

# Rick Staly, Sheriff FLAGLER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

"An honor to serve, a duty to protect."

### **MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** January 18, 2021

TO: Sheriff R. Staly

FROM: Chief D. Engert

**RE:** 2020 Annual PREA Report

## **History:**

The Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) was established in 2003 by the United States Congress to address the problem of sexual abuse and sexual harassment of persons in the custody of U.S. correctional agencies. PREA has profoundly impacted the field of corrections. State and local law enforcement leaders play a critical role in establishing a culture of zero tolerance for sexual assaults in confinement. Among other things, PREA requires the implementation of policies and procedures to prevent, detect and respond to sexual abuse in our nation's lockups and local jails and correctional facilities. These policies and procedures provide protection to detainees and officers, may limit an agency's exposure to liability and can certainly bolster the reputation of the agency in the community.

### **Major Provisions of PREA include:**

- Adherence to a zero-tolerance standard for the incidence of inmate sexual assault and rape
- Development of standards for detection, prevention, reduction, and punishment of prison rape
- Collection and dissemination of information on the incidence of prison rape

The Flagler County Sheriff's Office has adopted the following initiatives to prevent and detect PREA-related incidents and provide a safe and secure environment to inmates:

- The Inmate Orientation Handbook includes a reference to a zero tolerance of sexual misconduct
  which is provided to each inmate, along with a pamphlet entitled Sexual Assault Awareness in two
  languages (English, Spanish) and language assistance is afforded to inmates who do not speak/read
  English or Spanish.
- There are PREA posters, in the two languages, throughout housing units as well as a zero tolerance video that is played each day in every housing unit.

- PREA has been incorporated in annual training classes, as well as PREA updates and departmental expectations and responsibilities of all staff in ongoing in-service training.
- PREA information has been included during new employee orientation emphasizing the
  impact of victimization, zero tolerance to sexual misconduct of any sort, the requirement of
  reporting, and the general sensitivity to these types of occurrences in an institutional
  environment.
- There is a PREA hotline available to all inmates who wish to make direct reports.

## 2020 PREA Complaints

Complaint Type	Number of Complaints	Substantiated	Unsubstantiated	Unfounded	Investigation On-Going
Inmate on Inmate					
Nonconsensual Sex	0	0	0	0	
Inmate on Inmate Abusive					
Sexual Contact	3	0	1	2	
Inmate on Inmate Sexual					
Harassment	2	0	0	2	
Staff on Inmate Sexual					
Misconduct	7	0	1	5	*1
Staff on Inmate Sexual					
Harassment	4	0	1	3	
Total	16	0	3	12	*1

<sup>\*</sup> Complaint was reported as occurring at another correctional facility and prior to detention at FCSO. The respective Chief Administrative Officer of the facility was notified however the result of a subsequent investigation was not provided to FCSO.

### Conclusion

The FCSO is firmly committed to continual and progressive culture change and continues to direct the implementation of the requirements of the PREA standards. Additionally, the FCSO is also dedicated to providing safe and secure housing for incarcerated individuals within Flagler County.

This report complies with PREA Standards 115.88 (c) -Data Review which states, "The agency's report shall be approved by the agency head and made readily available to the public through the website or, through other means.

Cc: Accreditation

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