

Williams County Correctional Center 2019 PREA Report

The Williams County Sheriff's Office (WCSO) and the Williams County Correctional Center (WCCC) are dedicated to enforcing a Zero Tolerance policy towards Sexual Abuse and Sexual Harassment as well as enforcing Federal Laws regarding the Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003 (PREA). On an annual basis the WCCC will conduct a comprehensive report on the current closing years collected data on reported and suspected sexual abuse and sexual harassment complaints (PREA complaints) and compare that data to the previous year's data to identify problem areas and take corrective action on an ongoing basis.

2019 Findings: WCCC received 12 PREA complaints between 01/01/2018 to 12/31/2018. All cases were investigated and determined to be unfounded. 2018 had only 2 PREA complaints compared to 2019 having 12 PREA complaints however there has not been an increase in PREA activity. PREA is relatively new to WCCC and the higher number of PREA complaints in 2019 shows that PREA awareness is increasing.

Staff was implicated in 6 cases of unfounded sexual abuse and one case of harassment. 3 cases had overwhelming evidence proving the complaints to be false or without rational. 2 cases involved staff conducting searches within the limits of a search and with the authority to conduct a search. 1 case of harassment implicating staff was unfounded due to information obtained during inmate interviews and no evidence suggesting staff or other inmates were harassing any inmates.

Inmates were implicated in 2 cases of sexual abuse and 3 cases of harassment. 1 case of sexual abuse includes harassment and was unfounded with evidence that suggests that the accusations were an attempt to avoid payment of a gambling debt. 1 case of harassment was unfounded and evidence obtained suggested that the complaint was retaliation for a violent physical retaliation between 2 inmates. 1 case of sexual abuse and 1 case of harassment overlapped an inmate in the previous cases of staff on inmate abuse but this case was also unfounded and proven to be false or without rational.

Problematic Areas: WCCC can find no trend in data suggesting that there are problematic areas within its facility. WCCC has identified a potential blind spot in a purposed area of intake where fingerprinting would take place and there is no video monitoring in that room.

Corrective Actions: WCCC will install cameras as needed prior to using room for fingerprinting. WCCC will continue to enforce a Zero Tolerance policy on sexual harassment and sexual assaults. WCCC has created a PREA Standard Operating Procedures Manual which complies with all Federal PREA standards that will be reviewed and revised (if needed) annually.

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2019 PREA Report**

WCCC 2019 Data of PREA Complaints			
Unfounded Inmate Allegations Made Towards Staff in 2019			
Voyeurism	Sexual Abuse	Sexual Harassment	Total
0	6	1	7
Unsubstantiated Inmate Allegations Made Towards Staff in 2019			
Voyeurism	Sexual Abuse	Sexual Harassment	Total
0	0	0	0
Substantiated Inmate Allegations Made Towards Staff in 2016			
Voyeurism	Sexual Abuse	Sexual Harassment	Total
0	0	0	0
Total Staff on Inmate Complaints			7
Unfounded Inmate Allegations Made Towards Inmates in 2019			
Voyeurism	Sexual Abuse	Sexual Harassment	Total
0	2	3	5
Unsubstantiated Inmate Allegations Made Towards Inmates in 2019			
Voyeurism	Sexual Abuse	Sexual Harassment	Total
0	0	0	0
Substantiated Inmate Allegations Made Towards Inmates in 2019			
Voyeurism	Sexual Abuse	Sexual Harassment	Total
0	0	0	0
Total Inmate on Inmate Complaints			5
Total PREA Complaints for 2019			12

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WCCC 2018 Data of PREA Complaints			
Unfounded Inmate Allegations Made Towards Staff in 2018			
Voyeurism	Sexual Abuse	Sexual Harassment	Total
0	0	1	1
Unsubstantiated Inmate Allegations Made Towards Staff in 2018			
Voyeurism	Sexual Abuse	Sexual Harassment	Total
0	0	0	0
Substantiated Inmate Allegations Made Towards Staff in 2018			
Voyeurism	Sexual Abuse	Sexual Harassment	Total
0	0	0	0
Total Staff on Inmate Complaints			1
Unfounded Inmate Allegations Made Towards Inmates in 2018			
Voyeurism	Sexual Abuse	Sexual Harassment	Total
0	0	1	1
Unsubstantiated Inmate Allegations Made Towards Inmates in 2018			
Voyeurism	Sexual Abuse	Sexual Harassment	Total
0	0	0	0
Substantiated Inmate Allegations Made Towards Inmates in 2018			
Voyeurism	Sexual Abuse	Sexual Harassment	Total
0	0	0	0
Total Inmate on Inmate Complaints			1
Total PREA Complaints for 2018			2

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WCCC 2017 Data of PREA Complaints			
Unfounded Inmate Allegations Made Towards Staff in 2017			
Voyeurism	Sexual Abuse	Sexual Harassment	Total
0	0	1	0
Unsubstantiated Inmate Allegations Made Towards Staff in 2017			
Voyeurism	Sexual Abuse	Sexual Harassment	Total
0	0	0	0
Substantiated Inmate Allegations Made Towards Staff in 2017			
Voyeurism	Sexual Abuse	Sexual Harassment	Total
0	0	0	0
Total Staff on Inmate Complaints			0
Unfounded Inmate Allegations Made Towards Inmates in 2017			
Voyeurism	Sexual Abuse	Sexual Harassment	Total
0	0	1	1
Unsubstantiated Inmate Allegations Made Towards Inmates in 2017			
Voyeurism	Sexual Abuse	Sexual Harassment	Total
0	0	0	0
Substantiated Inmate Allegations Made Towards Inmates in 2017			
Voyeurism	Sexual Abuse	Sexual Harassment	Total
0	0	0	0
Total Inmate on Inmate Complaints			1
Total PREA Complaints for 2017			1*


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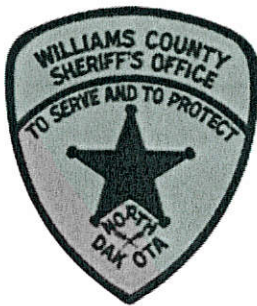
End of Report.

Approved by Sheriff: 

Approval Date: 1/29/2020

Approved by Facility Commander: 

Approved by PREA Coordinator: 



If you suspect that an inmate is the victim of sexual assault or sexual harassment the Williams County Sheriff's Office wants to know and offers multiple ways to report sexual abuse and sexual harassment. Reports can be made anonymously by:

- Mailing to the PREA Coordinator at 223 East Broadway Suite 302 Williston, ND 58801
- Calling the National Sexual Assault Hotline at 1-800-656-4673
- In person report the suspicion to any staff, volunteer, contractor, or medical/ mental health staff

Definitions:

Unfounded Allegation: Allegation that was investigated and determined not to have occurred.

Unsubstantiated Allegation: Allegation that was investigated and the investigation produced insufficient evidence to make a final determination as to whether the event occurred or not.

Substantiated Allegation: Allegation that was investigated and determined to have occurred.

** According to WCSO incident/information reports which were not tracked prior to 03/05/2018*