Dublin’s response to  
9 the past and ongoing practices around sexual abuse contradicts important provisions of PREA  
10 which were meant as a guide for facilities to prevent and ameliorate sexual violence in carceral  
11 facilities. For example, contrary to PREA Guidelines, Dublin officials sexually assault and harass  
12 people incarcerated there, *see, e.g.*, Decs. A.H.R. ¶¶ 5–10; S.L. ¶¶ 4–7; J.L. ¶¶ 4–6; A.S. ¶¶ 4–14,  
13 22–23; fail to report such harassment and assault, *see, e.g.*, Dec J.L. ¶¶ 5, 10; M.D. ¶¶ 13–16, 29  
14 (detailing that a staff member was transferred after reporting an incident of sexual abuse); J.D. ¶ 7;  
15 28 C.F.R. § 115.61(a); and purposely have people undress in front of them, *see* Decs. G.M. ¶ 10 ,  
16 A.S. ¶¶ 5–6, 8–11, 13; 28 C.F.R. § 115, 77 Fed. Reg. No. 119 (June 20, 2012).

17 The evidence further establishes that the abuse and the response of Dublin officials are not  
18 aberrations or a few bad apples, but rather systemic in nature. Indeed, the attached declarations  
19 paint an alarming picture of Dublin’s inadequate responses to staff sexual abuse for years,  
20 including failures to investigate reports, failures to discipline officers, and widespread retaliation  
21 in the form of placement in restrictive housing, unnecessary searches of rooms and destruction of  
22 property, and removal of other privileges. *See, e.g.*, Decs. C.H. ¶¶ 4, 7–10; G.M. ¶¶ 8, 14–17; A.S.  
23 ¶¶ 12, 17–23; F.G.A. ¶ 17-26; Z.T.S. ¶¶ 12–32; M.D. ¶¶ 69-73.

24 All of these systems establish a consistent and pervasive environment where no person at  
25 FCI Dublin can be safe. The harms are further exacerbated by the lack of available mental health  
26 or medical care and the lack of confidential reporting mechanisms all of which prevent people  
27 from seeking or receiving adequate care for their injuries.

28 Together, these conditions clearly establish violations of the Eighth Amendment surpass

1 the “likelihood of success on the merits” standard needed for this element of a preliminary  
2 injunction.

3 **B. Plaintiffs Satisfy the Remaining Preliminary Injunction Factors**

4 **1. The Proposed Class Will Suffer Irreparable Harm Absent Immediate**  
5 **Relief.**

6 Plaintiffs will suffer irreparable harm absent an injunction. The allegations here are that  
7 absent Court intervention, Plaintiffs and the putative class they represent will continue to be  
8 assaulted and retaliated against and that these will cause further physical and psychological  
9 injuries. See Dkt. 1 ¶¶ 93-213. Such harms far outweigh the injuries that courts have found to  
10 constitute irreparable harm. See, e.g., *D.R. v. Antelope Valley Union High Sch. Dist.*, 746 F. Supp.  
11 2d 1132, 1145–46 (C.D. Cal. 2010) (student suffered irreparable harm by missing minutes of  
12 education classes per day because of structural barriers) and the Ninth Circuit recognizes that a  
13 risk of a more restrictive placement, like solitary confinement, “inflicts cognizable irreparable  
14 injury for purposes of a preliminary injunction.” See, e.g., *M.R. v. Dreyfus*, 663 F.3d 1100, 1111  
15 (9th Cir. 2011).

16 **2. The Balance of Hardships Tips Decidedly in Plaintiffs’ Favor.**

17 The balance of equities favors Plaintiffs. Courts ““must balance the competing claims of  
18 injury and must consider the effect on each party of the granting or withholding of the requested  
19 relief.”” *Winter v. Natural Resources Def. Council, Inc.*, 555 U.S. 7, 24 (2008) (quoting *Amoco*  
20 *Prod. Co. v. Gambell*, 480 U.S. 531, 542 (1987)). The Ninth Circuit has held that the interest in  
21 protecting individuals from physical harm outweighs monetary costs to government entities. See  
22 *Harris v. Bd. of Supervisors, L.A. Cnty.*, 366 F.3d 754, 766 (9th Cir. 2004). Plaintiffs’ interests in  
23 preventing sexual assault, its attendant harms, and retaliation is essentially an interest in  
24 prevention of physical injury and the preservation of their bodily autonomy. In sharp contrast to  
25 Plaintiffs’ hardships, Defendants will merely be required to devise plans, submit reports, and  
26 change some internal policies and procedures. These are all well within their legal and financial  
27 capabilities and, although important, should present no significant burden on Defendants.

28 Moreover, requiring Defendants to change their practices may result in reducing future costs as it

1 may guard against future litigation stemming from individual cases of sexual assault and injury.

2 **3. A Preliminary Injunction is in the Public Interest**

3 “[I]t is always in the public interest to prevent the violation of a party’s constitutional  
4 rights.” *Melendres v. Arpaio*, 695 F.3d 990, 1002 (9th Cir. 2012). The dangerous conditions  
5 described above violate the constitutional rights of Plaintiffs and the class. Protecting people from  
6 sexual abuse is inarguably in the public interest. Immediately implementing measures to protect  
7 the class from further abuse and ensuring that they are free from retaliation inures to the public  
8 benefit in two ways. First, as outlined in PREA, there is an inherent public benefit in stopping  
9 sexual assault and increasing the safety of all people. *See generally* 28 C.F.R. § 115, 77 Fed. Reg.  
10 No. 119 (June 20, 2012). Second, eliminating sexual assault will reduce the significant cost the  
11 public bears in providing medical and mental health treatment for survivors both inside and  
12 outside facilities. These costs continue beyond the walls of FCI Dublin when people are  
13 transferred or released.

14 **CONCLUSION**

15 For these reasons, Plaintiffs respectfully request that the Court grant the requested  
16 preliminary injunction to abate the imminent harm of Defendants current sexual assault and  
17 retaliation regime.

18  
19 DATED: August 17, 2023

Respectfully submitted,

20 RIGHTS BEHIND BARS  
21 CALIFORNIA COLLABORATIVE FOR  
22 IMMIGRANT JUSTICE  
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