

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

After an extensive investigation in Georgia's prisons housing people at the medium- and close-security levels, the Department of Justice (the Department or DOJ) concludes that there is reasonable cause to believe that the State of Georgia and the Georgia Department of Corrections (GDC) violate the Eighth Amendment of the United States Constitution. Consistent with the Civil Rights of Institutionalized Persons Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 1997 et seq. (CRIPA), we provide this Report to notify Georgia and GDC (collectively, the State) of the Department's conclusions, the facts supporting those conclusions, and the minimum remedial measures necessary to address the violations identified.

### FINDINGS

**The United States provides notice of the following conditions in Georgia's prisons:**

- **Protection from Violence and Harm:** The State fails to protect incarcerated people from violence and harm by other incarcerated people in violation of the Eighth Amendment.
- **Protection from Sexual Harm:** The State fails to protect incarcerated people from harm caused by sexual violence in violation of the Eighth Amendment. The State also fails to adequately protect people who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and intersex (LGBTI) from a substantial risk of serious harm from sexual violence and abuse by staff and other incarcerated people.

The State is deliberately indifferent to these unsafe conditions. The constitutional violations are exacerbated by serious deficiencies in staffing and supervision, physical condition and security of the facilities, classification and housing, management of gangs and other security threat groups, control of weapons and other contraband, and incident reporting, response, and investigations. The State has known about the unsafe conditions for years and has failed to take reasonable measures to address them.