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## 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.

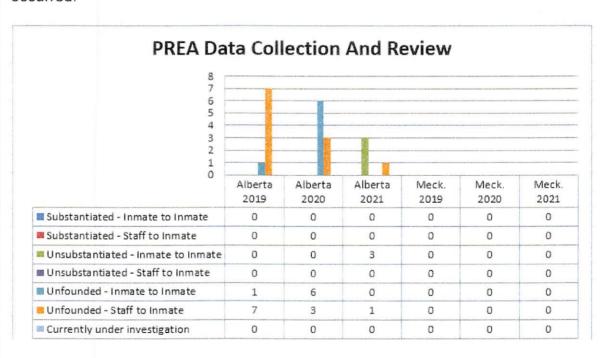
This report provides a comparison of incidents in 2019 - 2021 and will be utilized by the PREA Coordinator to identify problem areas and formulate corrective measures in efforts of reducing future incidents of sexual abuse.

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 2021, there were 4 allegations at the Alberta facility; 1 allegation was staff-to-inmate and 3 allegations was inmate-to-inmate. Due to the investigative efforts of MRRJ, 1 investigation was concluded and deemed unfounded and 3 were unsubstantiated. There were 0 at the Mecklenburg facility.

**Corrective Measures**: In 2021, the facility upgraded the electronic monitoring system which expands our capacity to review film footage of inmate actions and staff actions. 1 camera was added to the transportation area, 1 to the magistrate lobby, and 3 cameras were added to the Programs area. There was also a security electronic upgrade that included new monitors, touchscreens, and the ability to add more cameras when needed. No upgrades were made to the Mecklenburg facility as it was temporarily closed on January 7, 2021 due to the effects of COVID-19.

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 retaining PREA certification in 2020 with no corrective measures deemed necessary. Meherrin River Regional Jail has continued expectations of successfully retaining PREA certification without corrective action being necessary.

Brent Wright

Deputy Superintendent PREA Coordinator

Date

Crystal Willett

Superintendent

519/2022

Date