



Floyd County Corrections
2019
PREA Annual Report

In 2019, Floyd County Corrections (FCC) continued the established Zero Tolerance standard for sexual abuse and sexual harassment. Our commitment to a Zero Tolerance standard is the foundation upon which all efforts have been built.

Training and education have continued to be critical components in our efforts to prevent sexual abuse and sexual harassment. Approximately twenty-five new staff members have undergone our comprehensive training requirement that has been a key in the agency's mission and commitment to the PREA Standards. In addition to the training of new staff, the agency undertook a more rigorous approach in our offender training. The refocused training provided a better representation of the required training outlined in the National PREA Standards. Care and Treatment staff began the new training with offenders in early 2019, and there was a marked decrease in non-PREA related issues being filed as PREA allegations.

We continue to take our responsibility to respect and uphold the rights and welfare of inmates in our care, understanding that the detection, prevention, and response to sexual abuse and sexual harassment are a critical component of all our efforts.

Michael Long, Warden

Scope of the 2019 Annual Report

This report is compiled in accordance with the United States Department of Justice (DOJ) Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) National Standards published in August of 2012. DOJ standards 115.87 and 115.88 provide specific direction for the collection, review, and assessment of collected data to improve the effectiveness of policies, practices, and training for the sexual abuse prevention, detection, and response.

This report provides a review of incident-based and aggregated data for calendar year 2019 and a comparison of aggregated data for calendar years 2017, 2018, and 2019.

Investigations

In all instances of alleged PREA violations, Floyd County Corrections (FCC) provides timely notification and works closely with the Georgia Department of Corrections. In such cases, FCC endeavors to provide full access to agents assigned to carry out the official criminal investigation on-site. FCC's Sexual Abuse Response Team (SART) will also complete a full administrative investigation in conjunction with all criminal investigations. Our SART investigator is working towards becoming a P.O.S.T. mandated law enforcement officer with specialized training in investigation of sexual abuse in the confinement setting. This training is in accordance with PREA Standard 115.34. Following all investigations, the incident will be determined to have been either:

Substantiated- An allegation that was investigated and determined to have occurred;

Unsubstantiated- An allegation that was investigated and determined to have insufficient evidence to make a determination as to whether the incident occurred; or

Unfounded- An allegation that was investigated and determined not to have occurred.

All substantiated allegations of sexual abuse or sexual harassment result in the appropriate disciplinary actions taken against the staff member, contractor, volunteer, or inmate; and where appropriate a referral for prosecution.

Data Collection

Floyd County Corrections records and tracks all PREA Incidents from the initial report through the investigative and review process.

Tables are provided below of aggregated data for years 2017, 2018, and 2019.

2019 PREA Allegations				
Type of Allegation	Substantiated	Unsubstantiated	Unfounded	Total
Staff to Offender Abuse	0	0	1	1
Staff to Offender Harassment	0	0	1	1
Offender to Offender Abuse	0	0	0	0
Offender to Offender Harassment	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	2	2

2017 – 2019 Incident Comparison			
Substantiated	2017	2018	2019
Staff to Offender Abuse	1	0	0
Staff to Offender Harassment	1	0	0
Offender to Offender Abuse	0	0	0
Offender to Offender Harassment	1	0	0
Sub-Total	3	0	0
Unsubstantiated	2017	2018	2019
Staff to Offender Abuse	0	0	0
Staff to Offender Harassment	0	1	0
Offender to Offender Abuse	1	0	0
Offender to Offender Harassment	0	0	0
Sub-Total	1	1	0
Unfounded	2017	2018	2019
Staff to Offender Abuse	1	2	1
Staff to Offender Harassment	0	1	1
Offender to Offender Abuse	0	2	0
Offender to Offender Harassment	0	0	0
Sub-Total	1	5	2
Total Incidents	5	6	2

Substantiated Incidents	2017	2019	% Increase
Staff to Offender Abuse	1	0	100%
Staff to Offender Harassment	1	0	100%
Offender to Offender Abuse	0	0	0%
Offender to Offender Harassment	1	0	100%
Total	3	0	0%

Assessment

2019 was the second year in a row with no substantiated incidents of sexual abuse or sexual harassment. Facility staff and the offender population have shown their continued dedication to the institutionalization of the PREA Standards. Two allegations were filed in 2019 and both were able to be investigated and closed as unfounded. In both investigations, facility body cameras and fixed surveillance cameras were critical in making our determinations. Since 2017, there has been a 100 percent decrease in substantiated allegations of sexual abuse and sexual harassment. The facility successfully completed our second cycle PREA Audit in May of 2019. Staff and offenders alike were responsible for the facility meeting all of the audited Standards and exceeding seven of those Standards.