

Sexual Assault Awareness

PREA INFORMATION FOR THE PUBLIC

What is PREA?

The Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) was signed into law September 4, 2003 by President Bush. The final regulatory standards to implement PREA went into effect on August 20, 2012.

What is the purpose of PREA?

PREA is intended to address the detection, prevention, reduction, and prosecution of sexual harassment, sexual assault, or sexual misconduct in all correctional facilities in the country.

When does PREA apply?

PREA applies to all confinement facilities in the country. This includes all prisons, jails, police lock-ups, juvenile facilities, immigration detention centers, court holding facilities, and community corrections facilities (home monitoring, probation, parole, half-way houses).

What constitutes staff sexual misconduct?

Staff sexual misconduct is generally defined as any behavior or act sexual in nature against a prisoner by:

- Any employee (sworn, civilian, managers, administrators, supervisors, line officers, supervisors of offenders on work release)
- Any contractor
- Any food service employee
- Any maintenance worker
- Any volunteer
- Any medical or mental health staff member (clinical staff and counselors)
- Any member of the clergy
- Any vendor
- Any youth worker
- Any teacher
- Any intern

Reporting violations

Anyone who suspects or has knowledge of any sexual harassment, sexual assault, or sexual misconduct in any juvenile or adult detention or correctional facility should

report it to a staff member. Staff members are required to immediately advise their supervisor of the report so that a formal investigation may commence.

Inmates may directly report violations by using the grievance system, by calling Reach Counseling at 222 from the inmate phone system, or by speaking to any staff member in person.

Reports can also be made anonymously by friends or family members by contacting the Winnebago County Sheriff's Office at (920) 236-7300 or Reach Counseling at (920) 426-1460.

Zero Tolerance

The Winnebago County Sheriff's Office has adopted a ZERO tolerance policy towards sexual harassment, sexual assault, or sexual misconduct. Every reported violation will be taken seriously, investigated fully, and perpetrators will be held accountable.

For more information please see

www.prearesourcecenter.org