



LANE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

2020 PREA ANNUAL REPORT

Background

The Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) was passed by Congress and signed into law by President George W. Bush in 2003 to prevent, detect and respond to sexual abuse and sexual harassment that occurs in confinement settings. The National Prison Rape Elimination Commission developed national standards which apply to adult prisons and jails, juvenile facilities, lockups and community confinement facilities.

PREA Statistics

The Lane County Sheriff's Office collects data in accordance with §115.87 in order to assess and improve the effectiveness of its sexual abuse prevention, detection, and response policies, practices, and training. The information collected regarding PREA is used to identify problem areas and to take corrective action on a continuing basis.

During 2020 there were 8,737 new admissions into the Lane County Adult Corrections Facility. The number of new admissions declined from previous years due to protocols enacted to manage the COVID-19 pandemic. The average daily population of LCACF was 291. There were 97 new admissions in the Lane County Residential Re-entry Center and its average daily population was 20.

Zero-Tolerance Policy

The Lane County Sheriff's Office mandates a zero tolerance for any incidence of sexual assault or attempted sexual assault of any person in the custody of the sheriff. All staff, volunteers, contractors and adults in custody (AIC) must abide by this and related policies, laws, and standards that help prevent, detect, reduce, and punish AIC sexual assault. The Sheriff's Office policies must provide prompt and effective intervention and investigation should an assault occur.

LCSO has a designated, agency-wide PREA Coordinator and PREA Compliance Manager. LCSO reviews existing policies and establishes new policies in accordance with PREA standards. Other efforts to comply with the PREA standards include, but are not limited to:

- Training for staff, volunteers and contractors;
- Collaboration with local Rape Crisis Centers;
- Continuing use of an internal, confidential reporting hotline;
- Continuing confidential support services hotline to local Rape Crisis Centers;
- Providing educational materials for adults in custody;
- Assessing risk of victimization during initial intake; and
- Providing specialized investigative training.

PREA Incident Reviews

The Lane County Sheriff's Office Adult Correctional Division Facility shall review all reports of sexual abuse/assault incidents per PREA Standard §115.86. Under this standard, the Correctional Division must conduct a sexual abuse incident review at the conclusion of every sexual abuse investigation, including where the allegation has not been substantiated, unless the allegation has been determined to be unfounded. Such review will ordinarily occur within thirty (30) days of the conclusion of the investigation. The review team will include upper-level management officials, with input from line supervisors, investigators, and medical or mental health practitioners. The Correctional Division will implement the recommendations for improvement, or document its reasons for not doing so.



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Review Criteria:

1. Consider whether the allegation or investigation indicates a need to change policy or practice to better prevent, detect, or respond to sexual abuse.
2. Consider whether the alleged incident was motivated by race; ethnicity; gender identity; lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or intersex identification status or perceived status; gang affiliation; or was motivated or otherwise caused by other group dynamics at the facility.
3. Examine the area in the facility where the allegation occurred to assess whether physical barriers in the area may enable abuse.
4. Assess the adequacy of staffing levels in that area during different shifts.
5. Assess whether monitoring technology should be deployed or augmented to supplement supervision by staff.
6. Prepare a report of its findings, including but not necessarily limited to, determinations made pursuant to the above requirements and any recommendations for improvement and submit such report to the Jail Commander and the PREA Coordinator.

Analysis/Corrective Action

Analysis: There was one substantiated PREA incidents of Sexual Harassment that was reported during 2020. It involved a male adult in custody allegedly exposing himself to a female adult in custody while they were both assigned to a multi-gender area of the jail. The allegation was forwarded to a Shift Supervisor for initial investigation, assigned to a trained PREA investigator, and the involved aggressor was admonished. The reported victim was rehoused to a safe area and AIC keep-away's were instituted in order to ensure that the two parties did not have future contact.

Corrective Action: Staff members received continuing education on the importance of proper notification to command of all PREA or possible PREA-related incidents immediately after discovery or receiving the report from an AIC. The victim received information relating to Sexual Harassment treatment resources.