



2019 PREA Annual Report

Broward County Sheriff's Office

Department of Detention

BROWARD SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Agency Overview

The Broward County Sheriff's Office (BSO) is the chief law enforcement agency in Broward County. As one of the largest, most progressive, professional and respected organizations in the State of Florida, BSO serves our community with law enforcement, detention and fire rescue services in the unincorporated areas of Broward County, as well as in 12 local municipalities through contract services. All the vast resources of the agency are available to any municipality within Broward County.

Founded in 1915, Broward County has grown from 4,700 residents to become the second most populous county in Florida (over 1.8 million residents) and is the seventh largest in size at 1,209 square miles. With Fort Lauderdale serving as the county seat, Broward County is an international tourist destination, home to Port Everglades, one of the top three cruise ports in the world, and to the Everglades, a subtropical natural wetland shared with four other counties.

BSO operates the 12th largest local jail system in the United States, and is one of the largest to have earned national accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation for Corrections. BSO's Department of Detention (DOD) oversees all jail facility operations within Broward County. In 2018 approximately 38,000 inmates crossing every ethnic, age and socioeconomic group were booked into BSO jails for crimes ranging from civil infractions to murder. The average daily population at all jail facilities was approximately 3600 inmates in 2019.

The DOD operates and administers four jail facilities in the county:

- Main Jail Bureau also home to the Central Intake Bureau (Main Booking)
- Joseph V. Conte Facility
- North Broward Bureau
- Paul Rein Detention Facility

Specialized units like the Emergency Response Team, Security Threat Group Initiative and Investigations and Projects Unit assist detention facility staff in maintaining a secure and productive environment for inmates and facility personnel.

HISTORY OF PREA

The Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) was established in 2003 by President George W. Bush with unanimous support from both parties in Congress. The purpose of the act was to “provide for the analysis of the incidence and effects of prison rape in Federal, State, and local institutions and to provide information, resources, recommendations and funding to protect individuals from prison rape.” (Prison Rape Elimination Act, 2003). In addition to creating a mandate for significant research from the Bureau of Justice Statistics and through the National Institute of Justice, funding through the Bureau of Justice Assistance and the National Institute of Corrections supported major efforts in many state correctional, juvenile detention, community corrections, and jail systems.

The act also created the National Prison Rape Elimination Commission and charged it with developing draft standards for the elimination of prison rape. Those standards were published in June 2009, and were turned over to the Department of Justice for review and passage as a final rule. That final rule became effective August 20, 2012.

In 2010, the Bureau of Justice Assistance funded the National PREA Resource Center to continue to provide federally funded training and technical assistance to states and localities, as well as to serve as a single-stop resource for leading research and tools for all those in the field working to come into compliance with the federal standards.

National PREA Resource Center

BROWARD SHERIFF'S OFFICE AND PREA

The Broward Sheriff's Office Department of Detention has a **ZERO TOLERANCE** standard for incidents of inmate sexual assault and rape.

In order to adhere to the Federal PREA compliance standards BSO has made the following provisions:

- A detailed policy outlining the procedures, documentation, investigations, evidence collection, risk assessment, appropriate housing guidelines, medical care and follow-up care for all alleged incidents.
- Detention staff are provided continual PREA training in annual training classes, roll calls, training bulletins, PREA informational pocket cards.

- Inmates are educated on PREA prevention, detection and reporting through orientation and the Inmate Handbook. PREA Reporting posters throughout the facilities provide reporting information and phone numbers.
- BSO has partnered with a local crisis center to provide SANE examinations and victim advocacy services for inmates.
- The Detention Facilities were fitted with additional cameras to decrease vulnerable areas and modifications were made to restroom facilities and showers to enhance privacy.

SEXUAL ABUSE/HARASSMENT

Sexual abuse includes—

- (1) Sexual abuse of an inmate, detainee, or resident by another inmate, detainee, or resident; and
- (2) Sexual abuse of an inmate, detainee, or resident by a staff member, contractor, or volunteer.

Sexual abuse of an inmate, detainee, or resident by another inmate, detainee, or resident includes any of the following acts, if the victim does not consent, is coerced into such act by overt or implied threats of violence, or is unable to consent or refuse:

- (1) Contact between the penis and the vulva or the penis and the anus, including penetration, however slight;
- (2) Contact between the mouth and the penis, vulva, or anus;
- (3) Penetration of the anal or genital opening of another person, however slight, by a hand, finger, object, or other instrument; and
- (4) Any other intentional touching, either directly or through the clothing, of the genitalia, anus, groin, breast, inner thigh, or the buttocks of another person, excluding contact incidental to a physical altercation.

Sexual abuse of an inmate, detainee, or resident by a staff member, contractor, or volunteer includes any of the following acts, with or without consent of the inmate, detainee, or resident:

- (1) Contact between the penis and the vulva or the penis and the anus, including penetration, however slight;
- (2) Contact between the mouth and the penis, vulva, or anus;
- (3) Contact between the mouth and any body part where the staff member, contractor, or volunteer has the intent to abuse, arouse, or gratify sexual desire;
- (4) Penetration of the anal or genital opening, however slight, by a hand, finger, object, or other instrument, that is unrelated to official duties or where the staff member, contractor, or volunteer has the intent to abuse, arouse, or gratify sexual desire;
- (5) Any other intentional contact, either directly or through the clothing, of or with the genitalia, anus, groin, breast, inner thigh, or the buttocks, that is unrelated to official duties or where the staff member, contractor, or volunteer has the intent to abuse, arouse, or gratify sexual desire;
- (6) Any attempt, threat, or request by a staff member, contractor, or volunteer to engage in the activities described in paragraphs (1)-(5) of this section;
- (7) Any display by a staff member, contractor, or volunteer of his or her uncovered genitalia, buttocks, or breast in the presence of an inmate, detainee, or resident, and
- (8) Voyeurism by a staff member, contractor, or volunteer.

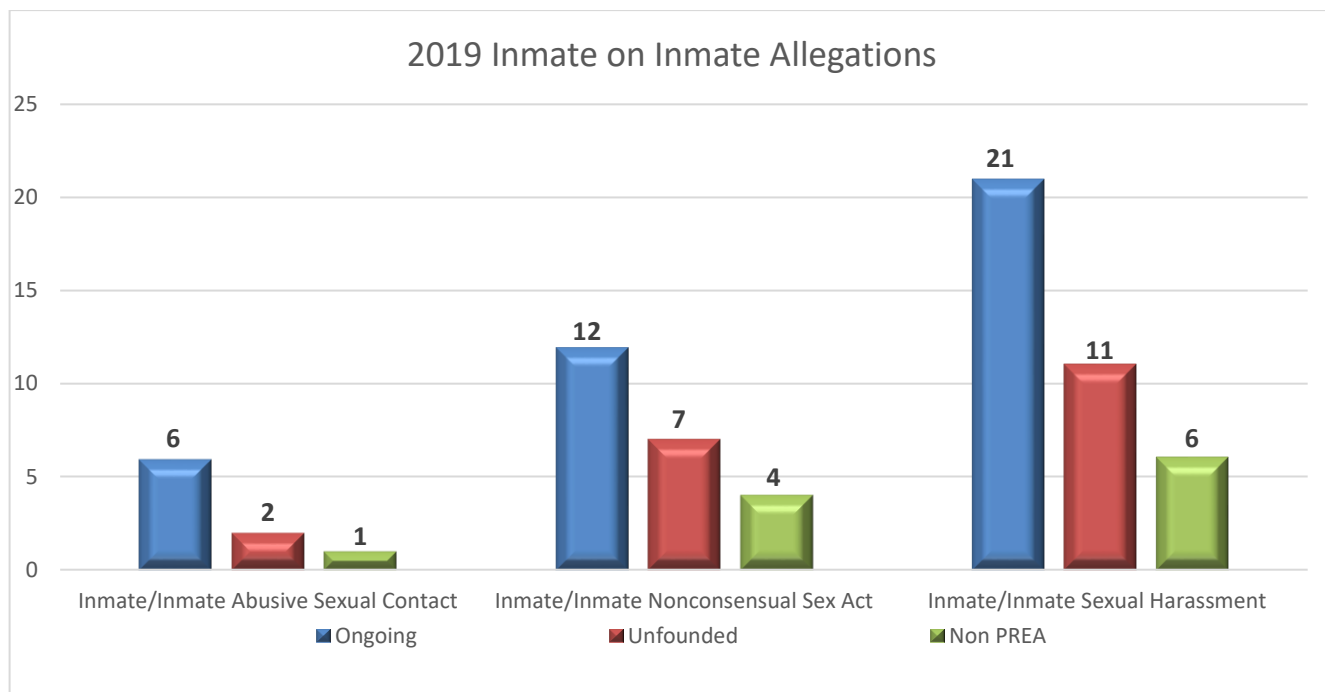
Voyeurism by a staff member, contractor, or volunteer means an invasion of privacy of an inmate, detainee, or resident by staff for reasons unrelated to official duties, such as peering at an inmate who is using a toilet in his or her cell to perform bodily functions; requiring an inmate to expose his or her buttocks, genitals, or breasts; or taking images of all or part of an inmate's naked body or of an inmate performing bodily functions.

Sexual harassment includes—

- (1) Repeated and unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or verbal comments, gestures, or actions of a derogatory or offensive sexual nature by one inmate, detainee, or resident directed toward another; and
- (2) Repeated verbal comments or gestures of a sexual nature to an inmate, detainee, or resident by a staff member, contractor, or volunteer, including demeaning references to gender, sexually suggestive or derogatory comments about body or clothing, or obscene language or gestures.

AGENCY PREA INCIDENT ANALYSIS

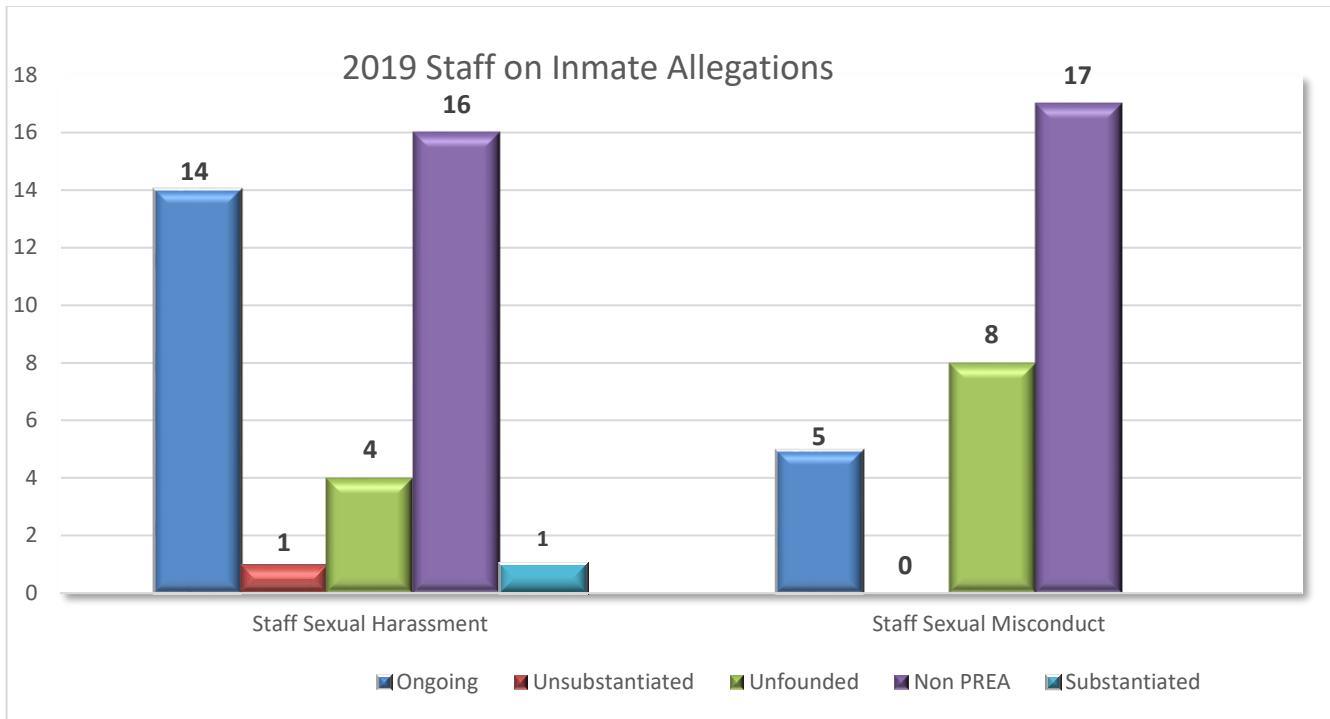
In 2019, 154 PREA allegations were received by the Department of Detention's, Investigations and Projects Unit for further investigation. Of those incidents reported, 70 allegations claimed they were victim of sexual abuse by another inmate, 66 allegations claimed they were victimized by staff, and the remaining 19 reports are categorized as 5 Non-PREA, 4 Substantiated, and 9 Unsubstantiated.



****All incidents are captured by date of occurrence, totals are subject to change.**

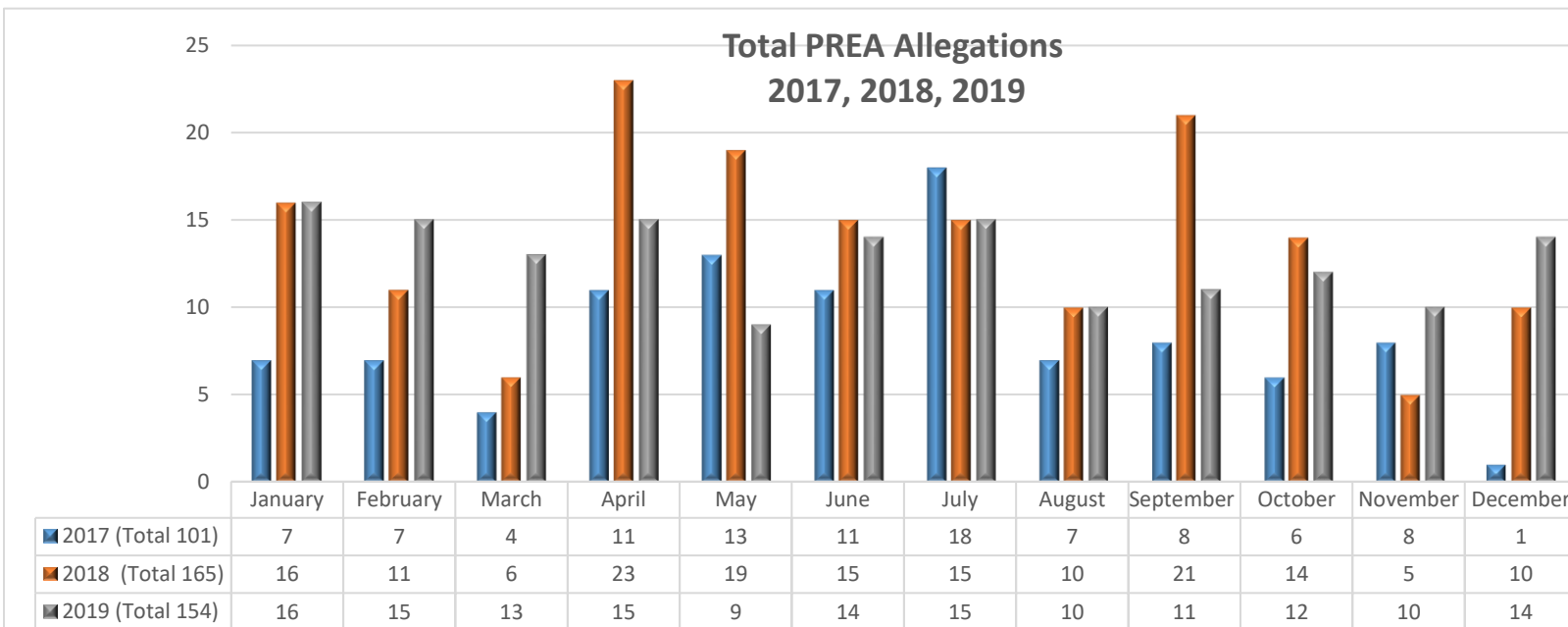
The above graph indicates 70 accounts of Inmate on Inmate allegations were reported in 2019. 38 of those incidents reported were sexual harassment allegations making up 54% of the total Inmate on Inmate complaints and 45% of all total PREA related complaints filed.

The below graph indicates 66 accounts of Staff on Inmate allegations were reported in 2019. 36 of those incidents reported were sexual harassment allegations making up 55% of the total Staff on Inmate complaints and 23% of all total PREA related complaints filed. For 2019 there has been one substantiated staff sexual harassment on inmate allegation as publication of this report.



****All incidents are captured by date of occurrence, totals are subject to change.**

Based on the information in the chart below there has been an increase in the number of PREA allegations filed from 2017 to 2018. This high increase is due to the emphasis placed in 2018, on educating both staff and inmates about their PREA rights and reporting methods.



****All incidents are captured by date of occurrence, totals are subject to change.**

Findings definitions:

Substantiated allegation: an allegation that was investigated and determined to have occurred.

Unfounded allegation: an allegation that was investigated and determined not to have occurred.

Unsubstantiated allegation: an allegation that was investigated and the investigation produced insufficient evidence to make a final determination as to whether or not the event occurred.

Non PREA: any acts or behavior not covered under the tenets of the National PREA Standards

ONGOING EFFORTS

The Broward Sheriff's Office Department of Detention is committed to ensuring inmates are not victimized by other inmates or staff during their incarceration. Our Agency is dedicated to eliminating sexual abuse and harassment in all our correctional facilities.

The Broward County Sheriff's Office has ZERO TOLERANCE for sexual abuse and sexual harassment.

HOW TO REPORT

Broward Sheriff's Office offers multiple ways to report sexual abuse and sexual harassment. Reports can be made anonymously.

- Call Broward Sheriff's Office PREA hotline at (954) 831-3775.
- Report to any staff, volunteer, contractor, or medical or mental health staff.
- Submit a grievance, inmate request, or a sick call slip.
- Report to the PREA coordinator or PREA compliance manager.
- Tell a family member, friend, legal counsel, or anyone else outside the facility. They can report on your behalf by calling (954) 831-3775.
- You also can submit a report on someone's behalf, or someone at the facility can report for you using the ways listed here.

