

Caddo Parish Sheriff's Office Detention Bureau 2017 Annual PREA Report

Background

The Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) was passed by Congress and signed into law by President George W. Bush in 2003 to prevent, detect and respond to incidents of sexual abuse and sexual harassment that occurs in confinement settings. The National Prison Rape Elimination Commission developed national standards which apply to adult prisons and jails, juvenile facilities, lockups and community confinement facilities.

The Caddo Parish Sheriff's Office has long supported the principles associated with the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) by strictly enforcing a zero-tolerance policy on sexual misconduct and establishing procedures designed to combat sexual assaults within the Caddo Correctional Center.

Zero-Tolerance Policy

The Caddo Parish Sheriff's Office mandates a zero-tolerance policy for all acts involving sexual misconduct, sexual assault, attempted sexual assault, or sexual harassment of any inmate in the custody of the Caddo Parish Sheriff's Office. All Staff, Volunteers, Contractors and Inmates must abide by this and related policies, laws, and standards that help prevent, detect, and reduce sexual assaults.

The Caddo Parish Sheriff's Office policies provide Staff with guidance to help ensure that prompt and effective intervention and investigation measures are taken should an assault occur. The Caddo Parish Sheriff's Office Detention Bureau has a designated agency-wide PREA Coordinator and PREA Compliance Manager to revise existing policies and establish new policies in accordance with the PREA standards.

Other efforts to comply with the PREA standards include, but are not limited to:

- Specialized training for Staff, Volunteers and Contractors on an annual basis;
- Collaboration with other Agencies and local Rape Crisis Centers;
- Implementation of internal confidential reporting methods;
- Implementation of confidential support services with local Rape Crisis Centers (hotlines);
- Developed educational material provided for Inmates;
- Developed assessment for risk of victimization during initial intake.

Annual Statistics

Sexual Harassment, Non-Consensual Sexual Acts and Abusive Sexual Contact are all defined as PREA related incidents involving Inmates. Staff Sexual Harassment and Staff Sexual Misconduct are defined as PREA related incidents involving Staff. During the period of January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017, there were 8 PREA related incidents reported at the Caddo Correctional Center. Each of these incidents was fully investigated in compliance with PREA standards.

Assessment

After reviewing all of the PREA incident reports for 2017, CPSO Staff determined there was not a need for changes to policies or procedures. There were no physical barriers identified and staffing levels were determined to be adequate. The Detention Bureau is taking steps to provide

more training for Staff dealing with investigations specifically related to PREA and encourages each Staff Member to interact with, and educate Inmates on how to avoid becoming a Victim of sexual abuse. The Caddo Parish Sheriff's Office will continue to make appropriate changes where necessary to ensure a safe, secure environment for both Inmates, Staff and the Community.

BREAK THE SILENCE REPORT SEXUAL ABUSE

**IF YOU, A FRIEND, OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW HAS
BEEN THREATENED OR HAS BEEN THE VICTIM OF
SEXUAL ABUSE, WE CAN HELP!**

To Report Sexual Abuse contact:

The Caddo Parish Sheriff's Office (318) 675-2170

Project Celebration Sexual Assault & Crisis Center 24-
hour Hotline (318) 227-7900

Sexual Assault Outreach

2900 Hearne Avenue

Shreveport, LA 71103

National Hotline: (800) 656-4673

Email: SAOutreach@projectcelebration.com

**ALL REPORTS WILL BE TAKEN
SERIOUSLY AND WILL BE
INVESTIGATED.**