



# COUNTY OF NORTHAMPTON

## COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

### JUVENILE JUSTICE CENTER

650 FERRY STREET  
EASTON, PA 18042  
PHONE 610-829-6850 FAX 610-559-6857

**J. JERMAINE GREENE, SR.**  
DISTRICT COURT ADMINISTRATOR

**RUTH VEGA-VELEZ**  
ASSOCIATE COURT ADMINISTRATOR

**ALAN F. PFIZENMAYER**  
DIRECTOR

### PREA Annual Report - 2020

As of December 18, 2014, the Northampton County Juvenile Justice Center has been operating under a policy specifically designed with the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) concepts in mind. Through this PREA policy, it has been established that the NCJJC has a zero tolerance policy for any incidents involving juvenile sexual assault, rape, and harassment, along with staff to juvenile sexual assault, rape, and harassment. Furthermore, under this policy the facility has designed safety precautions specifically tailored to the PREA regulations. It is important to note here that as a result of the PREA regulations and the PREA policy of NCJJC, all residents, upon their intake undergo a PREA risk assessment evaluation. In this evaluation it is determined as to whether or not a juvenile is considered a risk to offend, act aggressively towards peers or staff, or a risk to be victimized. Based off of this information, the juveniles housing status is determined. In addition to the initial evaluation, the high risk juveniles then meet with a PREA evaluator who conducts a risk evaluation. A plan of safety is then set forth based off of the recommendation of the PREA evaluator. In addition to a PREA risk evaluation, all residents receive age and language appropriate educational material that reflects the zero-tolerance policy of sexual abuse as well as a pamphlet. Upon receipt of this information residents sign a document stating that they are in understanding of the PREA topics and the facility's zero-tolerance policy, and that they have the right to report abuse to an appropriate staff member.

In accordance with the NCJJC PREA policy, unannounced administrative rounds are completed by the Administration and supervisors to ensure the safety and security of the juveniles in our care. A log is kept to reflect all of the unannounced tracking rounds that were conducted within the facility per calendar year.

### Findings:

In the year 2020, the Northampton County Juvenile Justice Center accepted 176 new intakes. All new intakes completed a PREA risk assessment during the intake process. From 1/1/2020 and 12/31/2020, approximately 22 high risk juveniles met with the facility's PREA evaluators. It should be noted that the PREA evaluator determines whether or not a resident should be on close observational checks, is at risk to commit an offense, and if the resident

should be housed in a single occupancy room. In addition to these items, the PREA evaluator also documents the juvenile's history of abuse and makes the necessary reports to ChildLine if a resident reports abuse.

Lastly, all staff members are educated in the concepts of PREA by utilizing a slide show to explain the PREA regulations and the PREA policy itself. This training is held with every new staff member during their new employee orientation period and is scheduled every two years for current staff members. Both Youth Care Workers as well as administrators attend the training for PREA.

**Conclusion:**

In closing, the Northampton County Juvenile Justice Center has taken a firm approach in applying a zero-tolerance policy in regards to any form of sexual abuse or harassment. We, as a facility, have taken proper steps to educate all residents of the PREA guidelines that have been set forth by the PREA policy. There were no reports of any type of sexual misconduct for the year 2020. Furthermore, there were no investigations that were required to be completed as a result of any type of sexual misconduct. The facility has utilized all appropriate tools to operate appropriately under the PREA guidelines. In the future, the facility will continue to operate under a zero-tolerance policy for any form of sexual misconduct. All policies will remain in place and the facility will continue to educate both juvenile residents as well as staff members on the important information detailed within the PREA guidelines.

<b>Target Year</b>	<b>2019</b>
1. On December 31 of the Target Year, how many males were held in the facility?	16
2. On December 31 of the Target Year, how many females were held in the facility?	3
3. On December 31 of the Target Year, how many total juveniles were held in the facility?	19
4. Between January 1 and December 31 of the Target Year, how many juveniles were admitted to the facility?	176
5. Between January 1 and December 31 of the Target Year, how many non-consensual youth-on-youth sexual acts were reported?	0
5a. Of those acts in #5, how many were substantiated?	0
5b. Of those acts in #5, how many were unsubstantiated?	0
5c. Of those acts in #5, how many were unfounded?	0
5d. Of those acts in #5, how many are still under investigation?	0

6. Between January 1 and December 31 of the target year, how many allegations of staff misconduct were reported?	0
6a. Of those acts in #6, how many were substantiated?	0
6b. Of those acts in #6, how many were unsubstantiated?	0
6c. Of those acts in #6, how many were unfounded?	0
6d. Of those acts in #6, how many are still under investigation?	0
7. Between January 1 and December 31 of the target year, how many allegations of sexual harassment were reported?	0
7a. Of those acts in #7, how many were substantiated?	0
7b. Of those acts in #7, how many were unsubstantiated?	0
7c. Of those acts in #7, how many were unfounded?	0
7d. Of those acts in #7, how many are still under investigation?	0

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Sean Greco  
 PREA Coordinator

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Alan Pfizenmayer  
 Director of Operations