



PRISON RAPE ELIMINATION ACT (PREA)

2014 REPORT

2014 Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) Report¹

The Connecticut Judicial Branch is subject to the standards set forth in the Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003 (PREA), 42 U.S.C. § 15601, et seq. PREA established federal requirements for the prevention, detection and response to sexual abuse and sexual harassment in confinement facilities. The PREA standards for lockups, juvenile facilities and community confinement facilities are all applicable to the Judicial Branch.

The Connecticut Judicial Branch has two 24-hour lockup facilities located in Hartford and New Haven run by Judicial Marshal Services. In addition, Judicial Marshal Services oversees the lockups in 40 courthouses.

The Judicial Branch operates two Juvenile Detention Centers located in Bridgeport and Hartford run by the Court Support Services Division (CSSD) Juvenile Residential Services.

The Judicial Branch also contracts with adult and juvenile providers throughout the state to provide residentially-based services for individuals in need of supervision, substance abuse treatment, mental health treatment, and housing services.

The Connecticut Judicial Branch is committed to meeting its requirements under the Prison Rape Elimination Act. When individuals are placed in the custody of the Judicial Branch, we have an obligation to keep them safe and free from all forms of sexual abuse and sexual harassment. We must be accountable to those individuals. They have the right to be held in an environment where sexual abuse and sexual harassment will not be tolerated; and if it does occur, appropriate remedial steps will be taken to prevent it from happening in the future.

Individuals in the custody of the Judicial Branch are entitled to have access to justice. Their status as a confined individual must not interfere with that. All individuals who utilize the court system must have confidence that they will be treated fairly and with respect. Complying with the PREA standards helps ensure that.

¹The Judicial Branch began implementation of the PREA standards in the first quarter of 2013. Accordingly, this report does not include a comparison of data and corrective actions from 2013, as that data does not exist for the entire year.

Judicial Branch Progress in Addressing the PREA Standards

The Connecticut Judicial Branch continued to make tremendous strides in implementing the PREA standards during the course of 2014. In 2014, the following actions took place:

- Bridgeport and Hartford Juvenile Detention Centers certified as PREA compliant under the Department of Justice Juvenile Facility standards
- RFQ issued for securing an auditor for the Branch's two 24-hour adult facilities
- Launched on-line training program for Judicial Branch employees
- Launched PREA webpage on the Judicial Branch website
- Completion of the National Institute of Corrections online "Investigating Sexual Abuse in a Confinement Setting" course by all Judicial Branch staff who would investigate sexual abuse or sexual harassment allegations
- Completion of the National Institute of Corrections online "Behavioral Health Care for Sexual Assault Victims in a Confinement Setting" (for mental health staff) course and the "Medical Health Care for Sexual Assault Victims in a Confinement Setting" (for medical staff) course by medical and mental health staff
- Provided in-person training to all Judicial Marshals on their responsibilities under the Judicial Branch and Judicial Marshal Services PREA policies
- Developed an audit review tool to be utilized while conducting PREA compliance reviews of the adult contracted providers
- Revised the Judicial Branch PREA policy
- Revised the Judicial Marshal Services PREA policy
- Revised several Court Support Services Division's policies that relate to PREA
- Revised the PREA forms used by Judicial Marshal Services
- Conducted internal PREA audits of all juvenile detention centers, 24-hour adult lockup facilities, and courthouse lockups
- Developed additional PREA-related signs to be placed in the lockups and detention centers
- Created PREA brochure for juvenile detainees (also translated into Spanish)
- Attended PREA webinars offered by the National PREA Resource Center
- Developed and conducted "Train-the-Trainer" program for adult contracted providers
- Held PREA informational sessions with the adult contract providers
- Participated in several CT Association of Non-Profit (CAN) forums addressing PREA
- Participated in CONNSACS forum addressing PREA
- Created Judicial Marshal Services policy and training concerning cross-gender pat-down searches and pat-down searches of transgender and intersex detainees
- Created Incident Review Checklist form for use in Incident Review team investigations
- Coordinated efforts with the Department of Correction, the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, and the Department of Children and Families

- Created Juvenile Residential Services Orientation video which included PREA information

While a great amount of progress has been made in implementing the PREA standards, there is still work remaining. In the coming year, the Judicial Branch will be focusing on the following tasks:

- Audit of the 24-hour adult facilities by a Department of Justice certified auditor
- Create PREA brochure for contractors entering confinement areas
- Revise on-line training program for Judicial Branch employees
- Develop on-line training program for Judges and Family Support Magistrates
- Review PREA language in existing supervisor training for sexual harassment and general supervisors responsibilities (Essentials of Justice)
- Revise and implement PREA In-Service training curricula for Juvenile Residential Services staff
- Audit of contracted adult and juvenile programs by Department of Justice certified auditors
- Revise Juvenile Rights Handbook to include PREA information
- Work with contracted providers as they go through the audit process

Judicial Marshal Services

Judicial Marshal Services is responsible for courthouse security and the transportation and custody of prisoners. Judicial Marshals oversee lockups in 40 courthouses throughout the state in addition to two 24-hour facilities. These lockups are subject to the PREA Lockup Standards.

In 2014, 94,046 individuals were in the custody of Judicial Marshal Services.

In 2014, there was one unsubstantiated report of sexual abuse involving individuals in the custody of the Judicial Branch. A facility-based sexual abuse incident review was held to review this report. As a result of the review, even though the incident was unsubstantiated, policy and practice in the facility was changed.

In 2014, there was one unfounded report of sexual abuse involving a Judicial Marshal and an individual in the custody of the Judicial Branch.

In 2014, there were 18 incidents of sexual abuse or sexual harassment that were reported to Judicial Marshals that occurred at confinement facilities not under the control of Judicial Marshal Services. In all of those cases, the Judicial Marshal Services' PREA Coordinator contacted the highest ranking officer at the location where the alleged incident occurred to inform them of the allegation.

Juvenile Residential Services

Juvenile Residential Services oversees two juvenile detention facilities that are American Correctional Association (ACA) and National Commission on Correctional Health Care (NCCHC) accredited. These facilities are subject to the PREA Juvenile Facility Standards.

Both detention centers were audited in 2014 by a certified PREA auditor and were certified as compliant with the PREA Juvenile Facility Standards.

In 2014, 2362 juveniles were admitted into the two detention centers.

In 2014, there was one unsubstantiated report of sexual abuse by a juvenile against a juvenile. A facility-based sexual abuse incident review was held to review this report. As a result of the incident review, recommendations for process improvement were made and will be implemented.

In 2014, there were four unsubstantiated reports of sexual harassment by a Juvenile Detention Officer against a juvenile.

Juvenile Contracted Providers

The Connecticut Judicial Branch contracts with community providers for 10 residential programs for juveniles within their care and custody. These facilities are subject to the PREA Juvenile Facility Standards.

BRAVE, Hamden

BRAVE is a community residential program for boys. In 2014, there were no reported incidents of sexual abuse or sexual harassment in this facility.

SOAR, Hamden

SOAR is a community residential program for boys. In 2014, there were two substantiated allegations of juvenile on juvenile sexual harassment and one unsubstantiated allegation of juvenile on juvenile sexual harassment.

There were no reported incidents of sexual abuse at this facility.

GRACE, Hartford

GRACE is a community residential program for girls. In 2014, there was one unfounded report of juvenile on juvenile sexual abuse.

There were no reported incidents of sexual harassment in this facility.

Washington Street, Hartford

Washington Street is a secure community residential program for girls. In 2014, there was one substantiated report of juvenile on juvenile sexual abuse. There were also two unsubstantiated reports of juvenile on juvenile sexual abuse.

There were also three unsubstantiated allegations of juvenile on juvenile sexual harassment and two unsubstantiated allegations of staff on juvenile sexual harassment.

SAGE, Hamden

SAGE is a secure community residential program for boys. In 2014, there was one unsubstantiated report of sexual abuse involving a staff member and juvenile.

There were two unsubstantiated allegations of juvenile on juvenile sexual harassment.

Connecticut Junior Republic (CJR), Intermediate Residential Program, Litchfield

CJR is an intermediate community residential program for boys. In 2014, there were no reported incidents of sexual abuse or sexual harassment in this facility.

North American Family Institute (NAFI), Litchfield

NAFI is an intermediate residential program for girls. In 2014, there was one substantiated report of juvenile on juvenile sexual harassment.

There were no reported incidents of sexual abuse in this facility.

Connecticut Junior Republic, Therapeutic Respite and Assessment Center (TRAC) Program, Litchfield

TRAC is a residential program for boys. In 2014, there were no reported incidents of sexual abuse or sexual harassment in this facility.

Connecticut Junior Republic, Center for Assessment, Respite and Education (CARE) Program, Waterbury

CARE is a residential program for girls. In 2014, there were no reported incidents of sexual abuse or sexual harassment in this facility.

The Children's Center, New Choices, Hamden

New Choices is a residentially based substance abuse treatment program for boys. In 2014, there were no reported incidents of sexual abuse or sexual harassment in this facility.

Adult Contracted Providers

The Connecticut Judicial Branch contracts with community-based providers and/or has entered into Memorandums of Agreement with other state agencies for 24 programs for adults within their care and custody. These facilities are subject to the PREA Community Confinement Standards.

Sierra Center, New Haven

The Sierra Center is a long-term mental health and substance abuse counseling, employment readiness, community service program. In 2014, there was one unsubstantiated report of client on client sexual harassment.

There were no reported incidents of sexual abuse in this facility.

APT Foundation, Bridgeport

The APT Foundation is a substance abuse treatment program. In 2014, there was one unsubstantiated report of sexual abuse involving a staff member and client.

There were no reported incidents of sexual harassment in this facility.

Rushford, Middletown

Rushford is an intensive short-term substance abuse treatment program. In 2014, there were no reported incidents of sexual abuse or sexual harassment in this facility.

Rushford Intermediate, Portland

Rushford Intermediate is a substance abuse treatment program and halfway house. In 2014, there were no reported incidents of sexual abuse or sexual harassment in this facility.

Crossroads, New Haven

Crossroads is a substance abuse treatment program. In 2014, there was one unsubstantiated report of client on client sexual abuse.

There were no reported incidents of sexual harassment in this facility.

Morris Foundation, Waterbury

Morris Foundation is a recovery house. In 2014, there were no reported incidents of sexual abuse or sexual harassment in this facility.

Morris Therapeutic Shelter, Waterbury

The Morris Therapeutic Shelter is a short-term case management program with treatment services. In 2014, there were no reported incidents of sexual abuse or sexual harassment in this facility.

Help Central Naugatuck Valley, Waterbury

Help Central Naugatuck Valley is a substance abuse and mental health treatment center. In 2014, there were three substantiated reports of client on client sexual abuse. There was also one unsubstantiated report of client on client sexual abuse.

There was also one unsubstantiated report of client on client sexual harassment.

Connecticut Renaissance (West), Waterbury

Connecticut Renaissance (West) is a substance abuse treatment program. In 2014, there was one unsubstantiated report of sexual abuse involving staff in this facility.

There were no reported incidents of sexual harassment in this facility.

McCall Foundation (Hotchkiss House), Torrington

McCall Foundation is a substance abuse treatment program. In 2014, there were no reported incidents of sexual abuse or sexual harassment in this facility.

Liberation, Stamford

Liberation is a substance abuse treatment program. In 2014, there was one unsubstantiated report of client on client sexual abuse.

There were no reported incidents of sexual harassment in this facility.

Perception House, Willimantic

Perception House is a substance abuse and mental health treatment program. In 2014, there were no reported incidents of sexual abuse or sexual harassment in this facility.

Milestone (CHR), Putnam

Milestone is an intensive short-term substance abuse treatment program. In 2014, there was one unsubstantiated report of client on client sexual abuse.

There were no reported incidents of sexual harassment in this facility.

Farrell Treatment Center, New Britain

Farrell Treatment Center is an intensive short-term substance abuse treatment program. In 2014, there were no reported incidents of sexual abuse or sexual harassment in this facility.

Lebanon Pines (SCADD), Lebanon

Lebanon Pines is a long-term substance abuse treatment and rehabilitation program. In 2014, there was one substantiated report of client on client sexual abuse.

There were no reported incidents of sexual harassment in this facility.

Trinity Glen (MCCA), Sharon

Trinity Glen is a long-term substance abuse and rehabilitation program. In 2014, there were no reported incidents of sexual abuse or sexual harassment in this facility.

Elm City Women and Children, New Haven

Elm City Women and Children is a comprehensive substance abuse treatment and rehabilitation program for women. In 2014, there was one unfounded report of client on client sexual abuse.

There were no reported incidents sexual harassment in this facility.

Fresh Start Women and Children, Hartford

Fresh Start Women and Children is a comprehensive substance abuse treatment and rehabilitation program for women. In 2014, there were no reported incidents of sexual abuse or sexual harassment in this facility.

Crossroads Amethyst House, New Haven

Crossroads Amethyst House is a comprehensive substance abuse treatment and rehabilitation program for women. In 2014, there was one substantiated report of staff on client sexual harassment.

There were no reported incidents of sexual abuse in this facility.

Hartford AIC/CPA, Hartford

Hartford AIC/CPA is a transitional housing program. In 2014, there was one substantiated report of staff on client sexual harassment.

There were no reported incidents of sexual abuse in this facility.

Project More Transitional Housing, New Haven

Project More is a transitional housing program. In 2014, there were no reported incidents of sexual abuse or sexual harassment in this facility.

Union House (CJM), Bridgeport

Union House is a transitional housing program. In 2014, there were no reported incidents of sexual abuse or sexual harassment in this facility.

Virginia Wells (Project More), New Haven

Virginia Wells is a transitional housing program. In 2014, there was one substantiated report of client on client sexual harassment.

There were no reported incidents of sexual abuse in this facility.

The January Center, Uncasville

The January Center is a sex offender treatment program. In 2014, there was one unsubstantiated report of client on client sexual abuse.

There was also one substantiated and one unsubstantiated report of client on client sexual harassment.