



PRISON RAPE ELIMINATION ACT (PREA)

2015 REPORT

2015 Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) Report

The Connecticut Judicial Branch is subject to the standards set forth in the Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003 (PREA), 42 U.S.C. § 15601, et seq. PREA established federal requirements for the prevention, detection and response to sexual abuse and sexual harassment in confinement facilities. The PREA standards for lockups, juvenile facilities and community confinement facilities are all applicable to the Judicial Branch.

The Connecticut Judicial Branch has two 24-hour lockup facilities located in Hartford and New Haven run by Judicial Marshal Services. In addition, Judicial Marshal Services oversees the lockups in 40 courthouses.

The Judicial Branch operates two Juvenile Detention Centers located in Bridgeport and Hartford run by the Court Support Services Division (CSSD) Juvenile Residential Services.

The Judicial Branch also contracts with adult and juvenile providers throughout the state to provide residentially-based services for individuals in need of supervision, substance abuse treatment, mental health treatment, and housing services.

The Connecticut Judicial Branch is committed to meeting its requirements under the Prison Rape Elimination Act. When individuals are placed in the custody of the Judicial Branch, we have an obligation to keep them safe and free from all forms of sexual abuse and sexual harassment. We must be accountable to those individuals. They have the right to be held in an environment where sexual abuse and sexual harassment will not be tolerated; and if it does occur, appropriate remedial steps will be taken to prevent it from happening in the future.

Individuals in the custody of the Judicial Branch are entitled to have access to justice. Their status as a confined individual must not interfere with that. All individuals who utilize the court system must have confidence that they will be treated fairly and with respect. Complying with the PREA standards helps ensure that.

Judicial Branch Progress in Addressing the PREA Standards

The Connecticut Judicial Branch continued to make tremendous strides in implementing the PREA standards during the course of 2015. In 2015, the following actions took place:

- 24-hour adult lockups in Hartford and New Haven certified as PREA compliant under the Department of Justice Lockup standards
- Eight contracted juvenile community residential programs certified as PREA compliant under the Department of Justice Juvenile Facility standards
- Ten contracted adult community residential programs certified as PREA compliant under the Department of Justice Community Confinement standards
- Updated PREA training curriculum for Juvenile Residential Services and facilitated a Train-the-Trainer course for 23 facilitators on the new training
- Delivered PREA training curriculum to 255 Juvenile Residential Services staff
- Delivered PREA training curriculum to 73 medical, mental health, and dental contractors
- Delivered PREA pre-service training to 37 new Juvenile Residential Services staff
- Provided refresher information to all Judicial Marshals on their responsibilities under the Judicial Branch and Judicial Marshal Services PREA policies
- Revised the Judicial Branch PREA policy
- Revised the Judicial Marshal Services PREA policy
- Revised the PREA forms used by Judicial Marshal Services
- Conducted on-site PREA audits of juvenile detention centers, 24-hour adult lockup facilities, courthouse lockups, contracted juvenile and adult community residential programs
- Developed additional PREA-related signs to be placed in the lockups and detention centers
- Attended PREA webinars offered by the National PREA Resource Center
- Created Incident Review Checklist form for use in incident review team investigations
- Developed PREA compliance monitoring tool for juvenile facilities
- Established agreement with the National Institute of Corrections for continued access to their online training courses

While a great amount of progress has been made in implementing the PREA standards, there is still work remaining. In the coming year, the Judicial Branch will be focusing on the following tasks:

- Create PREA brochure for contractors entering confinement areas
- Revise on-line training program for Judicial Branch employees
- Develop on-line training program for Judges and Family Support Magistrates
- Review PREA language in existing supervisor training for sexual harassment and general supervisors responsibilities (Essentials of Justice)
- Work with contracted providers as they go through the audit process

Judicial Marshal Services

Judicial Marshal Services is responsible for courthouse security and the transportation and custody of prisoners. Judicial Marshals oversee lockups in 40 courthouses throughout the state in addition to two 24-hour facilities. These lockups are subject to the PREA Lockup Standards.

In 2015, 87,247 individuals were in the custody of Judicial Marshal Services.

In 2015, there were three reports of a Judicial Marshal sexually harassing a detainee. One report was substantiated, one was unsubstantiated and one was unfounded.

In 2015, there were two unfounded reports of sexual abuse involving a Judicial Marshal and an individual in the custody of the Judicial Branch.

In 2015, there were 2 reports of detainee on detainee sexual abuse. One report was unfounded. The other report was unsubstantiated.

In 2015, there were 3 reports of sexual abuse or sexual harassment that were reported to Judicial Marshals that occurred at confinement facilities not under the control of Judicial Marshal Services. In all of those cases, the Judicial Marshal Services' PREA Coordinator contacted the highest ranking officer at the location where the alleged incident occurred to inform them of the allegation.

Since the Judicial Branch began implementing the PREA standards in 2013, there have been very few reported incidents. During that time, there has only been one reported incident that was substantiated. In that case, the staff member involved was disciplined.

Juvenile Residential Services

Juvenile Residential Services oversees two juvenile detention facilities that are American Correctional Association (ACA) and National Commission on Correctional Health Care (NCCHC) accredited. These facilities are subject to the PREA Juvenile Facility Standards.

Both juvenile detention centers were audited in 2014 by a certified PREA auditor and were certified as compliant with the PREA Juvenile Facility Standards.

In 2015, 1,869 juveniles were admitted into the two detention centers.

In 2015, there were two unfounded reports of sexual harassment by a juvenile against a juvenile.

In 2015, there were two reports of sexual harassment by a juvenile against staff. One report was unfounded; the other report was unsubstantiated.

In 2015, there were no reports of sexual abuse in either juvenile facility.

Since the Judicial Branch began implementing the PREA standards in 2013, there have been very few reported incidents. No reported incident has been substantiated.

Juvenile Contracted Providers

The Connecticut Judicial Branch contracts with community providers for 9 residential programs for juveniles within their care and custody. These facilities are subject to the PREA Juvenile Facility Standards.

BRAVE, Hamden

BRAVE is a community residential program for boys. BRAVE was certified as PREA compliant by a DOJ-certified auditor in 2015.

In 2015, there was one unfounded report of sexual harassment by a juvenile against another juvenile. There was also one unfounded report of sexual harassment by a juvenile against a staff member.

In 2015, there were no reported incidents of sexual abuse at this facility.

SOAR, Hamden

SOAR is a community residential program for boys. SOAR was certified as PREA compliant by a DOJ-certified auditor in 2015.

In 2015, there were no reported incidents of sexual abuse or sexual harassment in this facility.

GROWTH, Hartford

GROWTH is a secure community residential program for girls. GROWTH was certified as PREA compliant by a DOJ-certified auditor in 2015.

In 2015, there were 6 reports of sexual abuse by a juvenile against a juvenile. Three of the reports were substantiated, two were unsubstantiated, and one was unfounded.

There were also three substantiated reports of juvenile on juvenile sexual harassment.

SAGE, Hamden

SAGE is a secure community residential program for boys. SAGE was certified as PREA compliant by a DOJ-certified auditor in 2015.

In 2015, there was one unsubstantiated report of juvenile on juvenile sexual harassment.

In 2015, there were no reported incidents of sexual abuse in this facility.

Connecticut Junior Republic (CJR), Intermediate Residential Program, Litchfield

CJR is an intermediate community residential program for boys. CJR was certified as PREA compliant by a DOJ-certified auditor in 2015.

In 2015, there were no reported incidents of sexual abuse or sexual harassment in this facility.

North American Family Institute (NAFI), Litchfield

NAFI is an intermediate community residential program for girls. NAFI was certified as PREA compliant by a DOJ-certified auditor in 2015.

In 2015, there were no reported incidents of sexual abuse or sexual harassment in this facility.

Connecticut Junior Republic, Therapeutic Respite and Assessment Center (TRAC) Program, Litchfield

TRAC is a community residential program for boys. TRAC was certified as PREA compliant by a DOJ-certified auditor in 2015.

In 2015, there were no reported incidents of sexual abuse or sexual harassment in this facility.

Connecticut Junior Republic, Center for Assessment, Respite and Education (CARE) Program, Waterbury

CARE is a community residential program for girls.

In 2015, there were no reported incidents of sexual abuse or sexual harassment in this facility.

The Children's Center, New Choices, Hamden

New Choices is a residentially based substance abuse treatment program for boys. New Choices was certified as PREA compliant by a DOJ-certified auditor in 2015.

In 2015, there was one unfounded report of sexual abuse by a juvenile against another juvenile.

In 2015, there were no reported incidents of sexual harassment in this facility.

Adult Contracted Providers

The Connecticut Judicial Branch contracts with community-based providers and/or has entered into Memorandums of Agreement with other state agencies for 25 programs for adults within their care and custody. These facilities are subject to the PREA Community Confinement Standards.

Sierra Center, New Haven

The Sierra Center is a long-term mental health and substance abuse counseling, employment readiness, community service program.

In 2015, there was one unfounded report of client on client sexual abuse.

In 2015, there were no reported incidents of sexual harassment in this facility.

APT Foundation, Bridgeport

The APT Foundation is a substance abuse treatment program.

In 2015, there were no reported incidents of sexual abuse or sexual harassment in this facility.

Rushford Intensive, Middletown

Rushford is an intensive short-term substance abuse treatment program.

In 2015, there were no reported incidents of sexual abuse or sexual harassment in this facility.

Rushford Intermediate, Portland

Rushford Intermediate is a substance abuse treatment program and halfway house.

In 2015, there were no reported incidents of sexual abuse or sexual harassment in this facility.

Crossroads, New Haven

Crossroads is a substance abuse treatment program.

In 2015, there was one substantiated report of sexual abuse by a client against a staff member.

In 2015, there were no reported incidents of sexual harassment in this facility.

Morris Foundation, Waterbury

Morris Foundation is a recovery house. Morris Foundation was certified as PREA compliant by a DOJ-certified auditor in 2014.

In 2015, there was one unsubstantiated report of client on client sexual harassment.

In 2015, there were no reported incidents of sexual abuse in this facility.

Morris Shelter, Waterbury

The Morris Shelter is a short-term case management program with treatment services. Morris Shelter was certified as PREA compliant by a DOJ-certified auditor in 2014.

In 2015, there were no reported incidents of sexual abuse or sexual harassment in this facility.

Help, Inc., Waterbury

Help Inc. is a substance abuse and mental health treatment center. Help, Inc. was certified as PREA compliant by a DOJ-certified auditor in 2015.

In 2015, there was one substantiated report of client on client sexual abuse. There was also one substantiated report of client on client sexual harassment.

Renaissance West, Waterbury

Connecticut Renaissance (West) is a substance abuse treatment program.

In 2015, there was one substantiated report of sexual harassment by a client against another client.

In 2015, there was also one unsubstantiated report of sexual abuse by a client against a staff member.

McCall Foundation, Torrington

McCall Foundation is a substance abuse treatment program. McCall Foundation was certified as PREA compliant by a DOJ-certified auditor in 2015.

In 2015, there were no reported incidents of sexual abuse or sexual harassment in this facility.

Liberation House, Stamford

Liberation House is a substance abuse treatment program. Liberation House was audited by a DOJ-certified auditor in 2015. As of the writing of this report, the results have not been received.

In 2015, there was one unfounded report of client on client sexual harassment.

In 2015, there were no reported incidents of sexual abuse in this facility.

Perception House, Willimantic

Perception House is a substance abuse and mental health treatment program. Perception House was certified as PREA compliant by a DOJ-certified auditor in 2015.

In 2015, there was one substantiated report of sexual abuse by a client against a client.

In 2015, there were two reports of sexual harassment by a client against a client. One report was substantiated, the other report was unfounded.

Milestone (CHR), Putnam

Milestone is an intensive short-term substance abuse treatment program. Milestone was certified as PREA compliant by a DOJ-certified auditor in 2015.

In 2015, there was one substantiated report of sexual harassment by a client against a staff member.

In 2015, there were no reported incidents of sexual abuse in this facility.

Farrell Treatment Center, New Britain

Farrell Treatment Center is an intensive short-term substance abuse treatment program. Farrell Treatment Center was audited by a DOJ-certified auditor in 2015. As of the writing of this report, the results have not been received.

In 2015, there were no reported incidents of sexual abuse or sexual harassment in this facility.

Lebanon Pines, Lebanon

Lebanon Pines is a long-term substance abuse treatment and rehabilitation program.

In 2015, there was one unfounded report of sexual abuse by a client against a staff member.

In 2015, there were no reported incidents of sexual harassment in this facility.

Trinity Glen, Sharon

Trinity Glen is a long-term substance abuse and rehabilitation program. Trinity Glen was certified as PREA compliant by a DOJ-certified auditor in 2015.

In 2015, there were no reported incidents of sexual abuse or sexual harassment in this facility.

Elm City Women and Children, New Haven

Elm City Women and Children is a comprehensive substance abuse treatment and rehabilitation program for women.

In 2015, there was one substantiated report of client on client sexual harassment. There was also one unsubstantiated report of sexual harassment by a client against a staff member.

In 2015, there were no reported incidents sexual abuse in this facility.

Fresh Start Women and Children, Hartford

Fresh Start Women and Children is a comprehensive substance abuse treatment and rehabilitation program for women. Fresh Start was certified as PREA compliant by a DOJ-certified auditor in 2015.

In 2015, there were no reported incidents of sexual abuse or sexual harassment in this facility.

Crossroads Amethyst Women and Children, New Haven

Crossroads Amethyst Women and Children is a comprehensive substance abuse treatment and rehabilitation program for women.

In 2015, there were no reported incidents of sexual abuse or sexual harassment in this facility.

Hartford Transitional Housing, Hartford

Hartford Transitional Housing is a transitional housing program. Hartford Transitional Housing was certified as PREA compliant by a DOJ-certified auditor in 2015.

In 2015, there were no reported incidents of sexual abuse or sexual harassment in this facility.

Waterbury Transitional Housing, Waterbury

Waterbury Transitional Housing is a transitional housing program.

In 2015, there was one substantiated report of sexual harassment by a client against another client.

In 2015, there were no reported incidents of sexual abuse in this facility.

Project More Transitional Housing, New Haven

Project More is a transitional housing program. Project More was certified as PREA compliant by a DOJ-certified auditor in 2015.

In 2015, there were two reports of sexual harassment by a client against a client. One report was unsubstantiated, one report was unfounded. There was also one unsubstantiated report of sexual harassment by a client against a staff member.

In 2015, there were no reported incidents of sexual abuse in this facility.

Union House Transitional Housing, Bridgeport

Union House is a transitional housing program. Union House was certified as PREA compliant by a DOJ-certified auditor in 2015.

In 2015, there was one unfounded report of sexual abuse by a client against another client.

In 2015, there were no reported incidents of sexual harassment in this facility.

Virginia Wells Women's Transitional Housing, New Haven

Virginia Wells is a transitional housing program. Virginia Wells was certified as PREA compliant by a DOJ-certified auditor in 2015.

In 2015, there was one substantiated report of client on client sexual harassment.

In 2015, there were no reported incidents of sexual abuse in this facility.

The January Center, Uncasville

The January Center is a sex offender treatment program.

In 2015, there was one unfounded report of client on client sexual abuse.

In 2015, there were also two reports of client on client sexual harassment. As of the writing of this report, those investigations were ongoing.