




TO: Sheriff Dennis M. Lemma

VIA: Chain of Command *Leticia Howard* 

FROM: Sergeant A. Lawshe / PREA Coordinator
Sergeant Amy R. Lawshe

DATE: April 24, 2023

SUBJECT: PREA 2022 Agency Annual Report

This memorandum serves as the PREA Agency Annual Report for the calendar year January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022. The Sheriff's Office has identified two divisions within our agency that are required to be PREA Compliant. The John E Polk Correctional Facility and the Juvenile Detention Center. The Seminole County Sheriff's office, John E. Polk Correctional Facility, identified or responded to Fourteen PREA allegations during this period. The Juvenile Detention Center identified or responded to Zero PREA incidents during the aforementioned period.

JOHN E. POLK CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

There were fourteen PREA allegations at the John E. Polk Correctional. Of the fourteen alleged incidents eight were determined to be unfounded. After interviews and investigations of these allegations, it was determined the inmates reported misleading information.

There were three unsubstantiated allegations. After investigations of these allegations, it was determined there was no evidence that proved or supported a violation of PREA.

The John E. Polk Correctional Facility made two PREA referrals during the aforementioned time period. One to the Volusia County Department of Corrections and another to the Brevard County Department of Corrections.

One incident was substantiated. In that substantiated incident, Inmate Arbo, Justin (22-3928) alleged that Inmate Delarosa, Wendell (22-2389) was seen masturbating in the day room in view of other inmates. This incident was substantiated through Video evidence as well as witness statements. Inmate Delarosa was then placed on Disciplinary status for engaging in sexual activity.



PREA 2022 Disposition	Male Inmate	Female Inmate
Unfounded	5	3
Unsubstantiated	2	1
Substantiated	1	0
Consensual	0	0
Referred to other agencies	1	1
Received from other agencies	0	0
Community based	0	0
TOTAL	9	5

REVIEW, CORRECTIVE ACTION, AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The PREA incident review team continues to assess cases to determine if staff actions, the physical plant, or other mitigating circumstances contributed to the alleged violations. The review team consists of upper-level management, PREA Coordinator, PREA Compliance Manager, medical staff, classifications staff, and line staff when available.

Correctional facility staff is doing a great job of maintaining a presence in their assigned areas of responsibility and communicating with inmates daily. Unit management deputies continue to have a presence inside the housing units.

The John E. Polk Correctional Facility continues to enhance video monitoring capabilities for the protection of both staff and inmates. The agency will continue to focus on and support prevention, detection, reporting, and investigating sexual assault/abuse and harassment. Another area of focus will be staff training, to include scenario-based training.

The correctional staff continues to work closely with the Victim Advocate Division. The rape hotline is accessible to the inmates within the facility via inmate telephone. Our external website contains PREA information and has third-party anonymous online reporting capabilities. Reporting remains our focus as we continue to use CAFÉ reporting for PREA investigations. The agency continues to use our portable kiosks throughout the facility for inmate education on PREA and as an electronic way to report incidents to staff immediately.



JUVENILE FACILITY

The Seminole County Juvenile Detention Center (JDC) have continued to have a zero-tolerance policy on issues concerning sexual abuse and sexual harassment involving youthful offenders. The facility has completed an annual review of policies and standards. Recommendations have been made to include streamlining documentation and adding cameras to areas identified as potentially vulnerable. In 2022 the Juvenile Detention Center had zero PREA related incidents.

<i>PREA 2022 Disposition</i>	<i>Male Inmate</i>	<i>Female Inmate</i>
Unfounded	0	0
Unsubstantiated	0	0
Substantiated	0	0
Consensual	0	0
Referred to other agencies	0	0
Received from other agencies	0	0
Community based	0	0
TOTAL	0	0

ANALYSIS/ CORRECTIVE ACTION

The facility recognized the importance of becoming compliant with PREA standards to increase the safety of juveniles while detained at the Seminole County Juvenile Detention Center.