



# Cumberland County Sheriff's Office

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## 2017 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 put in place to meet the PREA standards during 2017:

- Policy and Procedure A-144 Prevention of Sexual Abuse, Sexual Harassment, and Sexual Misconduct of Inmates/PREA implemented.
- PREA Posters in English and Spanish posted throughout the facility
- PREA Brochures in English and Spanish given to all inmates prior to going to housing.
- Jail Orientation Video along with the PREA Educational Video shown continually in intake, and every weekend in the housing units.
- Policies A-118 Staffing Levels updated and implemented (PREA Standard 115.13).
- All staff received 2017 PREA training.
- Investigators received Sexual Assault Investigation Training as part of the PREA Grant Project in Boston February 22-24, 2017 (PREA Standard 115.34).
- PREA Incident Database updated and maintained.
- Half doors installed on inmate bathrooms throughout the facility.
- Pod janitor's closet doors on the first floor had cutouts with wire grating installed to improve visibility
- New cameras have been installed throughout the facility to eliminate identified blind spots.
- Select cells in Medical and A-pod have portions of the glass in the doors frosted.
- Initial PREA Risk Screens are conducted in intake by booking staff and medical of all inmates prior to moving to housing.
- PREA Risk screens are conducted, within 30 days of admission, of all inmates by classifications.
- PREA Coordinator conducting PREA Inmate Orientations for all inmates within 30 days of admissions.
- PREA Keep Separate groups set-up in Spillman to keep inmates that score out as victim/potential victim and aggressor/potential aggressor from being housed together in the same cell. These are based off of results from the PREA risk screens.
- PREA Inmate Notification of results of completed investigations implemented documented by the PREA Coordinator.
- PREA Retaliation Monitoring for 90 days for inmates and/or staff has been implemented, which is conducted and documented by the PREA Coordinator.
- Access to interpreters utilizing the Language line



- Closed caption on all televisions
- I-Pad with PREA Educational Videos in English, Spanish, and Hmong, along with google translate application for use with inmates if needed.
- Stickers placed on phones in housing units with reporting numbers, stickers placed on non-contact visit phones on both the inmate side as well as the visitor side.
- Stickers placed at officer's station in housing units with basic response plan to a PREA allegation.
- Memorandum of Understanding with Maine Medical Center, and Mercy Hospital for SAFE/SANE nurses.
- Memorandum of Understanding renewed with Sexual Assault Response Services of Southern Maine (SARSSM)
- Memorandum of Understanding renewed with Maine DOC for third party reporting
- Administrative reviews of allegations has resulted in operational and custodial supervision procedural changes that will improve safety in the facility for both staff and inmates.

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 2017, the following data has been compiled in accordance with the PREA Standards:

#### Sexual Abuse and Sexual Harassment Investigations in 2016

INCIDENT TYPE	ALLEGED	SUBSTANTIATED	UNSUBSTANTIATED	UNFOUNDED
Inmate on Inmate sexual abuse	3	1	0	2
Inmate on Inmate sexual harassment	2	2	0	0
Staff on inmate sexual abuse	0	0	0	0
Staff on inmate sexual harassment	0	0	0	0
<b>2016 Total</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>

#### Sexual Abuse and Sexual Harassment Investigations in 2017

INCIDENT TYPE	ALLEGED	SUBSTANTIATED	UNSUBSTANTIATED	UNFOUNDED
Inmate on Inmate sexual abuse	10	0	5	5
Inmate on Inmate sexual harassment	7	3	4	0
Staff on inmate sexual abuse	2	0	0	2
Staff on inmate sexual harassment	3	1	0	2
<b>2017 Total</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>



In comparison to 2016 numbers the numbers have increased in 2017. Increases are attributed to information on PREA being more readily available through posters, brochures, handbooks, and PREA educational videos to the inmate population. Other factors are better reporting methods, staff training, and inmate PREA orientations.

In reviewing of the 13 Sexual Abuse Incident reviews conducted in 2017 the following has been found and/or implemented:

- 4 incidents occurred within inmate's cell making difficult to investigate, one inmates word against another inmate.
- Bathroom in intake waiting area switched and half door installed to improve visibility.
- Additional Staff training on verbal communications/professional language in 2018 will be provided.
- Pod dayroom bathroom doors are being changed from full solid door to half door to improve visibility to be completed in 2018.
- Medical is notified of every alleged incident at completion of Shift Lieutenant's PREA Incident Checklist.

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.

PREA Coordinator Chris Bisson

Date: 4/2/2018

Signature: Chris Bisson

Reviewed and approved by: Major John Costello, Jail Administrator

Date: 4-2-18

Signature: John Costello

