

Leon County Sheriff's Office Leon County Jail 2014 Prison Rape Elimination Act Annual Report

The Prison Rape Elimination Act was enacted by Congress in 2003 to address the problem of sexual abuse of incarcerated persons in the custody of United States correctional facilities. The Bureau of **Justice created the National Prison Rape Elimination Commission** and charged it with developing draft standards for the elimination of prison rape. Those standards were published in June of 2009. The standards were given to the Department of Justice for review and passage and were finalized on August 20, 2012.

The Leon County Sheriff's Office started addressing the issues of PREA when in early 2006 Jail SOP 450.K15 Inmate Sexual Abuse and Harassment was added to the Standard Operating Procedures Manual. The addition of this SOP started the adoption of the current zero tolerance policy on issues pertaining to inmate sexual abuse or harassment. In July of 2011, the Leon County Sheriff's Office began training the staff on the PREA standards. Numerous changes have been made over the years that have led to better training for all staff, inmates, volunteers, and contractors towards the goal of elimination of incidents within the Leon County Tail.

In early 2013, the Leon County Sheriff's Office started implementing the 46 PREA standards that apply to adult jails and prisons. Additional training was implemented for staff and training for inmates was established. The Leon County Sheriff's Office appointed the first agency wide PREA Coordinator in 2014.

Analysis/Corrective Action:

The Leon County Sheriff's Office is continuing to work on full compliance of all PREA standards and is working on the goal of receiving a PREA audit in the near future. The Leon County Sheriff's Office has and will continue to maintain agency compliance and strive to protect all inmates from sexual abuse and harassment.

Definitions

Substantiated Allegation : an allegation that was investigated and determined to have occurred

Unsubstantiated Allegation: an allegation that was investigated and the investigation produced insufficient evidence to make a final determination as to whether or not the event occurred.

Unfounded Allegation: an allegation that was investigated and determined not to have occurred.

During administrative investigations, the Leon County Sheriff's Office imposes a standard of a preponderance of evidence (51%) standard of proof when determining whether allegations of sexual abuse or sexual harassment are substantiated in accordance with PREA standard 115.72.

Reported PREA Incidents 2014 (Staff-Inmate Sexual Assault)

Substantiated 0 Unfounded 0 Unsubstantiated 0

There were no reports of staff on inmate sexual abuse in 2014.

Reported PREA Incidents 2014 (Staff-Inmate Sexual Harassment)

Unfounded 0

Other Jurisdiction 1

Unsubstantiated 0

There was one (1) reported staff on inmate sexual harassment in 2014. This case was an inmate alleging he was forced to strip search with female staff present in two other facilities. The other facilities were notified of the allegations and copies of our incident report were forwarded to them for investigation .

Reported PREA Incidents 2014 (Inmate-Inmate Sexual Assault)

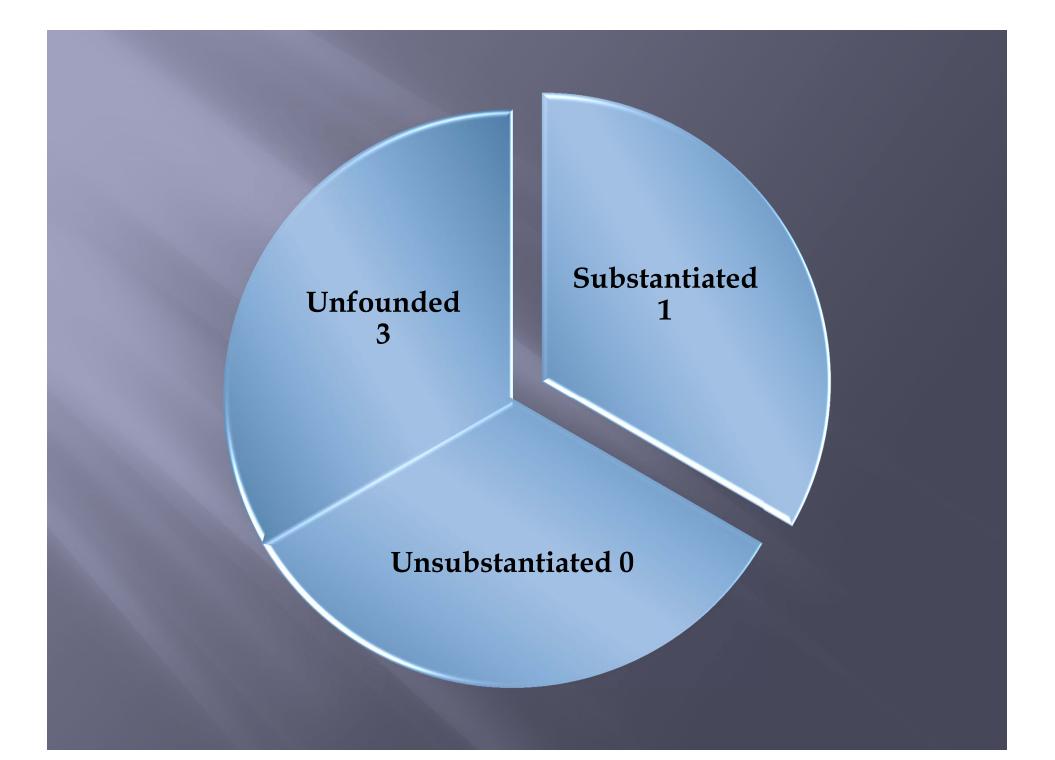
Unfounded 1

Other Jurisdiction 1

Unsubstantiated 1

Three (3) reports of inmate on inmate sexual assault were reported in 2014. One (1) case that was reported was unfounded due to conflicting statements given by the alleged victim. One (1) case was unsubstantiated due to a lack of evidence. The final case was in another jurisdiction and was reported to them. A copy of our incident report was forwarded to them to assist in their investigation.

Reported PREA Incidents 2014 (Inmate-Inmate Sexual Harassment)



There were 4 reported cases of inmate on inmate sexual harassment in 2014. Three (3) of the cases were unfounded during investigation but the alleged victim and suspect were separated as a precautionary move. One (1) case was substantiated as the alleged suspect admitted to the allegations. The alleged suspect was disciplined via a disciplinary report and the alleged victim and suspect were placed on separation from each other.

Reported PREA Incidents 2014 (Investigated Allegations)

Administrative 5

Criminal 1

Other Jurisdiction 2

PREA Standard 115.88 data review for corrective action states the agency's report shall be approved by the agency head and made readily available to the public through its website or, if it does not have one, through other means.

In 2014, there were no substantiated cases of any sexual abuse at the Leon County Jail. There was one (1) substantiated case of inmate on inmate sexual harassment. No corrective action was needed after the incident review of the substantiated case was reviewed. The Leon County Jail continues make changes as needed to make the facility safer for all staff and inmates.