

**MECKLENBURG COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE  
PRISON RAPE ELIMINATION ACT (PREA)  
2019 ANNUAL REPORT**

**Background**

The Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) was passed by Congress and signed into law by President George W. Bush in 2003 to prevent, detect and respond to sexual abuse and sexual harassment that occurs in confinement settings. The National Prison Rape Elimination Commission developed national standards which apply to adult prisons and jails, juvenile facilities, lockups and community confinement facilities.

**Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office Zero-Tolerance Policy**

The Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) has a zero tolerance towards all forms of sexual abuse and sexual harassment within Mecklenburg County Detention facilities and will prevent, detect and respond to any such activity. MCSO will immediately respond to allegations, fully investigate reported alleged incidents, pursue disciplinary action based upon the outcome of the investigations and in accordance with the PREA standards, and refer for prosecution those who perpetrate prohibited conduct.

MCSO has a designated agency wide PREA Coordinator and PREA Compliance Managers for both of its facilities. MCSO has revised existing policies in accordance with the PREA standards. Other efforts to comply with the PREA standards include, but not limited to:

- Annual training for staff, volunteers and contractors;
- Collaboration with the local Rape Crisis Center;
- Implementation of internal confidential reporting hotline;
- Implementation of external confidential reporting on website;
- Conducted resident education training;
- Conducted monthly PREA Incident Review meetings on all substantiated and unsubstantiated cases;
- Conducted refresher training for supervisors; and
- Completed a successful Department of Justice PREA Audit.

**PREA Statistics**

MCSO collects data in accordance with §115.87 to assess and improve the effectiveness of its sexual abuse prevention, detection, and response policies, practices, and training. In subsequent years, the information collected for this report will be used to identify problem areas and take corrective action on an ongoing basis.

## **Survey of Sexual Violence, 2018**

During 2018, there were a total of 20,456 new admissions into the Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office. Of the new admissions, 16,734 were males and 3,722 were female. The average daily population was 1,415 males and 130 females.

The information provided below is between January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018.

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Inmate-on-Inmate Allegations of Nonconsensual Sexual Acts	
Substantiated	0
Unsubstantiated	3
Unfounded	10
Investigation Ongoing	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>14</b>

Inmate-on-Inmate Allegations of Abusive Sexual Contact	
Substantiated	1
Unsubstantiated	0
Unfounded	1
Investigation Ongoing	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2</b>

Inmate-on-Inmate Allegations of Sexual Harassment	
Substantiated	2
Unsubstantiated	8
Unfounded	11
Investigation Ongoing	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>21</b>

Staff-on-Inmate Allegations of Staff Sexual Misconduct	
Substantiated	1
Unsubstantiated	0
Unfounded	8
Investigation Ongoing	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9</b>

Staff-on-Inmate Allegations of Staff Sexual Harassment	
Substantiated	0
Unsubstantiated	1
Unfounded	7
Investigation Ongoing	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8</b>