



Sheriff Troy J. Knudson  
**ROCK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

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*"A Tradition of Service"*

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**JAIL CORRECTIONAL FACILITY**

**2021 Annual PREA Review**

The Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) is a federal law that was established in 2003 to help with the elimination, reduction, and prevention of sexual assault, abuse, and harassment in all correctional facilities.

The Rock County Sheriff's Office has established a zero-tolerance policy for the incidence of any type of sexual misconduct involving inmates or staff in accordance with PREA. The RCSO policy and Rock County Jail rules prohibit sexual intercourse, contact, or conduct between inmates. Violations will result in disciplinary sanctions. Inmate on inmate sexual assaults will also be prosecuted according to Wisconsin State Statutes. In addition, any sexual acts between staff and inmates are ALWAYS prohibited and are a violation of RCSO policy, Jail rules and Wisconsin Law. Violators are subject to departmental discipline as well as prosecution punishable by prison sentences and fines. It is also inappropriate and against the rules for an inmate to approach a staff member for the purpose of sexual activity.

The RCSO thoroughly investigates all reported incidents of sexual misconduct, including sexual assault and sexual harassment, to determine the merits and validity of the allegations under scrutiny. After the investigation, all cases have been assigned a result of either substantiated, unsubstantiated or unfounded.

Substantiated – The event was investigated and determined to have occurred, based on a preponderance of the evidence.

Unsubstantiated – The investigation concluded that evidence was insufficient to determine whether or not the event occurred.

Unfounded – The investigation determined that the event did NOT occur.

In compliance with PREA standards, the following is published for January 1 – December 31, 2021.

Male Inmates	December 31, 2021	240
Female Inmates	December 31, 2021	43
Male ADP	Jan 1, 2021 to Dec 31, 2021	239
Female ADP	Jan 1, 2021 to Dec 31, 2021	29

Total inmate-on-inmate non-consensual sexual acts reported = 1

Substantiated	1
Unsubstantiated	None
Unfounded	None

Inmate-on-inmate non-consensual abusive sexual contacts reported: Total = 0

Substantiated	None
Unsubstantiated	None
Unfounded	None

Inmate-on-inmate sexual harassment incidents reported: Total = 14

Substantiated	2
Unsubstantiated	6
Unfounded	6

Total staff sexual misconduct allegations reported: Total = 8

Substantiated	None
Unsubstantiated	1
Unfounded	7

Total staff sexual harassment allegations reported: Total = 13

Substantiated	None
Unsubstantiated	2
Unfounded	11

Overall, the number of reported PREA complaints have increased from 5 in 2020 to 36 in 2021. All data was collected and reviewed in order to assess and improve the effectiveness of our sexual abuse prevention, detection and response policies, practices and training.

RCSO provides the following:

- i. Inmate Education
- ii. A variety of inmate reporting options
- iii. Educational refresher training every other year to contractors and volunteers.
- iv. Inmate programming and advocacy with assistances from Family Services, in-house Mental Health Specialist, and SARP.
- v. PREA screening during:
  - a. Intake
  - b. With Classification within the first 72 hours
  - c. With Classification within 30 days
- vi. Medical and Mental health screening and services for inmates
- vii. Staff bi-annual classroom training focusing on prevention, detection, and response to sexual assault and sexual harassment.

During our annual PREA audit, RCSO identified areas for improvement, and we have implemented corrective actions in the following:

- i. Staff training, contractor, volunteer training
- ii. Specialized PREA Investigator training
- iii. Inmate Education
- iv. Supervision and monitoring in blind areas and unannounced supervisor rounds.
- v. Housing for youth offenders
- vi. Limits to Cross-gender viewing and searches
- vii. Screening for risk of victimization and abusiveness
- viii. Confidential inmate and staff reporting
- ix. Protection against retaliation

RCSO continues to update policies and procedures in accordance with PREA standards. Policies and procedures continue to be reviewed and adjusted for clarity and to increase and maintain compliance. In addition, required staff training on PREA related material were expanded to include inmate LGBTI policy and transgender search procedures.