



# SHERIFF

## SEMINOLE COUNTY

**To:** Chain of Command  
**From:** Sergeant A. Lawshe  
**Date:** February 12, 2025  
**Subject:** 2024 – PREA Annual Report

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This memorandum serves as the PREA Agency Annual Report for the calendar year January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024.

The Seminole County Sheriff's Office has identified three divisions within our agency that are required to be PREA Compliant. The John E Polk Correctional Facility, the Juvenile Detention Center, and the Juvenile Assessment Center.

The Seminole County Sheriff's office, John E. Polk Correctional Facility, identified or responded to (9) PREA allegations during this period.

The Juvenile Detention Center identified or responded to (0) PREA incidents during the same time frame.

### JOHN E. POLK CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

There were (9) PREA allegations received by the John E. Polk Correctional.

Of the (9) alleged incidents (8) were determined to be **unfounded**. After interviews and investigations of these allegations, it was determined the inmates reported misleading information and/or were uncooperative during the investigation.

There was (1) **unsubstantiated** allegation. After investigations of these allegations, it was determined the allegations did not meet PREA guidelines.

| JEPCF - PREA – Disposition | Male     | Female   |
|----------------------------|----------|----------|
| Unfounded                  | 6        | 2        |
| Unsubstantiated            | 1        | 0        |
| Substantiated              | 0        | 0        |
| Consensual                 | 0        | 0        |
| Other                      | 0        | 0        |
| <b>Totals:</b>             | <b>7</b> | <b>2</b> |



## **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, medical staff, classifications staff, and line staff when available.

Correctional facility staff maintain a presence in their assigned areas of responsibility and regularly communicate with inmates under their supervision. Supervisors maintain a presence and establish communication with inmates inside all housing units and restrictive housing assignments.

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 related to PREA and as an electronic way to report incidents to staff immediately.

## **JUVENILE DETENTION CENTER / JUVENILE ASSESSMENT CENTER**

The Seminole County Juvenile Detention Center (JDC) and Juvenile Assessment Center (JAC) have continued a zero-tolerance policy on issues concerning sexual abuse and sexual harassment involving youthful offenders.

The facility has revised policies and training requirements for staff and youth offenders to meet PREA standards.

In 2024 the Juvenile Detention Center had zero PREA related incidents.



# **SHERIFF**

## **SEMINOLE COUNTY**

| JDC / JAC - PREA - Dispositions | Male     | Female   |
|---------------------------------|----------|----------|
| Unfounded                       | 0        | 0        |
| Unsubstantiated                 | 0        | 0        |
| Substantiated                   | 0        | 0        |
| Consensual                      | 0        | 0        |
| Other                           | 0        | 0        |
| <b>Totals:</b>                  | <b>0</b> | <b>0</b> |

### **ANALYSIS / CORRECTIVE ACTION**

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

End of Report