

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Brown Goldstein & Levy obtained a victory in an ADA lawsuit on behalf of a transgender woman in Maryland correctional facility.

PATUXENT, Md.— Plaintiff Chloe Grey has obtained a victory in a <u>lawsuit filed earlier this</u> <u>year</u> alleging that Maryland's treatment of transgender incarcerated individuals violates the Americans with Disabilities Act and Eighth Amendment. Ms. Grey – a transgender woman held in a men's correctional facility who has been held in solitary, retaliated against, denied medication and food, assaulted, and more, because of her transgender status – was granted a temporary restraining order (TRO) by United States District Court Judge Matthew J. Maddox.

The TRO requires the State to evaluate Ms. Grey for transfer to a women's prison within 30 days; videotape every time she is given her hormone treatment, because staff routinely denied her medication while writing otherwise in medical records; ensure she is protected from alleged abusers; and provide her razors and facial hair treatment.

"While our client has bravely stood up for her right to live true to her gender identity, Maryland has unfortunately punished her for bravery—subjecting her to discriminatory and dangerous treatment because she is transgender and refuses to accept denial of her federal civil rights. The brutality that Ms. Grey has been made to withstand is harrowing," said Jessie Weber, a partner at BGL and one of the lead attorneys on the case. "While the battle for justice for our clients is by no means over, we are pleased to be moving in the right direction."

Brown Goldstein & Levy first filed *Chelsea Gilliam, et al., v. Maryland Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services, et al.* on April 18, 2023, on behalf of Chelsea Gilliam, a transgender woman who was held at two men's correctional facilities, where she suffered sexual assault, denial of hormone treatment, and on-going harassment because of her transgender status. Later, Kennedy Holland and Chloe Grey joined the suit.

Plaintiffs in the suit are represented by Eve Hill, Sharon Krevor-Weisbaum, Jessie Weber, Lauren DiMartino, and Evan Monod of Brown, Goldstein & Levy and Deborah Golden of the Law Office of Deborah M. Golden.

Judge Maddox's order is available here.

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About Jessie Weber

Jessie Weber enjoys helping clients navigate a diverse range of difficult legal issues, with a focus on civil rights, including disability and LGBTQ rights, employment law, including wage and hour cases, and appellate litigation. Jessie's successes include obtaining a \$1.25 million settlement for a class of Baltimore City school bus drivers and attendants wrongly denied their full pay, securing an injunction requiring the Maryland Board of Elections to make absentee voting accessible to voters with print disabilities, and winning an arbitration award of more than \$250,000 on behalf of an African-American former Hooters server who was fired from her job because of Hooters' racially discriminatory image policy.

About Brown Goldstein & Levy, LLP

Founded in 1982, Brown Goldstein & Levy is a law firm based in Baltimore, Maryland, with an office in Washington, DC. The firm is nationally recognized in a wide variety of practice areas, including complex civil and commercial litigation, civil rights, health care, family law, and criminal defense. Above all else, Brown, Goldstein & Levy is a client-centered law firm that brings decades of experience and passionate, effective advocacy to your fight for justice.