

# **BEDFORD PARK POLICE DEPARTMENT**

## **Prison Rape Elimination Act PREA Coordinator's Annual Report**



### **Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA)**

The Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003 is a federal law created to eliminate sexual abuse in confinement settings. This legislation mandated the development of national standards intended to address the detection, prevention, reduction, and prosecution of sexual abuse and sexual assaults in all correctional, jail, and lockup facilities. The Bedford Park Police Department has a zero-tolerance policy with regard to providing a safe and healthy environment for staff and detainees. Detainees have the right to be free from sexual abuse, from sexual harassment and from retaliation for reporting such incidents. Sexual acts or conduct between detainees or between detainees and any staff member, even if consensual, are prohibited and are subject to administrative disciplinary sanctions as well as possible criminal action.

The Bedford Park Police Department has established standards to prevent, detect and respond to sexual abuse, harassment, and retaliation against detainees in the Bedford Park Police Department temporary holding facility. The Bedford Park Police Department will promptly, thoroughly and objectively investigate all allegations, including third-party and anonymous reports, of sexual abuse or sexual harassment. Only investigators who have received department-approved special training will conduct these investigations.

Sexual abuse, as defined in section 115.6 of the PREA standards, includes:

- Sexual abuse of an inmate, detainee, or resident by another inmate, detainee, or resident; and
- Sexual abuse of an inmate, detainee, or resident by a staff member, contractor, or volunteer.

Sexual abuse of an inmate, detainee, or resident by another inmate, detainee, or resident includes any of the following acts, if the victim does not consent, is coerced into such act by overt or implied threats of violence, or is unable to consent or refuse:

- Contact between the penis and the vulva or the penis and the anus, including penetration, however slight;
- Contact between the mouth and the penis, vulva, or anus;
- Penetration of the anal or genital opening of another person, however slight, by a hand, finger, object, or another instrument; and
- Any other intentional touching, either directly or through the clothing, of the genitalia, anus, groin, breast, inner thigh, or the buttocks of another person, excluding contact incidental to a physical altercation.

Sexual abuse of an inmate, detainee, or resident by a staff member, contractor, or volunteer includes any of the following acts, with or without consent of the inmate, detainee, or resident:

- Contact between the penis and the vulva or the penis and the anus, including penetration, however slight;
- Contact between the mouth and the penis, vulva, or anus;
- Contact between the mouth and any body part where the staff member, contractor, or volunteer has the intent to abuse, arouse, or gratify sexual desire;
- Penetration of the anal or genital opening, however slight, by a hand, finger, object or other instrument, that is unrelated to official duties or where the staff member, contractor, or volunteer has the intent to abuse, or gratify sexual desire;
- Any other intentional contact, either directly or through the clothing, of or with the genitalia, anus, groin, breast, inner thigh, or the buttocks, that is unrelated to official duties or where the staff member, contractor, or volunteer has the intent to abuse, arouse, or gratify sexual desire;
- Any attempt, threat, or request by a staff member, contractor, or volunteer to engage in the activities described above;
- Any display by a staff member, contractor, or volunteer of his or her uncovered genitalia, buttocks, or breast in the presence of an inmate, detainee, or resident, and
- Voyeurism by a staff member, contractor, or volunteer.

Voyeurism by a staff member, contractor, or volunteer means an invasion of privacy of an inmate, detainee, or resident by staff for reasons unrelated to official duties, such as peering at an inmate who is using a toilet in his or her cell to perform bodily functions; requiring an inmate to expose his or her buttocks, genitals, or breasts; or taking images of all or part of an inmate's naked body or of an inmate performing bodily functions.

Sexual Harassment is defined in section 115.6 of the PREA standards as:

- Repeated and unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or verbal comments, gestures, or actions of a derogatory or offensive sexual nature by one inmate, detainee, or resident directed toward another; and
- Repeated verbal comments or gestures of a sexual nature to an inmate, detainee, or resident by a staff member, contractor, or volunteer, including demeaning references to gender, sexually suggestive or derogatory comments about body or clothing, or obscene language or gestures.

## **General Information**

On June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2020, the Village of Bedford Park and the City of Hickory Hills entered into an Intergovernmental Agreement where the City of Hickory Hills agreed to provide prisoner detention services on a 24-hour basis for the Village of Bedford Park Police Department. Persons arrested by the Bedford Park Police Department are admitted into the Bedford Park Police Department facility for the completion of required arrest and booking procedures. Arrested persons are then either

released directly from the Bedford Park Police facility or transferred to the Hickory Hills Police Department 24-hour confinement facility (if required).

During the year **2024**, there were **191** new admissions into the Bedford Park Police Department facility for arrest and booking procedures. Of these admissions, **21** were transferred to the Hickory Hills Police Department 24-hour confinement facility and **170** were released directly from the Bedford Park Police Department facility immediately after the completion of the arrest and booking procedure.

## Definitions of Findings

**Substantiated:** An allegation was investigated and determined to have occurred.

**Unsubstantiated:** An allegation was investigated and the investigation produced insufficient evidence to make a final determination as to whether or not the event occurred.

**Unfounded:** An allegation was investigated and determined not to have occurred.

**Non-PREA:** An allegation was investigated and the investigation indicated that the reported actions did not fit the definitions given in the PREA standards of sexual abuse or harassment.

**Ongoing:** An investigation is currently in progress.

**Other Facility:** The investigation of an allegation determined that the incident occurred in a facility other than the Bedford Park Police Department facility.

## PREA Incident Reviews

The Bedford Park Police Department has implemented a PREA Incident Review process pursuant to PREA STANDARD 115.86. The Bedford Park Police Department will conduct an incident review at the conclusion of every sexual abuse investigation, unless the allegation has determined to be unfounded. The review will occur within 30 days of the conclusion of the investigation. The review team will include upper-level management officials and may seek input from line supervisors and investigators.

## PREA Activity

Table A indicates the total number of complaints received.

Table B indicates the findings of the investigations in “Inmate against Inmate” PREA allegations listed in the preceding PREA Activity Table (Table A).


Table C indicates the findings of the investigations into “Staff against Inmate” PREA allegations listed in the preceding PREA Activity Table (Table A).

Table A PREA Activity		
<i>January – December</i>	<i>Inmate against Inmate Reports</i>	<i>Staff against Inmate Reports</i>
<b>2020</b>	0	0
<b>2021</b>	0	0
<b>2022</b>	0	0
<b>2023</b>	0	0

2024	0	0
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Table B Inmate against Inmate						
Jan.-Dec.	Substantiated	Unsubstantiated	Unfounded	Non-PREA	Ongoing	Other Facility
2020	0	0	0	0	0	0
2021	0	0	0	0	0	0
2022	0	0	0	0	0	0
2023	0	0	0	0	0	0
2024	0	0	0	0	0	0



Table C Staff against Inmate						
Jan.-Dec.	Substantiated	Unsubstantiated	Unfounded	Non-PREA	Ongoing	Other Facility
2020	0	0	0	0	0	0
2021	0	0	0	0	0	0
2022	0	0	0	0	0	0
2023	0	0	0	0	0	0
2024	0	0	0	0	0	0



**Prison • Rape • Elimination • Act**

**DETAINEES CAN REPORT SEXUAL ABUSE BY:**

1. Telling any staff person.
2. Calling the Pillars Community Health Hotline # 1-708-482-9600

**END THE SILENCE**

**SEXUAL ABUSE IS AN ACT OF VIOLENCE:**

The Bedford Park Police Department has ZERO TOLERANCE for all forms of sexual conduct between detainees and staff, volunteers, contractors, or other detainees.