



Statement From FRRC Executive Director: December 23, 2020

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Statement on Explosive, Disturbing DOJ Report about Lowell Facility in Florida

ORLANDO, FL - December 23, 2020 The following is FRRC Executive Director Desmond Meade's comments on the Department of Justice's recently released [report](#) alleging unconstitutional treatment of people incarcerated at Lowell Correctional Facility in Ocala, FL.

The [report](#) outlined that certain staff at Lowell sexually abused women incarcerated at the facility, and that these women remain at a substantial risk of continued systemic misconduct.

“The horrible abuse outlined in the DOJ report is a human tragedy. We need to take immediate steps to focus on the lives of everyone in the Lowell facility, starting with the creation of an independent board with real power to implement policy changes that would help make lives better for everyone involved. All people, whether they are incarcerated or not, should be afforded basic human dignity,” said Desmond Meade, Executive Director of FRRC. “Many of FRRC's members are women and have served time in Lowell and other facilities, and we therefore will continue to be led in these policy reform efforts by formerly incarcerated women, and their families.”

About The Florida Rights Restoration Coalition

FRRC is a grassroots, membership organization run by Returning Citizens (Formerly Convicted Persons) who are dedicated to ending the disenfranchisement and discrimination against people with convictions and creating a more comprehensive and humane reentry system that will enhance successful reentry, reduce recidivism, and increase public safety. For more information, [visit https://floridarrc.com/](https://floridarrc.com/).

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