



JUVENILE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT

County of Galveston
(PROBATION and DETENTION SERVICES)

January 27, 2015

Brent Norris, Director
Galveston County Juvenile Justice Department
6101 Attwater Avenue
Texas City, Texas 77590

Re: Data review for corrective action

Mr. Norris,

The Galveston County Juvenile Justice Department has completed the 2014 review of sexual abuse data collected and aggregated pursuant to the requirements of the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) - Juvenile Facility Standards part 115.388 in order to assess and improve the effectiveness of the departments sexual abuse prevention, detection, and response policies, practices, and training applicable to the Jerry J. Esmond Juvenile Justice Center and the Galveston County Juvenile Justice Department.

Year over year comparison revealed no allegations of sexual abuse during the calendar year 2013 or 2014. PREA Data Collection records pursuant to 115.387 revealed one allegation reported in 2013 involving a substantiated case of staff sexual harassment and one allegation reported in 2014 related to a routine pat search that was assigned a disposition of unfounded following review of statements and video (see attached facility PREA Data Collection documents). These allegations are not related nor do they suggest a pattern of misconduct requiring a departure from the department's current course of action aimed at 100% compliance with PREA standards.

4M Youth Services, Inc DBA Rockdale Regional Juvenile Justice Center with which the department contracts for secure residential treatment reported 13 allegations of staff sexual misconduct with 10 assigned a disposition of unfounded and 3 substantiated resulting in the termination of the employee(s) involved. Our department placed one juvenile at this facility in 2013. Monthly in person contacts by the placement officer for the Galveston County Juvenile Justice Department revealed no allegations regarding the one resident placed at Rockdale by our department. No Galveston County probationers were placed at Rockdale during 2014. Based on the data submitted by the Rockdale Regional Juvenile Justice Center administration, it would appear that this facility has mitigated many of the problems which resulted in multiple allegations in 2013(see attached facility PREA Data Collection documents).

Beginning in 2012, the Galveston County Juvenile Justice Department began making tremendous strides to become compliant with all PREA standards including: policy and procedure implementation; responsive planning; training and education; screening for risk of sexual victimization and abusiveness; reporting; responding; and data collection related to sexual abuse and sexual harassment in Galveston County Juvenile Justice facility's and secure placements. The Galveston County Juvenile Justice Department is dedicated to full compliance with 28 C.F.R. Part 115 Prison Rape Elimination Act's Juvenile Facility Standards with policies, procedures and practices which have yielded a very low incidence of sexual violence in department facilities during 2013 and 2014.

Respectfully Submitted,



Glen R. Watson, LMSW
Deputy Director of Special Programs
PREA Coordinator

Approved By:



Brent Norris, Director
Galveston County Juvenile Justice Department

Dated: 1-27-15

