



Leon County Sheriff's Office
Leon County Detention Facility
2016
Prison Rape Elimination Act
Annual Report

2016 Annual PREA Report History

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.

2016 Annual PREA Report

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 Detention Facility.

2016 Annual PREA Report

In early 2013, the Leon County Sheriff's Office started implementing the 43 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 and in September of 2015, the current PREA Coordinator assumed the duties. Sheriff Walt McNeil and Chief Kim Petersen recognize the importance of the Leon County Sheriff's Office continuing to be PREA compliant in order to make the Leon County Detention Facility an even safer place for staff and inmates alike. The Leon County Detention Facility passed our PREA Audit on 03/24/2016. The facility received 5 exceeds standards, 35 meets standards and 3 exemptions during the audit. The Leon County Detention Facility is only the 14th jail in the state to become PREA compliant.

2016 Annual PREA Report

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.

2016 Annual PREA Report

Analysis/Corrective Action:

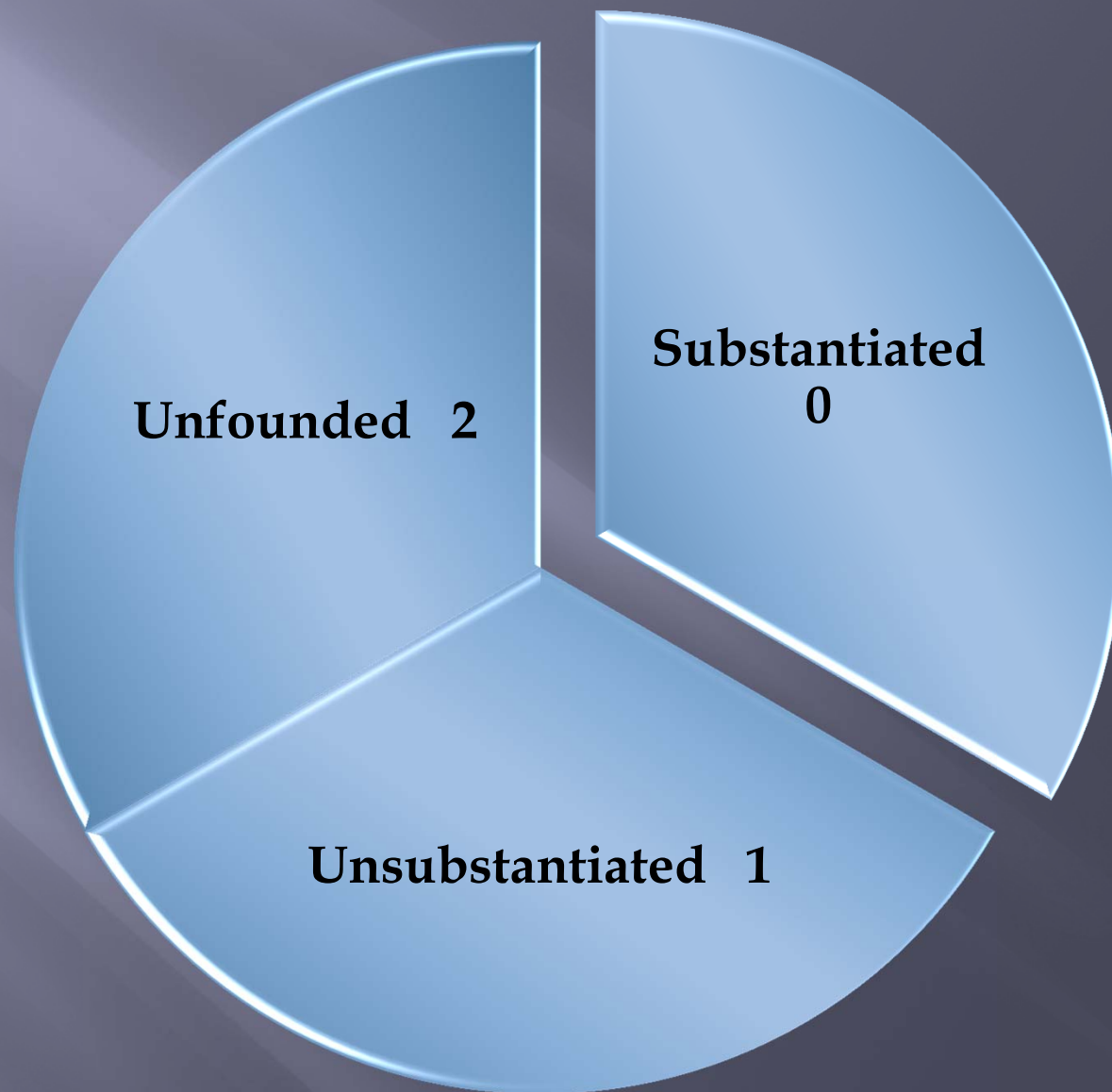
Even though the Leon County Sheriff's Office received full compliance with all PREA standards, the work is not done. The facility staff will continue to get even better training and the facility will be getting more and even better video monitoring equipment all designed to enhance our existing monitoring capabilities. The remaining case from 2015 of inmate on inmate sexual abuse was completed and found to be unsubstantiated.

2016 Annual PREA Report

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.

LEON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

**Reported PREA Incidents 2016
(Staff on Inmate Sexual Assault)
3 Cases Reported**

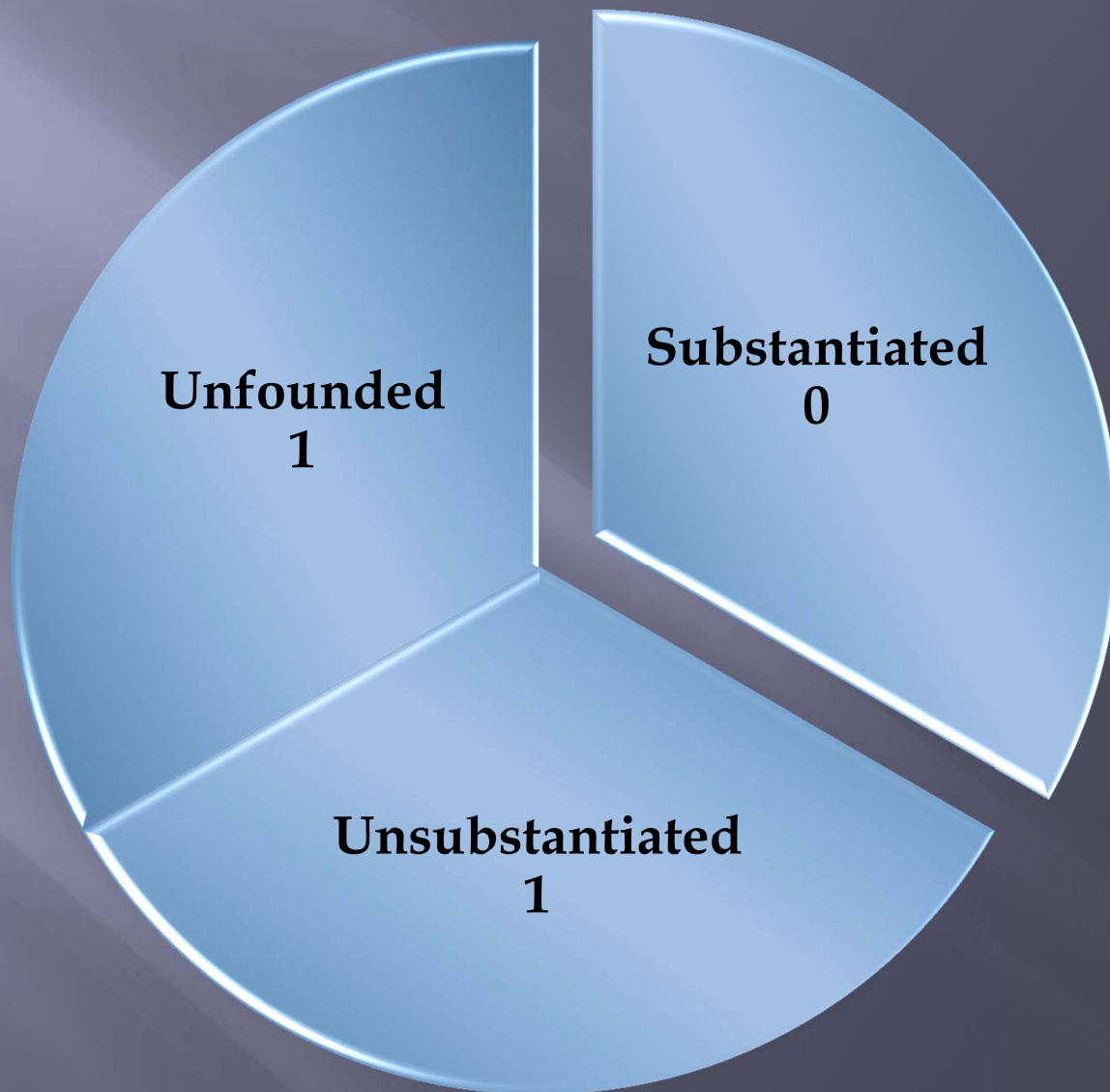


LEON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

There were three (3) cases of staff on inmate sexual abuse reported in 2016. In two (2) of the cases, the allegations were unfounded based on the fact that the complaint was in reference to an officer completing a legal pat search during cell search. In the third case, the allegation was found to be unsubstantiated due to a lack of evidence the event occurred.

LEON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Reported PREA Incidents 2016
(Staff on Inmate Sexual Harassment)
2 Cases Reported

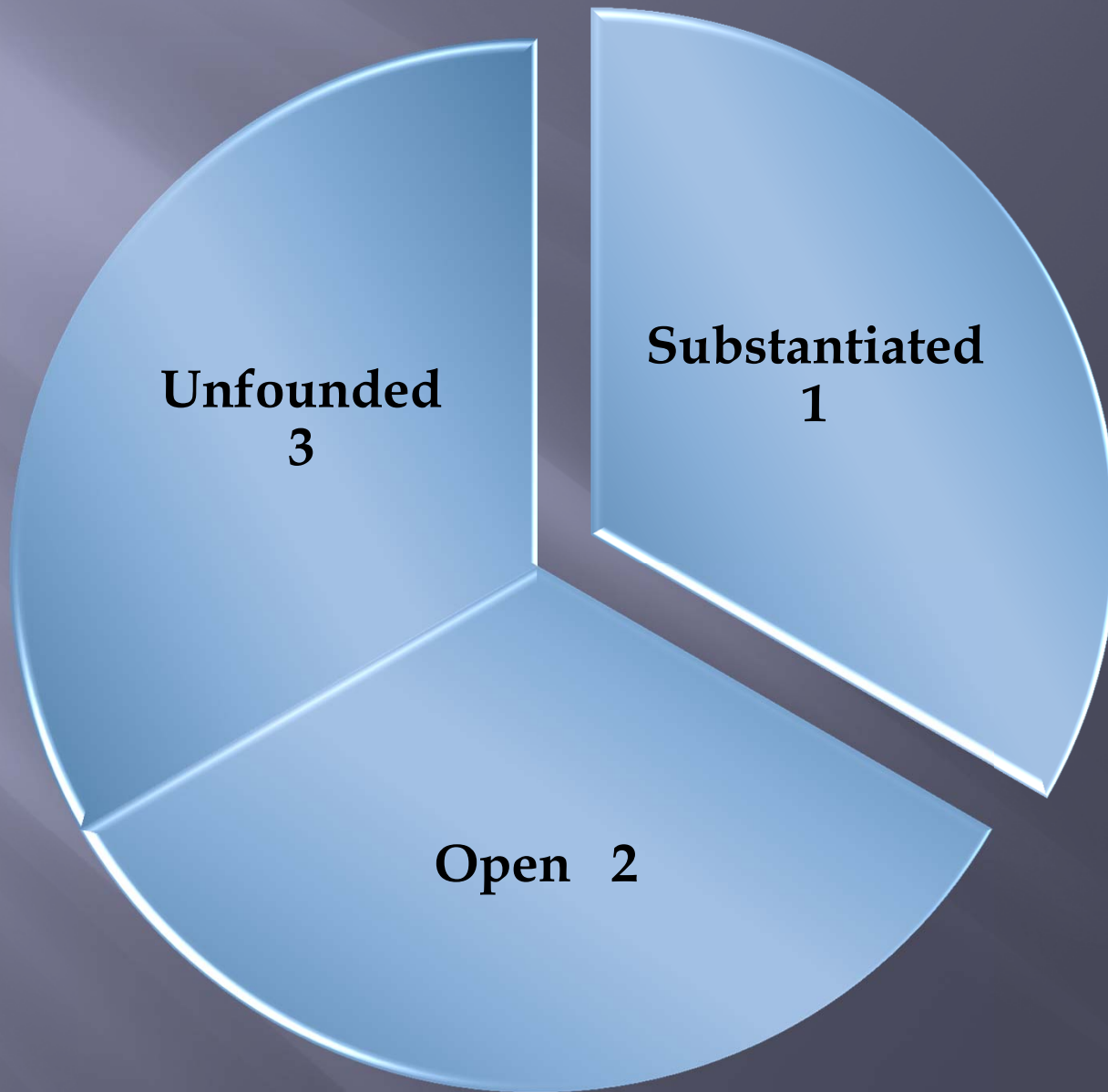


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In one (1) of the cases of Staff on Inmate Sexual Harassment, the alleged victim refused to cooperate after making the initial complaint. In the second reported case, there was not enough evidence to prove the incident occurred and no witnesses to confirm or deny the allegations.

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Reported PREA Incidents 2016
(Inmate on Inmate Sexual Assault)
6 Cases Reported



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Two (2) of the inmate on inmate sexual assault cases were unfounded due to there being no evidence that the alleged incident occurred.

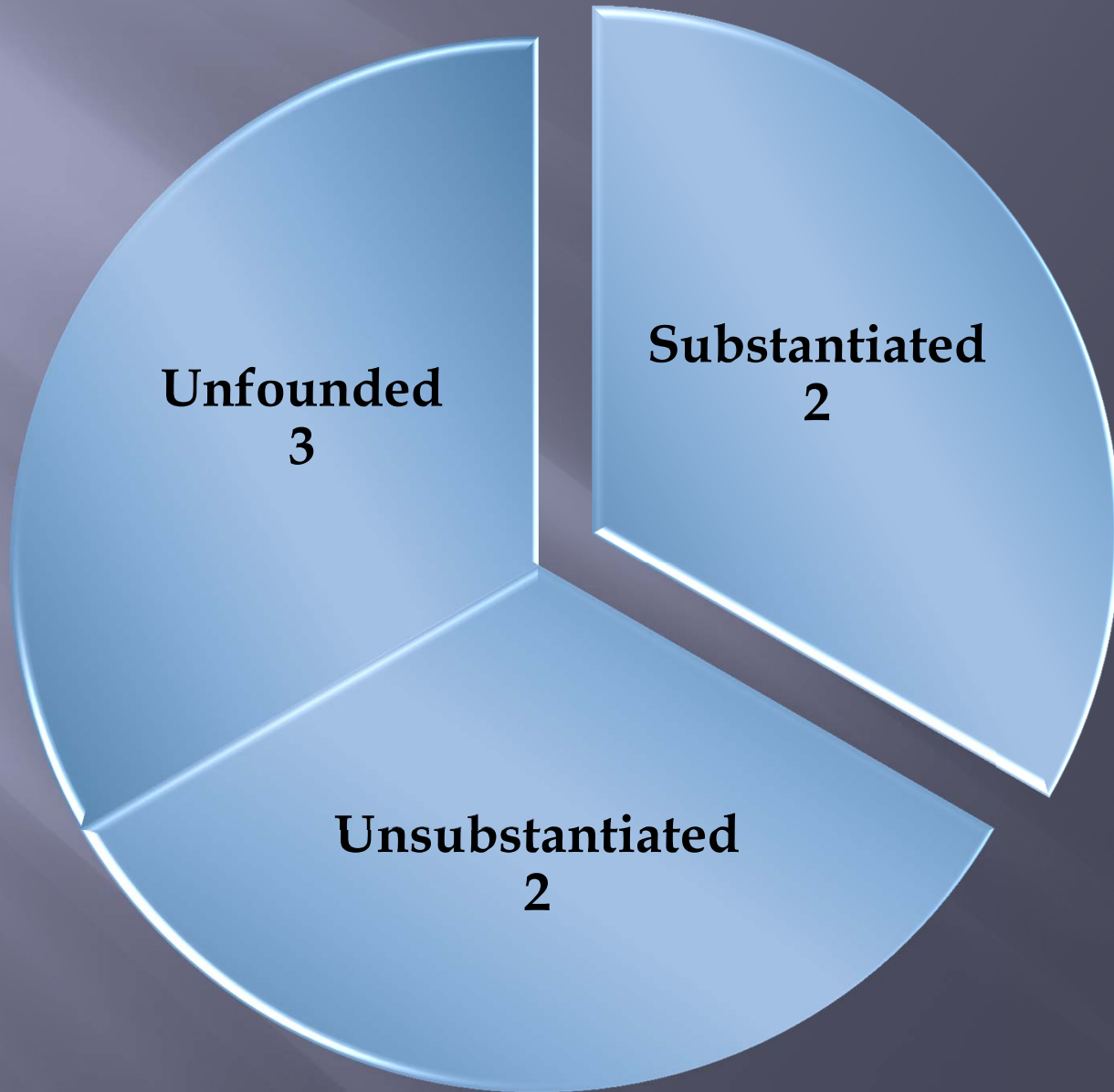
One (1) of inmate on inmate sexual assault cases was unfounded based on the allegation being reported by a third party and the alleged victim denied the event occurred.

One (1) of the inmate on inmate sexual assault cases was substantiated but the alleged victim signed a non-prosecution form. The suspect was given disciplinary sanctions within the facility.

Two (2) of the inmate on inmate sexual assault cases are still currently under investigation.

LEON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Reported PREA Incidents 2016
(Inmate on Inmate Sexual Harassment)
7 Cases Reported



LEON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

There were seven (7) reported cases of inmate on inmate sexual harassment in 2016.

Three (3) of the cases were unfounded based on the alleged victims denying the incidents occurred after the initial report was received.

Two (2) of the cases were unsubstantiated due to a lack of evidence they occurred and lack of any witnesses.

Two (2) of the cases were substantiated and the suspects were given disciplinary sanctions within the facility.

LEON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Reported PREA Incidents
2016
(Investigated Allegations)

Administrative 11

Criminal 7

2016 Annual PREA Report

There was a significant increase in the number of cases in 2016 over the past two years. This increase is due to several factors. The leading factor is that according to the Department of Justice, reports increased significantly after a facility has gone through a PREA audit. The DOJ also noticed that this factor diminished over time.

The Leon County Sheriff's Office also investigates all cases reported, regardless of whether they fit the standards set by PREA. This allows the Sheriff's Office to truly ensure that we have a zero tolerance for any type of sexually based incidents in the Leon County Detention Facility.

2016 Annual PREA Report

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 2016, there was one (1) substantiated case of sexual abuse and two (2) substantiated cases of sexual harassment at the Leon County Detention Facility. Administrative reviews were conducted in each case to determine if any corrective action was needed to ensure the facility or staff could have prevented the incidents from occurring and no corrective action was determined to be needed. However, the Leon County Detention Facility has added several new staff and is in the process of adding and updating cameras to assist in making the Leon County Detention Facility even safer for both staff and inmates.