

South Correctional Entity

2023 PREA Report



Background

The Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) is a federal law that prohibits sexual misconduct in correctional settings such as prisons, jails, lockups, juvenile facilities, and INS detention facilities. Sexual misconduct under this law includes:

- Detainee-on-detainee sexual assault and abuse
- Staff-on-detainee sexual misconduct (sexual/inappropriate relationships with inmates)
- Detainee-on-detainee sexual harassment
- Staff –on-detainee sexual harassment

The South Correctional Entity (SCORE) is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for staff and inmates. SCORE has zero tolerance for sexual misconduct of any kind and will impose discipline for such misconduct, up to and including dismissal for staff and serious infractions for inmates who victimize other inmates. Incidents of sexual misconduct will also be referred to law enforcement when applicable. SCORE's policies regarding sexual misconduct apply to all inmates. They also apply to employees, contractors, and volunteers.

General Information

During 2023, there were a total of 15,308 new admissions into the SCORE Facility. Of the new admissions, 12,203 identified as male, 3,103 identified as female, and 2 did not specify a gender. The average daily population of SCORE for this year was 437.

- ◆ These admissions include repeat detainees booked on new charges and persons officially booked into and housed within the facility with formal legal documents on the authority of the courts or other legitimate lawful purposes.
- ◆ SCORE also completed a PREA audit in 2023, and those findings will be reported once received from the PREA auditor.

The South Correctional Entity utilizes the definition of “sexual abuse” as provided by 28 C.F.R. §115.6 in the National Standards to Prevent, Detect, and Respond to Prison Rape (under the Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003). For purposes of tracking, sexual abuse is disaggregated into three categories of inmate-on-inmate sexual victimization. These categories are:

NONCONSENSUAL SEXUAL ACTS:

Sexual contact of any person without his or her consent, or of a person who is unable to consent or refuse;
AND

Contact between the penis and the vulva or the penis and the anus including penetration, however slight;

OR

Contact between the mouth and the penis, vulva, or anus;

OR

Penetration of the anal or genital opening of another person, however slight, by a hand, finger, or other instrument.

ABUSIVE SEXUAL CONTACTS

Sexual contact of any person without his or her consent, or of a person who is unable to consent or refuse;
AND

Intentional touching, either directly or through the clothing, of the genitalia, anus, groin, breast, inner thigh, or buttocks of any person.

Exclude incidents in which the contact was incidental to a physical altercation.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT

Repeated and unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or verbal comments, gestures, or actions of a derogatory or offensive sexual nature by one inmate directed toward another.

The South Correctional Entity utilizes the definition of “sexual abuse” by a staff member, contractor or volunteer as provided by 28 C.F.R. §115.6 in the National Standards to Prevent, Detect, and Respond to Prison Rape (under the Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003). For purposes of tracking, sexual abuse is disaggregated into two categories of staff-on-detainee sexual victimization. These categories are:

STAFF SEXUAL MISCONDUCT

Any behavior or act of a sexual nature directed toward a detainee by an employee, volunteer, contractor, official visitor or other agency representative (exclude family, friends or other visitors.)

Sexual relationships of a romantic nature between staff and detainees are included in this definition. Consensual or nonconsensual sexual acts include-

Intentional touching of the genitalia, anus, groin, breast, inner thigh, or buttocks that is unrelated to official duties or with the intent to abuse, arouse, or gratify sexual desire;

OR

Completed, attempted, threatened, or requested sexual acts;

OR

Occurrences of indecent exposure, invasion of privacy, or staff voyeurism for reasons unrelated to official duties or for sexual gratification.

STAFF SEXUAL HARASSMENT

Repeated verbal statements, comments or gestures of a sexual nature to an inmate by an employee, volunteer, contractor, official visitor, or other agency representative (exclude family, friends, or other visitors). To include, but not limited to -

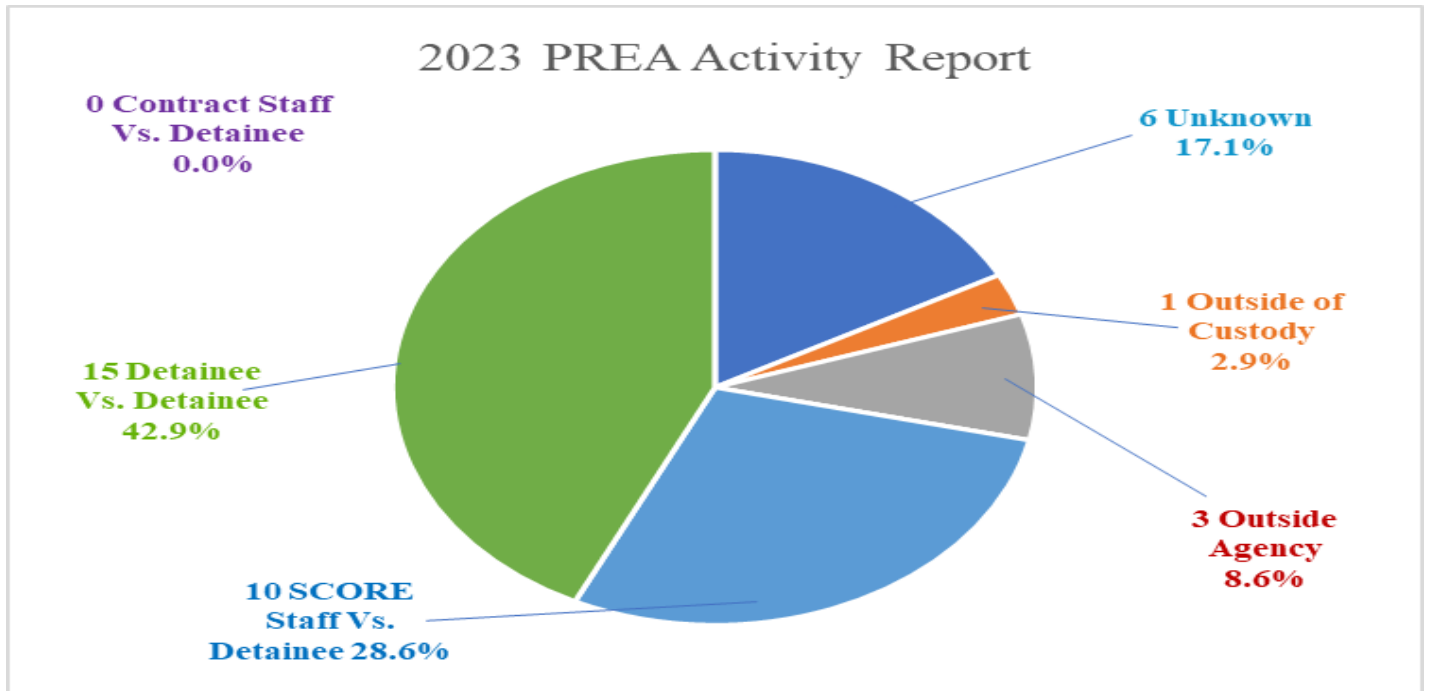
Demeaning references to gender or sexually suggestive or derogatory comments about body or clothing;

OR

Repeated profane or obscene language or gestures.

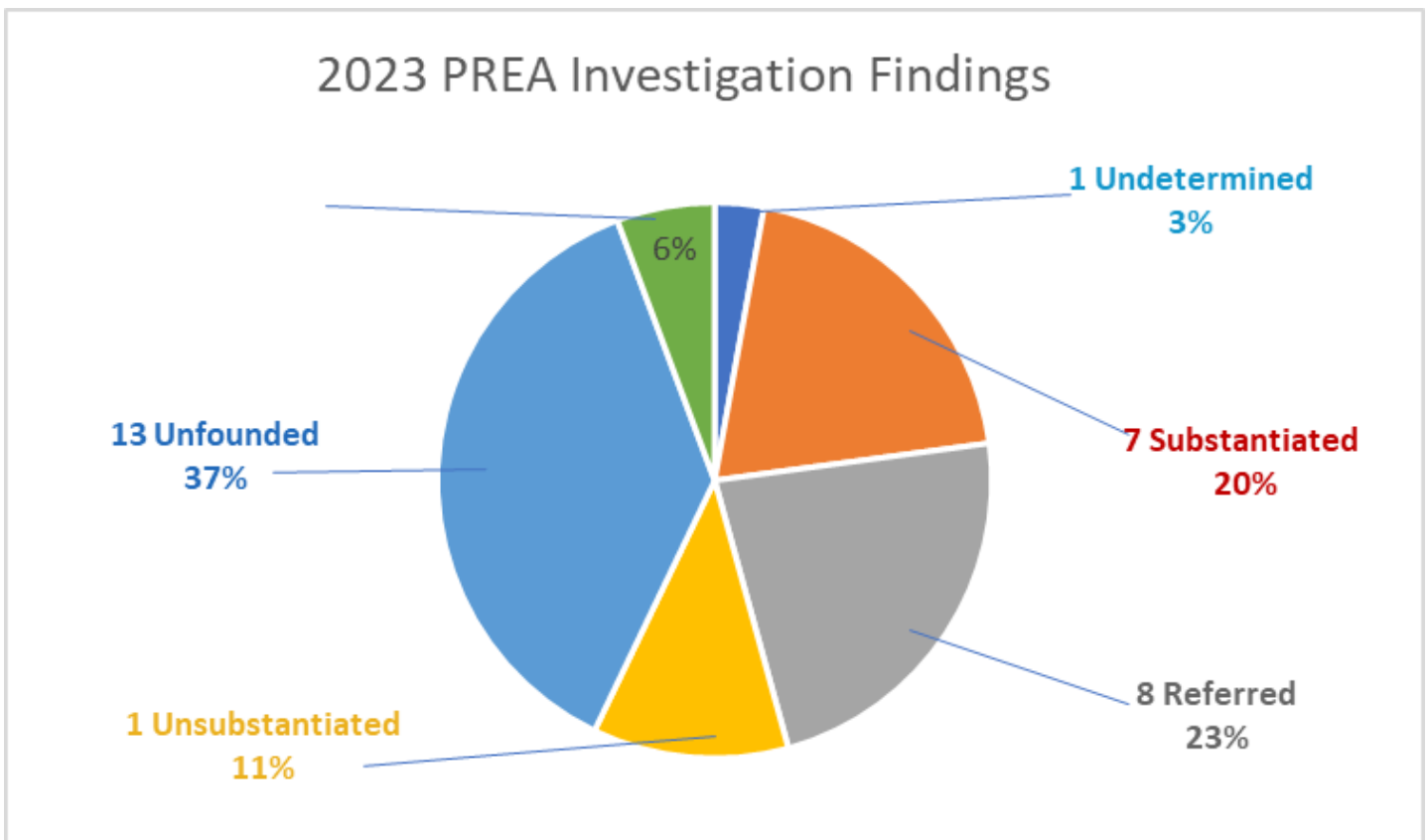
PREA Report Activity

The chart below captures the number of “Detainee vs. Detainee”, “SCORE Staff vs. Detainee”, and “Contract Staff vs. Detainee”, “Outside Agency”, “Out of Custody”, and “Unknown” reports that occurred during 2023, with 35 allegations.



PREA Report Findings

In 2023, there were 13 allegations that were unfounded, eight referrals to other agencies, two exonerated, four unsubstantiated, one undetermined, and seven substantiated findings.



Outcomes are defined as follows:

- ◆ **UNFOUNDED:** The allegation is false or not factual.
- ◆ **EXONERATED:** The allegation investigated substantially occurred, but was lawful and proper.
- ◆ **UNSUBSTANTIATED:** There is insufficient factual evidence either to prove or disprove the allegations.
- ◆ **SUBSTANTIATED:** The allegation is supported by sufficient factual evidence.
- ◆ **UNDETERMINED:** The complainant withdraws the complaint, cannot be located, and/or is uncooperative OR the accused employee separates from employment before the conclusion of the investigation.
- ◆ **REFERRED:** § 115.63 Reporting to other confinement facilities.
 - (a) Upon receiving an allegation that an inmate/detainee was sexually abused while confined at another facility the head of the facility that received the allegation shall notify the head of the facility or appropriate office of the agency where the alleged abuse occurred.
 - (b) Such notification shall be provided as soon as possible, but no later than 72 hours after receiving the allegation.
 - (c) The agency shall document that it has provided such notification.
 - (d) The facility head or agency office that receives such notification shall ensure that the allegation is investigated in accordance with these standards.

SCORE maintains compliance with PREA standards in accordance with PREA standard 115.11(b) *“the agency shall employ or designate an upper-level, agency-wide PREA coordinator with sufficient time and authority to develop, implement, and oversee agency efforts to comply with the PREA standards.”*

The SCORE continues to carry out and address sexual violence within the facility that is overseen by the PREA Coordinator by:

- ◆ Reviewing agency policies to ensure compliance with standards and related expectations.
- ◆ Updating and expanding training to staff, contractors, volunteers and vendors who have contact with detainees, with specialized training for investigators, and health services professionals.
- ◆ Specialized trained PREA investigators on each shift.
- ◆ Continuing to review and update risk assessment tools for detainees to ensure they are housed and assigned to programming in accordance with their risk as a potential victim or perpetrator of PREA.
- ◆ Continuing to review and update communication strategies for staff, detainees, volunteers and the community regarding reporting venues and detainee rights to be free from victimization.
- ◆ Partnering with the City of Kent Detention Facility, Kent Jail, for PREA reporting for detainees that occurs within SCORE.
- ◆ Continuing to partner with the King County Sexual Assault Resource Center (KCSARC) for the provision of support services to detainee sexual assault survivors.

SCORE’s mission is to providing the highest quality public safety services to those that we serve by operating a safe and secure facility for detainees and staff with the belief that as the custodians for detainees, the provision of an environment free from sexual violence and harassment is a core mission. This agency has a duty to provide clear expectations to detainees, staff, contractors, and volunteers to maintain a violence-free facility. Lastly, SCORE staff, contractors, and volunteers have a duty and obligation as public servants to allow opportunities for detainees to serve their sentences in an environment free from sexual violence and sexual harassment by supporting opportunities for successful community reentry while breaking the cycle of violence following release.