

# Caribou County Detention Center 2016 Annual PREA Report – 01/16/17

Rape and sexual activity seriously reduces the mission of the Caribou County Sheriff's Office to prevent crime and provide quality criminal justice service. In accordance with the Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003, the Caribou County Detention Center has established a zero tolerance standard regarding the incidence of rape and sexual activity.

By providing training, education, and reviewing our policy and procedures on a yearly basis we are confident that we are providing the inmates, staff, contractors, and volunteers everything we can so they are confident and comfortable with the PREA mandates. We are also confident that all of our staff, contractors, and volunteers have a thorough knowledge and understanding of the PREA mandates and the Caribou County Detention Center policy and procedures in order to effectively provide sexual abuse and harassment prevention, detection, and response to those allegations.

A PREA incident review is conducted on all PREA allegations that have been substantiated and unsubstantiated. The results of these reviews are used to assess and improve our effectiveness and any corrective actions that may be needed pursuant to PREA mandate 115.88.

The occurrence of sexual abuse in the Caribou County Jail is low. Upon a review of data in 2016, we had six reports of PREA violations. Five were sexual harassment, three unsubstantiated, and two were unfounded. One sexual abuse that was founded.

In assessing and reviewing the first incident, it was determined that a housing change would dissolve the issue. An inmate felt she was being watched by another inmate while in the shower or using the restroom. The incident review team felt the current policies and procedures effectively provided prevention, detection, and response to the allegation. The team felt the incident could have been caused by group dynamics and changed housing. The incident review team felt no barriers enabled the sexual threats. Sufficient staffing was provided for prevention, detection and response. The team felt that an incident occurred where video monitoring cannot be in place. No facility corrective actions were necessary.

In assessing and reviewing the second incident the inmate had wrote an outgoing letter stating another inmate was making sexual comments. Upon further investigation the first inmate told staff she had talked to the person about this issue and there was no longer an issue. This incident was unfounded. The incident review team felt the current policies and procedures effectively provided prevention, detection, and response to the allegation. No facility corrective actions were necessary.

The third, fourth, and fifth incidents were all incidents where sexual comments were made towards an inmate by another inmate. All three incidents were investigated by the incident review team, all three

being found unsubstantiated. In all three incidents inmates were rehoused with no further issues. The incident review team felt the incident could have been caused by group dynamics and changed housing. The incident review team felt no barriers enabled the abuse. Sufficient staffing was provided for prevention, detection and response. The incident review team felt the incident occurred where video monitoring cannot be in place. No facility corrective actions were necessary.

The sixth incident was the sexual abuse that was founded. It was brought to our attention that an inmate had been making sexual comments to another inmate. The inmate had also walked up to the other inmate and kissed . Witness written statements were taken from several other inmates housed in the pod. The offender was moved to isolation and transported out of our facility. The incident review team felt the incident could have been caused by group dynamics and changed housing. The incident review team felt no barriers enabled the abuse. Sufficient staffing was provided for prevention, detection and response. The incident review team felt the incident occurred where video monitoring cannot be in place. No facility corrective actions were necessary.

We realize that we must continually provide training to our staff members, contractors, and volunteers and we must continually provide education to the inmates in order to provide effective detection, prevention, and response to PREA allegations. We are dedicated to providing high levels of supervision and monitoring of the inmates to provide them the protection they deserve. We are dedicated to providing strong zero tolerance policies and procedures, and a safe and secure environment for the inmates, providing them with a comfort that they can report PREA allegations free from retaliation and in a confidential format.

PREA Coordinator Bredehoft