



# GEORGIA

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

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## **Prison Rape Elimination Act**

### **(PREA)**

## **2014 Annual Report**

**Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) Annual Report - 2014**  
**Georgia Department of Corrections**

**Introduction**

The Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003 (PREA) was signed into federal law with the purpose to provide for the analysis of incidence and effects of prison rape in Federal, State and local institutions and to provide information, resources, recommendations and funding to protect individuals from prison rape. In 2012, the Bureau of Prisons published standardized guidelines promulgated by the Attorney General of the United States. PREA applies to all public and private institutions that house adult or juvenile offenders.

The Georgia Department of Corrections (GDC) maintains a zero-tolerance policy regarding sexual abuse and harassment of offenders within the agency's 33 state prison facilities, 13 transitional centers, 8 probation detention centers, 6 substance abuse and integrated treatment facilities, 23 county correctional institutions and 4 private prisons.

All potential PREA cases are reported through notifications to the *Special Agents in Charge* of the Office of Professional Standards and to the Statewide PREA Coordinator. The cases are documented in the form of incident reports and are entered into an internal offender management program (SCRIBE) as well as maintained at the originating facility in which the allegation was made. Allegations can be administratively or criminally investigated depending on the nature of the alleged incident. The Statewide PREA Coordinator tracks the progress of the investigations with constant contact with the facility in which the allegation was made and with the investigator that is assigned to the case, if applicable. Upon completion of each investigation, appropriate disciplinary action is taken against the perpetrator; where criminal intent is discovered, the case is presented to the appropriate District Attorney for prosecution. Case files of PREA allegations of a criminal nature are maintained for a period of at least ten years upon completion of the investigation.

It is important to note that the Georgia Department of Corrections is continually improving the reporting and investigation methods to ensure the highest level of compliance, as well as swift corrective action when needed. The agency's zero tolerance policy not only aims to protect all offenders under GDC jurisdiction from sexual harassment and abuse, but also protect from retaliation anyone who reports illegal activity and participates in an investigation.

This report summarizes all 2014 PREA allegations that were generated from within the 33 state prison facilities. As reporting methods are improved, future reports will contain PREA investigation data from all GDC offender housing facilities. Contract facilities (private prisons and county correctional institutions) who supervise state offenders are required by law to produce their own annual PREA reports which can be found on their respective websites.

The Georgia Department of Corrections compiles and investigates PREA allegations in 2 major categories as defined below:

**Sexual Abuse** of an offender, detainee, or resident by a staff member, contractor, or volunteer includes any of the following acts, with or without consent of the offender, detainee, or resident:

1. Contact between the penis and the vulva or the penis and the anus, including penetration, however slight;
2. Contact between the mouth and the penis, vulva, or anus;
3. Contact between the mouth and any body part where the staff member, contractor, or volunteer has the intent to abuse, arouse, or gratify sexual desire;
4. Penetration of the anal or genital opening, however slight, by a hand, finger, object, or other instrument, that is unrelated to official duties or where the staff member, contractor, or volunteer has the intent to abuse, arouse, or gratify sexual desire;
5. Any other intentional contact, either directly or through the clothing, of or with the genitalia, anus, groin, breast, inner thigh, or the buttocks, that is unrelated to official duties or where the staff member, contractor, or volunteer has the intent to abuse, arouse, or gratify sexual desire;
6. Any attempt, threat, or request by a staff member, contractor, or volunteer to engage in the activities described in paragraphs (1) through (5) of this definition;
7. Any display by a staff member, contractor, or volunteer of his or her uncovered genitalia, buttocks, or breast in the presence of an offender, detainee, or resident.
8. Voyeurism by a staff member, contractor, or volunteer. Voyeurism by a staff member, contractor, or volunteer means an invasion of privacy of an offender, detainee, or resident by staff for reasons unrelated to official duties.

The Department also recognizes any acts, as listed above, between *offenders*, as sexual abuse.

**Sexual Harassment or Misconduct** includes:

1. Repeated and unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or verbal comments, gestures, or actions of a derogatory or offensive sexual nature by one offender, detainee, or resident directed toward another; and
2. Repeated verbal comments or gestures of a sexual nature to an offender, detainee, or resident by a staff member, contractor, or volunteer, including demeaning references to gender, sexually suggestive or derogatory comments about body or clothing, or obscene language or gestures.

Due to reporting method limitations, 2014 data cannot be further broken down into the specific type (i.e. Offender-on-Offender or Staff-on-Offender) of allegation. The PREA reporting and tracking methodology for 2015 has been updated, and future reports will contain breakdowns of the above types of allegations.

The final determination of an investigated allegation will fall into one of three major categories:

1. **Substantiated**: an allegation that was investigated and determined to have occurred.
2. **Unsubstantiated**: an allegation that was investigated and the investigation produced insufficient evidence to make a final determination as to whether or not the event occurred.
3. **Unfounded**: an allegation that was investigated and determined not to have occurred.

### 2014 PREA Investigations

During calendar year 2014, there were a total of 1,059 PREA allegations at the 33 state prison facilities. Of those 1,059 allegations, 737 (69.6%) were Unsubstantiated, 314 (29.7%) were Unfounded and 8 (0.8%) were Substantiated. All 2014 PREA investigations have been completed and closed. Appropriate disciplinary action or prosecution has been initiated for perpetrators of substantiated allegations.

Total Reported PREA Allegations	1,059	% of total allegations
Substantiated	8	0.8%
Unsubstantiated	737	69.6%
Unfounded	314	29.7%
Investigation Ongoing	0	0.0%

Of the 1,059 PREA allegations, 504 were *abuse* allegations (either *Offender on Offender* or *Staff on Offender*); of those 504 *sexual abuse* allegations, 375 (74.4%) were Unsubstantiated, 124 (24.6%) were Unfounded and 5 (1.0%) were Substantiated

Total Abuse Allegations	504	% of total abuse allegations
Substantiated	5	1.0%
Unsubstantiated	375	74.4%
Unfounded	124	24.6%
Investigation Ongoing	0	0.0%

The remaining 555 PREA allegations were Sexual Harassment or Misconduct allegations (either *Offender on Offender* or *Staff on Offender*); of those 555 *sexual harassment or misconduct* allegations, 362 (65.2%) were Unsubstantiated, 190 (34.2%) were Unfounded and 3 (0.5%) were Substantiated. .

Total Sexual Harassment or Misconduct Allegations	555	% of total harassment or misconduct allegations
Substantiated	3	0.5%
Unsubstantiated	362	65.2%
Unfounded	190	34.2%
Investigation Ongoing	0	0.0%

Of the 8 substantiated PREA allegations, 3 had investigations completed and closed at the local facility level. The remaining 5 had investigations completed and closed out by Special Agents within the Office of Professional Standards.

### Conclusion

As the Georgia Department of Corrections continues to improve the processes in how PREA allegations are reported and investigated, future iterations of this report will reflect those steps forward in ensuring the highest level of compliance with PREA mandates. Further breakdowns of allegations, along with detailed reporting from all Department of Corrections facilities, will allow the agency to continue to achieve its goal of protecting all offenders from sexual harassment and abuse, as well as those who seek to report illegal activity.

Appendix A

State Prison	Reported Allegations			Substantiated Allegations			Unsubstantiated Allegations			Unfounded Allegations			Allegations per Offenders Facility Ratio <sup>1</sup>	Facility Type
	Total	Abuse	Harassment or Misconduct	Total	Abuse	Harassment or Misconduct	Total	Abuse	Harassment or Misconduct	Total	Abuse	Harassment or Misconduct		
ASMP	125	35	90	0	0	0	70	25	45	55	10	45	0.105	Special Mission
GDCP	31	8	23	1	1	0	4	1	3	26	6	20	0.015	
GSP	155	74	81	0	0	0	116	56	60	39	18	21	0.107	
Baldwin SP	108	38	70	3	2	1	94	31	63	11	5	6	0.116	Close Security
Hancock SP	21	9	12	0	0	0	10	6	4	11	3	8	0.020	
Hays SP	56	22	34	0	0	0	29	15	14	27	7	20	0.050	
Macon SP	53	28	25	0	0	0	48	26	22	5	2	3	0.032	
Phillips SP	40	20	20	0	0	0	36	17	19	4	3	1	0.046	
Smith SP	15	10	5	0	0	0	3	1	2	12	9	3	0.010	
Telfair SP	15	12	3	0	0	0	15	12	3	0	0	0	0.012	
Valdosta SP	70	44	26	0	0	0	43	30	13	27	14	13	0.064	
Ware SP	109	88	21	0	0	0	89	74	15	20	14	6	0.081	
Arrendale SP <sup>ii</sup>	35	14	21	0	0	0	21	5	16	14	9	5	0.030	
Autry SP	47	22	25	1	1	0	30	12	18	16	8	8	0.028	
Burruss CTC	4	4	0	0	0	0	4	4	0	0	0	0	0.006	
Calhoun SP	11	4	7	0	0	0	11	4	7	0	0	0	0.007	
Central SP	18	9	9	0	0	0	15	8	7	3	1	2	0.017	
Coastal SP	8	2	6	0	0	0	4	2	2	4	0	4	0.005	
Dodge SP	14	6	8	0	0	0	13	6	7	1	0	1	0.012	
Dooly SP	7	1	6	1	0	1	5	1	4	1	0	1	0.004	
Emanuel WF	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0.003	
Helms Facility	2	1	1	0	0	0	2	1	1	0	0	0	0.051	
Johnson SP	38	14	24	0	0	0	25	10	15	13	4	9	0.025	
Lee SP	4	2	2	0	0	0	3	1	2	1	1	0	0.005	
Long SP	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.005	
Montgomery SP	6	1	5	0	0	0	2	0	2	4	1	3	0.016	
Pulaski SP	13	7	6	0	0	0	12	8	4	1	0	1	0.011	
Rogers SP	15	10	5	0	0	0	11	7	4	4	3	1	0.012	
Rutledge SP	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0.002	
Walker SP	4	1	3	1	0	1	3	1	2	0	0	0	0.010	
Washington SP	22	8	14	0	0	0	11	5	6	11	3	8	0.015	
Whitworth WF	2	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	0.005	
Wilcox SP	8	7	1	0	0	0	6	5	1	2	2	0	0.004	
<b>Facility Totals</b>	<b>1059</b>	<b>504</b>	<b>555</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>737</b>	<b>375</b>	<b>362</b>	<b>314</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>0.029</b>	

<sup>1</sup> This ratio is calculated by dividing the "total number of allegations" by the "average daily population" of each facility during 2014. This ratio provides a more realistic comparison of facilities based on allegation counts.  
<sup>ii</sup>Female facilities highlighted in pink

## Appendix B

### PREA Focused Initiatives

**Arrendale State Prison** – Electronic monitoring systems were enhanced in food service areas and dormitories to assist with elimination of blind spots. Large mirrors were installed in hallways and stairwells in multiple areas of the facility. Two ladders were removed to the upper level storage areas in inmate store to eliminate access to prohibited areas. *Female Services* training was conducted in October 2014 which included a PREA block of instruction specific to female offenders.

**Augusta State Medical Prison** – Removed all window blinds. Added mirrors in the kitchen hallway and clinic hallway. Electronic monitoring systems were enhanced in several areas of the facility. Shelving was rearranged in central supply, inside the warehouse, and the inmate classrooms. The shower doors were modified to provide privacy without compromising security. Enhanced PREA training was conducted for all volunteers entering the institution. PREA training is conducted for all new cadets, during their orientation, by the Sexual Assault Response Team (SART). SART is also providing training and updates to security staff during their quarterly meetings. PREA is discussed during all quarterly meetings.

**Autry State Prison** – Warehouse shelves were moved and the backs were removed in order to see down the rows and see between the shelves. A mirror was placed inside the laundry in order to see behind the washers. Cameras, which are monitored through central control, were added in the administration area, visitation lobby, and multipurpose room. Food Service, maintenance, inmate fire team, and pharmacy staff received training by the facility SART team in October and December of 2014 regarding PREA policy, processes and expectations. Procedures were implemented to ensure cross-gender announcements are made on housing units and documented in logbooks. Further processes were implemented to ensure notification is made to offenders after the close of an investigation. PREA informational posters were placed throughout facility. Blinds were removed from any unnecessary areas to increase visibility.

**Baldwin State Prison** – A window was put in the solid door in mental health office. Cabinets were moved in the file room to eliminate blind spots. Window coverings were removed to increase visibility. Monitors were added so that there would be a clear view of all offenders in Crisis Stabilization Unit (CSU) cells. In-service training sessions were conducted for mental health employees and medical employees. Processes have been put in place to ensure acknowledgement statements and required signatures have been obtained and placed in the personnel file of all staff. All non-structural blind spots have been eliminated. Cabinets have been rearranged in the left corner of the education classroom. The facility implemented systems to facilitate recognition of PREA victims/aggressors. Shelving was rearranged to increase visibility between rows and a lock was placed on the utility room in maintenance area. An unnecessary door was removed and a mirror was placed in the corner of the rear hallway.

**Burruss Correctional Training Center** – A process was implemented to ensure PREA reports are filed and stored for 3 years. Boxes and shelving were rearranged to increase visibility in the warehouse. A restroom lock was changed in the warehouse and Corrections Emergency Response Team (CERT) rounds were increased in the area. Electronic monitoring was enhanced in the kitchen preparation area, warehouse, back dock, kitchen back dock, classrooms, warehouse, and laundry.

**Central State Prison** – Mirrors were installed in the warehouse. Cameras are now installed in living units as well as the kitchen, warehouse, chapel and front entry. Blinds have been removed from the security, vocational and education area. The gym windows have been restructured and windows have been installed in doors that were previously solid. Monthly management meetings and shift briefings now include PREA procedures as topics. PREA posters are now in all offender living areas and common areas.

**Coastal State Prison** – Mirrors were installed in the medical/mental health building, administration building, and library to eliminate blind spots. All window blinds were removed from the medical/mental health building. Cameras were added in the infirmary. The compliance manager has attended shift briefings for review of PREA standards. Use of notification forms has been implemented to notify victims of investigation outcome. Posters have been placed in all housing units.

**Dodge State Prison** – Tinting in Q-Building control room was removed to allow better visibility. A communication plan was implemented to push PREA information out during department meetings and shift briefings. A new protocol to require shower curtains to remain open/up when not in use was established. Mirrors were installed in the back corner of care and treatment secretary's office and in front of the career center to improve visibility. Mirrors were also installed in the laundry and warehouse to improve visibility. The back sides of the shelf ends were removed in the warehouse to allow for direct view.

**Dooly State Prison** – Mirrors were installed in the bakery area of the kitchen and behind the washers and dryers in the laundry area. Shelving was relocated in the medical unit that was obstructing view. Electronic monitoring enhancements made in additional areas to include Tier units.

**Emanuel Facility** – Solid doors replaced with windowed doors in necessary areas to provide visibility. Unnecessary blinds were removed from windows. Electronic enhancements were made in certain areas of dormitories. Staff members are informed of PREA policies and updates during shift briefings and meetings throughout the year and topics addressed are documented during meeting minutes. All offenders viewed the PREA video, were given information on Zero Tolerance, the right to be free from Sexual Assault/Misconduct and reporting avenues. There were question and answer sessions and acknowledgement forms signed and placed in files.

**Georgia Diagnostic and Classification Prison** – Mirrors were installed in blind spots in the store area. Mirrors were also installed in the maintenance area. A PREA logbook is now recorded into by the Duty Officer after conducting rounds. Incident reports are entered in a timely manner and another log ensures that all offenders are given a Mental Health evaluation after being placed in protective custody. Flash cards and various training aids have been given to staff to test PREA knowledge. Victim advocates for Rape Crisis have been identified via memo. Zero Tolerance images have been painted on the walls in each offender housing unit and in the diagnostics remodeling area.

**Georgia State Prison** – Structured block movement has been implemented for all inmates so they are escorted in groups to scheduled activities. Electronic monitoring was enhanced in the infirmary. Updated PREA posters were reposted in living units and common areas. Unannounced PREA rounds were implemented. A regular communication plan of prevention, detection, and response of sexual abuse in all staff meetings and briefings was implemented. The admissions and orientation inmate handbook was updated to include PREA information. Processes to ensure PREA screening assessments are conducted within 48 hours of inmate arrival to the facility were implemented. A private screening is done within 72 hours. Training was provided to all counselors in the PREA process.

**Hancock State Prison** – Shelving was rearranged in the warehouse between January and December 2014. Large objects were moved higher so that no view was obstructed. Mirrors were placed in the warehouse. The ID room shower curtains were removed. Administration attended staff meetings for Security staff and Administrative staff to review PREA policy.

**Hays State Prison** – The wall partitions in the mental health office were removed to provide more visibility. PREA related incident reports were moved to a secure location to limit access of information to only those who need to know. The question and answer process was streamlined for providing PREA education to inmates who are admitted to the Tier program. Additional training was provided to counseling and mental health staff about proper documentation procedures. CCTV cameras were added to the medical and intake areas.

**Johnson State Prison** – Unnecessary blinds were taken down and mirrors were added to eliminate blind spots in various areas throughout facility. Electronic monitoring enhancements were made in the multi-purpose area. PREA is discussed in shift briefings and morning meetings. Two officers are designated as interpreters - one on 1st shift and the other on 2nd shift. Medical also has a language line that can be utilized as needed.

**Lee State Prison** – A back door was added to the ID Room to provide privacy during intake process. CERT members are now equipped with and wear body cameras. PREA training is presented in briefing. Cross-gender announcements have been incorporated in daily processes. Procedures for conducting and documenting PREA rounds were implemented. Enhancements to inmate education during intake were implemented. A mirror was installed in the laundry area.

**Long State Prison** – Laundry clothing storage area shelving modified to increase visibility. Law library door lock changed to enhance security. Cross-gender announcements incorporated into daily operations. New and larger PREA posters were placed in the housing areas next to the phones and in the areas that are commonly used by the inmates. The shower curtains were modified to allow privacy without compromising security and safety. A mirror was placed inside the commissary. Enhancements were made to staff PREA training and additional training provided to staff about reporting sexual allegations.

**Macon State Prison** – The PREA Hotline number was painted above every phone in the housing units, ID room, and infirmary. Phones in the tier/administrative segregation units were engraved with the PREA hotline number. Reminders were posted in living units to announce opposite gender presence in dorms. The medical staff completed specialized training. PREA awareness is discussed in the Warden's morning meetings. PREA standards are discussed with staff during daily inspections and rounds. A procedure for announcing and documenting opposite gender presence on living units was implemented. Additional training is now provided and an improved deliberation process for investigating PREA allegations was implemented. PREA posters were placed in housing units and common areas.

**Montgomery State Prison** – Mirrors were added in the laundry and kitchen areas to better aid with visibility. Electronic monitoring was enhanced in the multi-purpose area and visitation area. A representative from the management team attends staff meetings and shift briefings frequently to educate the staff on the importance of PREA and ways to prevent incidents.

**Phillips State Prison** – Electronic monitoring enhancements were made in various areas of facility. PREA is covered in shift briefings regularly. Processes were put in place to ensure cross-gender announcements are made on living units. SART is working with staff to increase PREA awareness. Implemented procedure to ensure screening process is completed during intake. Safe housing has been identified and procedures were implemented to ensure inmates are housed appropriately based on their screening. Procedures have been implemented for regular checks to ensure inmates housed in administrative segregation are appropriately assigned. Windows were added to office doors. The kitchen warehouse area was rearranged to increase visibility in the area.

**Pulaski State Prison** – Processes were implemented to ensure newly hired employees receive PREA notification and training during pre-service orientation. Further procedures were implemented to ensure screening information is used for making appropriate housing assignments. A mirror was installed in various areas to increase visibility. Electronic monitoring enhancements made throughout facility. Visibility was increased in the break area in GCI warehouse and installed locks to ensure inmates cannot enter restricted storage areas. Boxes and shelving were rearranged in the inmate store to increase visibility. Procedures were implemented to ensure blinds on exam rooms in medical are raised when examinations are not being conducted. Solid doors throughout the institution were either replaced or modified to increase visibility.

**Rogers State Prison** – Shelving units in the libraries have been rearranged to increase visibility. Privacy screens are being utilized rather than blinds on medical exam room doors. Also, a privacy screen is being utilized in the visitation area in front of the shakedown room entrance. PREA training is conducted in shift briefings and at monthly meetings. Additional PREA & Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) training is conducted with staff after they graduate Basic Correctional Officer Training (BCOT) for several weeks before they are assigned to a shift or post. Specialized training is available for staff when required. A response plan with first responder instructions was implemented, along with a procedure for conducting unannounced PREA rounds in all areas of the facility.

**Rutledge State Prison** – Window coverings in the training area have been secured open when not in use. Unnecessary window coverings have been removed. A process was implemented to ensure cross-gender announcements are being made in housing units and documented in log books.

**Smith State Prison** – Unnecessary blinds were removed from office windows. PREA signs posted in high and low traffic areas. Names and contact information of SART team members have been published and the PREA compliance manager is now issuing pamphlets upon initial entry into the facility. The PREA video is now being shown. A process has been implemented to provide notification to offenders upon completion of investigation of PREA allegations.

**Valdosta State Prison** – Shelving units were moved to alleviate blind spots and hiding places. Unnecessary blinds were removed from interior windows. Electronic enhancements were made throughout facility. PREA discussions are now included at all monthly/quarterly department meetings. Once aggressors/victims are identified, room assignments are made accordingly and noted on the ID board. Cross-gender announcements are being made in all living areas of the center.

**Walker State Prison** – A window was added to the law library door to increase visibility. Unnecessary blinds were removed to increase visibility. Security personnel actively conduct rounds in areas at increased intervals. New posters have been placed throughout the facility. Permanent posters have been painted on the wall in food service area. PREA is discussed in shift briefings with security staff and in community meetings. Spanish speaking employees were identified that can provide interpreting services.

**Ware State Prison** – Mirrors were installed in the bakery area of the kitchen and behind the washers and dryers in laundry area. Shelving was relocated in the medical unit that was obstructing view. Electronic monitoring was installed in various locations of the facility and in Tier units. A program was started for our new recruits returning from BCOT. New officers receive two week training at the facility before being released for shift. All PREA procedures and standards are reviewed with veteran staff at briefing before each shift in addition to yearly in-service.

**Washington State Prison** – Mirrors were added in the library legal research area and books were removed from the top shelves to increase visibility. Additional training was added with PREA information including monthly meetings with SART and management staff, along with shift briefings and updated pamphlets and videos. A contract with Language Line and an agreement with bilingual staff have been obtained to assist with limited English proficiency, deaf and disabled inmates.

**Whitworth Women's Facility** – Metal gates were expanded to limit access to areas behind the visitation vending machines and the dryers in the laundry. Visibility was increased by installing two lights to better illuminate the courtyard at night. Offender library space has been reorganized for more visibility. Lights were added to the upstairs area of the maintenance shop, which are kept on throughout the night to brighten this area. Implemented a mandatory 'Women's Services' meeting for all facility staff. A webinar focusing on *Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender & Intersex* (LGBTI) was held for mental health and medical staff. PREA is discussed at every staff meeting with random question and answer sessions occurring. Each staff member is being given a copy of new staff guide "*The Prevention and Reporting of Sexual Misconduct with Offenders.*" Incident reports are being prepared and entered in SCRIBE and classified as Major.

**Wilcox State Prison** – Expanded metal barriers installed in food service areas to limit access. Pallets were rearranged in food service warehouse and general warehouse to eliminate blind spots. Mirrors were installed in the laundry to eliminate blind spots behind washing machines. Blinds were removed from the medical exam room. Electronic monitoring enhancements were made in the living units, kitchen, dining room and back dock. All employees were briefed on PREA SOP. A lock was added to the medical door in the infirmary. A PREA Compliance Manager was designated. Unnecessary blinds were removed. Shower curtains were lowered to provide adequate visibility yet privacy. Paint was removed from the windows in the gym.