

Panel Outline: “Unconstitutional Incarceration: Addressing Jail Conditions through Litigation and Policy Advocacy”

I. Introduction (10 minutes)

- Moderator Welcome and Panelist Introductions
 - Brief overview of each panelist’s expertise:
 - Terrica Ganzy: Executive Director, Southern Center for Human Rights (SCHR).
 - Atteeyah Hollie: Deputy Director, SCHR.
 - Devin Franklin: Senior Movement Policy Counsel, SCHR.
- Framing the Issue
 - Overview of the scope and impact of unconstitutional incarceration in Georgia.
 - Key statistics on jail conditions and civil/human rights violations (e.g., Fulton County Jail).

II. Understanding the Problem: Drivers of Unconstitutional Incarceration (20 minutes)

- Structural and Systemic Issues
 - Overcrowding and resource constraints in Georgia’s jails.
 - Pretrial detention as a driver of overcrowding and prolonged incarceration.
 - Insufficient mental health and medical care for incarcerated individuals.
- Case Study: Fulton County Jail
 - U.S. Department of Justice findings: Civil and human rights violations.
 - Impact on incarcerated individuals and broader communities.

III. Litigation Strategies to Combat Inhumane Conditions (25 minutes)

- Terrica Ganzy: SCHR’s Role in Litigation
 - Class-action lawsuits: Seeking systemic reforms through the courts.
 - Challenges and successes in holding jail administrators accountable.
- Atteeyah Hollie: Individual Lawsuits
 - The importance of representing individuals in abuse cases.
 - Examples of successful cases and their impact on jail policies.
- Devin Franklin: Legal Advocacy Beyond the Courtroom
 - Leveraging public pressure and media to amplify litigation efforts.
 - Building coalitions to push for systemic change.

IV. Policy Advocacy to Address Jail Conditions (25 minutes)

- State-Level Reforms
 - Advocacy for funding mental health services to reduce incarceration rates.
 - Policy recommendations to address overcrowding and pretrial detention.
- Local Efforts and Community Engagement
 - The role of community advocacy in holding local governments accountable.
 - Examples of successful partnerships between legal advocates and community groups.

V. Interactive Q&A Session (10 minutes)

- Open floor for audience questions.
- Encourage actionable dialogue between attendees and panelists.

VI. Conclusion and Call to Action (5 minutes)

- Summary of key takeaways:
 - The importance of litigation in addressing systemic abuses.
 - How policy advocacy can complement legal strategies.
- Call to action:
 - Encourage audience members to support efforts to combat unconstitutional incarceration through advocacy, donations, or community involvement.

Materials for Attendees

- Handouts or digital links summarizing key points discussed.
- Resources on how to get involved with SCHR initiatives.