



RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

PRISON RAPE ELIMINATION ACT:

ANNUAL REPORT – CALENDAR YEAR 2015

This document serves as an annual review to assess and improve the effectiveness of sexual abuse prevention, detection and response policies and practices in the Rhode Island Department of Corrections. The annual review is pursuant to national Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) standards 115.88 and 115.89. Under these standards, the RIDOC is required to:

- Review and aggregate incident based sexual abuse data annually in order to improve effectiveness of sexual abuse prevention, detection, response policies, practices and training to include:
 - Identification of problem areas
 - Taking corrective action on an ongoing basis
 - Preparing annual report of its findings
- Comparing the current year's data and corrective actions with those from prior year's and provide assessment of the agency progress in addressing sexual abuse
- Publish the annual report on the RIDOC website of its findings and corrective actions for each facility, as well as the agency as a whole.

Aggregated Data

The RIDOC collects data from referrals for investigations of sexual misconduct and sexual harassment. This is both inmate-on-inmate and staff-on-inmate. All allegations are entered and tracked through either the RIDOC Special Investigation Unit (inmate-on-inmate) or Office of Inspectors (staff-on-inmate). The PREA Coordinator reviews all allegations of sexual misconduct and sexual harassment through access to the Special Investigation Unit data base.

In preparing this report the definitions utilized are consistent with RIDOC PREA Policy 9.49 as well as the Bureau of Justice Statistics Survey of Sexual Violence Summary Report.

The following chart depicts a breakdown of CY 2015 sexual misconduct and sexual harassment data; inmate-on-inmate and staff-on-inmate. This section also contains a comparison to CY 2013 and CY 2014.

Sexual Misconduct (Inmate-Inmate)

Year	Non Consensual Sexual Act Reported	Substantiated	Abusive Sexual Contact Reported	Substantiated
2013	8	3	4	2
2014	6	3	0	0
2015	5	1	9	1

In regard to allegations of sexual misconduct (non-consensual sexual act reported or abusive sexual contact reported), the incidents were reported from the following facilities during CY 2015:

- One non- consensual act was reported at Intake Center, of which the case is an ongoing investigation. There were two cases of abusive sexual contact reported. The two cases were unsubstantiated.
- There were two non-consensual acts reported at Maximum Security, of which both cases were determined to be unfounded. There was one case of abusive sexual contact reported. The one case was unsubstantiated.
- There was one case of non-consensual sexual act reported at Medium Security, of which the case was substantiated. There was one abusive sexual contact reported at Medium Security that was substantiated. There were two cases in Medium that were unsubstantiated abusive sexual contact.
- One abusive sexual contact case was reported at Minimum Security, of which the case was determined to be unfounded.
- There was one non-consensual sexual act reported at Women's Facilities. The case was determined to be unsubstantiated. There were two cases of abusive sexual contact reported at Women's Facilities of which one was unsubstantiated and one was unfounded.

Sexual Harassment (Inmate-Inmate)

Year	Sexual Harassment Reported	Sexual Harassment Substantiated
2014	5	5
2015	5	1

In regard to allegations of sexual harassment, the incidents were reported from the following facilities:

- There was one sexual harassment case reported at Intake Service Center. This case was determined to be unsubstantiated.
- There were three cases of sexual harassment reported at Medium Security. There was one case that was substantiated. Two cases were determined to be unfounded.
- There was one sexual harassment case reported at Women's Facilities. The case was determined to be unsubstantiated.

Sexual Misconduct (Staff-Inmate)

Year	Sexual Misconduct Reported	Sexual Misconduct Substantiated
2013	0	0
2014	3	0
2015	0	0

Comparative Data Analysis

The above charts show the following in terms of comparison to CY 2014:

- Decrease in the number of non -consensual acts that were substantiated from three (CY 2014) to one (CY 2015).
- Increase in the number of reported abusive sexual contact cases that were investigated. There were no reported cases of abusive sexual contact in CY 2014 and nine cases of abusive sexual contact reported in CY 2015. One abusive sexual contact case was determined to be substantiated.
- In comparison to CY 2014, there were the same number of sexual harassment cases reported. However, there was a decrease from five substantiated cases of sexual harassment in CY 2014, to one case for CY 2015

Corrective Actions

The RIDOC continues to implement best practices that are consistent with the requirements of the Prison Rape Elimination Act standards in order to address allegations of sexual abuse and sexual harassment. The following are corrective actions completed at an agency level and facility level

- Revised Prison Rape Elimination Act Policy to enhance PREA policy and practice;
- Revised many RIDOC policies to reflect PREA policy and practices
- Implemented revised staff training curriculum with emphasis on zero tolerance of sexual misconduct; training is for uniform and non-uniform staff
- Implemented and trained specialized training for investigative staff within Special Investigation Unit and Office of Inspectors
- Developed Memorandum of Understanding between RIDOC and Rhode Island State Police in respect to investigations/allegations of sexual misconduct
- Developed and implemented an objective screening for risk of victimization tool that is consistent with PREA standards. The objective screening tool is utilized for sentenced inmates as well as awaiting trial offenders. There is also a thirty-day follow-up period that has been established
- Enhanced data collection and aggregation
- Established limits to cross gender viewing and searches
- Establishment of PREA Compliance Managers in each of the correctional facilities
- Development of incident based reporting system
- Volunteer and contractor training

- Implementing incident based reporting system to be in compliance with PREA policy
- Implementing shower curtains/structure to limit cross-gender viewing
- Corrective action plans focused on assessment of needs relating to cross gender supervision and viewing (showers/toilets/changing areas)

The following are corrective actions completed by each correctional facility:

Intake Service Center

- Ensure that PREA Compliance Manager has sufficient time and authority to most effectively carry out required duties
- Implement announcements of cross gender staff in living units
- Implementation of revised PREA policy
- Special Investigation Unit training regarding evidence protocol, specialized training for staff assigned to Intake Center
- Implemented Protective Custody standard in Intake Center
- Establishment of third party reporting duties specific to PREA
- Establishment of post-allegation protective custody
- Implementation of screening instrument for risk of victimization of abusiveness within Records and ID Unit
- Assessment of needs relating to cross gender supervision relating to cross gender viewing (showers/toilets/changing areas)

Women's Facilities

- Ensure that PREA Compliance Manager has sufficient time and authority to most effectively carry out required duties
- Implement announcements of cross gender staff in living units
- Implementation of revised PREA policy
- Special Investigation Unit training regarding evidence protocol, specialized training for staff assigned to Women's
- Implemented Protective Custody standard in Women's
- Establishment of third party reporting duties specific to PREA
- Establishment of post-allegation protective custody
- Establishment of staffing plan for each shift and conducting unannounced rounds
- Implementation of screening instrument for risk of victimization of abusiveness within Records and ID Unit/Women's
- Installation of shower curtains to limit cross gender viewing of offenders in state of undress

High Security

- Ensure that PREA Compliance Manager has sufficient time and authority to most effectively carry out required duties
- Implement announcements of cross gender staff in living units
- Implementation of revised PREA policy
- Special Investigation Unit training regarding evidence protocol, specialized training for staff assigned to High Security

- Establishment of third party reporting duties specific to PREA
- Establishment of post-allegation protective custody
- Specialized training of medical and mental health staff assigned to High Security
- Establishment of staff plan for each shift and conducting unannounced rounds
- Assessment of needs relating to cross gender supervision relating to cross gender viewing (showers/toilets/changing areas)

Maximum Security

- Ensure that PREA Compliance Manager has sufficient time and authority to most effectively carry out required duties
- Implement announcements of cross gender staff in living units
- Implementation of revised PREA policy
- Special Investigation Unit training regarding evidence protocol, specialized training for staff assigned to Maximum Security
- Establishment of third party reporting duties specific to PREA
- Establishment of post-allegation protective custody
- Specialized training of medical and mental health staff assigned to Maximum Security
- Establishment of staff plan for each shift and conducting unannounced rounds
- Assessment of needs relating to cross gender supervision relating to cross gender viewing (showers/toilets/changing areas)

Medium Security

- Ensure that PREA Compliance Manager has sufficient time and authority to most effectively carry out required duties
- Implement announcements of cross gender staff in living units
- Implementation of revised PREA policy
- Special Investigation Unit training regarding evidence protocol, specialized training for staff assigned to Medium Security
- Establishment of third party reporting duties specific to PREA
- Establishment of post-allegation protective custody
- Specialized training of medical and mental health staff assigned to Medium Security
- Establishment of staff plan for each shift and conducting unannounced rounds
- Assessment of needs relating to cross gender supervision relating to cross gender viewing (showers/toilets/changing areas)
- Review of sexual misconduct cases reported through utilization of 'triage meetings'

Minimum Security

- Ensure that PREA Compliance Manager has sufficient time and authority to most effectively carry out required duties
- Implement announcements of cross gender staff in living units
- Implementation of revised PREA policy
- Special Investigation Unit training regarding evidence protocol, specialized training for staff assigned to Minimum Security
- Establishment of third party reporting duties specific to PREA
- Establishment of post-allegation protective custody
- Specialized training of medical and mental health staff assigned to Minimum Security

- Establishment of staff plan for each shift and conducting unannounced rounds
- Assessment of needs relating to cross gender supervision relating to cross gender viewing (showers/toilets/changing areas)

The Rhode Island Department of Corrections is committed to implementation of the requirements of the Prison Rape Elimination Act standards.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "A.T. Wall". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the text.

Ashbel T. Wall, II Director