**Racine County Jail 2021 Annual PREA Report**

The Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) is a federal law that was established in 2003 to help with the elimination, reduction, and prevention of sexual assault, abuse, and harassment in all correctional facilities.

The Racine County Sheriff’s Office (RASO) has established a zero-tolerance policy for the incidence of any type of sexual abuse or harassment involving inmates or staff in accordance with the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA). All such misconduct shall be investigated immediately to determine the nature of the allegation and decide on the appropriate action to be taken.

The RASO policy and Racine County Jail rules prohibit sexual abuse or harassment between inmates. Violations will result in disciplinary sanctions. Inmate-on-Inmate sexual assaults will also be prosecuted according to Wisconsin State Statutes. In addition, any sexual abuse or harassment between staff and inmates is ALWAYS prohibited and is a violation of RASO policy, Jail rules and Wisconsin Law. Violators are subject to departmental discipline as well as prosecution punishable by prison sentences and fines. It is also inappropriate and against the rules for an inmate to approach a staff member for the purpose of sexual activity.

It is the policy of the Racine County Jail to respond and thoroughly investigate every allegation of sexual misconduct reported, and to do it in a timely manner. All cases will have an ending result of:

Substantiated Allegation: Allegation investigated was determined to have occurred.

Unsubstantiated Allegation: Allegation was investigated, and the investigation produced insufficient evidence to make a final determination as to whether or not the incident occurred.

Unfounded Allegation: Allegation investigated was determined not to have occurred.

In 2021, the Racine County Jail 23 reported cases.

Total inmate-on-inmate non-consensual sexual acts reported = 0

Total inmate-on-inmate non-consensual abusive sexual contacts reported = 3

Substantiated = 0

Unsubstantiated = 0

Unfounded = 3

Total inmate-on-inmate sexual harassment incidents reported = 15

Substantiated = 1

Unsubstantiated = 9

Unfounded = 5

Total staff sexual misconduct allegation reported = 1

Substantiated = 0

Unsubstantiated = 0

Unfounded = 1

Total staff sexual harassment allegations reported = 4

Substantiated = 0

Unsubstantiated = 1

Unfounded = 3

Nonconsensual sexual acts: Nonconsensual sexual contact that includes penetration.

Abusive sexual contact: Nonconsensual sexual contact that includes intentional touching.

Sexual Harassment: Repeated and unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or verbal comments, gestures, or actions of a derogatory or offensive sexual nature.

Staff sexual misconduct: Any behavior or act of a sexual nature directed toward an inmate by staff. Sexual relationships of a romantic nature between staff and inmates are included in this definition.

Staff sexual harassment: Repeated verbal comments or gestures of a sexual nature to an inmate by a staff member.

RASO continues to update policies and procedures in accordance with PREA standards. Policies and Procedures continue to be reviewed and adjusted for clarity and to increase and maintain compliance.