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SHERIFF

ISSUE: 21-09

TRAINING BULLETIN

DATE: March 10, 2021

PREA Refresher PREA Standard 115.31- Employee Training

All Detention Bureau employees are required to receive refresher PREA training. This refresher Training Bulletin is being provided in order to ensure staff can prevent, detect, and respond to sexual abuse and sexual harassment. Staff are required to review and follow all Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) policies, which can be found in Chapter "P" of the Detentions Bureau Policy and Procedure Manual.

ZERO TOLERANCE

The Kern County Sheriff's Office is committed to zero-tolerance of any form of sexual abuse and sexual harassment. The Detentions Bureau is committed to enforcing the standards set forth by the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA). The following are prohibited and will be thoroughly investigated:

1. Sexual abuse or harassment of an inmate by any KCSO staff member, volunteer, or contractor;
2. Retaliation towards any inmate, staff member, volunteer, or contractor for reporting sexual abuse and/or sexual harassment;
3. Retaliation towards any inmate, staff member, volunteer, or contractor for cooperating in an investigation.

INMATE RIGHTS UNDER PREA REGULATIONS

Inmates have the right to:

1. Be free from sexual abuse, and sexual harassment by other inmates or staff;
2. Confidentially report incidents of sexual abuse and issues related to gender identity or sexual orientation;
3. Receive free medical care if sexually abused, including forensic examinations;
4. Have a crisis advocate present during a forensic examination or investigation interview;
5. Remain anonymous if requested when reporting sexual abuse or harassment;
6. Have a third-party report sexual abuse or harassment on their behalf;
7. Have sexual abuse or harassment investigated and the perpetrator held accountable;

8. Know the outcome of any sexual abuse or harassment allegation reported and investigated;
9. The KCSO recognizes that certain inmates (youthful inmates, those with mental illness, mobility or other physical impairment, LGBTIQ, and those with limited English proficiency) in its custody are potentially vulnerable and at greater risk for sexual abuse or sexual harassment. Specific guidelines afforded by the PREA standards to protect at-risk or vulnerable populations from abuse can be found in DBPPM P-400.

STAFF RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER PREA REGULATIONS

Staff shall:

1. Report any knowledge, suspicion, or information about sexual abuse or sexual harassment;
2. Report any retaliation against inmates or staff for reporting a sexual abuse incident;
3. Maintain a professional relationship with inmates and avoid fraternization;
4. Write a confidential e-mail to your supervisor if you have information about staff misconduct;
5. Treat sexual abuse victims respectfully as a professional employee of KCSO;
6. Accept any verbal or written report of sexual abuse or harassment from an inmate or third party;
7. **Staff must provide a gender announcement prior to entering an opposite gender housing area;**
8. Staff shall not reveal any information related to a sexual abuse report to anyone other than to the extent necessary to make treatment, investigation, and other security and management decisions.

This includes supervisor jail incident logs. When completing an incident log, do not include the involved inmates' names. Instead, include the location where the allegation took place, the type of allegation, and the case number.

Example: *On February 1, 2021 at approximately 1200 hours, an inmate housed at the Pre-Trial Facility made an allegation of sexual harassment by another inmate. Sgt. Smith was notified, and Sr. Jones was assigned to conduct the preliminary investigation. LERMS 2021-00000001, CJIS SO 21-01234.*

PREA RESPONSE REQUIREMENTS

Staff shall:

1. Immediately notify the shift supervisor;
 2. Respond immediately if an inmate is subject to substantial risk of imminent sexual abuse;
 3. Separate the victim from the suspect(s);
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4. Secure any crime scene, protect evidence from destruction, including evidence on the victim or suspect;
5. Advise the victim not to take evidence destroying actions such as eating, drinking, or using the toilet;
6. Secure the suspect(s) in a different holding area away from water to preserve evidence;
7. Obtain any needed medical care or clearance, and contract Correctional Behavioral Health if necessary.

Only Senior Deputies who have been trained in PREA investigations shall conduct a preliminary PREA investigation and will follow the investigative steps as detailed in DBPPM Section P-600.

If you have any questions about the material in this Training Bulletin, please contact the PREA coordinator by e-mailing preacoordinator@kernsheriff.org.

IMPORTANT

Please [SIGN IN](#) to acknowledge your reading of

**Training Bulletin 21-09 PREA Refresher
PREA Standard 115.31- Employee Training**

I have read and understand Training Bulletin 21-09 PREA Refresher, PREA Standard 115.31- Employee Training dated March 10, 2021.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Printed Name: _____ CAD ID #: _____
