

**Sandoval County Detention Center**  
Annual Assessment of Sexual Abuse for the Year of 2020



December 31, 2020

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# **ANNUAL ASSESSMENT OF SCDC’S PROGRESS IN ADDRESSING SEXUAL ABUSE**

## **SANDOVAL COUNTY DETENTION CENTER**

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# ANNUAL ASSESSMENT OF SCDC'S PROGRESS IN ADDRESSING SEXUAL ABUSE

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Pursuant to standard §115.88 of the Prison Rape Elimination Act, (PREA), Sandoval County Detention Center (SCDC) is required to:

1. Aggregate incident based sexual abuse data annually from operated facilities.
2. Use the data to assess and improve the effectiveness of its sexual abuse prevention, detection, and response policies, practices and training by:
  - a. Identifying problem areas;
  - b. Tracking corrective action on an on-going basis; and
  - c. Prepare an annual report of its findings.
3. Compare the current year's data and corrective actions with those from the prior year and provide an assessment of the agency's progress in addressing sexual abuse.
4. Publish and make available to the public the annual report of its findings and corrective actions.

## **1. Aggregated Data**

From January 2020 through December 2020, the SCDC PREA Coordinator collected the referrals for investigations into allegations of inmate-on-inmate and staff-on-inmate sexual abuse. This data is the basis for this section of the report.

In this period of time, SCDC received 2 (two) allegations of sexual victimization all of which were investigated, reviewed and/or when applicable, forwarded to other entities by the Sandoval County Detention Center PREA Investigator. The number of allegations for each detainee housing/work area is shown on the table on the following page:

Housing/Work Area	Allegations
A-pod	0
B-pod	0
C-pod	0
D-pod	0
E-pod	0
F-pod	0
G-pod	0
MRU	0
Pod-1	0
Pod-2	0
Pod-3	0
Pod-4	0
Pod-5	0
Male Booking	0
Female Booking	0
Special housing Cells	0
Laundry	0
Kitchen	0
Medical	0
Other (specify)	0
Unknown/outside agency***	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2</b>

**\*\*NOTE: Numbers indicating unknown/outside agency may include:**

- 1) Any allegation received from an outside entity alleging that a detainee notified them that they were subject to a PREA violation during a prior incarceration here at S.C.D.C. (may or may not indicate housing/work area.)
- 2) Any notification that was received indicating that a PREA incident may have allegedly taken place, however it was later discovered during a preliminary investigation that the allegation did not take place within the confines of the facility or while the detainee was under the supervision of S.C.D.C staff. (Which may include transfers to and from other correctional facilities, medical facilities, court jurisdictions, etc.)
- 3) If it is discovered that a PREA allegation pertains to another agency or department during an arrest or previous interaction, Sandoval County Detention Center will provide the appropriate documentation, information and assistance within the guidelines of our policy and procedures and the PREA standards.



Of all the investigations completed January 2020- December 2020, the types and number of findings are shown in comparison to the following year in the following table:

	Finding	January 2017 - December 2017	January 2018 - December 2018	January 2019 - December 2019	January 2020 - December 2020
1.	unsubstantiated	0	5	2	1
2.	Substantiated	1	0	1	0
3.	Unfounded	15	16	0	1
4.	Pending	1**	0	0	0
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>

\*\*2017: Case 17-231 was reported while detainee was preparing to be transferred from another agency. Notification has been made with alleged victim and their attorney. Case was transferred over to said other agency for investigation as per their policy and request. At this time, this case is considered closed pending any additional credible evidence and/or notification.

\*\*\*2019: Case 19-003 was reported by a detainee in custody. Administrative Investigation is completed, Awaiting Criminal Investigation completion and DNA evidence results from the NM Crime Lab. At this time, this case is considered closed pending any additional credible evidence and/or notification.

Pursuant to standard §115.87 of the Prison Rape Elimination Act. Upon request the agency shall provide all such data from the previous calendar year to the Department of Justice no later than June 30. The following information was submitted to the United States Department of Justice for each year.

January 2015 - December 2015, there were no findings of *Substantiated* accusations at SCDC subsequently there was no data to report for 2016.

January 2016 - December 2016, as of December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2016 there were no findings of *Substantiated* accusations at SCDC with one case pending. Current evidence in this case supports this case as unfounded there likely will be no data to report for 2017.

January 2017-December 2017, through finalization of all cases by March 28, 2018 for the year of 2017, there was 1 (one) finding of *Substantiated* accusations at SCDC with one case pending. This pending case was referred over to a federal agency per their policy and request. The alleged victim was in process of transport to our facility, however the incident did not happen here in confinement at Sandoval County Detention Center.

January 2018- December 2018, there were no findings of *Substantiated* accusations at SCDC subsequently there was no data to report for 2019. We completed the Bureau of Justice Sexual Victimization Statistics form for the year 2018 on December 4, 2019. This is when we received the invitation to submit our records despite the June 30<sup>th</sup> deadline.

January 2019- December 2019, there was one (1) finding of Substantiated accusations at SCDC. The data for this case was reported to the Bureau of Justice Sexual Victimization Statistics on their survey form for the year 2019.

January 2020- December 2020, there were no findings of Substantiated accusations at SCDC. Once we receive the invitation to submit our records, the data for this case will be reported to the Bureau of Justice Sexual Victimization Statistics on their survey form for the year 2020.

## **2. Analysis**

### **A. Facility Actions 2015:**

1. Continued Training Efforts:
  - a. Ongoing training of Officer, medical and mental health staff, and contractors.

### **B. Facility Actions for 2016:**

1. Continued Training Efforts:
  - a. Ongoing training of Officer, medical and mental health staff, and contractors.
  - b. Ongoing training for Volunteer services, Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous, and religious services.

### **C. Facility Actions for 2017:**

1. Expand the number of collaborations with community advocacy groups.
  - a. Secure a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the central New Mexico Rape crises center.
2. Prepare for and pass USDOJ PREA Audit.

### **D. Facility Actions for 2018:**

1. Maintain the Positive Training:
  - a. Ongoing training of Officers, Support Staff and Volunteer service members.
2. Expand the number of collaborations with community advocacy groups.
  - a. Continue our collaborative relationship with the NM Rape Crisis Center and The New Mexico Coalition of Sexual Assault.
3. With the planning of facility modification and renovation in the immediate future, we will consider the effects of the design, acquisition, expansion, or modification



upon our agency's ability to protect inmates from sexual abuse.

- a. With the updating of monitoring technology, we will strive to supplement supervision of detainees by staff and enhance inmate protection from sexual abuse.

- b. Prepare for our reaccreditation with USDOJ PREA Audit.

#### E. Facility Actions for 2019:

1. Maintain the Training Standard:

- a. All staff have completed the required 2018 annual training to include the PREA Standards and we will continue our efforts to ensure that new staff are educated in PREA as well as the detainees.

2. Continue our relationships with our local community advocacy groups. We will work collaboratively to ensure that literature, notifications and educational material are accessible to detainees throughout the facility. These resources and material are graciously provided by the NMCSA.

3. We will continue to enhance monitoring technology.

4. Facility modification, renovation and repairs are being conducted and will greatly assist with the agency's ability to protect detainees from sexual abuse, sexual assault and sexual misconduct.

5. Continue to prepare for our reaccreditation with the USDOJ PREA Audit as well as the New Mexico Association of Counties Accreditation.

#### F. Facility Actions for 2020:

1. Maintain the Training Standard:

- a. All staff have completed the required 2019 annual training to include the PREA Standards and we will continue our efforts to ensure that new staff are educated in PREA as well as the detainees.
- b. PREA Coordinator will continue to attend training offered by outside agencies on PREA process, confinement, response, investigations and interviewing.
- c. Attend continual training with New Mexico Counties, Rape Crisis Center of Central New Mexico and New Mexico Coalition of Sexual Assault (NMCSA).

- d. NMCSA is offering a Train the Trainer course which will help assist PREA Investigators across the state. The facility plans to attend this course pending approval of our application
2. Continue our relationships with our local community advocacy groups. We will work collaboratively to ensure that literature, notifications and educational material are accessible to detainees throughout the facility. These resources and material are graciously provided by the NMCSA and the Rape Crisis Center of Central NM.
3. We have enhanced monitoring technology throughout the facility and will continue to do so throughout the year.(phase 2)
4. Facility modification, renovation and repairs are being conducted and will greatly assist with the agency's ability to protect detainees from sexual abuse, sexual assault and sexual misconduct.
5. Continue to prepare for our reaccreditation with the USDOJ PREA Audit as well as the New Mexico Association of Counties Accreditation.
6. New Video Visitation is being installed and will assist detainees with PREA education as well as offering an additional reporting

#### G. Facility Actions for 2021:

1. Maintain the Training Standard:
  - a. All staff have completed the required 2020 annual training to include the PREA Standards and we will continue our efforts to ensure that new staff are educated in PREA as well as annual training for seasoned staff as well as the detainees.
  - b. PREA Coordinator will continue to attend training offered by outside agencies on PREA process, confinement, response, investigations and interviewing.
  - c. Attend continual training with New Mexico Counties, Rape Crisis Center of Central New Mexico and New Mexico Coalition of Sexual Assault (NMCSA).
  - d. NMCSA has conducted a Train the Trainer course which has assisted PREA Investigators across the state. We attended this course in 2020 and have implemented a new procedure process when it comes to conducting investigations for PREA allegation.
2. Continue our relationships with our local community advocacy groups. We will




work collaboratively to ensure that literature, notifications and educational material are accessible to detainees throughout the facility. These resources and material are graciously provided by the NMCSA and the Rape Crisis Center of Central NM.

3. Monitoring Technology: As of January 2021, we have completed our camera update and install throughout the facility to help alleviate blind spots. Camera Monitoring Stations have been placed in all Control Rooms, Admin Offices, Supervisors Office, Booking and Master Control (integrated with access control) and will assist staff with monitoring and accountability.
4. Facility modification, renovation and repairs are recently completed. This will greatly assist with the agency's ability to protect detainees from sexual abuse, sexual assault and sexual misconduct. We have eliminated the non-functioning old bar grill sliding gates with functioning full metal doors.
5. Continue to prepare for our reaccreditation with the USDOJ PREA Audit as well as the New Mexico Association of Counties Accreditation.
6. New Video Visitation install has been completed and will continue to assist detainees with PREA education as well as offering an additional reporting element.
7. PREA Reporting signage has been posted throughout the entire facility. Inside the pods, these posters have been covered with Lexan Plexiglas to remain preserved and protected from being altered so that all detainees have continued access to all information.

### **3. Summary**

Sandoval County Detention Center (SCDC) will continue to strive to make efforts in good faith to comply with the Prison Rape Elimination Act, and to prevent sexual abuse, as well as to identify and respond to incidents of sexual abuse when they do occur. We take all allegations of sexual harassment, sexual assault, sexual abuse and sexual misconduct seriously here at SCDC. Safety for our detainees, staff members and the general public is always our number one priority.

  
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