

PREA AUDIT: AUDITOR'S SUMMARY REPORT

ADULT PRISONS & JAILS

NATIONAL
PREA
RESOURCE
CENTER



BJA
Bureau of Justice Assistance
U.S. Department of Justice

Name of facility: Brazos County Sheriff's Department (Detention Center)			
Physical address: 1835 Sandy Point Rd. Bryan, Texas 77807			
Date report submitted: August 28, 2014			
Auditor Information			
Address: 440 Jasmine Lane, Columbia, SC			
Email: myersr2@rcgov.us			
Telephone number: 803-576-3209			
Date of facility visit: Aug 3-5, 2014			
Facility Information			
Facility mailing address: (if different from above)			
Telephone number:			
The facility is:	Military	<u>County</u>	Federal
	Private for profit	Municipal	State
	Private not for profit		
Facility Type:	Jail	Prison	
Name of PREA Compliance Manager:			Title:
Email address:			Telephone number:
Agency Information			
Name of agency: Brazos County Detention Ctr			
Governing authority or parent agency: (if applicable)			
Physical address:			
Mailing address: (if different from above)			
Telephone number:			
Agency Chief Executive Officer			
Name: Christopher Kirk		Title:	Sherriff
Email address: chriskirk@highsheriff.com		Telephone number:	979-361-4992
Agency-Wide PREA Coordinator			
Name: Kevin Stuart		Title:	
Email address: kstuart@brazoscountytexas.gov		Telephone number:	979-361-4846

AUDIT FINDINGS

NARRATIVE:

I conducted a PREA Audit of the Brazos County Detention Center. I started with a staff briefing with Wayne Dicky, Jail Administrator, Lt. Kevin Stuart, PREA Coordinator, and Sgt. James Mitchell, Training Sergeant. We discussed the audit agenda, facility tours, 30 staff members selected to be interviewed, and 50 inmates from various housing units (to include YOA that were housed in a separate area out of sight and sound of all adult inmates). The detention center personnel were very receptive and open with the audit.

DESCRIPTION OF FACILITY CHARACTERISTICS:

The facility is a direct/in direct supervision model. The indirect units can be viewed by the officer in the control and on camera. The female housing unit is made of older housing unit which is podular remote. There are female officers on the unit to supervisor the female inmates. The entire facility has 24 housing unit, made of up of single cells units, and open bay direct supervision units.

SUMMARY OF AUDIT FINDINGS:

The facility was well prepared for the audit. There were no deficiencies noted during the audit. I found the staff well trained on PREA. The inmates were trained and briefed daily on PREA. For the male unit cross gender supervision is allow; however cross gender supervision is prohibited in the female units. All poster or signs were posted conspicuously in all the housing units, intake, visitation areas and Sheriff's office website.

Number of standards exceeded: 2

Number of standards met: 41

Number of standards not met: 0



BRAZOS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
Prison Rape Elimination Act final Report
PREA Jail Standard

Prevention Planning - Prisons and Jails

§ 115.11 Zero tolerance of sexual abuse and sexual harassment; PREA coordinator

Meets standard

The facility follow all the steps in the PREA regulation with training staff, outline steps within the agency's policy and procedure on how to handle PREA related issues.

§ 115.12 Contract with other entities for the confinement of inmates

Meets standard

N/A Facility does not contract with other agencies to house inmates.

§ 115.13 Supervision and monitoring

Meets standard

The facility has enough staff and monitoring device to effective monitor the agency. The facility staffing plan has no deviation. Positions are filled with overtime personnel to cover any shortages from the plan. There are contingency plans in place for emergency operations. The facility is not under a court order or federal oversight.

§ 115.14 Youthful inmates

Meet standard

All youthful offenders are held in a separate housing unit. The agency has gone to great lengths to modify the housing unit so the offenders are out of sight and sounds of the adult population.

§ 115.15 Limits to cross-gender viewing and searches

Meet Standard

The sheriff's office has a very stringent policy on cross gender searches. Any deviation from the policy must be documented.

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PREA Jail Standard

§ 115.16 Inmates with disabilities and inmates who are limited English proficient

Meet the standard

There is a plan in place to provide assistance for inmates who fall into this category. The staff was well aware of the requirement and how to provide assistance when needed.

§ 115.17 Hiring and promotion decisions

Meets standard

The employment requirement 302.02 is a detail criterion to hire for the Brazos County Sheriff's Officers. The agency completes a very comprehensive background investigation prior to employment and promotions.

§ 115.18 Upgrades to facilities and technologies

Meets Standard

The Sheriff's Office hired a consultant to come to conduct a site analysis of monitors. Several monitors were added to cover blind spots in the kitchen area.

Responsive Planning - Prisons and Jails

§ 115.21 Evidence protocol and forensic medical examinations

Meets standard

All departmental personnel were trained on how to protect the crime scene. Formal training for investigators out lined for crime scene investigators in Texas Public Safety Physical Evidence Handbook. All investigators that report to conduct a PREA investigation have been trained on PREA and Sexual Abuse Protocols.

§ 115.22 Policies to ensure referrals of allegations for investigations

Meets standard

The information is covered on Brazos Sheriff's Office PREA Policy on pages 7 & 8. The facility has several ways to refer allegation by staff or inmates. The inmates receive daily briefing on how to report PREA incidents. The officers receive training on the reporting procedures.

Training and Education - Prisons and Jails

§ 115.31 Employee training

Meets standard

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All employees receive the required PREA training prior to supervising inmates. This was noted during the interviews on day 1 of the audit. Any new employees hired are trained prior to supervising inmates.

§ 115.32 Volunteer and contractor training

Meets standard

All volunteers and contractor receive the required PREA training prior to supervising inmates. Additionally, all volunteers and contract must sign that they have been trained on PREA and they understand their responsibility. This was noted during the interviews on day 1 of the audit.
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§ 115.33 Inmate education

Inmates are asked questions and receive PREA training for the initial booking process, classification and in their housing units.

Meets standard

§ 115.34 Specialized training: Investigations

Meets standard

The agency uses investigators that have been trained in how to handle victims of sexual assault/abuse. Also, the investigators that respond to the jail on sexual abuse or harassment are trained on PREA.

§ 115.35 Specialized training: Medical and mental health care

Exceed standard

The Sheriff's office uses the local hospital which has trained SANE on duty 24/7. There is MOU in place.

Screening for Risk of Sexual Victimization and Abusiveness - Prisons and Jails

§ 115.41 Screening for risk of victimization and abusiveness

Meet standard

Inmates are screened at the initial intake process. Several key questions are asked to screen the inmate for possible victimization. Also, in the classification process the inmates are screened again.

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§ 115.42 Use of screening information

Meets standard

The information received from the inmates is used to determine housing assignment, program and medical/mental needs.

§ 115.43 Protective custody

Meets standard

Restrictive housing is used as a last effort when no other housing option is available.

Reporting - Prisons and Jails

§ 115.51 Inmate reporting

Meets standard

The inmates have received training on how to report PREA related incidents. The PREA posters are posted throughout the inmates' housing unit. Inmates can report verbal, written and on the telephone. Inmates can inform a staff, visitor, attorney, contractor just to name a few. This was evident during the interview process; the inmates knew how to report sexual harassment or abuse.

§ 115.52 Exhaustion of administrative remedies

Exempted

No administrative remedies

§ 115.53 Inmate access to outside confidential support services

Meets standard

The organization has a MOU with the local SARC office and will be able to use their services as requested by SARC.

§ 115.54 Third-party reporting

Meet Standard

The organization has a MOU with the local SARC office to receive calls.

Official Response Following an Inmate Report - Prisons and Jails

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§ 115.61 Staff and agency reporting duties

All sexual abuse allegations will be report to the supervisor, documented and investigated immediately.

§ 115.62 Agency protection duties

Exceed standard

The agency has steps in place throughout the process to protect the inmates. The agency has an initial assessment, 72 hours classification assessment and periodic assessment during the inmates' incarceration. The facility has poster throughout the facility and brief the inmates each morning on PREA via video.

§ 115.63 Reporting to other confinement facilities

Meets standard

There is a policy and procedure in place if the agency should receive information on an inmate that has been sexual abused from another facility. The protocol is the same.

§ 115.64 Staff first responder duties

Meet standard

All staff, volunteers and contracts have been trained as first responders and know the protocol for the first responder: separate the inmates and preserve the scene.

§ 115.65 Coordinated response

Meets standard

The facility has a plan in place should an incident happen. Immediate notifications will go to command staff, PREA Coordinator, medical and others.

§ 115.66 Preservation of ability to protect inmates from contact with abusers

Meets standard

No agreement in place that will infringe on the inmate rights to be protected or report sexual abuse

§ 115.67 Agency protection against retaliation

Meets standard

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Meets standard

The facility has a plan for perpetrators. The person will be discipline after medical and mental health has evaluated the inmate to determine the inmate is disabled.

Medical and Mental Care - Prisons and Jails

§ 115.81 Medical and mental health screenings; history of sexual abuse

Meets standard

The agency has medical and mental staff on duty readily available. There is a process in place for an inmates to be screen and evaluated in required.

§ 115.82 Access to emergency medical and mental health services

Meets standard

The agency has medical and mental staff on duty readily available. There is a process in plan for an inmates to be screened and evaluated in required. There is no cost to the victim

§ 115.83 On going medical and mental health care for sexual abuse victims and abusers

Meets standard

The agency has medical and mental staff on duty readily available. There is a process in plan for an inmates to be screen and evaluated in required. The facility is link to outside provider for a continuous care once the inmate is released. The victim is given information as to where to go for treatment. There is no cost to the victim.

Data Collection and Review - Prisons and Jails

§ 115.86 Sexual abuse incident reviews

Meets standard

There is comprehensive after action review of all incidents that happen in the facility. This is completed to see if all procedures were followed and to evaluate current practices for efficiency and effectiveness

§ 115.87 Data collection

Meets standard

Data is collect and display on the Sheriff's website under PREA
(<http://www.brazoscountysheriff.org/prea.html>)

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§ 115.88 Data review for corrective action

Meets standard

See standard 115.86

§ 115.89 Data storage, publication, and destruction

Meets standard

The agency post if date on its website. In addition the agency follows records retention as outline in the PREA standard.

AUDITOR CERTIFICATION:

The auditor certifies that the contents of the report are accurate to the best of his/her knowledge and no conflict of interest exists with respect to his or her ability to conduct an audit of the agency under review



Auditor's Signature

September 20, 2014

Date

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