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For Immediate Release

12 Survivors of Sexual Assault File Lawsuits Against FCI Dublin, Bringing Current Total to 63

*[Content warning: this press release mentions SA, r*pe]*

OAKLAND, California – FCI Dublin is facing an avalanche of lawsuits stemming from the systemic staff sexual abuse and misconduct that has long gone unchecked at this facility. Yesterday, Rights Behind Bars, Arnold & Porter, and the California Collaborative for Immigrant Justice filed lawsuits on behalf of 12 survivors of sexual abuse at FCI Dublin, bringing the total number of active lawsuits against the facility to 63. Dozens more are expected to be filed in the coming months. In addition to these lawsuits brought by individual survivors, Rights Behind Bars (RBB), Rosen Bien Galvan & Grunfeld LLP (RBGG), and the California Collaborative for Immigrant Justice (CCIJ) are representing eight named plaintiffs, the California Coalition for Women Prisoners, and a putative class that encompasses everyone currently incarcerated at FCI Dublin in a class-action lawsuit seeking systemic change at the facility.

The incidents of abuse detailed in the [complaints](#) filed yesterday are shocking. They reflect the pattern that has emerged across myriad investigations, criminal prosecutions, and lawsuits: sexual abuse at FCI Dublin has been enabled by a system where coercion is the norm, outside scrutiny is rare, and officers protect one another from accountability at all costs. The plaintiffs in these cases are being identified only by their initials due to the threat of [ongoing retaliation](#):

- F.S., a Native American woman, was forcibly raped by Officer Pool 1-3 times a week, often while being held down by two other officers, Officers Saucedo and Ramos. These officers made hateful comments, including saying that Native Americans are “worth nothing but drinking alcohol and going to prison.”
- E.S. was forcibly raped by Officer Kinlaw on a number of occasions. He regularly made homophobic remarks to her and threatened to throw her in the SHU (Special Housing Unit, the Bureau of Prison’s euphemism for solitary confinement) if she left their shared job. Officer Sinclair stood as a lookout when Officer Kinlaw sexually abused E.S., and Officer Pool was actively aware of this abuse and did nothing to stop it.
- On multiple occasions, A.Y. awoke to Officer Allwine on top of her removing her clothes and digitally penetrating her.
- Multiple plaintiffs were subject to horrific incidences of voyeurism, being forced to masturbate, perform strip shows, or commit sex acts on other incarcerated people in front of officers. To force

them to comply with these demands, officers would threaten to write disciplinary reports or refuse to allow them out of their cells.

- Multiple plaintiffs are immigrant women who were [targeted due to their immigration status](#). H.G., an undocumented woman, was threatened with deportation by Officer Chavez if she did not commit the sexual acts he demanded. He digitally penetrated her on a number of occasions. When she attempted to refuse, he threatened to remove her early release credits and throw her in the SHU. Though prosecutors were aware that Chavez abused numerous incarcerated women, he pled guilty to sexually abusing just one woman in October 2022—prosecutors have since refused to support victim-based visa applications for H.G. and [other Chavez survivors](#) facing imminent deportation.

These are just some of the incidences of abuse detailed in the [12 complaints](#) filed yesterday in the United States District Court for the Northern District of California. While some of the officers named in the lawsuits have been criminally charged, several have not, including Officers Allwine, Pool, and Kinlaw.

“The experiences of these twelve brave survivors exemplify the culture of sexual abuse and sexual harassment that has deep roots in BOP. Officers at every level committed horrific abuse or actively allowed abuse to continue. These survivors seek accountability for themselves, and for everyone else who remains at risk of abuse at the hands of BOP officials,” said **Amaris Montes, attorney with Rights Behind Bars** and counsel for the survivors.

“This horrific abuse is continuing to happen right here in the Bay Area even during and after officers being convicted,” said **Emily Shapiro, a member of California Coalition for Women Prisoners**. “We have to pay attention if we want accountability from BOP. The experiences of these 12 additional survivors speak to the fact that the abuse is systemic, that officers weaponize solitary confinement, immigration status, and write-ups to coerce people in Dublin, and that the culture of the BOP has not changed in any true or lasting way.”