

SOLANO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE



PRISON RAPE ELIMINATION ACT (PREA) ANNUAL STATISTICAL REPORT 2024

Background

The federal Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) was established in 2003 for the protection of inmates against sexual assaults by other inmates or staff members while confined in adult and juvenile facilities or institutions. The goal is to prevent, detect, and respond to incidents of sexual assault and abuse of an inmate. Major provisions of PREA include the development of standards for detection, prevention, reduction and punishment of prison or jail rapes.

The Solano County Sheriff's Office has adopted a zero tolerance on issues pertaining to sexual abuse and sexual harassment involving staff and inmates. The Sheriff's Office is working continuously to implement policies, training requirements for staff and inmates, and developing standards for detection, prevention, reduction and punishment of sexual abuse and sexual harassment incidents.

Introduction

PREA standard §115.87 requires the Solano County Sheriff's Office to collect accurate, uniform data for every allegation of sexual abuse at facilities under its direct control using a standardized instrument and set of definitions. The Sheriff's Office continues to remain diligent in investigating all allegations of sexual abuse, staff sexual misconduct, and sexual harassment against offenders. Staff and offenders are educated on the department's zero tolerance policy and provided information on the multiple ways to report an allegation, to include third-party reporting.

DEFINITIONS:

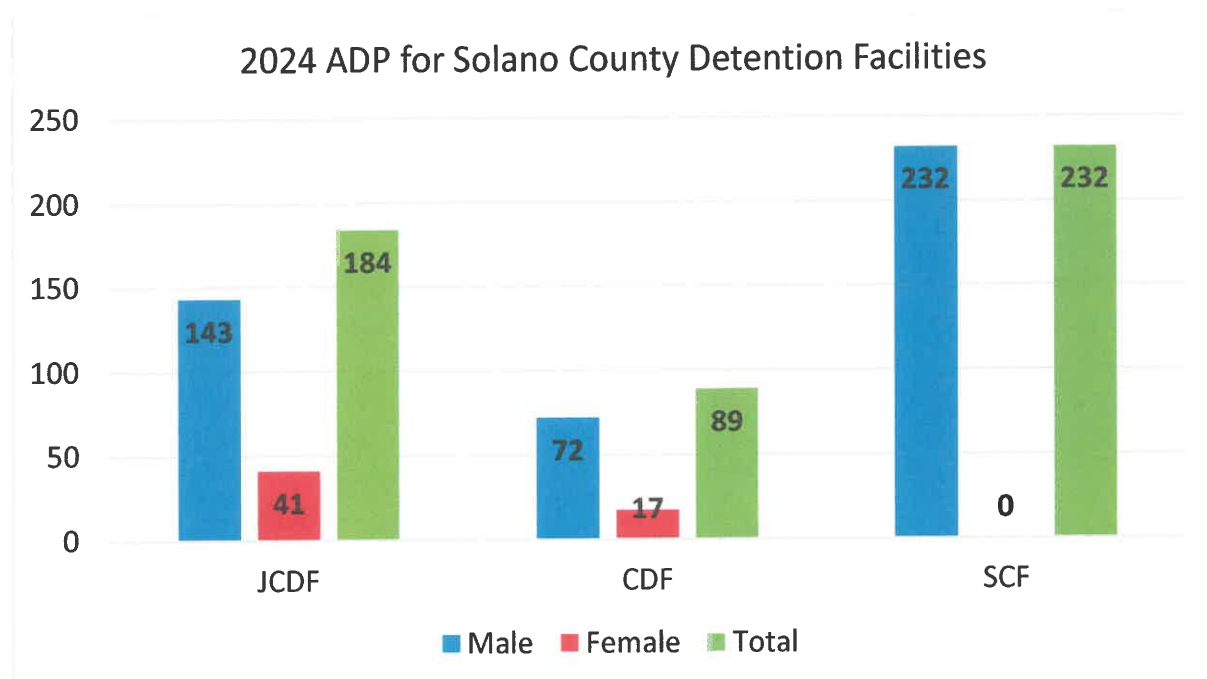
- Substantiated allegation – an allegation that was investigated and determined to have occurred.
- Unsubstantiated allegation – an allegation that was investigated and insufficient evidence was obtained to determine if the allegation did or did not occur.
- Unfounded allegation – an allegation that was investigated and proven not to have occurred.
- Ongoing investigation – the investigation was initiated and is ongoing.

2024 Annual Statistics

In 2024, the Solano County Sheriff's Office began the audit of Claybank Detention Facility (CDF). During the audit, twelve PREA Standard corrective actions were identified and documented in the PREA Audit Interim Summary Report. All corrective actions were remedied, well within the 180-day corrective period.

The Average Daily Population (ADP) of inmates is an important number to consider, when examining the number of PREA allegations. Over the course of the year, the ADP for all three detention facilities was 505 inmates, comprising of 447 males and 58 females.

Below is a chart reflecting the breakdown of the average daily number of inmates by gender at each facility during the 2024 calendar year:



As seen in the chart above, the largest number of inmates on average were housed at the Stanton Correctional Facility (SCF) with an average daily population of 232 inmates. The Claybank Detention Facility (CDF) had an average daily population of 89 inmates. The Justice Center Detention Facility (JCDF) had an average daily population of 184 inmates. JCDF can normally accommodate a larger inmate population; however, several projects being completed at the facility have caused the closure of half the housing units. SCF only housed male inmates. Female inmates were housed at both JCDF and CDF.

In 2024, the Sheriff's Office received 26 reports by inmates alleging sexual abuse or harassment in Solano County Jail Facilities. Of the 26 allegations, 13 were reported by inmates at the Justice Center Detention Facility (JCDF), one was from an inmate at the Claybank Detention Facility (CDF), and ten were from inmates at the Stanton Correctional Facility (SCF) and two allegations were deemed to have occurred at "other

agency/facility,” which were referred to the appropriate jurisdiction. Of the 24 cases occurring in our facilities, 10 consisted of allegations against another inmate, 13 were allegations against staff, and one where the victim chose not to provide further information of who the perpetrator was. All personal identifying information is redacted from the Annual Report as publication of this information would present a clear and specific threat to the safety and security of the facility.

There was a total of one substantiated case, four unsubstantiated cases, and 19 unfounded cases. Of the reported cases that were substantiated or unsubstantiated in 2024, one consisted of a criminal allegation.

Below is a breakdown of all the PREA cases by facility and their dispositions following a detailed investigation:

Justice Center Detention Facility

Cases	Type of Conduct	Disposition
1	Inmate Sexual Harassment	Unsubstantiated
2	Inmate Sexual Harassment	Unfounded
3	Inmate Sexual Contact	Unfounded
4	Inmate Sexual Harassment	Unsubstantiated
5	Staff Sexual Harassment	Unfounded
6	Staff Sexual Misconduct	Unfounded
7	Inmate Sexual Contact	Unfounded
8	Staff Sexual Misconduct	Unfounded
9	Inmate Sexual Harassment	Unfounded
10	Staff Sexual Misconduct	Unfounded
11	Inmate Sexual Contact	Unfounded
12	Staff Sexual Harassment	Unfounded
13	Inmate Sexual Harassment	Unfounded

Claybank Detention Facility

Cases	Type of Conduct	Disposition
1	Inmate Sexual Harassment	Substantiated

Stanton Correctional Facility

Cases	Type of conduct	Disposition
1	Inmate Sexual Contact	Unsubstantiated
2	Staff Sexual Misconduct	Unfounded
3	Staff Sexual Harassment	Unfounded
4	Staff Sexual Harassment	Unfounded

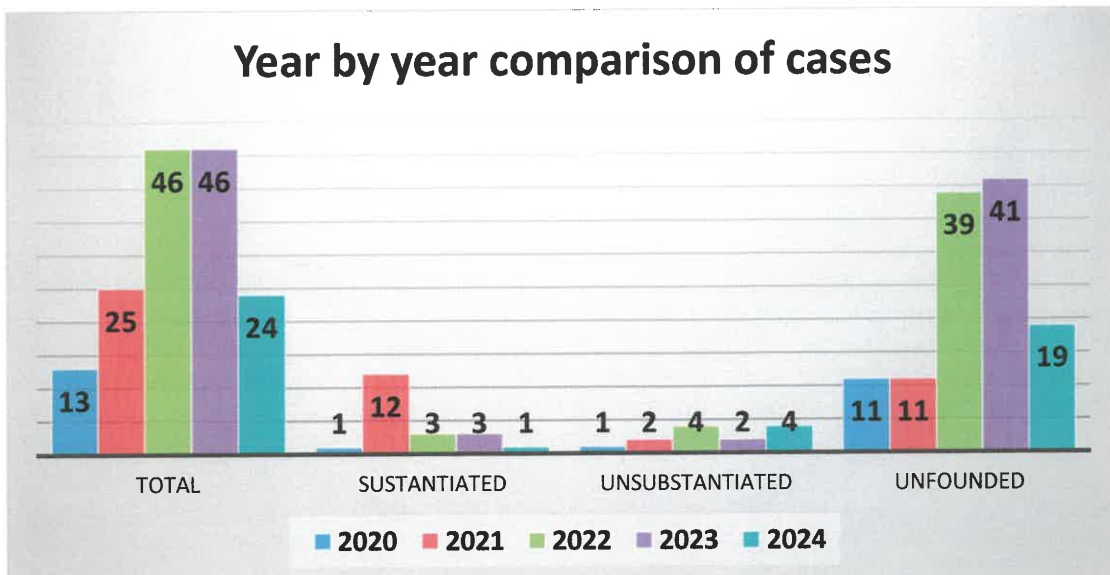
5	Staff Sexual Harassment	Unfounded
6	Staff Sexual Harassment	Unfounded
7	Staff Sexual Misconduct	Unfounded
8	Inmate Sexual Harassment	Unsubstantiated
9	Staff Sexual Harassment	Unfounded
10	Staff Sexual Misconduct	Unfounded

In each reported case, the inmates were separated. New classifications or housing restrictions are applied to inmates who cannot reside peacefully together. Cases that meet a criminal threshold are sent to the Solano County District Attorney for review. There have been no criminal cases that have resulted in charges from any allegations this year.

An incident review team convenes for all sexual abuse investigations unless the case was determined to be unfounded. The purpose of the review is to determine if there is a need to make any changes to our policy and practices to better detect, prevent, or respond to sexual abuse allegations. Incident reviews also look at the potential motivation of allegations such as race, gender identification, sexual preference, and gang affiliations.

In reviewing incidents from the year, it appears that the majority of the incidents occurred inside of the victim's cell. Title 15 stipulates that no video monitoring is allowed inside the inmates' cells. After each substantiated and unsubstantiated sexual assault incident, the area where the abuse occurred is looked at to assess if there are any areas that enabled the abuse; so far, no enabling factors have been identified. Based on the aforementioned reviews no problem areas have been identified.

The following graph allows us to see a side-by-side comparison of reported cases for the past five years:



Summary

The Solano County Sheriff's Office continues to bring awareness to inmates of their rights against sexual abuse in our detention facilities. Inmates are provided verbal and written instructions as to the resources they have available while incarcerated in the Solano County Jail at the time of booking. Each new arrival is given an Inmate Orientation Handbook that includes information on how to avoid sexual assault, what to do in case of assault, how to report sexual assault (including free, confidential telephone numbers), and the availability of counseling programs.

Informational PREA videos are shown on the televisions to educate inmates as to what resources they have at their disposal to report sexual victimization instances and how to get help. PREA instructional posters are displayed in each housing unit and all common areas throughout the facilities describing the resources that are at the inmates' disposal. The posters include telephone numbers and addresses for outside support agencies. Telephone calls are free, confidential, and are not monitored or recorded.

Security rounds are an important deterrent to potential perpetrators and the importance of this has been stressed to our staff. We are continuing the process of educating staff on PREA, to include their roles and responsibilities in preventing, detecting, and responding to sexual abuse in our facilities.

Reviews of our facilities, policies and staff responses and changes in the law are conducted on an ongoing basis. Corrective actions as a result of these reviews help bring the Solano County Sheriff's Office closer to our goal of zero incidents of sexual abuse or harassment within our detention facilities



Thomas A. Ferrara, Sheriff-Coroner