

Subject: GDC Operational Records :: R019488-030425
Date: Tuesday, March 4, 2025 at 12:51:02 PM Eastern Standard Time
From: GDC Open Records Center
To: records@americanoversight.org

EXTERNAL SENDER

--- Please respond above this line ---



RE: PUBLIC RECORDS REQUEST of March 04, 2025, Reference # R019488-030425

Dear Mr. Martinez:

Thank you for contacting the Georgia Department of Corrections regarding your request for public records. Your request, received on March 04, 2025, sought copies of the following documents:

- 1. All formal or informal guidance, recommendations, or directives created by or issued to GDC regarding the provision of gender-affirming care for incarcerated individuals as described in Policy No. 507.04.68, "Management and Treatment of Transgender Offenders."**
- 2. All complaints and/or dissent memoranda, including, but not limited to grievance or ethics complaints, submitted to the relevant offices of your agency and containing any of the key terms listed below. Responsive records include, but are not limited to, any grievances submitted via the GDC Statewide Grievance Procedure.**
- 3. Records reflecting any and all recommendations for resolution submitted to the Grievance Coordinator by GDC staff in response to the complaints and/or grievances responsive to part 2.**
- 4. Records sufficient to identify the number of Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) complaints, whether official or unofficial, submitted to the relevant offices in your agency by anyone detained by GDC. To the extent that the GDC maintains aggregated information, such as spreadsheets or database records that can be readily exported to spreadsheets, such documents would be responsive to this request.**

The GDC submits the following as its initial responses:

1. The GDC has not issued any formal or informal guidance, recommendations, or directives related to SOP 507.04.68 during the timeframe contemplated in your request. To the extent that your request can be interpreted as including records pertaining to any specific offender's care, that material is exempt from the Open Records Act pursuant to HIPAA. To the extent that your request can be interpreted as including records exchanged with the Attorney General's Office or outside counsel pertaining to pending litigation, that material is protected by the attorney-client privilege and or work-product. See O.C.G.A. 50-18-72(41) and (42).
2. Grievance records are exempt from the ORA pursuant to O.C.G.A. 42-5-36(c). I am the GDC's ethics officer, and I have not received any complaints that are responsive to your query. To the extent that your query is intended to include email records, please identify the staff members or accounts that you would like for us to search. See O.C.G.A. 50-18-71(g). Once we have that list, we will identify the messages that contain your search terms and send you an estimate for gathering, review and redaction of those records. The GDC has identified 89 files compiled pursuant to O.C.G.A. 42-5-13 for correspondence that may contain content that is responsive to your request. We estimate that the time to gather, review and redact the contents for each will be 30 minutes. The hourly rate for the lowest paid employee who can do this work is \$37.50. Thus, we estimate the cost of this portion of the research will be \$1,668.75. If you are willing to pay for this work, please remit a check payable to the GDC at your earliest convenience to GDC Legal Services, P.O. Box 1529, Forsyth, GA 31029. No work will be started until we receive your payment. See O.C.G.A. 50-18-71(d).
3. As mentioned previously, grievance records are exempt from the ORA pursuant to O.C.G.A. 42-5-36(c).
4. We anticipate providing the record(s) responsive to the statistical portion of your request by March 14, 2025. Federal law prohibits the disclosure of spreadsheets or other records reflecting the specifics of PREA reports. See 28 C.F.R. §115.61(b).

We look forward to working with you on this matter. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions regarding the GDC's response.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Ammons
General Counsel
Office of Legal Services

To monitor the progress or update this request please log into the [Open Records Center](#)

