



Peumansend Creek Regional Jail

Annual Report of Sexual Assault Data Findings and Corrective Actions

I. Introduction

Each year, the Peumansend Creek Regional Jail collects accurate, uniform data for every allegation of sexual abuse for public and internal use. The Department's report provides a comparison of incidents from 2013, 2014, and 2015 and is utilized by the Department's Prison Rape Elimination Act Coordinator to identify problem areas and formulate corrective measures in efforts of reducing future incidents of sexual abuse.

The Department also completes the Survey of Sexual Violence (SSV) for the US Department of Justice.

This report has been approved by Sandra Thacker, Regional Jail Superintendent. All data in this report will be maintained on the website for at least ten years after the date of the initial collection.

II. Data

The table attached to this report provides data concerning the number of confirmed staff- on- inmate sexual assaults and confirmed inmate –on- inmate sexual assaults with the male population.

PCRJ has no founded complaints of staff-on-inmate sexual assault or founded complaints of inmate- on- inmate sexual assaults for 2013.

PCRJ has no founded complaints of staff-on-inmate sexual assault or founded complaints of inmate-on inmate sexual assaults for 2014.

PCRJ has no founded complaints of staff-on-inmate sexual assault or founded complaints of inmate-on-inmate sexual assaults for 2015.

Comparison of the date indicates PCRJ has an increase in allegations from 0 to 1, inmate –on- inmate allegation from 2013 to 2014.

There is an increase of 2 staff-on-inmate sexual assaults allegations from 2013 to 2014.

There is a decrease of 1 staff-on-inmate sexual assault allegations from 2014 to 2015 and a decrease of 0 inmate-on-inmate sexual assault allegations from 2014 to 2015.

III. Problem Area Identification & Corrective Measures

Staff – on – Inmate Sexual Assaults

1. **Location of Incidents:** There were two allegations made by inmates regarding staff-on-inmate sexual assaults in 2013. Neither of the two allegations resulted in a founded complaint. One of the alleged incidents occurred in the dayroom of a housing unit and involved a male Detention Officer. The other alleged incident occurred outside of the dining hall while assembling inmates for pat searched by a male Detention Officer.

There were three allegations made by inmates regarding staff-on-inmate sexual assaults for 2014. All three allegations resulted in an unfounded complaint.

Two of the allegations were located in a housing unit day room with two female Detention Officers involved and the third allegation occurred on the inmate boulevard with a male Lieutenant.

There was one reported allegation of staff-on-inmate sexual assault for 2015. The allegation resulted in an unfounded complaint.

The allegation occurred on the boulevard while the staff member was pat searching an inmate exiting the dining hall after meals.

The locations of the incidents include the inmate housing units and the inmate boulevard. In the housing unit the locations are the dayroom and the cleaning closet. None of the locations contain blind spots or hiding areas, and the complaints involving inmate interaction were contact incidental to routine pat-searches.

Corrective Measures: In 2013, the facility upgraded the electronic monitoring system which expands our capacity to review film footage of inmate actions. The system includes a large monitor in the control center with capabilities to select up to twenty-four monitors at a time for viewing. Fully functional pan-tilt-zoom cameras are installed on the exterior corner of each housing unit with exceptional visual capabilities. Five DVR recorders with real time recording and playback capabilities with two- year storage capacity are part of our monitoring system.

In 2014, the following corrective measures were enacted:

- Documentation of the Shift Supervisors unannounced rounds was enhanced by providing specific security points to be scanned with a “pipe reader” when moving through the housing unit.
- Detention Officers monitoring inmate recreation are required to make periodic inspections behind adjacent housing units prior, during, and upon completion of the inmate recreation.
- Information was passed from staff to the inmates in dorm meetings regarding pat searches. Inmates were informed staff would be using the back of their hand when searching the groin.

- Staff training was conducted to emphasize the importance of professional inmate pat searches. Staff was instructed to use the back of their hand when searching the groin area.
- The Shift Commanders are required to monitor the inmate dining halls for delivery of the food service and supervise the inmate pat searches upon exiting the dining halls.
- Staff was instructed in distancing when interacting with inmates and to be aware of their surroundings to ensure safe practices of personal space when conducting rounds and inspections.
- In 2015, Field Training Officers were instructed to train newly hired staff on the proper performance of inmate pat searches during initial on-the-job training. The instruction emphasizes the use of the back of the hand when searching the groin areas.

2. **After-Incident Review Information:** A format was developed to standardize all investigative reports. This was developed by the Deputy Superintendent of Security and enacted by the PREA Coordinator throughout the investigative process.

Corrective Measures: The PREA Coordinator attended the John Reid Interviewing and Interrogation Techniques training program to enhance his knowledge of conducting interviews. A formal tracking mechanism was implemented to document relevant data regarding incidents of sexual misconduct and PREA allegations. Other measures and forms were implemented to monitor any allegations of retaliation, monitoring activities, and notification of outcomes to victims to be rectified immediately. The ultimate goal is to implement these actions to provide more useful statistical data and ensure all investigations are conducted the same and within the facility policy standards.

Inmate - on - Inmate Sexual Assaults

1. Location of Incidents:

There were no reported incidents of inmate –on- inmate sexual assaults in 2013.

There was one reported allegation of inmate- on- inmate sexual assault in 2014 which was determined to be an unfounded.

No inmates reported any allegations of sexual assault in 2015.

The 2014 allegation occurred inside of a housing unit dayroom and was reported during an investigation regarding a fight between two inmates. The inmate's allegation was a direct result of embarrassment and peer pressure by other inmates toward one of the alleged inmates fighting. The inmate was embarrassed after he discovered the inmate he befriended was bi-sexual. The pressure from other inmates led to his retaliation behavior toward the bi-sexual inmate. There were no acts of sexual misconduct or sexual assault made or determined throughout this investigation.

Corrective Measures: Continued inspection of housing units is necessary to identify potential blind spots or staff monitoring improvements. Substantiated and unsubstantiated cases are reviewed by the Sexual Abuse Review Team and details are evaluated for concerns at that time.

2. **Sexual Abuse Review Team Process:** PCRJ has a review team with select staff members assigned to the team by the Superintendent. Timely review of policies, continued training, and communication mechanism are part of the review process.

Corrective Measures: A new on-line training program was implemented, utilizing resources through the National Institute of Corrections E-Learning training program, and the National PREA Resource Center. A designated computer with specific software was located in an area with easy staff access. IT training to assist with trouble shooting techniques and administration was included in the set-up of the designated computer.

3. **PREA Assessment & Classification Processes:** Inmates involved in sexual abuse allegations are properly screened and classified by utilizing the PREA intake assessment form during the intake process. Medical and Classification Counselors are aware of the PREA reporting requirements and maintain necessary documentation. The determination of housing is properly evaluated and all necessary inmate information is reviewed prior to housing assignments is contingent upon inmate information and attempts to identify potential victims and abusers.

Corrective Measures: A key element in eliminating sexual abuse incidents is separating inmates with the potential for being abusive from those who are determined to be at risk. The intake assessment and classification review should further identify if special accommodations are needed at the conclusion of an investigation.

IV. **Conclusion**

Although PCRJ has made great strides towards the implementation of the PREA compliance standards and received a 100% compliance rating during the 2014 PREA audit, the data confirmed a slight increase in allegations made from 2013 to 2014.

It appears the increase between 2013 and 2014 was assisted by the inmates utilizing the various methods of reporting possible incidents. Two allegations were submitted through the inmate grievance procedure. The third allegation was reported to a staff member the inmate trusted. The inmate-on-inmate allegation emerged from the disciplinary hearing process as the two inmates were charged for fighting.

The allegation in 2015 was reported to a staff member. The inmate was provided assistance by the Rappahannock Council Against Sexual Assault hotline.

This data implies the procedures enacted at our facility have established a culture of reporting facility incidents which is beneficial to the staff and inmate population.

The Inmate Handbook cites Department policy:

Reporting Sexual Assault

Immediately report to a staff member if you are being intimidated or are in fear of a sexual assault or an incident occurs where you are the victim of sexually oriented advances. If you do not feel your report has been taken seriously; report it again, in writing, to the shift commander, counselor, chaplain, or other staff member you are comfortable with via a green Request for Information form and the Grievance form or medical staff via the Inmate Medical Request form.

Sexual Assault Data Table

Topic	Statistical Data		
	2013	2014	2015
Inmates Incarcerated 12/31	254	247	246
New Admissions	634	534	482
Average Daily Population	294	280	273
Inmate-On-Inmate Sexual Violence	0	1 - Unfounded	0
Inmate-On-Inmate Abusive Sexual Act	0	0	0
Staff Sexual Misconduct	2 – Unfounded	3 – Unfounded	1 - Unfounded
Staff Sexual Harassment	0	0	0