Buffalo County Jail
Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA)
Annual Report 2016

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PREA Background:

The Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) was signed into Federal Law in 2003 by President George W. Bush. It was created to address the problem of sexual misconduct in all confinement facilities. In 2012, the U.S. Department of Justice released national PREA standards to prevent, detect and respond to sexual abuse and sexual harassment in confinement facilities. The PREA Act requires all federal, state, and local corrections agencies to have a zero-tolerance policy regarding rape in prison, jails, police lock-ups, and community confinement facilities.

Buffalo County Jail has a zero-tolerance policy relative to sexual misconduct. Buffalo County jail complies with federal and state laws as they pertain to PREA, sexual violence and sexual misconduct.

Definitions:

- Substantiated-A substantiated allegation means an allegation that was investigated and determined to have occurred.
- Unsubstantiated-An unsubstantiated allegation means an allegation that was investigated and the investigation produced insufficient evidence to make a final determination as to whether or not the event occurred.
- Unfounded-An unfounded allegation means an allegation that was investigated and determined not to have occurred.
- Ongoing-The investigation has not been completed.

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Since 2012, when the final PREA standards came into effect, Buffalo County Jail has made multiple revisions to facility policies to better guide our employees, volunteers, vendors and inmates with regard to incidents of sexual abuse and harassment. We employ a PREA Coordinator to ensure compliance with all PREA standards. It is the policy of Buffalo County jail to provide training to all staff, inmates, contractors and volunteers to prevent sexual misconduct and to fully investigate and prosecute those involved in such conduct. Every allegation made is investigated thoroughly. If an allegation of sexual abuse is substantiated, the perpetrator will be charged with a criminal act and the Buffalo County Sheriff's Office will work closely with the prosecutors to ensure prosecution.

There is a system in place to collect data on incidents of a sexual nature. Buffalo County Jail staff-collect accurate, uniform data for every allegation of sexual abuse under its direct control. The facility PREA Coordinator compiles incident based sexual abuse data annually. The following table illustrates data collected between *(January 1, 2016)* and *(December 31, 2016)*.

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The following chart reflects aggregated data absent any events investigated that did not constitute a PREA violation:

	Allegations	Substantiated	Unsubstantiated	Unfounded	Ongoing Investigation	Total Results
Detainee on Detainee Non-Consensual sexual acts						
Detainee on Detainee abusive sexual contact	1			1		1
Detainee on Detainee Sexual Harassment						
Staff on Detainee sexual misconduct	2			2		2
Staff on Detainee Sexual harassment						
Staff on Detainee abusive sexual contact						
Totals						3

General Information

Detainees incarcerated at the Buffalo County Jail on December 31, 2016
Male 78 Female 18

Detainees booked into Buffalo County Jail during 2016
Male 1,695 Female 611

Average Detainee Daily Population between January 1, 2016 and December 31, 2016
Male 80 Female 15

A review of the statistical data demonstrated show that there were (3) Allegations during the current reporting period. The Buffalo County Jail strives to train and educate at all levels of the facility towards the goal of prevention, detection, and response to incidents of sexual abuse and harassment inside its facility. The names of the individuals involved have been excluded from this report in order to ensure safety and security.

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Identified Problem Areas and Corrective Action

PREA standards require a review of collected data in order to identify problem areas and establish plans of corrective action. Based upon statistical data alone, the rate of incidents within the facility is extremely low. There are no obvious problem areas to address in assuring continued compliance with PREA Jail Standards. The Buffalo County Jail continues to review, enhance and improve its current policies and procedures in an effort to not only continue to meet the PREA Standards, but to exceed them.

Resolved Problem Areas from 2015

Although this is Buffalo County Jails first annual review, there were no specific problem areas to be addressed. The facility continues to provide comprehensive PREA education and training to all staff, contractors, volunteers, vendors and detainees on the facilities zero tolerance on all forms of sexual assault and sexual harassment. The Buffalo County Jail is confident that we have maintained and will continue to maintain 100% compliance with the PREA standards.