



**NEWS RELEASE**

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Media Contact: Brian Walch  
publicaffairs@usccr.gov  
(202) 376-8371

**The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights Will Examine the Confinement Conditions of Incarcerated Women Who Are under the Care of the Bureau of Prisons**

Washington, DC – Congress has tasked the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights with annually examining the enforcement of civil rights by a federal agency. For fiscal year 2017, the Commission will review the confinement conditions of incarcerated women who are under the care of the Bureau of Prisons. Women in prisons suffer different experiences and deprivations than do men. The Commission will investigate, and make recommendations to Congress and the President, regarding the safety and care of women in federal prisons.

Commission Chair Martin R. Castro stated, “The increase in the United States in the number of incarcerated women and the higher rate of incarceration of Hispanic and Black women in comparison to white women, should be a cause for concern for all of us. We hope that our examination of the conditions of incarcerated women will serve to address any inequities and mistreatment that may exist.”

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The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights is an independent, bipartisan agency charged with advising the President and Congress on civil rights matters and issuing a federal civil rights enforcement report. For information about the Commission, please visit <http://www.usccr.gov> and follow us on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/usccrgov>