



Williams County
SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Verlan Kvande, Sheriff
223 E. Broadway Suite 301, Williston, ND 58801
Phone 701.577.7700 | Fax 701.577.7705
www.williamsnd.com

"We will protect the citizens of Williams County with honor, integrity, and professionalism"

Williams County Correctional Center

Prison Rape Elimination Act Annual Report

2021

Submitted by: Captain Jeremy Mohl
Assistant Jail Administrator



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The Prison Rape Elimination act requires that the Williams County Corrections Center (WCCC) prepare an annual report on the effectiveness of its efforts to reduce sexual abuse while being housed at the WCCC. The following information details WCCC's compliance with the standards proscribed by the PREA Act. These standards are outlined in the U.S. Code of Federal Regulations— 28 C.F.R. Part 115.

In 2003, the Federal Government signed into law the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA). This law established a set of standards designed to eliminate sexual abuse and sexual harassment experienced by individuals incarcerated in correctional facilities in our nation.

As a grade 1 correctional facility in North Dakota, The WCCC has adopted these standards in preventing, detecting, responding to, and eliminating acts of sexual abuse & sexual harassment in our facility. The WCCC has zero-tolerance for any form of sexual abuse & sexual harassment.

The WCCC and the Williams County Sheriff's Office (WCSO) investigate all allegations of sexual abuse and sexual harassment and provide inmates with numerous methods of reporting to include, but not limited to:

- Verbally tell any staff member/contractor/volunteer
- Write any staff member/volunteer/contractor
- Have a third party make the report by contacting any WCCC or WCSO staff member in writing or verbally
- Contact a third party by writing or calling (inmates are provided this contact information)
- Call the Rape Crisis line which is accessible by any inmate phone

Any allegations of sexual abuse will be referred to law enforcement for investigative purposes. Any person found to engage in a criminal act will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law. Any staff member found to violate WCCC's policy regarding PREA will be subject to disciplinary sanctions up to and including termination from employment.

The WCCC has taken several proactive steps to help ensure compliance with PREA standards.

Summary of Actions or Achievements:

In early 2019, the Williams County Correction Center completed its first PREA Audit gaining compliance. WCCC has a total capacity to hold up to 246 inmates. WCCC finished their second PREA Audit in 2021 with full compliance under the PREA standards.



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Definitions:

Substantiated Allegation: Allegation that was investigated and determined to have sufficient evidence to justify a reasonable conclusion of guilt.

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

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

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.

Sexual abuse of an inmate, detainee, or 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 196 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 (1)-(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.

Sexual harassment: Includes— (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.



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Williams County Correctional Center 2021 PREA Report Aggregate Data

WCCC 2021 Data of PREA Complaints			
Unfounded Inmate Allegations Made Towards Staff in 2021			
Voyeurism	Sexual Abuse	Sexual Harassment	Total
0	1	0	1
Unsubstantiated Inmate Allegations Made Towards Staff in 2021			
Voyeurism	Sexual Abuse	Sexual Harassment	Total
0	0	0	0
Substantiated Inmate Allegations Made Towards Staff in 2021			
Voyeurism	Sexual Abuse	Sexual Harassment	Total
0	0	0	0
Total Staff on Inmate Complaints			1
Unfounded Inmate Allegations Made towards Inmates in 2021			
Sexual Abuse	Sexual Harassment	Total	
0	2	2	
Unsubstantiated Inmate Allegations Made Towards Inmates in 2021			
Sexual Abuse	Sexual Harassment	Total	
0	1	1	
Substantiated Inmate Allegations Made Towards Inmates in 2021			
Sexual Abuse	Sexual Harassment	Total	
0	0	0	
Total Inmate on Inmate Complaints			3
Total PREA Complaints for 2021			4