

PRISON RAPE ELIMINATION ACT (PREA) ANNUAL REPORT 2020



NORTHWEST REGIONAL RE-ENTRY CENTER

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Background:

The Prison Rape Elimination Act (**PREA**), a federal law enacted in 2003, was created with the purpose to eliminate sexual abuse in confinement. The PREA legislation mandated federal funding for research, programming, training, and technical assistance to address related issues.

PREA was signed into federal law in September 2003, and the final rules and standards were published on August 20, 2012. Extensive research and collaboration took place to identify the extent of sexual assault, sexual abuse and sexual harassment taking place in federal, state, county, city and tribal confinement facilities for both adults and juveniles. The research identified the scope of the issue, and standards were developed to guide facilities to adopt a “zero-tolerance policy” toward sexual assault, sexual abuse and sexual harassment.

The established standards provide a way to measure the zero tolerance policy through strategies to improve prevention, detection, responsiveness and data collection of sexual assault, sexual abuse and sexual harassment incidents.

The Northwest Regional Re-Entry Center (NWRRC) falls under the PREA standard of Community Confinement facilities 115.5. Further details can be acquired on the PREA Resource Center web page, www.prearesourcecenter.org.

Response by NWRRC:

Over the past year, NWRRC has continued to maintain a zero tolerance policy for PREA violations while prioritizing the safety and security of all residents, staff, volunteers and visitors. Therefore, the agency conducts ongoing annual evaluations of our PREA program with a focus on how to improve. The four areas identified in NWRRC’s 2019 PREA report have remained an area of focus for the organization and remain corrected. For 2020, the organization improved the physical monitoring of the facility by placing mirrors in area blind spots and also erected fencing to secure an area of the campus that was previously open and unmonitored. For 2021, physical improvements to the facility will include three additional security cameras. The additional areas to be monitored through video surveillance will be the resident retreat area, detox room and second floor clothes closet.

DATA:

PREA standards require that each community facility be audited every three years. NWRRC received audits in 2016 and 2019 and we were found to be in compliance with all PREA standards. The annual PREA reports are posted on NWRRC’s website. Our next audit is scheduled to occur in 2022.

2020 NWRRC PREA Reports

Date	Type of Report*	Location (Facility)	Type of Investigation	Date Completed	Outcome
2/5	S:R SAB	Local Jail	Administrative	2/6/20	Unknown
3/10	S:R SH	NWRRC	Administrative	3/13/20	Unfounded
5/31	R:R SAB	NWRRC	Administrative	6/4/20	Unsubstantiated
6/24	R:R SH	NWRRC	Administrative	6/28/20	Unsubstantiated
7/7	R:R SAB	NWRRC	Administrative	7/8/20	Substantiated
8/26	R:R SAB	NWRRC	Administrative	8/27/20	Unsubstantiated
10/30	R:R SAB	NWRRC	Administrative	11/2/20	Unfounded
12/17	R:R SAB	NWRRC	Admin/Criminal	12/21/20	Substantiated
12/18	R:R SA	Federal Pen.	Administrative	12/21/20	Unknown

*R:R	Resident on Resident	SH	Sexual Harassment
S:R	Staff on Resident	SAB	Sexual Abuse
		SA	Sexual Assault
		SSM	Staff Sexual Misconduct

Total PREA Reports	Substantiated	Unsubstantiated	Unfounded
2014	2	Both occurred at other facilities. Referred for investigations	
2015	9*	3	2
2016	5	2	1
2017	3	2	1
2018	6 **	2	2
2019	10	3	2
2020	9 ***	2	2

*Three referred to other institutions for investigations. Outcome unknown

**One referred to Sheridan for investigation. Outcome unknown

*** Two referred to other institutions for investigations. Outcome unknown

