

The Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003

Congress enacted the Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003 (PREA) to address the problem of sexual abuse of persons in the custody of U.S. Correctional agencies. PREA call for federal, state, and local corrections systems to have a zero-tolerance policy regarding prison rape (as defined by PREA) in prisons, jails, police lock-ups, and other confinement facilities. The Act applies to all public and private institutions that house adult or juvenile offenders and to community-based correctional agencies.

Effingham County Prison Zero Tolerance Policy

Effingham County Prison mandates zero tolerance towards all forms of Sexual Abuse and Sexual Harassment in the facility. Effingham County Prison operates with the scope of Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003 (PREA) and the DOJ National Standards to Prevent, Detect and Respond to Prison Rape (Final Rule, Dated, June 2012) or Subpart A of the DHS Standards to Prevent, Detect and Respond to Sexual Abuse and Assault in Confinement Facilities (79 Fed. Reg. 13100 date March 7, 2014), Decatur County Prison will comply with these regulations as required.

Investigation

All cases of alleged sexual conduct shall be promptly, thoroughly, and objectively investigated. Upon substantiation of any allegation of sexual conduct, appropriate disciplinary actions will be taken against the employee, contractor, volunteer, or individuals at Effingham County Prison. Those actions may include possible criminal prosecution. If the allegation potentially involves criminal behavior, Effingham County Prison will ensure that allegations of sexual abuse or sexual harassment are referred for investigation to an agency with the legal authority to conduct criminal investigations.

Questions about Effingham County Prison's PREA program

Victor Walker, Warden

Clifford Kennedy, Deputy Warden

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All requests for information that is not provided must be requested as an open records request. Some information will be redacted due to privacy act, safety and security.