

## Washington County Jail Annual PREA report: 2021

In accordance with the Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003, the Washington County Jail has established a zero tolerance policy regarding the incidence of rape, sexual abuse, and sexual harassment. In accordance with PREA standards, inmates are given multiple ways to report any allegations including: verbal, written, via phone, and third party reports by friends and family or other agencies.

All of our staff, contractors and volunteers that have contact with inmates are trained and educated on the PREA standards and how to report any allegations. Inmates are also provided ongoing education on the zero tolerance policy and PREA expectations on a regular basis. We are confident that our staff, contractors and volunteers know and understand the PREA mandates and Washington County policy and procedures to effectively provide a facility where all allegations will be thoroughly investigated and reviewed free of any retaliation or discipline. All PREA allegations will be reviewed whether substantiated or unsubstantiated. The results of these reviews will be used to improve our effectiveness, and make any corrective actions in order to meet the requirement of PREA standard 115.88.

The occurrence of sexual abuse at the Washington County Jail is very low. In reviewing the 2021 data, we had two allegations of sexual abuse. In investigating and reviewing these two incidents both allegations were determined to be unfounded. Current policy and procedures were determined to be effective to continue to monitor, prevent, detect and respond to each allegation.

The Washington County Jail staff will continue to provide a safe and secure facility free from sexual abuse and sexual harassment. We will continue to provide strong enforcement of our zero tolerance policy and procedures, along with a safe and secure environment for the inmates, and ensure that the inmates can continue to feel comfortable in reporting PREA allegations free from retaliation.

All personal identifiers will be redacted from our 2021 PREA audit.

Washington County PREA Coordinator

Deputy Casey Waite  
January 16, 2022