

Gem County Detention Center 2019 Annual PREA Report – 01/16/19

Rape and sexual activity seriously reduces the mission of the Gem County Sheriff's Office to prevent crime and provide quality criminal justice service. In accordance with the Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003, the Gem County Detention Center has established a zero tolerance standard regarding the incidence of rape and sexual activity.

By providing training, education, and reviewing our policy and procedures on a yearly basis we are confident that we are providing the inmates, staff, contractors, and volunteers everything we can so they are confident and comfortable with the PREA mandates. We are also confident that all of our staff, contractors, and volunteers have a thorough knowledge and understanding of the PREA mandates and the Gem County Detention Center policy and procedures in order to effectively provide sexual abuse and harassment prevention, detection, and response to those allegations.

A PREA incident review is conducted on all PREA allegations that have been substantiated and unsubstantiated. The results of these reviews are used to assess and improve our effectiveness and any corrective actions that may be needed pursuant to PREA mandate 115.88.

The occurrence of sexual abuse at the Gem County Detention Center is very low. Upon reviewing the aggregated data for 2019 we did not have any substantiated or unsubstantiated allegations of Sexual abuse.

In assessing and reviewing these results we determined that no corrective action was needed. The incident review team felt that our current policy and procedures effectively provided prevention, detection, and response to the allegation. The incident review team determined that there were no physical barriers enabling abuse. The incident review team felt that we had sufficient staffing to provide prevention, detection, and response. The incident review team determined that adequate video monitoring was in place.

We realize that we must continually provide training to our staff members, contractors, and volunteers and we must continually provide education to the inmates in order to provide effective detection, prevention, and response to PREA allegations. We are dedicated to providing high levels of supervision and monitoring of the inmates to provide them the protection they deserve. We are dedicated to providing strong zero-tolerance policies and procedures, and a safe and secure environment for the inmates, providing them with a comfort that they can report PREA allegations free from retaliation and in a confidential format.

Commander Katie Rolland