

Indiana County Jail 2014 PREA Report

PURPOSE

To publish data and information in accordance with the National PREA Standards.

FACTS

The PREA Act of 2003 (Public Law 108-79) was enacted to address the instances of sexual abuse in prison populations. PREA requires all correctional facilities to collect and report detailed information regarding sexual victimization of prisoners.

The Indiana County Jail (ICJ) will collect data on all allegations of sexual abuse and sexual harassment. Annually the data is aggregated to complete the U.S. Department of Justice Survey of Sexual Victimization (SSV). The data is reviewed and utilized to assess and improve the effectiveness of current policies regarding sexual abuse prevention, detection, and response. This report is the first annual report on sexual abuse and sexual harassment for the year prior to the Indiana County Jail full implementation of the PREA Standards.

STATISTICS

In 2014, the Indiana County Jail reported 170 prisoners confined on December 31, 2014. The number of new commitments to the Indiana County Jail was 1, 688 with an Average Daily Population of 195.

In 2014 the Indiana County Jail had a total of eight sexual harassment complaints and zero sexual abuse complaints.

The eight sexual harassment complaints are broken down to:

- 5 – Substantiated inmate on inmate complaints. The Indiana County Jail investigated each complaint and reviewed for housing placement.
- 1 – Unfounded inmate complaint prior to incarceration. The Pennsylvania State Police were contacted.
- 2 – Substantiated staff on inmate complaints. The Pennsylvania State Police were contacted on the two separate incidents with both staff no longer employed at the Indiana County Jail. Criminal charges were filed on one staff member.

Contract Facility Youthful Offender PREA Statistics (Facilities that the ICJ Contracts with to house any Indiana County Youthful Offender Pre-Trial and Sentenced)

Contract Facility #1 2014 Statistics

Number of Sexual Harassment Allegations – 0

Number of Sexual Harassment Investigations Substantiated – 0

Number of Sexual Harassment Investigations Unsubstantiated – 0

Number of Sexual Harassment Investigations Unfounded – 0

Number of Sexual Abuse Investigations – 3 (*1 on-going investigation)

Number of Sexual Abuse Investigations Substantiated – 1

Number of Sexual Abuse Investigations Unsubstantiated – 0

Number of Sexual Abuse Investigations Unfounded – 1

Agencies conducting the investigations: (1) PA Department of Human Services, Office of Children, Youth, and Families, (2) Pennsylvania State Police, and (3) AYC Employees for Administrative Investigations

Contract Facility #2 2014 Statistics

Number of Sexual Harassment Allegations – 6

Number of Sexual Harassment Investigations Substantiated – 3

Number of Sexual Harassment Investigations Unsubstantiated – 3

Number of Sexual Harassment Investigations Unfounded – 0

Number of Sexual Abuse Allegations – 2

Number of Sexual Abuse Investigations Substantiated – 2

Number of Sexual Abuse Investigations Unsubstantiated – 0

Number of Sexual Abuse Investigations Unfounded - 0

Investigative Agency Information Not Provided

REVIEW

The Indiana County Jail reviewed each substantiated incident and identified concerns with the physical plant and immediately implemented corrective action to the area and possible additional areas of concern.

- Specific PREA training was provided for all staff, contractors, volunteers, and prisoners.
- Developed and implemented a screening tool for risks of victimization and abusiveness.
- Coordinated efforts with the Alice Paul House and the Pennsylvania State Police.
- Attended several specialized PREA trainings with the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections.

CONCLUSION

As more tools, training, external audits, and PREA related processes become more in-depth at the Indiana County Jail, it is likely that the jail will see an increase in reports of sexual harassment and sexual abuse. The response by the Indiana County Jail for their PREA related efforts for preventing, detecting, responding, and monitoring has increased with the updated PREA policy and the introduction of all the PREA standards, therefore, leading to a safer prison for the prisoners and the staff.

POSTING OF DATA

This annual report is made available for the general public via the Indiana County Website

www.countyofindiana.org

Click on the Indiana County Jail Tab

This report will also be published and posted in the lobby area of the Indiana County Jail.

COMMENTS/CONCERNS/QUESTIONS

If you have a comment, concern or question regarding this report, you may address them to Warden Buzzinotti or Deputy Warden Hamilton during business hours Monday – Friday, excluding County holidays at 724-471-7500.

May 2015
Deputy Warden Hamilton
Revised July 2015
DW Hamilton