

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **Statement on Adelanto GEO Detention Facility Expansion**

**Ontario, CA-** Today, July 1st, the Adelanto Detention Center is set to expand its holding capacity by 640 beds with 250 solely designed to house female detainees. The expansion would put Adelanto at capacity of 1900+ beds, making it the largest Immigration Detention facility in the West Coast. The JFIC is deeply concerned and disappointed with this decision to expand without recognizing the current treatment of detainees inside the Adelanto Detention Facility.

The GEO Group Inc. a private for Profit Corporation, has operated the Adelanto Detention Center under a contract with Immigration and Customs Enforcement since it's opening in 2011. However with the short time span that the facility has been open, it has gained a reputation amongst local community organizations for the deaths of two detainees due to lack of adequate medical care.

In May of 2015, a Salvadoran immigrant, Raul Ernesto Morales-Ramos died while in detention due to 'unusual bleeding' attributed to intestinal cancer. Similarly, in 2012 the death from pneumonia of Fernando Dominguez triggered questions about access to care in the facility.

With the expansion that takes place today, it alarms local community organizations, as holding more immigrants in detention with little to no oversight is set to bring more mistreatment and abuse to detainees. We are especially worried that the facility will begin to house female detainees and fear the facility is not properly equipped to provide care to women.

The JFIC and its coalition partners stand firmly against the expansion and will continue to advocate for detainees and to hold the Adelanto Detention Facility accountable for its inhumane practices.

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