# 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 |

| Code | Meaning |
|---|---|
| R:R | Resident on Resident |
| S:R | Staff on Resident |
| SH | Sexual Harassment |
| SAB | Sexual Abuse |
| SA | Sexual Assault |
| SSM | Staff Sexual Misconduct |

## Total PREA Reports by Year, 2014–2020

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