Henrico County Sheriff's Office

Annual PREA Report 2022

Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003
Agency Annual Report and Statistics Data 2022

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Background

The Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) of 2003 is a federal law established to address the problem of sexual abuse and sexual harassment of persons in custody of correctional systems. Major provisions of PREA include the development of standards for detection, prevention, reduction and prosecution of prison/jail rapes. The Henrico Sheriff's Office has adopted a zero tolerance on issues pertaining to sexual abuse and sexual harassment involving staff and inmates and is working continuously to implement new policies, training requirements for staff and inmates, and develop standards for detection, prevention, and reduction of sexual abuse and sexual harassment incidents.

Introduction

On a daily basis the Henrico Sheriff's Office collects data on all sexual abuse allegations. The data is used to make a comparison to the previous years' data and will be utilized by the Sheriff's office Prison Rape Elimination Act Coordinator. Potential areas of concern are then evaluated for corrective measures in an effort to reduce future incidents of sexual abuse. The Sexual Abuse Review Teams meets throughout the year to discuss policy, equipment, monitoring and staffing to ensure all efforts are made to assist in the reduction in these types of incidents. This data collected will also be available for use by the U.S. Department of Justice for the completion of the Survey of Sexual Violence (SSV).

This report has been approved by Henrico County Sheriff Alisa A. Gregory. All data in this report will be maintained on the agency's website for at least ten years after the date of the initial collection.

Prevention

Inmates at the facility are housed in living units called dayrooms or pods. Each Inmate housing unit is observed by a deputy in a control room that oversees the entire dayroom. Video monitoring is utilized throughout the jail facility to enhance security and surveillance. The number and location of video cameras is reviewed at the time of a critical incident review but no less than annually by the Sheriff in conjunction with the facility PREA Coordinator to assess if the level of monitoring is adequate to protect the inmate population from sexual abuse and to ensure the safety of Inmates and Staff.

Henrico County implements its "Zero-Tolerance" policies through a facility-wide systematic process that begins when inmates are initially admitted into the facility. When inmates enter the Booking area they are met with a comprehensive educational process where their rights to be free from sexual abuse and harassment are explained in detail to them. The Sheriff's Office Classification conducts PREA assessments on every inmate to determine their individual risk of victimization or predation using an objective measurement tool based on specific risk factors. This tool is utilized to make an individualized determination for housing and program assignments for each inmate. Throughout the facility, inmates are exposed to education concerning reporting options through the use of information contained in the inmate handbook, posters, pamphlets and third-party reporting information that is located in all inmate living areas.

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Education

In 2015, the Henrico County Sheriff's Office adopted PREA standards, provided educational and information material to inmates and utilized a toll free "hot line" at both facilities for all inmates to confidentially report sexual abuse or harassment, as well as seek outside advocacy and counseling from community organizations not affiliated with the Sheriff's Office. In addition, staff also received comprehensive training on PREA. All contractual staff and volunteers conducting inmate programs or work in the facility, receive education on PREA during orientation.

In 2016, educational material informing inmates how to avoid and report sexual assault and harassment was updated in the Inmate Handbook. Upon committal to jail, Inmates receive a brochure with information on how to avoid and report sexual assault / harassment and allowed to watch a video containing the same information. In addition, posters were placed throughout the common areas in both Henrico Jail East and Jail West.

Also in 2016, PREA Compliance Managers, Standards Sergeants, and Investigations staff completed the PREA "Investigating Sexual Abuse in a Confinement Setting" training module. This training enables staff to conduct non-criminal administrative investigations. This training module is a 3-hour online course presented by the National Institute of Corrections.

The Henrico County Sheriff's office conducts annual refresher PREA training with its sworn staff, civilian staff, as well as volunteers and contractors.

Statistics

When it comes to sexual activity within the jail facility, Henrico Sheriff's Office policies and procedures are clear; **ALL SEXUAL ACTIVITY IS PROHIBITED**. Beyond those rules, forced or coerced sexual behavior is a criminal act that merits criminal prosecution. Henrico Sheriff's Office will ensure that all incidents of sexual assault are thoroughly investigated and referred for prosecution to the Henrico County Commonwealth's Attorney.

In accordance with PREA, all investigations are assigned one of three possible determinations:

> **Substantiated** – *The allegation was investigated and determined to have occurred based on a preponderance of the evidence.*
>
> **Unsubstantiated** – *The allegation was investigated and concluded that evidence was insufficient to determine whether or not the event occurred.*
>
> **Unfounded** – *The investigation concluded that the allegation did not occur.*

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Data Collected

	Henrico Sheriff's Office- Jail East			
	January 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022			
		2020	2021	2022
Substantiated	Inmate to Inmate	2	2	0
Unsubstantiated	Inmate to Inmate	7	8	5
Unfounded	Inmate to Inmate	9	10	4
Substantiated	Staff to Inmate	0	1	0
Unsubstantiated	Staff to Inmate	4	1	0
Unfounded	Staff to Inmate	4	3	5

	Henrico Sheriff's Office- Jail West			
	January 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022			
		2020	2021	2022
Substantiated	Inmate to Inmate	7	0	4
Unsubstantiated	Inmate to Inmate	19	6	11
Unfounded	Inmate to Inmate	16	6	13
Substantiated	Staff to Inmate	0	0	0
Unsubstantiated	Staff to Inmate	3	1	0
Unfounded	Staff to Inmate	11	3	8

Henrico County Regional Jail East experienced 0 substantiated Inmate against Staff allegations, 0 Unsubstantiated Inmate against Staff allegations and 5 Unfounded Staff to Inmate allegations. Staff members were placed on administrative duty, pending the investigation of the allegations.

Henrico County Regional Jail West had 0 substantiated Inmate against Staff allegations, 0 Unsubstantiated Inmate against Staff allegations and 8 Unfounded Inmate against Staff allegations. Staff members were placed on administrative duty, pending the investigation of the allegations.

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There were 48 allegations were reported that did not meet the criteria for sexual misconduct or sexual harassment. There was 1 allegation of sexual abuse that reportedly occurred in another confinement facility. Appropriate notifications were made to these agencies by the Jail Administrator and documented.

All allegations were investigated promptly, thoroughly and objectively. All Inmates were reclassified and housed in separate locations and their files have been notated to keep them separate. The inmate population has been well educated and feels comfortable with reporting sexual abuse allegations to staff. The inmate population has used the PREA Hotline within the facility to report non-related issues as well.

It is anticipated that further and continued education of the inmates will reduce the number of incidents, as the inmate population accepts and embraces that this type of behavior is not tolerated. In addition, more comprehensive training for staff and regular review of security measures will provide improved monitoring of inmates and safer facilities.

APPROVED: _____
Alisa A. Gregory, Sheriff