

## PREA Annual Report—2023

The following information is provided in accordance with PREA Standards 115.287, 115.288, and 115.289.

1. Uniform data from all sexual harassment, sexual misconduct, or sexual abuse allegations which occurred in 8<sup>th</sup> District DCS Residential Facilities.

| <b>8th District</b>                        |                      |                        |                  |              |              |
|--|----------------------|------------------------|------------------|--------------|--------------|
| <b>January 1, 2023 - December 31, 2023</b> |                      |                        |                  |              |              |
| <b>Investigation Type</b>                  | <b>Substantiated</b> | <b>Unsubstantiated</b> | <b>Unfounded</b> | <b>Other</b> | <b>Total</b> |
| Offender-on-Offender Abusive Contact       | 3                    | 2                      | 0                | 0            | 5            |
| Offender-on-Offender Non-Consensual Acts   | 0                    | 0                      | 0                | 0            | 0            |
| Offender on Offender Precursor Behavior    | 3                    | 2                      | 0                | 0            | 5            |
| Offender on Offender Retaliation           | 0                    | 0                      | 0                | 0            | 0            |
| Offender on Offender Other PREA            | 0                    | 0                      | 0                | 0            | 0            |
| Staff Sexual Harassment                    | 0                    | 0                      | 0                | 0            | 0            |
| Staff Sexual Misconduct                    | 0                    | 0                      | 0                | 0            | 0            |
| Staff Retaliation                          | 0                    | 0                      | 0                | 0            | 0            |
| <b>Total PREA Investigations</b>           | <b>6</b>             | <b>4</b>               | <b>0</b>         | <b>0</b>     | <b>10</b>    |

2. The data, as noted above, has been reviewed to assess and improve the effectiveness of the Department’s sexual abuse prevention, detection, and response policies, practices, and training. This review included the following:

- A. Identification of problem areas—**Burlington Residential Facility**— There was a need to replace the DVR that records video footage from facility cameras. Since that time, the Burlington Facility has upgraded the entire security camera system to include 35 cameras covering all areas of the facility. We have added microphone features to the recreational area/Class room/Yard and control desk area. Our last PREA audit site visit in Ottumwa in 2023, auditors recommended updating the phone system to ensure they were operational. Our last Burlington facility audit was in 2021. Burlington Facility has an audit scheduled for August 2024.

**Ottumwa and Burlington Facility-** The Ottumwa facility still struggles being a co-ed facility which leads to some difficulty with ensuring same-gender staffing on all shifts. We are still experiencing some staff turnover this past year and when positions are posted a review of staffing patterns is done to determine if it needs to be a gender-specific posting. When staffing plans are unable to be followed, those instances are noted when they happen. The facility alarm system on windows and doors are operational, which alerts the staff when clients exit the facility through an unapproved door.

- B. Any corrective action taken for each facility and the Department as a whole—**The Ottumwa Facility updated the phone system and alarms as a result of the 2023 PREA audit site visit. The security system has been repaired and is fully operational, Staff are currently conducting an eye-count and a security round in order monitor clients movements.**

**All staff are required to complete PREA Training (refresher) in Fiscal Year 2024. All staff have also received additional E-learning training on transgender pat searches.**

- C. Comparison of current data to data collected in previous years—**This is the eighth year of compiling this report as part of the PREA Standards. We note that reports of incidents of sexual abuse/sexual harassment have increased slightly this calendar year as compared to previous years. The department believes that our continued efforts with PREA education and appropriate staff interactions with clients allow for clients understanding the departments zero tolerance policy for sexual misconduct.**
  
- D. An assessment of the Department’s progress in addressing sexual abuse—**The Department will begin our fourth cycle of PREA audits of our facilities in 2023 with the Ottumwa facility completed a PREA audited in August 10-12, 2023. Both the Ottumwa and Burlington facilities continue to work diligently on detecting and preventing sexual violence. We believe that the preventative measures we have taken along with the continuous PREA education, has allowed clients to come forward with their complaints, which creates a better reporting culture then previous years.**

Submitted by:



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Vince Remmark, PREA Coordinator  
Assistant District Director

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06/01/2024

Date

Approved by:



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Daniel T. Fell, District Director  
Eighth Judicial District-Department of Corrections

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06/01/2024

Date