



2024 PREA Annual Report

Missoula County Juvenile Detention Facility

Year in Review: Aggregated Data

Allegations

- 3 total allegations reported
- All 3 allegations were inmate-on-inmate sexual harassment
- 3 total allegation of sexual harassment unfounded
- 0 allegations of staff-on-inmate sexual abuse

Investigations

- Facility investigators are specially trained through the National Institute of Corrections.
- Criminal allegations are investigated by Missoula County Sheriff's Office.
- All allegations of sexual abuse, harassment, or misconduct are **always** referred immediately to DPHHS/CPS, regardless of investigative outcome.

Breakdown

- 3 allegations of sexual harassment
- 0 allegations of voyeurism
- 0 allegations of misconduct
- 0 allegations of rape
- 0 unfounded allegations of sexual abuse
- 3 unfounded allegations of sexual harassment
- 0 allegations that required emergency medical attention

Missoula County PREA Goals and Values

Prevention

Training & Culture:

MCJDF is committed to training all staff on PREA policies and practices and promoting a zero-tolerance culture. We strive to provide safety and support to our population.

Screening:

MCJDF uses a screening instrument to identify both risk of victimization and risk of aggression factors and screens everyone at defined intervals.

Policies and Practices

Policies:

MCJDF has a facility policy that supports the compliance of federal PREA standards.

Practices:

MCJDF leadership implements internal practices to support a zero-tolerance culture and takes all reports of sexual victimization seriously.

Investigation and Response

Pursuing Criminal Charges:

We investigate all allegations of sexual abuse, harassment, misconduct, and assault. All criminal violations are investigated by local law enforcement, and we do our due diligence to seek prosecution for violators.

Reporting:

MCJDF promotes an environment where inmates can report incidents free of retaliation and retribution. MCJDF takes all PREA reports seriously and swiftly responds.

Missoula County's commitment to values

Culture and Community

Providing a PREA compliant facility ensures our population better trusts staff, enabling them to come to staff with incidents and concerns. MCJDF promotes a collaborative environment, in which the facility dedicates itself to being a part of our community and providing essential community services for both our inmates and the greater public's safety.

Inmate Support

MCJDF values being supportive.
We assess all juvenile inmates regularly for safety and utilize evidence-based mental health and behavioral health interventions. We want our juvenile inmates to be successful and recognize many may have a need for additional support services, which we either provide internally or refer to partnering agencies throughout the community.

Better Practices

MCJDF strives to perform efficiently and compassionately through good practices. We promote compliance with PREA standards and best security practices.

We regularly complete Department of Justice audits of our policies and practices and encourage the use of best practices in all fields throughout the facility.

Analysis

Comparisons

- In 2023 there were 9 total allegations. All of them were inmate-on-inmate sexual harassment. There were 5 total allegations of sexual harassment that were substantiated. MCJDF had 0 allegations of staff-on-inmate sexual abuse. There were 0 allegations of voyeurism, misconduct, or rape. One unfounded allegation of sexual abuse and one unfounded allegation of sexual harassment. We had 0 allegations that required emergency medical attention.

Progress Made

- In 2023, our federal PREA audit determined MCJDF is in full compliance with PREA standards and that no corrective action needed to occur.
- In 2023, MCJDF hired a full-time person as their designated agency PREA coordinator. This position is solely responsible for ensuring continued agency compliance with best practices in the field of carceral sexual victimization prevention, detection, and response.
- MCJDF's relationship with community providers has continued, renewing contracts with both First Step Resource Center, and the YWCA of Missoula to provide external services to confined victims of sexual abuse.
- MCJDF has employed a Sexual Abuse Incident Review Team to meet on PREA cases to determine agency needs for improvement.

Analysis

- MCJDF's leadership team will use this aggregated data to continue compliance with PREA standards.
- MCJDF takes all allegations of sexual abuse in confinement seriously.
- PREA training is mandatory for all MCJDF new hires, volunteers, and contractors, and is included in MCJDF's official employee handbook.
- MCJDF ensures each juvenile inmate is provided a comprehensive education on their rights to safety under PREA standards.
- MCJDF will continue to collect agency-wide PREA data and publish annually.

Resources

National PREA Resource Center (www.prearesourcecenter.org)

National Institute of Corrections (www.nicic.gov)

American Jail Association (www.americanjail.org)

American Correctional Association (www.aca.org)

Just Detention International (www.justdetention.org)

The Vera Institute of Justice (www.vera.org)

2024 Annual PREA Report approved by:

Commander Sheryl Ziegler *Sheryl Ziegler* 03/13/2025