

Prison Rape Elimination Act

The Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) was passed in 2003 with unanimous support from both parties in Congress. The purpose of the act was to “provide for the analysis of the incidence and effects of prison rape in Federal, State, and local institutions and to provide information, resources, recommendations and funding to protect individuals from prison rape.” (Prison Rape Elimination Act, 2003). In addition to creating a mandate for significant research from the Bureau of Justice Statistics and through the National Institute of Justice, funding through the Bureau of Justice Assistance and the National Institute of Corrections supported major efforts on many state correctional, juvenile detention, community corrections, and jail systems.

The act also created the National Prison Rape Commission and charged it with developing draft standards for the elimination of prison rape. Those standards were published in 2009 and were turned over to the Department of Justice for review and passage as a final rule. The final rule became effective August 20, 2012.

In 2010, the Bureau of Justice Assistance funded the National PREA Resource Center to continue to provide federally funded training and technical assistance to states and localities, as well as to serve as a single stop resource for leading research and tools for those in the field working to come into compliance with the federal standards.

The Washington County Sheriff’s Office has zero tolerance regarding sexual abuse and sexual harassment in this facility and will take appropriate affirmative measures to protect all inmates from sexual abuse and harassment and to promptly and thoroughly investigate all allegations of sexual abuse and sexual harassment (28 CFR 115.11).

On February 20, 2024, Jail Commander Roger Heinen, Lieutenant Jacqueline Dahms, Lieutenant Nicholas Klinkner, and Jail Programs Sergeant/PREA Coordinator David Stumpner reviewed all PREA allegations for 2023. All incidents were investigated & addressed properly as per PREA standards. The 2023 PREA Audit was also reviewed, and minor adjustments will be addressed. At the end of 2022 recommendations were made by this group, those recommendations have been addressed and met. The goals for 2023 were accomplished. As a group we discussed the changes in practice needed to be made and goals for 2024.

- In 2024 Update Intake PREA Questions.
- In 2024 Medical – Mental Health documented follow up within 14 days for PREA Questions answered yes.
- In 2024 train all Washington County Jail Staff PREA Refresher Training.
- In 2024 SANE Refresher Training for Jail Nurses & Supervisors.

Complaints for Adult Facility 2023

Inmate of Inmate Complaints	Abusive Sexual Act	Sexual Harassment	Non-Consensual sex act
Unfounded Allegations:	0	0	0
Unsubstantiated Allegations:	0	2	0
Substantiated Allegations:	0	1	0
Ongoing:	0	0	0

Staff on Inmate Complaints	Abusive Sexual Act	Sexual Harassment	Non-Consensual sex act
Unfounded Allegations:	0	1	0
Unsubstantiated Allegations:	0	1	0
Substantiated Allegations:	0	0	0
Ongoing:	0	0	0