Prison Rape Elimination Act Annual Report 2016

PREA standards were established and unanimously passed by Congress in 2003. The standards were developed to Prevent, Detect, and Respond to Prison Rape. PREA applies to all correctional and detention facilities, including federal, state and local jail, prisons, police lock-ups, private facilities, and immigration detention centers. The Maricopa County Sheriff’s Office has a ZERO TOLERANCE policy for all issues involving sexual abuse and sexual harassment of inmates. All inmates shall be free from any form of sexual abuse and sexual harassment. The Maricopa County Sheriff’s Office continues to strive to keep all of the inmates free from all forms of sexual abuse and sexual harassment.

The following are statistics for the 2016 year. All allegations made by inmates were fully investigated and when necessary appropriate course of action was taken.

- Between January 1, 2016 and December 31, 2016, the Sheriff’s Office had 67 allegations of inmate-on-inmate NONCONSENSUAL SEXUAL ACTS reported. Out of the 67 allegations made, 11 were substantiated, 27 were unsubstantiated, 20 were unfounded, 7 are ongoing investigations at this time and 2 are inactive at this time.
- Between January 1, 2016 and December 31, 2016, the Sheriff’s Office had 53 allegations of inmate-on-inmate ABUSIVE SEXUAL CONDUCT reported. Out of the 53 allegations made, 5 were substantiated, 14 were unsubstantiated, 22 were unfounded, and 9 are ongoing investigations and 3 are inactive at this time.
- Between January 1, 2016 and December 31, 2016, the Sheriff’s Office had 60 allegations of STAFF SEXUAL MISCONDUCT reported. Out of the 60 allegations made, 1 was substantiated, 2 were unsubstantiated, 39 were unfounded, 18 are ongoing investigations at this time.
- Between January 1, 2016 and December 31, 2016, the Sheriff’s Office had 102 allegations of inmate-on-inmate SEXUAL HARASSMENT reported. Out of the 102 allegations made, 2 were substantiated, 32 were unsubstantiated, 57 were unfounded, 4 are inactive and 7 are ongoing investigations at this time.
- Between January 1, 2016 and December 31, 2016, the Sheriff’s Office had 12 allegations of staff-on-inmate SEXUAL HARASSMENT reported. Out of the 12 allegations made, 0 were substantiated, 0 were unsubstantiated, and 8 were unfounded and 4 are ongoing investigations at this time.
The following are statistics for the 2015 year. All allegations made by inmates were fully investigated and when necessary appropriate course of action was taken.

- Between January 1, 2015 and December 31, 2015, the Sheriff’s Office had 53 allegations of inmate-on-inmate **NONCONSENSUAL SEXUAL ACTS** reported. Out of the 53 allegations made, 4 were substantiated, 25 were unsubstantiated, 20 were unfounded, and 4 are ongoing investigations at this time.

- Between January 1, 2015 and December 31, 2015, the Sheriff’s Office had 18 allegations of inmate-on-inmate **ABUSIVE SEXUAL CONDUCT** reported. Out of the 18 allegations made, 0 were substantiated, 4 were unsubstantiated, 8 were unfounded, and 6 are ongoing investigations at this time.

- Between January 1, 2015 and December 31, 2015, the Sheriff’s Office had 35 allegations of **STAFF SEXUAL MISCONDUCT** reported. Out of the 35 allegations made, 3 were substantiated, 6 were unsubstantiated, 26 were unfounded, no ongoing investigations at this time.

- Between January 1, 2015 and December 31, 2015, the Sheriff’s Office had 51 allegations of inmate-on-inmate **SEXUAL HARASSMENT** reported. Out of the 51 allegations made, 5 were substantiated, 25 were unsubstantiated, 18 were unfounded and 3 are ongoing investigations at this time.

- Between January 1, 2015 and December 31, 2015, the Sheriff’s Office had 31 allegations of staff-on-inmate **SEXUAL HARASSMENT** reported. Out of the 31 allegations made, 2 were substantiated, 1 was unsubstantiated, and 24 were unfounded and 4 are ongoing investigations at this time.

The Maricopa County Sheriff’s Office currently houses inmates in six of our facilities however we have extended our prevention, detection and responsive course of actions to safeguard our inmates from being victims of sexual abuse and harassment to other areas such as our Court Security Division, Inmate Laundry area and the Food Factory Division.

For the 2016 year, several changes have been made to assist the Office in continuing to be PREA compliant. A new video camera system has been installed in all of our jails. Television sets have been added inside of the holding tanks at Central Intake which display a PREA announcement in written format to the inmates while they wait to continue the booking process. The message informs inmates how to properly report a PREA allegation. All inmates continue to receive daily education on how to report a PREA incident through audio announcements, information found inside the Inmates Rules and Regulations, PREA postings inside of their housing units and PREA postings in high traffic areas throughout the facilities. The PREA education provided to inmates are both in English and Spanish.
Goals for Upcoming months:

The Maricopa County Sheriff’s Office will be developing a Sexual Abuse Response Team (SART). The team will be composed of Medical Staff, Detention Personnel, Jail Crimes Detectives and a victim advocate. Each SART member will be trained on how to appropriately respond to victims of sexual abuse in a jail setting and ensure that all appropriate steps are followed according to policy.

The Maricopa County Sheriff’s Office is the process of bringing in on board staff from the Southern Arizona Center Against Sexual Assault (SACASA) to provide inmates that have been victims of sexual assault with the proper support in order to hasten the time of recovery.

The Maricopa County Sheriff’s Office has received a grant from the Department of Justice to assist with different aspects of PREA. The grant is geared towards assisting the Office to obtain full compliance in all of the jails and continue to keep inmates free from all forms of sexual abuse and sexual harassment. The Maricopa County Sheriff’s Office continues to work hand in hand with staff from Just Detention International in order implement all PREA Standards throughout the Sheriff’s Office.