

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

The Honorable Pam Bondi
Attorney General
Department of Justice
950 Constitution Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20530

July 24, 2025

Dear Attorney General Bondi:

We are writing you today to request that the Department of Justice (DOJ) open an investigation into conditions at the Bibb County Jail in Macon, Georgia.

Throughout our time in office, we have conducted oversight and taken action to expose and address civil and human rights abuses in prisons and jails, including in federal, state, and local institutions across Georgia. The reports emerging from Bibb County Jail are disturbing. On June 4, 2025, Breele Jahiem Johnson, 22, was stabbed to death.¹ Multiple other inmates were injured in the same incident.² Unfortunately, violence at this facility is not rare. In April, an inmate had boiling water thrown on his face, causing severe burns.³ In May 2024, an inmate died after being tasered by officers.⁴ Just last week, another inmate was stabbed and had to be taken to a local hospital.⁵ Since 2020, four individuals have died by suicide.⁶ The pattern of violence at this facility is troubling.

Living conditions at the Bibb County jail are also unacceptable. After touring the jail, the president of the Georgia NAACP stated that the “cracked walls, broken plumbing, poor lighting and unsanitary conditions create an environment no human should be subjected to.”⁷ According to others, rodents and waste are regularly seen in the hallways.⁸

¹ Lars Lonnroth, *1 Dead at Bibb County Jail after Stabbing, Multiple Inmates Injured, Coroner Leon Jones Says*, WMAZ (Jun. 4, 2025), <https://www.13wmaz.com/article/news/local/macon/1-dead-at-bibb-county-jail-stabbing-multiple-injured-coroner-leon-jones-says/93-c4ac81b2-4948-4d07-922c-8618a764dd8a>.

² *Id.*

³ Brianna Cook, *Protestors to Rally at Bibb County Jail Over Safety Concerns and Recent Incidents*, WGXA (May 27, 2025), <https://wgxa.tv/news/local/protesters-to-rally-at-bibb-county-jail-over-safety-concerns-and-recent-incidents>.

⁴ Jesse Fraga, *Concern Over Macon’s Jail Conditions Causes Mayor to Speak Out on Options*, The Telegraph (Apr. 24, 2025), <https://www.macon.com/news/local/crime/article304960406.html>.

⁵ Lars Lonnroth, *Bibb County Jail Inmate Injured, Sent to Hospital in Stabbing, Bibb County Sheriff’s Office Confirms*, WMAZ (Jul. 16, 2025), <https://www.13wmaz.com/article/news/local/macon/bibb-county-jail-inmate-injured-hospital-stabbing-bibb-county-sheriffs-office-confirms/93-6190cdd7-58a5-4266-96cb-fc54e5fb1c18>.

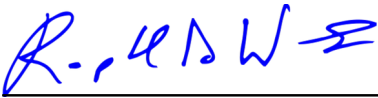
⁶ Fraga, *supra* note 4.

⁷ Alba Rosa, *NAACP Macon President to Regularly Tour Local Jail, Push for Reform*, The Telegraph (May 22, 2025), <https://www.macon.com/news/local/article306926071.html>.

⁸ Fraga, *supra* note 4; Peter Biello and Jake Cook, *Georgia Today: Bibb County Jail Under Fire for Conditions; Apalachee Responder Is Sheriff of Year* (Jun. 3, 2025), <https://www.gpb.org/news/2025/06/03/georgia-today-bibb->

We have been encouraged by local officials' recent efforts to address Bibb County Jail conditions. However, given the extremity of the reported health, safety, and civil rights concerns that persist in the jail, we urge the DOJ to conduct a full and thorough investigation into conditions at this jail and whether the rights of any individuals who work at or are incarcerated at these facilities may have been violated. Our offices are ready to assist your work in any capacity.

Sincerely,



Raphael Warnock
United States Senator



Jon Ossoff
United States Senator