




SONOMA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

EDDIE ENGRAM
Sheriff-Coroner

Date: January 23, 2024
To: Sheriff Eddie Engram, via Chain of Command 
From: Lieutenant Jason Squires
Subject: Prison Rape Elimination Act Annual Report 2023

The Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) requires all law enforcement agencies with detention facilities of any kind to create an annual report of all sexual assaults and sexual harassment committed within its facilities. This report must be completed, submitted to the agency head, and made public via the agency's internet website.

Each agency shall review data collected to assess and improve the effectiveness of its sexual abuse prevention, detection, and response policies, practices, and training. This will include identifying problem areas and taking corrective action on an ongoing basis. This report must include a comparison of the current year's data and corrective actions along with those from prior years.

A toll free "hot line" has been provided enabling incarcerated persons at both facilities to confidentially report sexual assault or harassment, as well as seek outside advocacy and counseling. This outside agency is Verity Sonoma County Rape Crisis Center. Procedures are in place to effectively forward incarcerated person reports and ensure a quick response.

In 2016, 2019 and 2022, our PREA policy and applicable procedures were audited and found in compliance with the standards. In addition, booking intake forms were revised and the incarcerated person handbook was completed. Educational material is provided to incarcerated persons during the booking process to include notification of our zero-tolerance policy and information on how to report any incidents or suspicions of sexual abuse or sexual harassment. Our mental health and medical staff have also updated their processes to comply with the PREA standards. Information is accessible to all incarcerated persons in a variety of different ways to ensure all incarcerated persons understand what resources are available to them. Posters are located throughout the facilities and brochures are included in the incarcerated person orientation handbook.

An independent PREA audit was conducted in 2022 and we were found to be in full compliance with all PREA standards.

In 2019, we worked with the National Institute of Corrections to implement Strategic Incarcerated Person Management (SIM) as an organizational philosophy. The most fundamental goal of every jail and prison is to maintain a safe and secure environment for staff, incarcerated person, and visitors. Effectively managing incarcerated person behavior is critical to this goal. The purpose of SIM is to promote safe and secure environments by employing the best practices of direct supervision and incarcerated person behavior management.

In 2019, we installed additional monitoring technology in areas of the Main Adult Detention Facility including the booking area, the infirmary and clinic area, R-Module, Mental Health Module and Male Special Module which will enhance our ability to respond to PREA allegations and reported incidents. We also equipped Correctional staff with body worn cameras.

In 2022, we installed several dome mirrors in the Facility’s kitchen to provide more visual supervision of incarcerated persons. We also included frosted film to cells in FA, FP, EG, EP and EA modules. Frosted film was also added to the dress-out booths to provide incarcerated persons with an added level of privacy while changing.

Training for all staff continues agency wide. This training includes instructing staff on proper documentation to enable effective reviews of incidents. Our agency will provide each employee with refresher training every two years to ensure that all employees know the agency’s current sexual abuse and sexual harassment policies and procedures. In addition, in the years in which an employee does not receive refresher training, our agency shall provide refresher information on current sexual abuse and sexual harassment policies. The Sonoma County Sheriff’s Office maintains a zero-tolerance policy and is dedicated to evaluating and improving as needed our agency’s policies, practices and training about sexual abuse prevention, detection, and response.

Annual Statistics

Sexual Harassment, Non-Consensual Sexual Acts and Abusive Sexual Contact are all defined as PREA related incidents involving incarcerated persons. Staff Sexual Harassment and Staff Sexual Misconduct are defined as PREA related incidents involving staff. During the period of January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2023, there were 39 PREA related incidents reported in our detention facilities. Of the 39 reports, 23 involved incarcerated persons as both the victim and the suspect. 16 reports listed the incarcerated person as the victim and staff as the suspect. A review of all reports determined all cases were investigated properly and in accordance with the S.C.S.O. policy and PREA. A breakdown of those incidents is listed below:

Date	Victim	Suspect	Incident type	Disposition
1/19/2023	Incarcerated Person	Incarcerated Person	Non-Consensual Act	Unsubstantiated
2/1/2023	Incarcerated Person	Incarcerated Person	Sexual Harassment	Unfounded

2/2/2023	Incarcerated Person	Incarcerated Person	Non-Consensual Act	Unsubstantiated
2/2/2023	Incarcerated Person	Incarcerated Person	Non-Consensual Act	Unsubstantiated
2/7/2023	Incarcerated Person	Staff	Sexual Misconduct	Unfounded
2/12/2023	Incarcerated Person	Incarcerated Person	Sexual Harassment	Unfounded
2/26/2023	Incarcerated Person	Incarcerated Person	Sexual Harassment	Unsubstantiated
3/12/2023	Incarcerated Person	Staff	Sexual Misconduct	Unfounded
3/24/2023	Incarcerated Person	Staff	Sexual Misconduct	Unfounded
3/28/2023	Incarcerated Person	Staff	Sexual Misconduct	Unfounded
5/2/2023	Incarcerated Person	Incarcerated Person	Sexual Harassment	Unsubstantiated
5/11/2023	Incarcerated Person	Incarcerated Person	Sexual Harassment	Unsubstantiated
5/15/2023	Incarcerated Person	Staff	Sexual Misconduct	Unsubstantiated
5/22/2023	Incarcerated Person	Incarcerated Person	Sexual Harassment	Unsubstantiated
5/27/2023	Incarcerated Person	Incarcerated Person	Sexual Harassment	Unsubstantiated
6/2/2023	Incarcerated Person	Incarcerated Person	Sexual Harassment	Unfounded
6/2/2023	Incarcerated Person	Staff	Sexual Misconduct	Unfounded
6/3/2023	Incarcerated Person	Incarcerated Person	Non-Consensual Act	Unsubstantiated
6/4/2023	Incarcerated Person	Incarcerated Person	Sexual Harassment	Unfounded
6/12/2023	Incarcerated Person	Staff	Sexual Misconduct	Unfounded
6/13/2023	Incarcerated Person	Incarcerated Person	Sexual Harassment	Substantiated
6/21/2023	Incarcerated Person	Incarcerated Person	Sexual Harassment	Unsubstantiated
6/25/2023	Incarcerated Person	Staff	Sexual Misconduct	Unfounded
7/3/2023	Incarcerated Person	Staff	Sexual Harassment	Unsubstantiated
7/5/2023	Incarcerated Person	Incarcerated Person	Non-Consensual Act	Unfounded
7/17/2023	Incarcerated Person	Incarcerated Person	Non-Consensual Act	Unfounded
7/19/2023	Incarcerated Person	Incarcerated Person	Sexual Harassment	Unsubstantiated
7/20/2023	Incarcerated Person	Staff	Sexual Misconduct	Unfounded
7/30/2023	Incarcerated Person	Incarcerated Person	Sexual Harassment	Unsubstantiated
8/23/2023	Incarcerated Person	Staff	Sexual Misconduct	Unfounded
8/26/2023	Incarcerated Person	Incarcerated Person	Non-Consensual Act	Unsubstantiated
8/28/2023	Incarcerated Person	Incarcerated Person	Non-Consensual Act	Unsubstantiated
9/5/2023	Incarcerated Person	Staff	Sexual Harassment	Unsubstantiated
9/6/2023	Incarcerated Person	Staff	Sexual Harassment	Unfounded
9/6/2023	Incarcerated Person	Staff	Sexual Harassment	Unfounded
9/7/2023	Incarcerated Person	Incarcerated Person	Non-Consensual Act	Unsubstantiated
11/26/2023	Incarcerated Person	Staff	Sexual Misconduct	Unfounded

12/7/2023	Incarcerated Person	Staff	Sexual Misconduct	Unfounded
12/10/2023	Incarcerated Person	Incarcerated Person	Non-Consensual Act	Substantiated

The Department of Justice defines the dispositions of the above cases as the following:

- Unfounded – The investigation determined that the event did NOT occur
- Unsubstantiated – The investigation concluded that evidence was insufficient to determine whether or not the event occurred
- Substantiated – The event was investigated and determined to have occurred, based on a preponderance of the evidence

Of the 39 reported incidents in 2023, two of the incidents were substantiated. A comparison of substantiated incidents over the last three years is listed below:

Comparison Chart of Substantiated Incidents:

2023	Nonconsensual Sexual Acts	Abusive Sexual Contact	Sexual Harassment	Staff Sexual Misconduct	Staff Sexual Harassment
Dorm	0	0	0	0	0
Cell	0	0	0	0	0
Common Area	1	0	0	0	0
Booking	0	0	1	0	0
Kitchen	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0

2022	Nonconsensual Sexual Acts	Abusive Sexual Contact	Sexual Harassment	Staff Sexual Misconduct	Staff Sexual Harassment
Dorm	0	0	0	0	0
Cell	0	0	0	0	0
Common Area	0	0	0	0	0
Booking	0	0	0	0	0
Kitchen	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0

2021	Nonconsensual Sexual Acts	Abusive Sexual Contact	Sexual Harassment	Staff Sexual Misconduct	Staff Sexual Harassment
Dorm	0	0	0	0	0
Cell	0	0	0	0	0
Common Area	0	0	1	0	0
Booking	0	0	0	0	0
Kitchen	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0

2020	Nonconsensual Sexual Acts	Abusive Sexual Contact	Sexual Harassment	Staff Sexual Misconduct	Staff Sexual Harassment
Dorm	0	0	0	0	0
Cell	0	0	0	0	0
Common Area	1	0	0	0	0
Booking	0	0	0	0	0
Kitchen	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0

In reviewing all the reports, incarcerated persons are generally victimized by other incarcerated persons and these incidents primarily take place inside the incarcerated person housing areas. The Sonoma County Sheriff's Office conducts at a minimum two rounds per hour on all incarcerated persons. Rounds are documented on paper or recorded into the Rounds Automated System. Our staff is committed to providing a secure, safe, and humane environment for incarcerated persons and staff. In accordance with PREA and its standards, we mandate zero tolerance and commit to maintaining a program of education, prevention, detection, investigation, criminal and administrative sanctions against perpetrators, data collection, treatment and support for any incarcerated person who is a victim of sexual abuse.

Our two facilities do not house juveniles. Should a juvenile be transported to court via our Main Adult Detention court tunnels, a designated area of the facility is placed on lockdown during the juvenile's escort ensuring the juvenile has no contact with any adult incarcerated person. The juvenile is not out of the sight of transporting Deputies at any time throughout the escort.

We continue to evaluate best practices in supervising/monitoring the incarcerated person population in an effort to further reduce incidents of sexual victimization within our facilities.

This report has been redacted to exclude all personal identifying information.