



Ada County Juvenile Detention Prison Rape Elimination Act Annual Report for 2022

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Total no. of juveniles booked into detention:	1,021	906	879	490	424	380
Total no. of juveniles released from detention:	1,001	892	888	507	432	380

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Allegations of youth-on-youth sexual acts:						
Substantiated	0	0	0	0	0	1
Unsubstantiated	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unfounded	0	1	1	0	0	0
Investigation ongoing	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total =	0	1	1	0	0	1

Allegations of youth-on-youth sexual harassment:						
Substantiated	0	0	0	1	0	0
Unsubstantiated	0	0	2	0	0	0
Unfounded	0	0	0	1	0	0
Investigation ongoing	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total =	0	0	2	2	0	0

Allegations of staff sexual misconduct with a juvenile:						
Substantiated	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unsubstantiated	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unfounded	0	1	0	0	0	0
Investigation ongoing	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total =	0	1	0	0	0	0

Allegations of staff sexual harassment of a juvenile:						
Substantiated	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unsubstantiated	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unfounded	0	0	0	0	0	0
Investigation ongoing	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total =	0	0	0	0	0	0

Total number of substantiated incidents reported in 2022: 1

Assessment of agency's progress in addressing sexual abuse

ACJS continues to work to eliminate any occurrence of sexual abuse or harassment in the detention center and investigates all allegations. There was one allegation of youth-on-youth touching investigated by the Ada County Sheriff's Office in 2022. This incident resulted in a simple battery charge being filed with the Ada County Prosecutor's Office.

Work done to ensure PREA compliance and implement the PREA standards

ACJS continues to ensure all staff and residents are trained in PREA and we continue to closely monitor the residents in our care. We reviewed our staffing patterns and where youth were housed in the facility. Residents were moved out of the wings and into two pods, which are designed for direct supervision with a workstation for Detention Officers.

Our previous PREA Coordinator retired in 2022 and Richard Maher was designated as the new PREA Coordinator for ACJS. He has been active in teaching the PREA classes in the detention facility and helping prepare for pre audits for the last 3 audit cycles. Richard attended the National PREA Coordinators conference in 2022.

Assessment of Improvements and Effectiveness in Sexual Abuse Prevention, Detection and Response

- **Identifying Problem Areas**

Policy changes were made to not allow males and females to sit at the same table when programming together.

- **Corrective Actions on an Ongoing Basis (staffing, cameras, etc.)**

The numbers of residents in the detention facility remained lower in 2022. This allowed us to meet required staffing ratios. A new staffing study was completed and presented to the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC). The BOCC authorized 4 new full-time Detention Officer positions as of October 1, 2022. All residents were moved to the east end of the building to better utilize staffing, which has allowed us to maintain direct supervision while the residents are in their rooms and living areas.

- **Training and Professional Development Successes**

All scheduled PREA trainings were held this year. A new online version of the PREA training was created for volunteers and contractors as well as for new hires and annual training.

Comparison of 2020 and 2021 Data

- **2021**

- ✓ 0 Substantiated Sexual Assault incidents
- ✓ 0 Substantiated Sexual Harassment incidents

- **2022**

- ✓ 1 Substantiated Sexual Assault incidents
- ✓ 0 Substantiated Sexual Harassment incidents

Specific Findings and Corrective Actions for ACJS Detention

- **Actions taken to ensure a low number of allegations/abuses**

We continue to closely supervise residents to help minimize the risk of PREA incidents. Residents housed in the pods are directly always supervised by Detention Officers.

- **Actions taken upon detecting and responding to allegations**

All incidents regarding PREA are investigated by trained investigators from the Ada County Sheriff's Office. The victim and alleged perpetrator are immediately separated and housed separately for the duration of the investigation and (depending on the outcome) possibly for the duration of their stay in the detention facility. Medical and Clinical staff are informed of any incidents and are available to help support victims.

Summary

ACJS continues to work to ensure juveniles remain safe while in our custody. The occurrence of sexual abuse at ACJS is very low due to high levels of security, close supervision, single occupancy rooms and showers, as well as increased amounts of programming throughout the day. We realize we must continue to remain vigilant regarding safety. We will continue to have a strong zero-tolerance policy and promote a safe environment. Results of investigations are used to assess the need for any changes at ACJS including, but not limited to, policies, procedures, physical plant characteristics, surveillance technology, staffing, shifts, personnel assignments, and supervision. ACJS takes a proactive approach when complying with the Prison Rape Elimination Act. All allegations of sexual abuse and sexual harassment are investigated.

Richard Maher
PREA Coordinator
Ada County Juvenile Services