

**2015 ANNUAL ASSESSMENT OF THE MESA
COUNTY DETENTION FACILITY'S PROGRESS IN
ADDRESSING SEXUAL ABUSE**

**MESA COUNTY
DETENTION FACILITY
Grand Junction, Colorado**

Part 1: Aggregated Data

Part 2: Analysis

Part 3: Summary

2015 ANNUAL ASSESSMENT OF THE MESA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE DETENTION FACILITY'S PROGRESS IN ADDRESSING SEXUAL ABUSE

Pursuant to standard §115.88 of the Prison Rape Elimination Act, (PREA), the Mesa County Detention Facility is required to:

- 1. Aggregate incident based sexual abuse data annually from publicly and privately operated facilities.**
- 2. Use the data to assess and improve the effectiveness of its sexual abuse prevention, detection, and response policies, practices and training by:**
 - a. Identifying problem areas;**
 - b. Tracking corrective action on an on-going basis;**
 - c. Preparing an annual report of its findings.**
- 3. Compare the current year's data and corrective actions with those from the prior year's and provide an assessment of the agency's progress in addressing sexual abuse.**
- 4. Publish the annual report of its findings and corrective actions on the agency website as well as to the agency.**

1. Aggregated Data

The Mesa County Detention Facility's collecting of specific data for the purpose of the Prison Rape Elimination Act began in January of 2015. During calendar year 2015, the Mesa County Detention Facility received and investigated 6 reports of allegations of inmate-on-inmate sexual victimization. The Mesa County Detention Facility did not receive any allegations of staff-on-inmate sexual victimization.

Yearly data comparison is not yet available. The Mesa County Detention Facility's collecting of specific data for the purpose of the Prison Rape Elimination Act began in January of 2015.

The number of reports by housing unit is shown on the following table:

	Housing Unit	Referrals 2015	Percentage
1.	Aspen	3	50%
2.	Pinyon	3	50%
	TOTAL	6	100%

Of the investigations completed by December 31, 2015 the types and number of findings are shown in the following table:

	Finding	2015
1.	Inconclusive	0
2.	Sustained	0
3.	Unfounded	6
4.	Pending *	0
	TOTAL	6

Based on the 2015 U.S Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, Survey of Sexual Victimization, Local Jail Jurisdictions Summary form:

The following information will be reported to the United States Department of Justice:

1. How many inmates were under the supervision of your local jail jurisdiction on December 31, 2015? Male **323** Female **58**

2. New admissions during 2015? Male **4223** Female **1627**

3. Between January 1, 2015, and December 31, 2015, what was the average daily population of all jail confinement facilities operated by your jurisdiction?
2015 Average daily population Male **320** Female **63**

4. Does your local jail jurisdiction record allegations of inmate-on-inmate NON-CONSENSUAL SEXUAL ACTS? **Yes**
 - a. Do you record all reported occurrences, or only substantiated ones? **All**

- b. Do you record attempted NON-CONSENSUAL SEXUAL ACTS or only completed ones? **Both attempted and completed**
5. Between January 1, 2015, and December 31, 2015, how many allegations of inmate-on-inmate NON-CONSENSUAL SEXUAL ACTS were reported? **2**
Investigation results were unfounded on both cases
6. Does your local jail jurisdiction record allegations of inmate-on-inmate ABUSIVE SEXUAL CONTACT? **Yes**
- a. Do you record all reported occurrences, or only substantiated ones? **All**
- b. Can these be counted separately from allegations of NON CONSENSUAL SEXUAL ACTS? **Yes**
7. Between January 1, 2015, and December 31, 2015, how many allegations of inmate-on-inmate ABUSIVE SEXUAL CONTACT were reported? **3**
Investigation results were unfounded on all 3 cases
8. Does your local jail jurisdiction record allegations of inmate-on-inmate SEXUAL HARASSMENT? **Yes**
- a. Do you record all reported occurrences, or only substantiated ones? **All**
9. Between January 1, 2015, and December 31, 2015, how many allegations of inmate-on-inmate SEXUAL HARASSMENT were reported? **1**
Investigation results were unfounded
10. Does your local jail jurisdiction record allegations of STAFF SEXUAL MISCONDUCT? **Yes**
- a. Do you record all reported occurrences, or only substantiated ones? **All**
11. Between January 1, 2015, and December 31, 2015, how many allegations of STAFF SEXUAL MISCONDUCT were reported? **None**

12. Does your local jail jurisdiction record allegations of STAFF SEXUAL HARASSMENT? Yes
- a. Can these allegations be counted separately from allegations of STAFF SEXUAL MISCONDUCT? Yes
13. Between January 1, 2015, and December 31, 2015, how many allegations of STAFF SEXUAL HARASSMENT were reported? None
14. What is the total number of substantiated PREA incidents reported in 2015? None

2. Analysis

1. The standards of the Prison Rape Elimination Act were not adopted until January 2015. Because the facility did not conduct an assessment for calendar year 2014, there is no information against which to make comparisons, as required by §115.88. As a result, there were no corrective actions in 2014 with which to compare corrective actions in 2015.
2. Data and information collected in 2015 will allow for a comparison with the 2016 statistics for the 2016 Annual report.

A. Areas to address:

1. Policy and Post Orders:

The drafting and implementation of a PREA policy was needed. Facility Post Orders also needed to reflect PREA requirements and staff training needed to be completed related to the new requirements.

2. Staff Training:

Although detention staff had previously received PREA training, continued training was needed related to our new PREA Policy, Post Orders and agency specific procedures. Specific PREA investigation training needed to be completed by MSCO investigators.

3. Inmate Education:

Inmate PREA education was completed in the booking area during the intake process. The education consisted of a comprehensive education and the requirement for comprehensive education within 30 days of intake was not being completed.

4. PREA compliance audit was needed in 2016.

B. Facility Corrective Actions taken:

1. Policy and Post Orders:

A. Completion and implementation of a Zero-Tolerance PREA policy.

B. Staff training related to PREA policy and procedures.

C. Development of Coordinated Response Protocol.

D. Implementation of a multiple-route reporting system for inmates and staff.

E. Development and implementation of a policy requiring referrals for criminal prosecution when evidence supports such referrals.

2. Collaboration with Community Advocacy Groups. MCDF entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with Hill Top Domestic Violence Services for Inmate Sexual Assault Advocate Program.

3. Implementation of a screening tool to screen inmates for the risk of sexual victimization or sexual abusiveness.

4. Development of a Basic and Comprehensive inmate education process that complies with the PREA requirements.

5. Completion of a staffing analysis to ensure adequate levels of staffing to protect inmates.

C. Planned efforts for 2016

1. Continued Training Efforts.

A. Ongoing PREA training for detention staff, contract staff, and volunteers.

B. Continue with inmate education processes.

2. Improve facility camera system with better coverage, better video quality, and longer retention time for recorded video.
3. Data collection and review for USDOJ and MCDF annual PREA reporting.
4. Schedule and complete audit of the facility by a USDOJ certified PREA auditor.

3. Summary

The Mesa County Detention Facility has taken numerous meaningful steps in its efforts to comply with the Prison Rape Elimination Act, to prevent sexual abuse in its detention facility, and to identify and appropriately respond to incidents of sexual abuse when they do occur. As the facility continues its efforts, it can reasonably be expected when audited by a certified USDOJ auditor, the facility will receive findings of substantial compliance with the standards of the Prison Rape Elimination Act.

The MCDF has a zero tolerance policy regarding sexual assault/rape, sexual misconduct, sexual abuse and sexual harassment of person(s) in their custody. It is the policy of the MCDF to provide a coordinated victim-centered response to reports of sexual assault against inmates. This includes providing medical and mental health counseling to victims of sexual assault/rape, sexual abuse and sexual harassment and fully investigating and aggressively prosecuting those who are involved in such conduct. MCSO employees, contract workers, and volunteers will be trained to recognize sexual assault/rape, sexual misconduct, sexual abuse and sexual harassment and how to take appropriate action. MCDF will ensure inmates receive orientation information related to reporting sexual assault/rape, sexual misconduct, sexual abuse and sexual harassment. The Sheriff's Office provides a mechanism for pursuing disciplinary and/or criminal prosecution, when warranted, for those who engage in sexual assault, sexual misconduct, sexual abuse and sexual harassment.

The MCDF is committed to raising the bar for Jail Operations. The MCDF is committed to improving the professional development opportunities for its employees. The MCDF is committed to professionally serving our community.

Captain Art Smith

Mesa County Sheriff's Office

Detention Division Commander