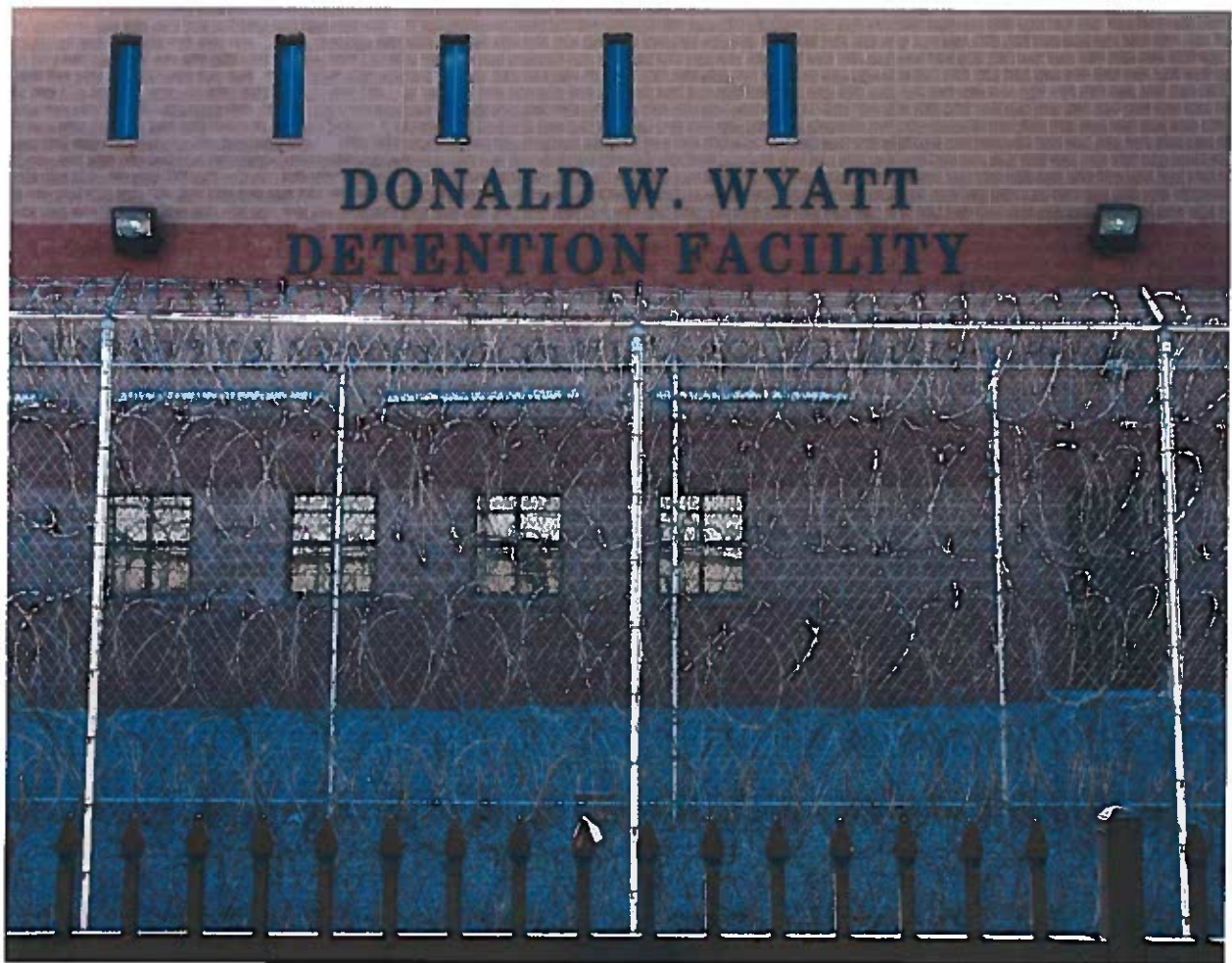


DONALD W. WYATT DETENTION FACILITY

PRISON RAPE ELIMINATION ACT (PREA)

ANNUAL REPORT – 2015



Approved: _____

Daniel W. Martin

Daniel W. Martin, Warden

Background

The Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) was signed into federal law in September 2014 following unanimous support from both parties in the United States Congress. The purpose of the law was to “provide information, resources, recommendations and funding to protect inmates (detainees) from prison rape.” PREA seeks to establish a zero-tolerance policy regarding rape, sexual abusive behavior and sexual harassment in federal, state and correctional systems. PREA also mandated the publication of standards to ensure compliance and to improve prevention, detection, and response strategies in addressing rape, sexual abusive behavior and sexual harassment. In August 2012, the United States Department of Justice (DOJ) issued the final PREA standards for: Prison and Jails, Lock-ups, Community Confinement Facilities and Juvenile Facilities. These standards required DOJ audits of all facilities housing inmates.

The Donald W. Wyatt Detention Facility (DWWDF) underwent its first PREA Audit in August of 2014 which resulted in the achievement of 100% compliance with no corrective action plans required.

Facility Achievements in 2015

The DWWDF continued to maintain compliance with the PREA Jail standards as well as its internal policy #411 - Sexual Assault and Sexual Harassment - Prevention and Intervention. The facility continued to contract with Rhode Island Hospital to provide mental health services, including Sexual Assault Forensic Examiners (SAFE)/Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) and forensic examinations. Day One Crisis Intervention Center of Providence, Rhode Island was available to provide advocacy services to detainees for emotional support services related to sexual abuse. Detainees can contact in writing or via the use of a dedicated hotline service provided by Day One Crisis Intervention Center (both English and Spanish services are provided). All communication with Day One Crisis Intervention Center is confidential, unless the Center determines that the alleged victim is a danger to themselves or a third party. During 2015, Day One Crisis Intervention Center did not receive any hotline calls from this facility.

Detainees also have access to our Professional Standards Unit (PSU) via a dedicated hotline number and may contact the Office of the Inspector General via telephone or in writing.

The Donald W. Wyatt Detention Facility ensures that all current employees, contracted staff and volunteers receive a criminal background records check, at least every four years, to meet the PREA standards.

Training and education of all employees, contract staff, volunteers, and detainees on the DWWDF’s zero tolerance toward all forms of sexual abuse and sexual harassment and the commitment to prevent, detect and respond to such conduct were ongoing throughout 2015.

The Chief of Support Services (formerly Deputy Warden) was assigned as the PREA Manager/PREA Coordinator in 2015.

An annual review of the staffing plan and video monitoring system was conducted to ensure adequate levels and equipment are in place and maintained to protect detainees from sexual abuse. There were no deficiencies noted during the review.

Purpose

The DOJ PREA standards require our facility to collect a defined set of data for every allegation of sexual abuse and sexual harassment. These standards further require the DWWDF to aggregate and review that data in order to assess and improve our effectiveness at preventing, detecting and responding to PREA allegations.

The facility has developed and maintained a database to collect and record a uniformed set of data (and definitions) for each allegation investigated. PREA standard §115.87 requires collecting, at a minimum, the data necessary to answer questions contained in annual "Survey of Sexual Violence" reports conducted by the DOJ. The database also provides an ability to draw comparisons on various aspects of sexual assault and harassment incidents. Some of those comparisons will be found in this report on aggregated data.

Aggregated Data on Sexual Abuse Allegations and Comparison to Prior Years

The DWWDF has a zero tolerance policy for sexual abuse that is covered in detail in policy #411 - Sexual Assault and Sexual Harassment - Prevention and Intervention. As such, every allegation, report and/or discovery of sexual activity is investigated as if a sexual assault or sexual harassment event occurred. Only after a full investigation is completed is an event defined as a PREA violation or otherwise. It should be noted that unauthorized, but consensual sexual activity between inmates does not qualify as a PREA incident. The PREA Jail standards provide definitions that guide the facility in determining the outcome of allegations investigated. The following are a few of those key definitions:

DEFINITIONS	
Evidentiary Standard:	The agency shall impose no standard higher than a preponderance of the evidence in determining whether allegations of sexual abuse or sexual harassment are substantiated.
Substantiated:	Substantiated allegation means an allegation that was investigated and determined to have occurred.
Unsubstantiated:	Unsubstantiated allegation means an allegation that was investigated and the investigation produced insufficient evidence to make a final determination as to whether or not the event occurred.

The following charts reflect aggregated data absent any events investigated that did not constitute a PREA violation:

Category	2015 - Investigative Outcome		
	Alleged	Substantiated	Total
Detainee-on-Detainee nonconsensual sexual acts.	1	0	1
Detainee-on-Detainee abusive sexual contact.	1	*1	1
Staff-on-Detainee sexual misconduct.	0	0	0
Staff-on-Detainee sexual harassment.	0	0	0

In January, 2015 a female detainee alleged that another female detainee touched her buttocks. The incident was investigated and substantiated.

Category	2014 - Investigative Outcome		
	Alleged	Substantiated	Total
Detainee-on-Detainee nonconsensual sexual acts.	1	0	1
Detainee-on-Detainee abusive sexual contact.	0	0	0
Staff-on-Detainee sexual misconduct.	2	0	2
Staff-on-Detainee sexual harassment.	0	0	0

A review of the statistical data demonstrated a reduction of incidents over the last two years. There were three (3) incidents investigated in 2014 and two (2) incidents investigated in 2015. This may be attributable to better education and training at all levels of the facility towards the goal of prevention, detection and response. Additionally, better investigative techniques and training and a strict adherence to the definitions established under the PREA standards are also possible contributing factors to the decreases from the previous year's data.

Identified Problem Areas and Corrective Action

PREA standards require a review of collected data in order to identify problem areas and establish plans of corrective action. Based upon statistical data alone, the rate of incidents within the facility is extremely low. There are no obvious problem areas to address in assuring continued compliance with PREA Jail standards. However, the facility continues to review, enhance and improve its current policies/procedures in an effort to not only continue to meet the DOJ standards, but to exceed them.

Resolved Problem Areas from 2014

Although there were no specific problem areas to be addressed, the facility continued to provide comprehensive PREA education and training to all staff, contractors, volunteers, vendors and detainees on the facility's zero tolerance on all forms of sexual assault and sexual harassment. Additionally, the facility continued to work with outside stakeholders, such as the Rhode Island

Hospital, Day One Crisis Intervention Center, and User Agencies in an effort to work collaboratively to ensure it meets and/or exceeds the standards set forth by the DOJ Jails standards.

Assessment of Progress in Addressing Inmate Sexual Abuse Allegations

The DWWDF continues to improve in all aspects of the PREA process and continues to make great strides in the prevention, detection and response to detainee sexual assaults, abusive behaviors and sexual harassment.

The Donald W. Wyatt Detention Facility is confident that we have maintained and will continue to maintain 100% compliance with the DOJ Jail Standards.

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