Media Contacts:

Alex Mensing, California Collaborative for Immigrant Justice, 415.684.5463, alex[@]ccijustice.org Phoebe Mesard, Rights Behind Bars, 202.455.4399, phoebe[@]rightsbehindbars.org Kara Janssen, Rosen Bien Galvan & Grunfeld, 415.433.6830, kjanssen[@]rbgg.com Courtney Hanson, California Coalition for Women Prisoners, 916-316-0625, courtney[@]womenprisoners.org

MEDIA ADVISORY

Virtual Rally & Court Hearing | December 11, 2023 at 2:30pm PST

Survivors of Staff Sexual Violence at FCI Dublin to Speak at Virtual Rally + Online Court Hearing

Survivors of staff sexual abuse and retaliation at Federal Correctional Institution (FCI), Dublin–a federal women's prison in Dublin, California–and the California Coalition for Women Prisoners (CCWP) filed a <u>class</u> action lawsuit earlier this year against the Bureau of Prisons (BOP), FCI Dublin officials, and several individual officers. On Monday, December 11th, the Dublin Prison Solidarity Coalition will host a virtual rally and mobilize to an important court hearing online.

WHEN:	Monday, December 11th 2:30pm PST Virtual Rally - 3:00pm PST Court Begins
WHERE:	Online via Zoom Register for the virtual rally here: bit.ly/dublin-hearing
	Access virtual hearing here: cand.uscourts.gov/ygr
WHAT:	Virtual rally & court support for legal hearing against the BOP
WHO:	Survivors of abuse at FCI Dublin, their attorneys and community groups with the Dublin Prison
	Solidarity Coalition

Spokespeople:

- Survivors of abuse at FCI Dublin
- Jane Courant, member of CCWP's FCI Dublin advocacy team
- Susan Beaty, attorney representing plaintiffs, California Collaborative for Immigrant Justice
- *Additional speakers may be added

At Monday's hearing, the judge will discuss how to procedurally handle dozens of cases filed against FCI Dublin and its employees, including the <u>class action lawsuit</u> led by survivors, CCWP, and firms Rights Behind Bars (RBB), the California Collaborative for Immigrant Justice (CCIJ), and Rosen Bien Galvan & Grunfeld LLP (RBGG). The judge will also address the class action demand for preliminary injunctive relief to intervene in what plaintiffs call an ongoing emergency at Dublin, and will decide whether to order immediate changes to conditions at the prison.

The plaintiffs in this case have endured <u>horrific abuse</u> and exploitation at the hands of prison employees. Despite increased public awareness and multiple investigations, FCI Dublin has failed to remedy the systemic problems that created a culture of sexual violence and shielded the worst perpetrators from accountability. Survivors of abuse at FCI Dublin–including many who were <u>targeted</u> due to their immigration status and who face deportation–alongside the organizations that form the Dublin Prison Solidarity Network, are calling for the release of those still incarcerated, protection from deportation, community-based care for survivors, and an end to retaliation and abuse inherent to the U.S. carceral system, among other basic demands.

Formed in 2021, the Dublin Prison Solidarity Coalition is a partnership of people currently and formerly at FCI Dublin and their supporters. Coalition members include the <u>ACLU of Northern California</u>, the <u>California</u> <u>Coalition for Women Prisoners</u>, the <u>California Collaborative for Immigrant Justice</u>, <u>Dolores Street Community</u> <u>Services</u>, and <u>Rights Behind Bars</u>.