

THE PROGRAM for Offenders

Prison Rape Elimination Act Annual Report for 2018

Introduction

The Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) was passed by Congress in 2003 to establish national standards for the detection, prevention and reduction of sexual assault in confinement settings. It establishes a zero-tolerance culture for institutional sexual assault and makes prevention a priority in the US prison and jail system.

To comply with PREA standards, THE PROGRAM for Offenders provides a safe, secure and humane environment for offenders, which includes the right to be free from all forms of sexual abuse, sexual harassment and sexual misconduct. The facility has a zero-tolerance policy for offender-on-offender sexual assault, staff sexual misconduct and sexual harassment. All allegations of sexual abuse will be investigated. Investigations which reveal criminal conduct will be referred to law enforcement for further investigation and prosecution. The agency also recognizes the right of staff and offenders to be free from retaliation for reporting sexual misconduct.

Purpose

The Prison Rape Elimination Act requires that each agency collect data for every allegation of sexual abuse and aggregate the data at least annually. This report is a summary of THE PROGRAM's activities regarding PREA compliance in 2018. This document serves as an annual review to assess the effectiveness of sexual abuse prevention/detection procedures and to initiate process improvement where needed.

PREA Activities in 2018

- THE PROGRAM had its initial PREA audit in August, 2018. Auditor Patrick Zirpoli toured the agency from August 15 through August 18, 2018 and inspected ACTA and the West Homestead facility for PREA compliance. The final report was received on September 24, 2018. The report indicated that both ACTA and the West Homestead facility met all PREA standards and were in compliance with the Prison Rape Elimination Act National Standards for Community Confinement. A summary of audit findings indicated that the agency exceeded six standards and met the remaining 35 standards. Since all standards were met or exceeded, no corrective action plan was needed. A copy of the final report is posted on THE PROGRAM for Offenders website.

- THE PROGRAM's PREA policy was revised in August, 2018 to reflect policy and procedural changes which occurred as a result of the agency's PREA audit.
- Staff training on PREA requirements continued. PREA training is part of the new employee orientation so that all new employees will be aware of PREA requirements before they are assigned to a duty post.
- Institutional response plans for PREA incidents were updated for the West Homestead facility, ACTA and the Manor building. Staff received training on the response plans.
- PREA resident orientation and predator/victimization screening was reassigned from case managers to intake specialists.
- Intake specialists were trained on the requirements of the resident PREA orientation. All residents receive a PREA orientation within five days of reception.
- Intake specialists were provided training on the use of PREA assessment tools to determine predatory behavior and potential victimization. All residents are assessed for predatory behavior/victimization within five days of reception and again after 20 days.
- THE PROGRAM for Offenders website has been updated to include additional PREA information. A copy of the 2017 agency PREA annual report was also uploaded to the site.
- Audit files were set up for each PREA standard and documentation was collected throughout 2018 in preparation for the PREA audit.

2018 PREA Data

Resident on Resident Allegations			
	Substantiated	Unsubstantiated	Unfounded
Sexual Contact	0	0	0
Nonconsensual Sex Acts	0	0	0
Sexual Harassment	0	0	0
Staff Sexual Misconduct			
	Substantiated	Unsubstantiated	Unfounded
Sexual Contact	0	0	0
Nonconsensual Sex Acts	0	0	0
Sexual Harassment	0	0	0

Comparative Analysis/2017

THE PROGRAM had no substantiated, unsubstantiated or unfounded incidents of PREA violations during 2017.

PREA Deficit Analysis/2018 Goals

THE PROGRAM has established the following goals regarding PREA for 2019:

- Provide PREA refresher training to all employees with more than one year of service.
- Continue training to ensure staff competency in dealing with transgender/intersex resident issues.
- Ensure that employees meet 100% of PREA training requirements for 2019.

- Continue to collect data/documentation to update PREA standard files in preparation for the next PREA audit.
- Initiate post-audit inspections of PREA processes to ensure continued compliance with PREA standards.

Conclusions

THE PROGRAM made significant advances in meeting the requirements of the Prison Rape Elimination Act during 2018. A PREA compliance audit was held in August 2018. Both ACTA and the West Homestead facility met all PREA standards and were in compliance with the Prison Rape Elimination Act National Standards for Community Confinement.

Through continued staff/resident education and the advancement of a zero-tolerance culture, it is hoped that THE PROGRAM for Offenders will improve its ability to prevent, detect and respond to sexual abuse in its facilities.

Approved by:



Executive Director