

Leon County Sheriff's Office
Leon County Jail
2015
Prison Rape Elimination Act
Annual Report

#### 2015 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.

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 and in September of 2015, the current PREA Coordinator assumed the duties. Sheriff Mike Wood and Major John Schmidt recognized the importance of the Leon County Sheriff's Office becoming PREA compliant to make the Leon County Jail an even safer place for staff and inmates alike. Through their leadership and support, the Leon County Jail is well on the way to certification.

Analysis/Corrective Action:

The Leon County Sheriff's Office is continuing to work on full compliance of all PREA standards and is tentatively scheduled to have a PREA audit in March of 2016. 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** 

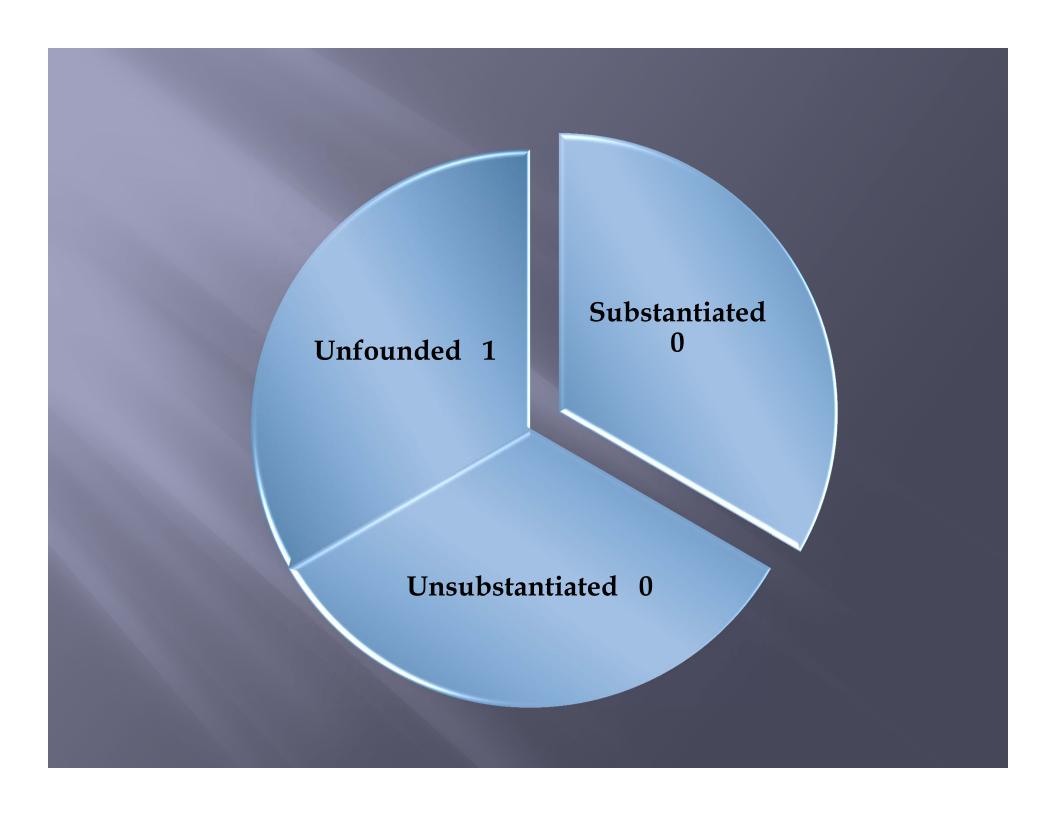
Substantiated Allegation: an allegation that was investigated and determined to have occurred

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.

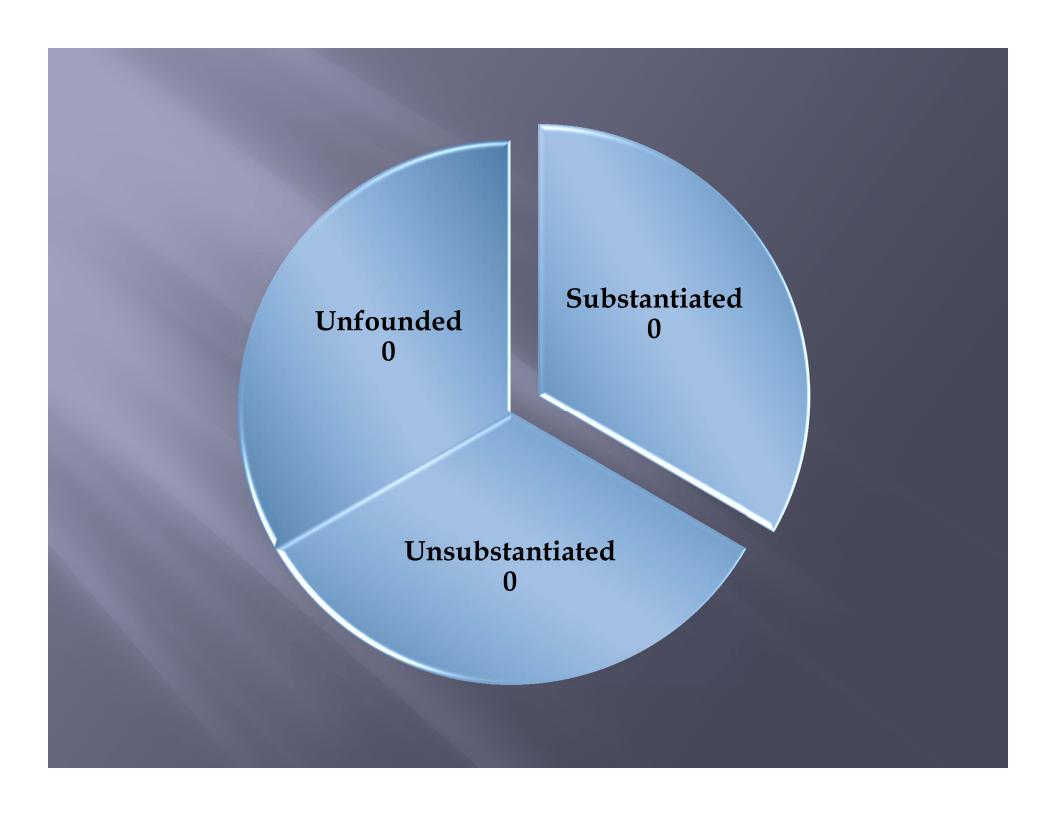
During administrative investigations, the Leon County Sheriff's Office imposes a standard of a preponderance of evidence (51%) standard of proof when determining whether allegations of sexual abuse or sexual harassment are substantiated in accordance with PREA standard 115.72.

Reported PREA Incidents 2015 (Staff-Inmate Sexual Assault)



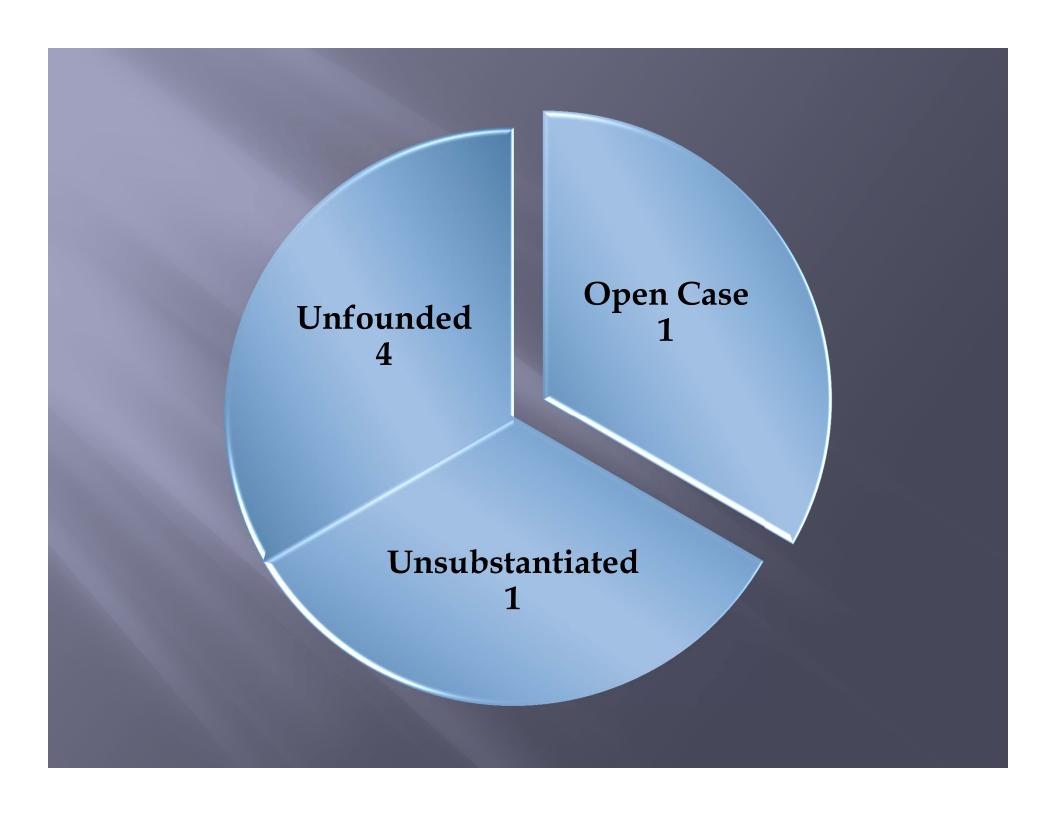
There was one (1) case of staff on inmate sexual abuse reported in 2015. The allegation was unfounded based on the fact that the incident was reported in reference to an officer conducting a legal pat-down search of the inmate and no violation occurred.

Reported PREA Incidents 2015 (Staff-Inmate Sexual Harassment)



There were no reported cases of staff on inmate sexual harassment in 2015.

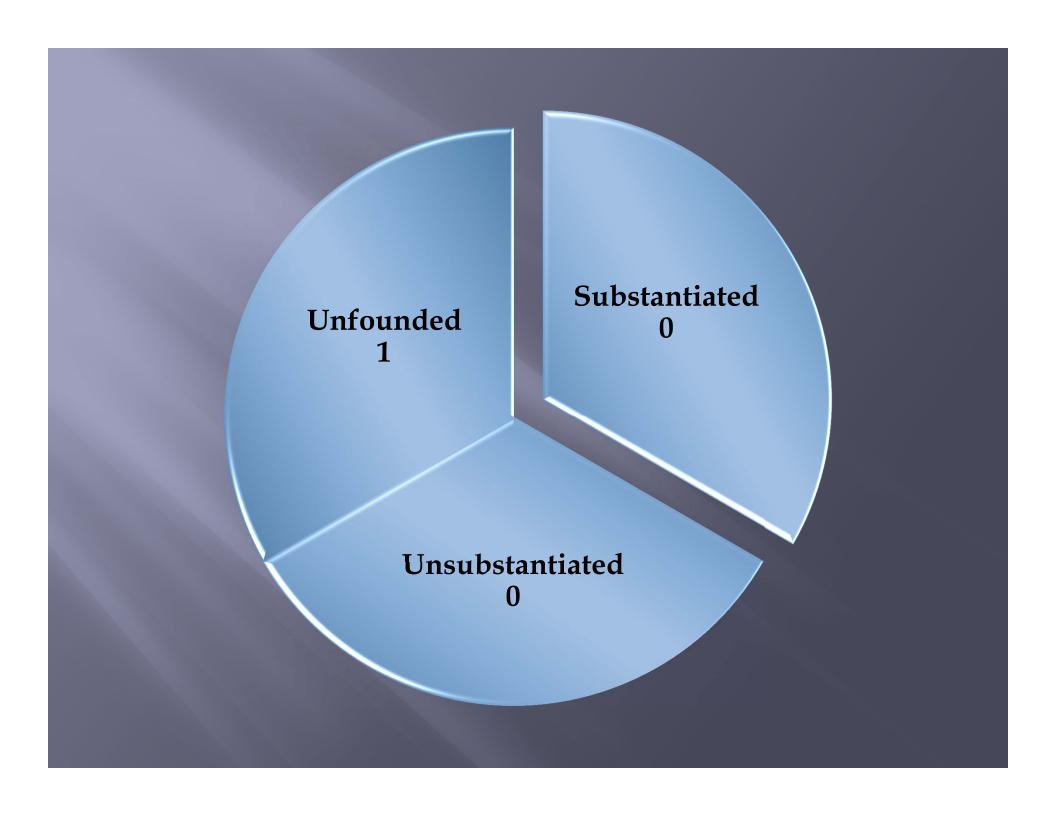
Reported PREA Incidents 2015 (Inmate-Inmate Sexual Assault)



- Four (4) of the inmate on inmate sexual assault cases were unfounded due to the alleged victim not naming their alleged assailant and medical reasons.
  - One (1) of the inmate on inmate sexual assault cases was unsubstantiated due to a lack of evidence.
- One (1) of the inmate on inmate sexual assault cases is still currently under investigation.

Reported PREA Incidents 2015

(Inmate-Inmate Sexual Harassment)



There was one (1) reported case of inmate on inmate sexual harassment in 2015. This case was determined to be unfounded due to a lack of evidence.

Reported PREA Incidents 2015

(Investigated Allegations)

#### Administrative 6

Criminal 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 2015, there were no substantiated cases of any abuse or harassment at the Leon County Jail. No corrective action was needed. However, the Leon County Jail has added several new staff and additional cameras to assist in making the Leon County Jail even safer for both staff and inmates.

