

Serving the following Localities: Brunswick County Dinwiddie County Mecklenburg County

Crystal L. Willett Superintendent

9000 Boydton Plank Road Alberta, VA 23821 (434) 949-6700 (434) 949-0180 Fax

## MEHERRIN RIVER REGIONAL JAIL

The Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) of 2003 is a federal law established to support the elimination and prevention of sexual assault and sexual misconduct in correctional systems. PREA addresses both inmate-to-inmate sexual assault and staff-to-inmate sexual assault. The Meherrin River Regional Jail fully supports the guidelines set forth in this law and has ZERO-TOLERANCE for any and all incidents of sexual assault and sexual misconduct in accordance with the Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003.

This report provides a comparison of incidents from 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016 and will be utilized by the PREA Coordinator to identify problem areas and formulate corrective measures in efforts of reducing future incidents of sexual abuse.

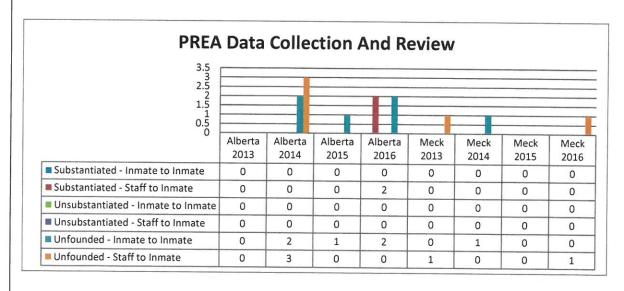
In accordance with PREA, all investigations are assigned one of three possible determinations:

**Substantiated** – an allegation which was investigated and determined to have occurred.

**Unsubstantiated** – an allegation which provided insufficient evidence to make a final determination of a substantiated or unfounded claim.

**Unfounded** – an allegation which was investigated and determined not to have occurred.

In 2016, there were 4 allegations for the Alberta facility and 1 allegation for the Mecklenburg facility. The chart below provides a comparison between 2016, 2015, 2014 and 2013.





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In 2016, there were 2 substantiated allegations at the Alberta facility; the 2 allegations were staff to inmate. Due to the investigative efforts of MRRJ, these 2 investigations were concluded and administrative and criminal proceedings were completed. There were 2 unfounded allegations at the Alberta facility; the 2 allegations were inmate to inmate. Due to the investigative efforts of MRRJ, the 2 allegations were unfounded. There was 1 allegation at the Mecklenburg facility, the 1 allegation was staff to inmate. Due to investigative efforts of MRRJ, the 1 allegation was unfounded.

In 2015, there was 1 unfounded allegation at the Alberta facility, the 1 allegation was inmate to inmate. Due to the investigative efforts of MRRJ, the 1 allegation was unfounded.

In 2014 the 5 unfounded allegations at the Alberta facility, 3 allegations were MRRJ staff to inmate and 2 allegations were inmate to inmate. Due to the investigative efforts of MRRJ along with the Brunswick County Sheriff's Office, all 5 allegations were unfounded.

For the Mecklenburg facility, in 2013 the 1 allegation was MRRJ staff to inmate and 2014, 1 allegation was inmate to inmate. Due to the investigative efforts of MRRJ along with the Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office, both allegations were unfounded.

Two of the allegations were located in the dry storage room in the kitchen with one female correctional officer and 1 contract food service worker.

**Corrective Measures**: In 2016, the facility upgraded the electronic monitoring system which expands our capacity to review film footage of inmate actions. Two cameras were installed in the dry storage room located in the kitchen. These two cameras can also be monitored in the control room with 24 hour observation.

Meherrin River Regional Jail makes every effort for reducing and/or eliminating staff on inmate and inmate on inmate sexual abuse and sexual harassment. This will be done by continuous inmate education along with staff training. This was validated by MRRJ's results with the Alberta and Mecklenburg facility successfully attaining PREA certification in 2015 with no corrective measures deemed necessary. Meherrin River Regional Jail has continued expectations of successfully attaining PREA certification without corrective action being necessary.

Captain of Security
PREA Coordinator

3/28/17

Date

Crystal Willett

Superintendent