



Ramsey County Community Corrections  
Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA)  
Annual Report 2019

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1/28/2020

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## PURPOSE

The Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) is a federal law that stresses zero tolerance for sexual abuse and sexual harassment within correctional facilities. PREA promotes best practice for prevention, detection and response to sexual misconduct within jails, prisons, juvenile facilities, and community confinement institutions.

The Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) requires that our agency collects and analyzes data... "In order to assess and improve the effectiveness of its sexual abuse prevention, detection, and response policies, practices and training." (Standard 115.88 and 115.89)

This report is completed in order to identify problem areas in order to take corrective action, compare data with proceeding years and to assess our progress in addressing sexual misconduct (Standard 115.88 and 115.89). The purpose of this report is to provide information for calendar years 2017, 2018 and 2019.

## PREA MISSION STATEMENT

To achieve compliance with the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) by developing guidelines and policies for preventing, detecting, and responding to sexual abuse and sexual harassment within the Ramsey County Community Corrections Department.

## FACILITIES

### Ramsey County Correctional Facility

RCCF is a 556-bed, minimum-to-medium security institution, housing adult male and female offenders sentenced to a maximum of one year. RCCF provides over 30 educational and life improvement program opportunities to inmates.



In addition to staff, over 150 volunteers donate their time and skills to make a difference in the lives of the inmates. The average daily population is 335 inmates.

## Juvenile Detention Center

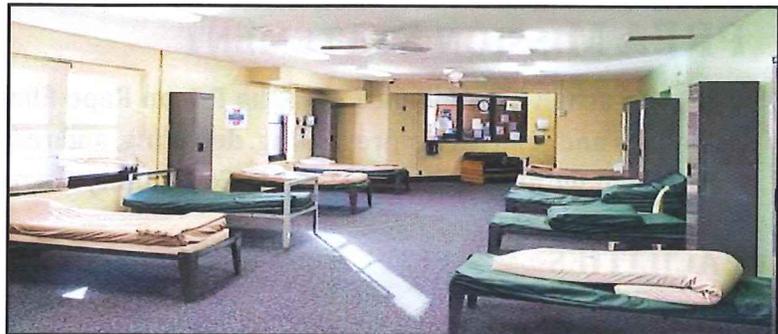
The Juvenile Detention Center (JDC) is a branch of the Ramsey County Juvenile Services Division. It is a 44-bed facility which provides secure detention and special programs for juvenile offenders. The current average daily population at JDC is 25 juveniles.



## Boys Totem Town

Community Corrections is committed to progress and support reform specifically related to the goal of *More Community, Less Confinement*. As a result of this effort, the number of youth admitted to out of home placement continued to decline.

Boys Totem Town (BTT) was a residential program for up to 36 adolescent boys age 14-19 who have been committed by the court to treatment for committing offenses and demonstrating risky behavioral concerns in the community.



**Boys Totem Town closed in August 2019 after over 100 years of service.**

## AGENCY ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2017

- RCCF PREA audit completed in May without any corrective actions recommended by the auditor.
- Additional training on transgender/cross gender searches was facilitated at the JDC in December.
- JDC and BTT policies updated to fit the PREA standards.
- Additional cameras added to the RCCF kitchen area per corrective action plan.
- Audit preparation underway for JDC and BTT audits to be completed in 2018.

## AGENCY ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2018

- JDC PREA audit completed in June without any corrective actions recommended by the auditor.
- BTT PREA audit completed in November without any corrective actions recommended by the auditor.

## AGENCY ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2019

- Per PREA Standard 115.31 and 115.331, All Ramsey County Community Corrections full-time, part-time, and intermittent employees received required annual PREA training.
- Per PREA Standard 115.31 and 115.331, all volunteers, interns, and contractors who may have contact with inmates or residents also received required annual PREA training.
- Facilities continue to maintain compliance with all PREA standards according to federal law.

## DEPARTMENT PREA DEFINED SEXUAL ABUSE/SEXUAL HARASSMENT DATA (2017-2019)

There were a total of 29 allegations reported in all Ramsey County facilities involving PREA defined Sexual Abuse/Sexual Harassment over the 2017-2019 period (see Figure 1). The number of cases reported dropped from 9 to 7 (22%) in the last year.

**Figure 1**  
**PREA Defined Sexual Abuse/Sexual Harassment Allegations by Year**

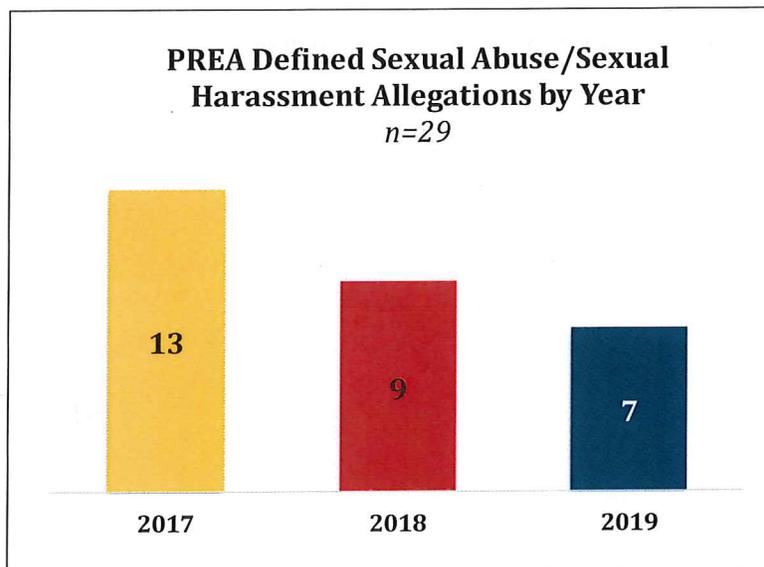
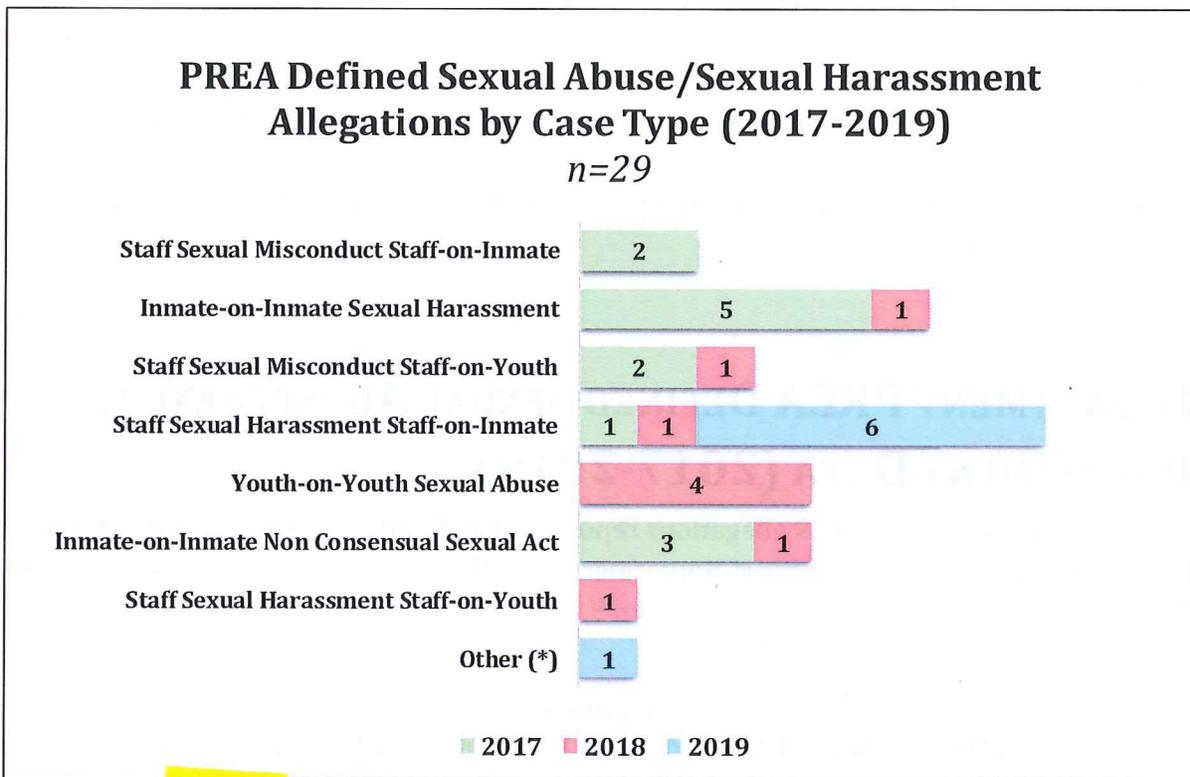


Figure 2 shows the break-down of all allegations by case type, as defined by PREA, in all Ramsey County facilities from 2017 to 2019.

**Figure 2**  
**PREA Defined Sexual Abuse/Sexual Harassment Allegations**  
**by Case Type (2017-2019)**

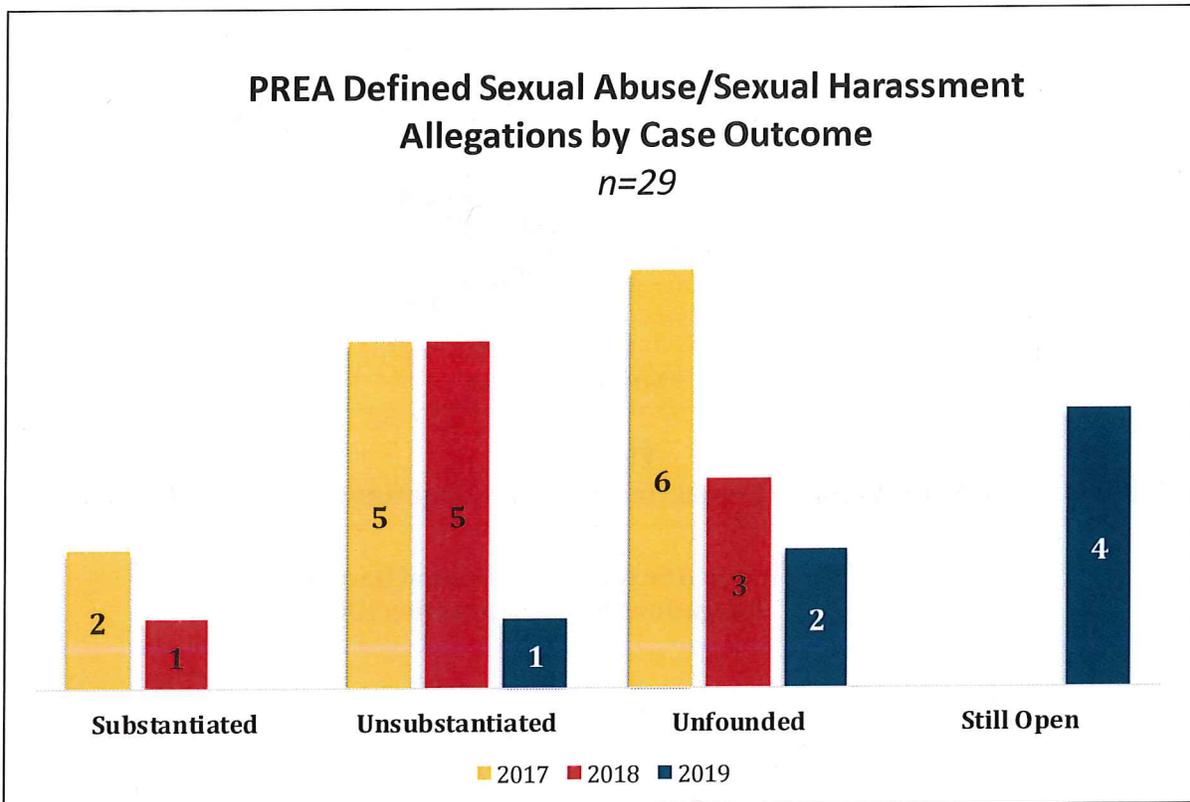


\*Other refers to an inmate on staff complaint for sexual abuse.

## DEPARTMENT PREA ALLEGATION OUTCOMES

Overall, the number of allegations investigated that resulted as unfounded decreased by 67% over the 2017-2019 period. More than 55% of the 2019 investigations are still open (they occurred at the end of the year).

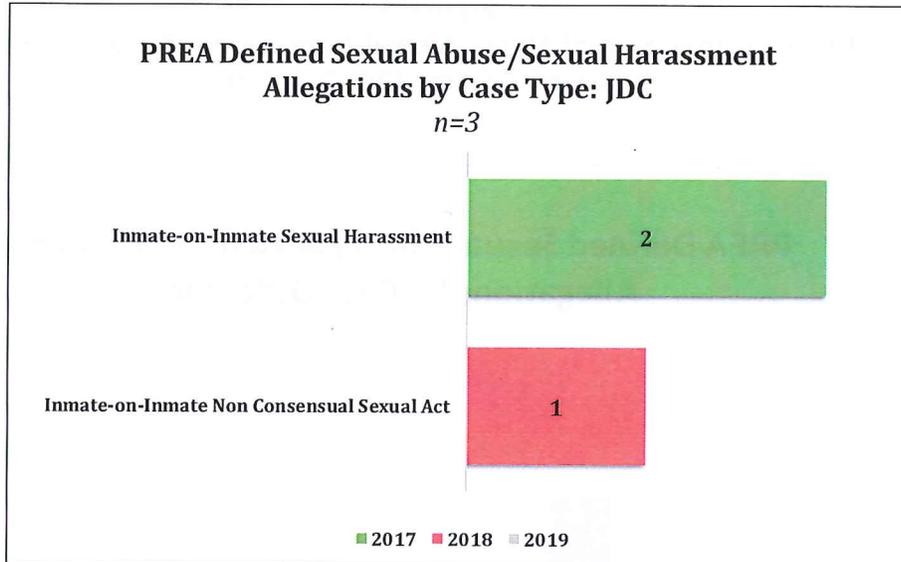
**Figure 3**  
**PREA Defined Sexual Abuse/Sexual Harassment Allegations**  
**by Case Outcome (2017-2019)**



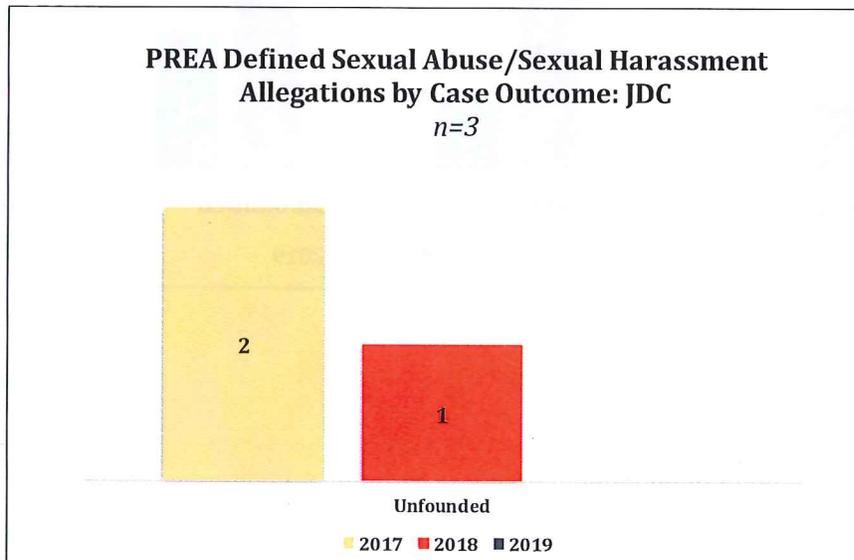
## JDC PREA Defined Sexual Abuse/Sexual Harassment Data (2017-2019)

There were 3 allegations reported at JDC from 2017 to 2019. Two out of the three allegations were reported in 2017 and both of them were Inmate-on-Inmate Sexual Harassment cases (see Figure 4). There were no allegations reported at JDC in 2019.

**Figure 4**  
**PREA Defined Sexual Abuse/Sexual Harassment Allegations by Case Type: JDC**



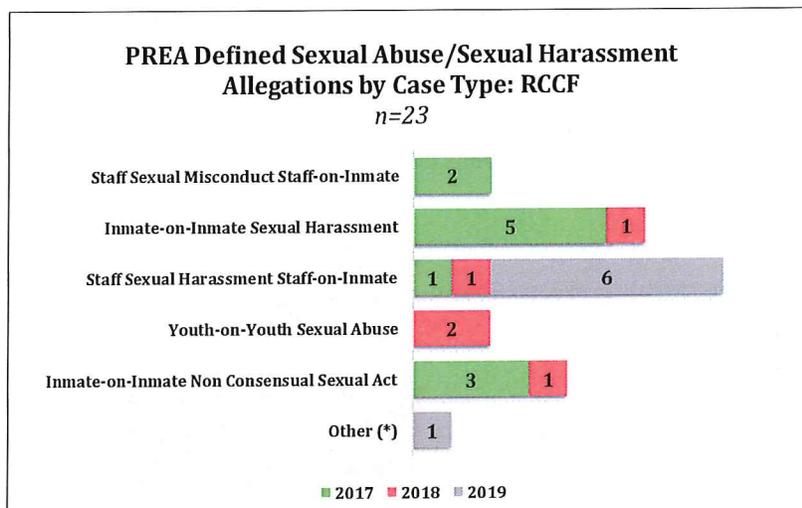
**Figure 5**  
**PREA Defined Sexual Abuse/Sexual Harassment Allegations by Case Outcome: JDC**



## RCCF PREA Defined Sexual Abuse/Sexual Harassment Data (2017-2019)

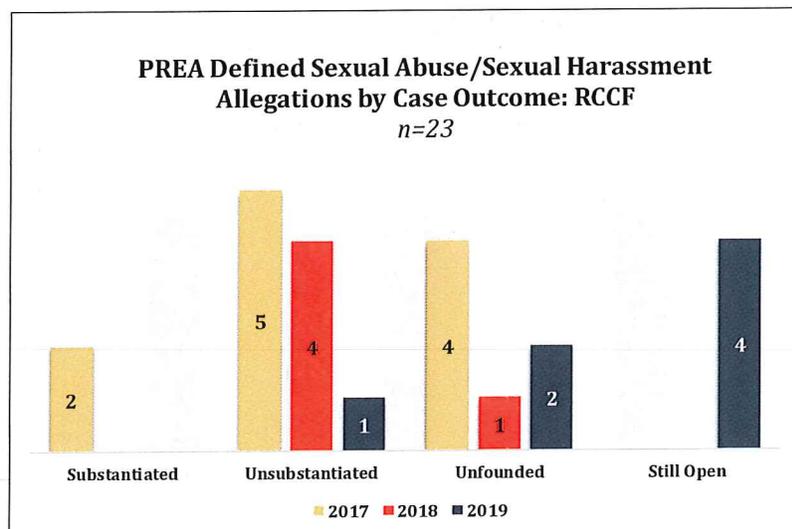
There were 23 allegations reported at RCCF from 2017 to 2019. A greater majority of allegations were reported in 2017 and most of them were Inmate-on-Inmate Sexual Harassment cases (see Figure 6). In 2019, 86% of allegations were Staff Sexual Harassment Staff-on-Inmate and most of them are still open (see Figure 7).

**Figure 6**  
**PREA Defined Sexual Abuse/Sexual Harassment Allegations by Case Type: RCCF**



\*Other refers to an inmate on staff complaint for sexual abuse.

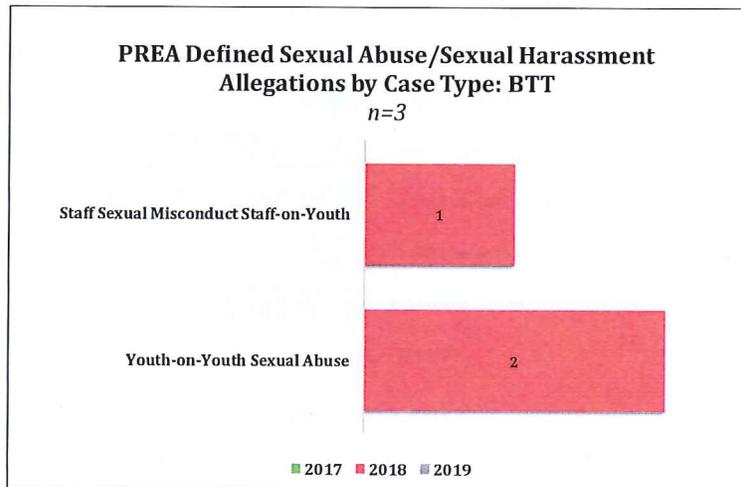
**Figure 7**  
**PREA Defined Sexual Abuse/Sexual Harassment Allegations by Case Outcome: RCCF**



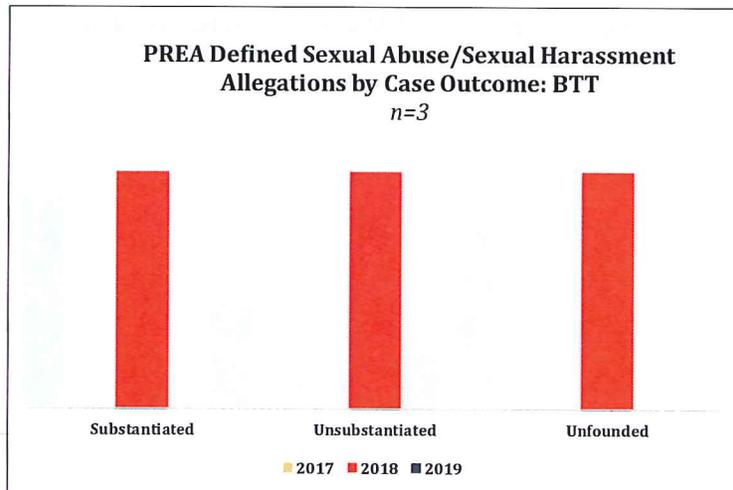
## BTT PREA Defined Sexual Abuse/Sexual Harassment Data (2017-2019)

There were 3 allegations reported at BTT between 2017 and 2019 (January-August). All allegations were reported in 2018 and the majority were Youth-On-Youth Sexual Abuse cases (see Figure 7). Figure 8 shows that there were an equal number of allegations across case types during 2018. No allegations were reported at BTT between January and August 2019. This is the last report that includes data on BTT due to its closure in August 2019.

**Figure 7**  
**PREA Defined Sexual Abuse/Sexual Harassment Allegations by Case Type: BTT 2017 - 2019 (January-August)**



**Figure 8**  
**PREA Defined Sexual Abuse/Sexual Harassment Allegations by Case Outcome: BTT 2017 - 2019 (January-August)**



## **CORRECTIVE ACTIONS**

According to PREA Standard 115.88 (a)

The agency must identify problems areas, and take corrective action on an ongoing basis, when looking at practices to better prevent, detect, and respond to sexual harassment and sexual abuse.

### **The following corrective actions were completed in 2017:**

- Additional training on transgender/cross gender searches provided at JDC.
- Additional cameras added to the kitchen blind spots at RCCF for the purpose of sexual safety.
- Policy and procedure changes implemented regarding female inmates at RCCF and hair braiding.

### **The following corrective actions were completed in 2018:**

- Additional cameras are added to BTT to help prevent, detect, and respond to sexual abuse and sexual harassment in the facility.

### **The following corrective actions were completed in 2019:**

- Public Health nursing staff will have a Ramsey County Correctional Officer, or second nurse present, when performing tasks off camera.

## DEFINITIONS

### *Inmate on Inmate Sexual Abuse:*

Sexual abuse of an inmate, detainee, or resident by another inmate, detainee, or resident includes any of the following acts, if the victim does not consent, is coerced into such act by overt or implied threats of violence, or is unable to consent or refuse:

- (1) Contact between the penis and the vulva or the penis and the anus, including penetration, however slight;
- (2) Contact between the mouth and the penis, vulva, or anus;
- (3) Penetration of the anal or genital opening of another person, however slight, by a hand, finger, object, or other instrument; and
- (4) Any other intentional touching, either directly or through the clothing, of the genitalia, anus, groin, breast, inner thigh, or the buttocks of another person, excluding contact incidental to a physical altercation

### *Staff-on-Inmate Sexual Abuse:*

Sexual abuse of a resident by a staff member, contractor, or volunteer includes any of the following acts, with or without consent of the inmate, detainee, or resident:

- (1) Contact between the penis and the vulva or the penis and the anus, including penetration, however slight;
- (2) Contact between the mouth and the penis, vulva, or anus;
- (3) Contact between the mouth and any body part where the staff member, contractor, or volunteer has the intent to abuse, arouse, or gratify sexual desire;
- (4) Penetration of the anal or genital opening, however slight, by a hand, finger, object, or other instrument, that is unrelated to official duties or where the staff member, contractor, or volunteer has the intent to abuse, arouse, or gratify sexual desire;
- (5) Any other intentional contact, either directly or through the clothing, of or with the genitalia, anus, groin, breast, inner thigh, or the buttocks, that is unrelated to official duties or where the staff member, contractor, or volunteer has the intent to abuse, arouse, or gratify sexual desire;

(6) Any attempt, threat, or request by a staff member, contractor, or volunteer to engage in the activities described in paragraphs (5) of this section;

(7) Any display by a staff member, contractor, or volunteer of his or her uncovered genitalia, buttocks, or breast in the presence of an inmate, detainee, or resident, and

(8) Voyeurism by a staff member, contractor, or volunteer.

-Voyeurism Defined as: an invasion of privacy of a resident unrelated to official duties, such as peering at a resident using a toilet or requiring a resident to expose their genitals.

*Sexual harassment*

(1) Repeated and unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or verbal comments, gestures, or actions of a derogatory or offensive sexual nature by one inmate, detainee, or resident directed toward another; and

(2) Repeated verbal comments or gestures of a sexual nature to an inmate, detainee, or resident by a staff member, contractor, or volunteer, including demeaning references to gender, sexually suggestive or derogatory comments about body or clothing, or obscene language or gestures.

*Substantiated:*

An allegation that was investigated and determined to have occurred.

*Unsubstantiated:*

An allegation that was investigated and produced insufficient evidence to make final determination as to whether or not the event occurred.

*Unfounded:*

An allegation that was investigated and determined to not have occurred.

Prepared by:



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Marc Peterson,  
PREA Coordinator

2/3/2020

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Date

**Approvals**

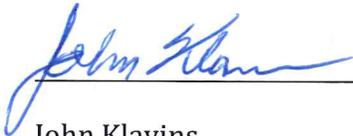
This report has been reviewed and is approved by:



\_\_\_\_\_  
Chris Crutchfield,  
Deputy Director

2/12/20

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



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John Klavins,  
Director

02-07-2020

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Date