

Sandoval County Detention Center
Annual Assessment of Sexual Abuse for the Year of 2023



December 31, 2023

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ANNUAL ASSESSMENT OF SCDC’S PROGRESS IN ADDRESSING SEXUAL ABUSE

SANDOVAL COUNTY DETENTION CENTER

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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 2023 through December 2023, 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 12 (twelve) 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	2
B-pod	1
C-pod	2
D-pod	0
E-pod	0
F-pod	0
G-pod	1
MRU	0
Pod-1	0
Pod-2	0
Pod-3	0
Pod-4	0
Pod-5	0
Male Booking	2
Female Booking	0
Special housing Cells	0
Laundry	0
Kitchen	0
Medical	0
Other (specify)	0
Unknown/outside agency***	4
TOTAL	12

****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 2023- December 2023, the types and number of findings are shown in comparison to the following year in the following table:

	Finding	Jan-Dec 2017	Jan - Dec 2018	Jan - Dec 2019	Jan - Dec 2020	Jan - Dec 2021	Jan - Dec 2022	Jan - Dec 2023
1	unsubstantiated	0	5	2***	1	4	8	8
2	Substantiated	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
3	Unfounded	15	16	0	1	5	3****	4
4	Pending	1**	0	0	0	0	0	0
	TOTAL	17	21	3	2	9	11	12

**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.

****2022: There were 2 cases where a preliminary investigation was conducted and on both allegations, both detainees stated that no PREA violation happened. They were just looking for attention. Therefore, no cases numbers were issued and both were considered Unfounded.

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 31st, 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 30th 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. The data for this case year was reported to the Bureau of Justice Sexual Victimization Statistics on their survey form for the year 2020.

January 2021- December 2021, there were no findings of Substantiated accusations at SCDC. The data for this case year was reported to the Bureau of Justice Sexual Victimization Statistics on their survey form for the year 2021.

January 2022- December 2022, there were no findings of Substantiated accusations at SCDC. The data for this case year was reported to the Bureau of Justice Sexual Victimization Statistics on their survey form for the year 2022. Invitation #SEQ3-00417

January 2023- December 2023, there were no findings of Substantiated accusations at SCDC. The data for this case year was reported to the Bureau of Justice Sexual Victimization Statistics on their survey form for the year 2023.

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.

H. Facility Actions for 2022:

1. Maintain the Training Standard:
 - a. All staff have completed the required 2022 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/PREA Investigator 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.
 - e. We will look to see what training is offered in 2023 so that we can send additional staff to be certified as PREA Coordinators.
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. As of 2021-2022, a new PREA brochure and video was created to assist facilities with education, training and notification of PREA to detainees and staff.
3. Monitoring Technology: 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. We will continue preventative maintenance on this equipment and will install more cameras to any potential future areas of the facility as needed.
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. Preventative maintenance will be kept on all these newly installed doors.

5. Secured our New Mexico Counties Accreditation in May of 2021. Continue to prepare for our reaccreditation with the USDOJ PREA Audit as well as for our New Mexico Association of Counties Reaccreditation in 2024. We have completed our first year (2022) of annual reaccreditation with NM Counties.
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. Preventative Maintenance will be maintained on this equipment.
7. Detainees have received tablets that they can utilize for legal/law library and for possible PREA reporting purposes.
8. Renewed our Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Central New Mexico Rape Crises Center.
9. 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. We will ensure that these posters are updated and repaired as needed.

G. Facility Actions for 2023:

1. Maintain the Training Standard:
 - a. All staff have completed the required 2023 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/PREA Investigator 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.

- e. Attended a FETI (Forensic Experiential Trauma Interview) course that focused on the brain's response to trauma.
 - f. We will look to see what training is offered in 2024 so that we can send additional staff to be certified as PREA Coordinators.
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- 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. As of 2021-2022, a new PREA brochure and video was created to assist facilities with education, training and notification of PREA to detainees and staff.
 - 3. Monitoring Technology: We have completed our camera update and install throughout the facility to help alleviate blind spots in 2022. 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. We will continue preventative maintenance on this equipment and will install more cameras to any potential future areas of the facility as needed. As of 2023, we are upgrading our camera system once again. Install should be completed by early 2024.
 - 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. Preventative maintenance will be kept on all these newly installed doors. As of 2023, 1 West and Eastside renovations are completed. We are currently under construction and renovation for the 2 Westside which should be completed by mid-2024.
 - 5. Secured our New Mexico Counties Accreditation in May of 2021. Continue to prepare for our reaccreditation with the USDOJ PREA Audit as well as for our New Mexico Association of Counties Reaccreditation in 2024. We have completed our second year (2022/2023) of annual reaccreditation with NM Counties.

H. Facility Actions for 2024:

- TBA- *Complete facility construction by mid-2024.
*Prepare for facility NMC Reaccreditation Audit (Final 3 year) May 2024.
*Complete install on the newly upgraded camera system.
*Replace privacy partitions for all female shower areas.
*Continue to prepare for reaccreditation with the USDOJ PREA Audit.
*Prepare to renew our MOU with the Rape Crisis Center.
*Continue required PREA training and certification with all staff.
* Any other applicable actions as needed.

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.


Jonathan Perez, Deputy Director of Compliance & PREA Coordinator

Date: 12/31/2023


Gilbert Armendariz, S.C.D.C Warden


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