

Indiana County Jail 2015 PREA Report

PURPOSE

To publish data and information in accordance with the National PREA Standards.

FACTS

The PREA Act of 2003 (Public Law 108-79) was enacted to address the instances of sexual abuse in prison populations. PREA requires all correctional facilities to collect and report detailed information regarding sexual victimization of prisoners.

The Indiana County Jail (ICJ) will collect data on all allegations of sexual abuse and sexual harassment. Annually the data is aggregated to complete the U.S. Department of Justice Survey of Sexual Victimization (SSV). The data is reviewed and utilized to assess and improve the effectiveness of current policies regarding sexual abuse prevention, detection, and response. This report is the second annual report on sexual abuse and sexual harassment for the years 2014 and 2015. This report indicates the Indiana County Jail's commitment to fully implementing the PREA standards.

STATISTICS 2014

December 31, 2014 the ICJ had 170 prisoners in confinement. Total new commitments to the ICJ for 2014 was 1,688. Average Daily Population was 195.

There were a total of eight (8) sexual harassment complaints and zero (0) sexual abuse complaints. Five (5) complaints were substantiated inmate on inmate. All were investigated by the ICJ. One (1) unfounded inmate complaint prior to incarceration investigated by the Pennsylvania State Police, Indiana Barracks. Two (2) complaints were substantiated staff on inmate with PSP Indiana as the investigator and both staff were no longer employed by the ICJ and criminal charges filed on one staff member.

STATISTICS 2015

In 2015, the Indiana County Jail reported 198 prisoners confined on December 31, 2015. The number of new commitments to the Indiana County Jail in 2015 was 1,279. The Average Daily Population of 2015 was 169.

In 2015 the Indiana County Jail had a total of seven (7) sexual harassment complaints and zero sexual abuse complaints. There was one (1) complaint of sexual abuse that happened in the community prior to incarceration.

Of the seven (7) sexual harassment complaints, five (5) were inmate on inmate and two (2) were staff on inmate.

2 – Substantiated inmate on inmate complaints. The Indiana County Jail investigated each complaint and reviewed for housing, program and classification placements.

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2 – Unsubstantiated inmate on inmate complaints. The Indiana County Jail investigated each complaint and could not determine if they did or did not happen.

1 – Unfounded inmate on inmate complaint. The Indiana County Jail investigated and determined that no sexual harassment had happened.

1 – Unsubstantiated staff on inmate complaint. This complaint was made on a contracted employee. The Indiana County Jail completed the investigation, this contracted employee is no longer employed by the contracted company.

1 – Unfounded staff on inmate complaint. The ICJ completed the investigation and it was determined that the incident did not occur.

1 compliant regarding sexual abuse prior to incarceration was made. The Pennsylvania State Police and Alice Paul House were contacted immediately by ICJ staff and services were provided.

REVIEW

The Indiana County Jail Administrative Staff reviewed each substantiated complaint. There were no concerns with the physical plant. Corrective action was recommended in the specific areas:

- Re-training on PREA, specifically professional interactions with inmates in regard to PREA.
- Yearly re-fresher training for all staff in PREA was conducted in April 2015

The Indiana County Jail continues to make the availability of victim services through the Alice Paul House a priority for the inmates.

The Indiana County Jail received compliance with the PREA Standards. An Audit was completed in May 2015 with final compliance granted in July 2015.

CONCLUSION

As more tools, training, external audits, and PREA related processes were offered at the Indiana County Jail during 2015 the instance of reporting sexual harassment or sexual abuse did not rise as was anticipated in 2014. The Indiana County Jail has responded to all complaints and continues to make efforts for preventing, detecting, responding, and monitoring. The goal of the Indiana County Jail is to continue providing a safer prison for the prisoners and staff by applying the standards for PREA.

POSTING OF DATA

This annual report is made available for the general public via the Indiana County Website

www.countyofindiana.org

Click on the Indiana County Jail Tab

This report will also be published and posted in the Lobby Area of the Indiana County Jail.

COMMENTS/CONCERNS/QUESTIONS

If you have a comment, concern or question regarding this report, you may address them to Warden Buzzinotti or Deputy Warden Hamilton during regular business hours Monday – Friday, excluding County holidays at 724-471-7500.