

# Saluda County Detention Center

*PREA: The Prison  
Rape Elimination  
Act of 2003*



**An Informational  
Guide to PREA  
for Inmates  
and Detainees**

## **ZERO TOLERANCE**

It is the policy of the Saluda County Detention Center to provide a safe, humane and secure environment free from the threat of sexual abuse and harassment. The detention center will maintain a *zero tolerance policy* for any sexual abuse and harassment against any inmate by another inmate(s) or by a staff member(s). You will be free to confidentially report any allegations of sexual abuse or harassment without fear of retaliation as described in this booklet.

All allegations of sexual abuse or harassment will be administratively and/or criminally investigated. Perpetrators will be subject to internal discipline and, if applicable, to criminal prosecution.

## **REPORTING INCIDENTS**

There are many ways you can report incidents of sexual abuse or harassment or your knowledge or suspicions of sexual abuse and/or harassment. You can report an incident or allegation of sexual abuse and/or harassment either using your name or anonymously. **ALL** reports will be treated with respect and your confidentiality will be maintained. You will be free from retaliation for filing a report. Reports can be followed in any of the following manners:



**Ms. Janice Ergle**  
**Detention Center Administrator**

**Lt. Demetric Coleman**  
**Sgt. April Berry**  
**PREA Coordinator**

**Saluda County Detention Center**  
**205 East Church Street**  
**Saluda, SC 29138**  
**Main Line: (864) 445-0286**

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## **SELF PROTECTION TIPS**

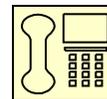
To help keep yourself safe, consider following these basic tips. Note that reporting any and all incidents will not only help keep you safe, but others safe too.

- Trust your instincts. If a situation feels wrong, leave! Avoid secluded areas and report any area you think is unsafe to staff. Stay in plain view of staff at all times.
- Don't let your manners get in the way of keeping yourself safe. Don't be afraid to say, "No!" or "Stop it Now!" Report these incidents.
- Avoid conversations about sex and nudity. Don't allow others to think you are making a sexual advance or that you are interested in a sexual relationship. If a sexual advance is made toward you, report it.
- Don't accept favors or gifts from another inmate or staff. Avoid inmates who claim they will protect you. Report these incidents.

## **WAYS TO REPORT INCIDENTS**



In writing using a *Grievance Form* or an *Request to Staff Member Form* addressed to the PREA Coordinator.



Using any inmate phone, dial #8 to reach a member of Sheriff's Office staff. You may also call Crime Stoppers by dialing 1-888-CRIMESC (274-6372) if you would rather report an incident to an outside party .



Verbally, to any staff member.

A friend or family member can also report an incident either by calling the detention center directly and speaking with the PREA Coordinator or Detention Center Administrator or by email to the PREA Coordinator or Administrator.

## **PREVENTION AND DETECTION**

Within 72 hours of your admission, you will be screened for your risk of sexual victimization or abusiveness. Your housing assignment will take into account the information taken from this screening form and other information obtained through classification documents. Our goal is to protect your safety and security, so your truthful responses to any questions is appreciated. You will not be punished for failing to answer any questions or for failing to provide complete information. Intake screening for PREA will be

conducted again within 30 days of your admission to account for any information that may have been received by the facility after your initial admission.

You will also receive orientation training on PREA. Training will focus on the importance of reporting incidents of sexual abuse and harassment. **The best way to prevent future incidents is to make certain all incidents are reported. Do not be afraid to report any suspected incident.** The Saluda County Detention Center will investigate or will arrange to be investigated all incidents, whether known or suspected.

### **MEDICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH RESPONSE**

Upon a report of sexual abuse or alleged sexual abuse, the PREA Coordinator and the Detention Center Administrator will also be informed of the incident. Staff will immediately separate the alleged victim and the abuser and will take the steps necessary to preserve, protect and collect any evidence. An investigation will take place and the victim of the abuse will be provided medical attention and services, to include appropriate mental health care evaluation and referrals. The victim may also be provided with appropriate victim support services and access to a victim advocate, either by phone or mail.

### **INVESTIGATIONS**

All reports of sexual abuse and retaliation will be investigated and the results will be documented in writing. You will be notified in writing if your report is determined to be *substantiated*, *unsubstantiated* or *unfounded*. You will also be notified of any action taken against an inmate or staff member who is the alleged perpetrator of a substantiated or unsubstantiated incident consistent with the requirements of PREA. Generally, investigations will be concluded within 90 days. If the investigation needs to be extended, you will be notified of the extension and will be provided a date by which a decision will be made. Extensions are allowed for up to an additional 70 days under the PREA Standards.

*The Saluda County Detention Center is committed to a zero tolerance policy against all forms of sexual abuse and harassment. Any substantiated allegation that is criminal in nature will be referred for prosecution. No exceptions.*