

Brazoria County Juvenile Justice Department Prison Rape Elimination Act

2015-2016 Annual Report

The Brazoria County Juvenile Justice Department (BCJJD) is dedicated to meeting the requirements of the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) of 2003 and the department seeks to improve and continually refine safety and security practices for all BCJJD detainees as a result thereof. This report is a summary of the agency's efforts in PREA compliance. By compiling, reviewing and implementing corrective actions based on agency data relating to sexual abuse and sexual harassment the BCJJD seeks to increase the effectiveness of sexual abuse and sexual harassment prevention, detection, response, investigations, monitoring technology, area examinations, staffing levels, trainings, policies and procedures.

Prison Rape Elimination Act: 2015-2016 Annual Report

Purpose:

This document serves as an annual review to assess and improve the effectiveness of sexual abuse and sexual harassment prevention, detection, and response while examining policies, practices, systems and training in the Brazoria County Juvenile Justice Department (BCJJD), pursuant to \$115.388 and \$115.389 of the national PREA standards. Therein, the Department is required to:

- Review and aggregate incident-based sexual abuse data annually in order to improve the
 effectiveness of sexual abuse prevention, detection, and response policies, practices, and training
 to include:
 - a. Identifying problem areas;
 - b. Taking corrective action on an on-going basis; and
 - c. Preparing an annual report of its findings.
- 2. Compare the current year's data and corrective actions with those from prior year's and provide an assessment of the agency's progress in addressing sexual abuse.
- 3. Publish the annual report on the BCJJD website of its findings and corrective actions for the agency as a whole.

Aggregated Data:

The BCJJD collects data from both incidents and investigations of sexual abuse and sexual harassment; both youth-on-youth, youth on staff and staff-on-youth. The data in the section below contains aggregated data from CY2015 and CY2016 (Calendar Year = CY) up to June 2016.

All sexual abuse and sexual harassment allegations are compiled, reviewed, documented and stored in a secured area. All incidents of abuse are reported to the following agencies: Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, Texas Juvenile Justice Department and local law enforcement authorities. The following table below depicts a breakdown of our 2015-2016 sexual abuse and sexual harassment data as of June 2016; youth-on-youth, youth-on-staff and staff-on-youth. The data below includes all sexual abuse and sexual harassment allegations from the Brazoria County Juvenile Justice Department.

Prison Rape Elimination Act: 2015-2016 Annual Report

Pre/Post and JJAEP	Sexual Abuse	Sexual Harassment	Youth on Youth	Youth on Staff	Staff on Youth	Date of Incident	County Case ID	TJJD Incident # (if known)	Disposition
Pre		Χ	Х			5/5/2015	01-0515	N/A	Unsubstantiated
Pre		Х	Х			10/6/2015	07-1015	N/A	Unsubstantiated
Pre		Х	Х			10/6/2015	08-1015	N/A	Unsubstantiated
Pre	Х		Х			11/21/2015	07-1115	15-11-0392	Founded
Pre	Х		Х			11/21/2015	07-1115	15-11-0392	Founded
Pre		Х	Х			12/10/2015	03-1215	N/A	Unsubstantiated
Pre		Х	Х			12/10/2015	04-1215	N/A	Unsubstantiated
Pre		Х	Х			3-21-2016	01-032016	N/A	Unsubstantiated
Pre	Х		χ			3-29-2016	02-032016	N/A	Unsubstantiated
Pre		Х	Х			3-31-2016	03-032016	N/A	Unsubstantiated
Pre	Х		Х			3-31-2016	04-032016	N/A	Unfounded
Pre		Х	Х			4-7-2016	05-042016	N/A	Substantiated
Pre		Х	Х			4-7-2016	06-042016	N/A	Substantiated
Pre		Х	Х	Х		4-14-2016	07-042016	N/A	Substantiated
Pre		Х	X			5-5-2016	08-052016	N/A	Substantiated

Corrective Areas and Corrective Actions Taken:

Upon aggregating the data of CY2015-CY2016 there were a few corrective areas that needed to be addressed. Several internal documentation forms needed to be updated or created to meet PREA standards: (Behavioral Health History Screening Form, Sexual Abuse/Harassment Investigative Review Form, Sexual Abuse and Harassment Log and Investigative Review Team Log). All forms were updated and/or created to meet PREA standards. The departments staffing plan did not include full detail concerning staff deployment measures. Corrective measures were made to our staffing plan outlining staff assignment duties in full detail to meet PREA standards. There were a few blind spots within the facility that required video monitoring. Corrective measures were taken to enhance the safety and security within our facility for staff and youth in blind spots where we added six (6) additional cameras in the following areas: Dog Run Corridor (2), Laundry Room (1) Entry/Exit Doors and Detention Kitchen (3). There were additional details needed as part of our website data reporting requirements. Corrective measures were taken to improve our website data and reporting requirement information to meet PREA standards. Additional information was posted on our county website page pertaining to our own internal reporting data as well as our contracted placement facilities data.

Prison Rape Elimination Act: 2015-2016 Annual Report

The following are Corrective Actions Completed at the Agency Level:

- Revised few internal policies and procedures to encompass PREA policies;
- Enhanced education for staff members and juvenile detainees;
- Implemented specialized training required of investigating staff;
- Developed and implemented an objective screening tool;
- Implemented an action plan to review sexual abuse grievances;
- Enhanced data collection and aggregation practices;
- Implemented streamlined and enhanced Sexual Abuse Incident Reviews.

The BCJJD continues to implement best practices to meet or exceed the requirements of the PREA standards in order to address allegations of sexual abuse and sexual harassment for youth. All BCJJD administrative members are committed to providing continual monitoring while implementing corrective actions in order to reach full PREA compliance. Above all, the BCJJD administrative members aspire to maximize the sexual safety of the youth within our custody. Overall, the BCJJD is progressively making strides in the right direction geared toward exceeding the intent of the PREA standards.

Kyle Teat, Chief Juvenile Probation Officer

Upendra Katragadda, Facility Administrator

Sodnick Rivers MRA DREA Coordinator

Date

06-30-1

Date

<u>6-30-16</u> Date