



CUMBERLAND COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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2023 Annual PREA Report

The Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) of 2003 is a federal law established to support the elimination and prevention of sexual assault and sexual misconduct in correctional systems. Cumberland County Jail located in Portland, Maine supports the guidelines set forth in this law and has implemented a ZERO-TOLERANCE policy for any and all incidents of sexual assault, sexual misconduct and sexual harassment (this is in accordance with the Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003).

The following has been completed to meet the PREA standards during 2023:

- 2023 Annual PREA self-paced training for all staff completed training in 2023.
- PREA Incident Database updated, and maintained.
- Initial PREA Risk Screens were conducted in intake by booking staff and medical of all inmates prior to moving to housing.
- PREA Risk screens were conducted, within 30 days of admission, of all inmates by classifications.
- Accreditation Assistant conducting PREA Inmate Orientations for all inmates within 30 days of admissions.
- All of the Initial PREA Risk Screens, PREA Risk screens, and signed PREA Inmate Orientation Acknowledgements are scanned and uploaded in Spillman and attached to each inmate's record by the Compliance Manager.
- Incident Review committee reviews of all PREA allegations that were Substantiated and Unsubstantiated. Seven (7) completed in 2023.
- Memorandum of Understanding renewed with Sexual Assault Response Services of Southern Maine (SARSSM).
- Memorandum of Understanding renewed with Maine DOC for third party reporting.
- Additional cameras were added in B-Core Office and C-Core Office to eliminate blindspots.
- Pod recreation yard cameras added



In accordance with PREA standard 115.88 Data Review for Corrective Action, the Cumberland County Sheriff's Office completes an annual report to assess the effectiveness of sexual abuse prevention, detection, and response. Policies, procedures and training are examined to identify any problem areas and take corrective action on an ongoing basis and report its findings and corrective actions taken.

Specific material may be redacted from the report when it would present a clear and specific threat to safety and security, but will be indicated in the report the nature of any redacted materials.

A review of Sexual Abuse and Sexual Harassment Investigations in 2023, the following data has been compiled in accordance with the PREA Standards:

INCIDENT TYPE	ALLEGED	SUBSTANTIATED	UNSUBSTANTIATED	UNFOUNDED
Inmate on Inmate sexual abuse	4	0	2	2
Inmate on Inmate sexual harassment	5	2	3	0
Staff on inmate sexual abuse	6	0	1	5
Staff on inmate sexual harassment	2	0	0	2
2023 Total	17	2	6	9

Sexual Abuse and Sexual Harassment Investigations in 2022

INCIDENT TYPE	ALLEGED	SUBSTANTIATED	UNSUBSTANTIATED	UNFOUNDED
Inmate on Inmate sexual abuse	5	1	3	1
Inmate on Inmate sexual harassment	6	1	5	0
Staff on inmate sexual abuse	3	0	2	1
Staff on inmate sexual harassment	1	0	0	1
2022 Total	15	2	10	3

In comparison to 2022, the overall numbers of allegations has remained similar in 2023. The numbers maintaining at this level may correlate to the COVID-19 pandemic, and the average daily population being lower in the facility. The number of staff on inmate sexual abuse allegations and staff on inmate sexual harassment allegations are up from 2022 of which none were substantiated. The allegations of inmate on inmate sexual abuse, and harassment is down in 2023.

In reviewing of the seven (7) Sexual Abuse Incident reviews conducted for 2023 the following has been found and/or implemented:

- PREA Risk Assessments ensuring complete documentation in electronic medical record of follow-up conducted.

Recommendations from past Sexual Abuse Incident reviews that are still pending:

- Reassess housing options with perpetrators in protective custody unit and female unit, to include possible housing in other county facilities.



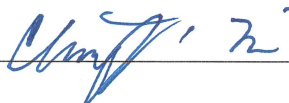
- Additional Camera or reposition of camera to eliminate blind spot created by posts in B-1, B-2, B-3, C-1, C-3.
- Need a better system for receiving information on inmates that we house from other counties (criminal history, classification documentation, PREA screens)
- Need to create policy on how inmate cell changes are to be done
- Create Spillman Flag to separate inmates by tier
- Recommend adding 3 cameras to the Food Service area, one in each cooler, and the freezer.
- The recreation yard in Pods B-1, B-2, B-3, C-1, and C-3 creates a blind spot in front of cells 119, 120, 127, 128.

When the Cumberland County Sheriff's Office conducts its own investigations into allegations of sexual abuse and sexual harassment, it shall do so promptly, thoroughly, and objectively for all allegations, including third party and anonymous reports.

Where inmate on inmate, or staff on inmate sexual abuse is alleged, the Cumberland County Sheriff's Office shall use trained investigators, who have received special training in sexual abuse investigations pursuant to 115.34.

Compliance Manager, Chris Bisson

Date: 4/2/2024

Signature: 

Reviewed and approved by: Major Timothy Kortes, Jail Administrator

Date: 4/2/24

Signature: 



