

**THE PROGRAM for Offenders**

**Prison Rape Elimination Act Annual Report for 2017**

## **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 2017. 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 2017**

- THE PROGRAM's PREA policy was revised in September, 2017 to reflect policy and procedural requirements which will be evaluated in the PREA audit.
- Staff training on PREA requirements continued. PREA training was made part of the new employee orientation so that all new employees would be aware of PREA requirements before they were assigned to a duty post.

- Institutional response plans for PREA incidents were written for the West Homestead facility, ACTA and the Manor building. Staff received training on the response plans.
- Case managers were trained on the requirements of the resident PREA orientation. All residents receive a PREA orientation within five days of reception.
- Case managers 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 PREA information. A copy of the 2016 agency PREA annual report was also uploaded to the site.
- A PREA orientation was developed for vendors and contractors. All vendors and contractors who entered PROGRAM facilities in 2017 received a PREA orientation.
- Audit files have been set up for each PREA standard and data has been collected throughout 2017 in preparation for a PREA audit.

## **2017 PREA Data**

<b>Resident on Resident Allegations</b>			
	<b>Substantiated</b>	<b>Unsubstantiated</b>	<b>Unfounded</b>
<b>Sexual Contact</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Nonconsensual Sex Acts</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Sexual Harassment</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Staff Sexual Misconduct</b>			
	<b>Substantiated</b>	<b>Unsubstantiated</b>	<b>Unfounded</b>
<b>Sexual Contact</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Nonconsensual Sex Acts</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Sexual Harassment</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

## **Comparative Analysis/2016**

THE PROGRAM had no substantiated, unsubstantiated or unfounded incidents of PREA violations during 2016.

## **PREA Deficit Analysis/2018 Goals**

THE PROGRAM has established the following goals regarding PREA for 2018:

- Provide PREA refresher training to all employees with more than one year of service.
- Develop training to ensure staff competency in dealing with transgender/intersex resident issues.
- Ensure that employees meet 100% of PREA training requirements for 2018.
- Make preparations for a PREA audit during the second quarter of 2018.

- 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 and Elimination Act during 2017. As a result of these efforts, THE PROGRAM plans to have a PREA audit in the second quarter of 2018.

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 and its facilities.

Approved by:         *Paul C. Henry*         Executive Director