



TIP BRIEF

November 28, 2025

Georgia Spends \$24 Million on 'Hardened' Prison Unit While Inmates Starve

Georgia is building a \$24 million 'hardened' 126-bed unit at Hays State Prison as part of a \$600 million construction surge, despite a DOJ finding that the state's prisons violate the Constitution through gang control and deliberate indifference. The new fortress-style approach ignores root causes like chronic understaffing and malnutrition that fuel the violence officials claim to be addressing.

QUOTABLES

People are assaulted, stabbed, raped and killed or left to languish inside facilities that are woefully understaffed

Georgia fails to protect incarcerated people from harm and is deliberately indifferent to the risk of serious injury and death

ACCOUNTABILITY

Georgia Department of Corrections Commissioner Tyrone Oliver, Governor Brian Kemp's office, and the Georgia State Parole Board for reducing releases while violence escalated

REPORTING LEADS

1. Request GDC nutrition budgets and weight loss incident reports from Rogers, Wheeler, and Smith State Prisons
2. Interview families of Hays inmates about food conditions and medical neglect since 2020
3. FOIA requests for Hays staffing logs showing single-officer coverage of multiple buildings at

night

RELATED ASSETS

- [DOJ Findings Report](#)
- [Gov. Kemp Prison Spending Announcement](#)
- [Hays Construction Details](#)

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Georgia Prisoners' Speak

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