

KDOC 2020 PREA Annual Report

(In accordance with 28 CFR § 115.88)

The Ball- Quantrell Jones Hope Center for Women has long embraced the principles associated with the Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003 (PREA). The Ball-Quantrell Jones Hope Center for Women with the help of the Department of Corrections took active steps to train staff to refrain from prohibited contact and inappropriate relationships with residents while also working toward the prevention and elimination of sexual abuse within the facility.

In 2010, the Commonwealth of Kentucky demonstrated its effort to ensure zero tolerance of sexual abuse in confinement facilities by taking legislative action that made it a felony to commit such an act.

Since 2006, The BQJ Hope Center for Women has contracted with the KDOC to house probationers and parolees. In 2019 the KDOC contract mandated that the facility be compliant with all PREA standards and is subject to monitoring by the KDOC to ensure its compliance.

Every two years since we have worked to be compliant with PREA standards and undergo inspection visits from KDOC PREA staff to ensure compliance.

In 2016 there were two (2) investigations conducted in which one was unfounded and the other unsubstantiated.

In 2017 there were two (2) investigations conducted in which one (1) was substantiated for consensual sexual abuse and the other unfounded.

In 2018 there were two (2) investigations conducted in which one (1) was unsubstantiated and one (1) substantiated for sexual harassment.

In 2019 there were 16 interviews within one investigation conducted in which six (6) unfounded for sexual abuse, six (6) unsubstantiated for sexual abuse along with four (4) substantiated cases of consensual sexual encounters.

In 2020 there were two (2) investigations conducted in which one (1) was unsubstantiated for sexual abuse and one (1) substantiated for sexual harassment.

At the conclusion of each sexual abuse investigation that was found to be either substantiated or unsubstantiated, a sexual abuse incident review was conducted at the facility in accordance with PREA standard 115.86.

Through these reviews, identified problem areas or areas lacking compliance and addressed each area. This identification process allowed the BQJ Hope Center for Women to bring the identified problem areas or areas of non-compliance into compliance and to enhance the safety of its inmate population. The below corrective actions are the result of these reviews.

The BQJ Hope Center for Women had a recommendation to add more video cameras to areas that appear conspicuous. Some examples of the progress made by the BQJ Hope Center for Women during 2020 in addressing sexual abuse is the continued PREA training for all staff,

contractors, and volunteers as well as the specialized PREA investigator training that the Department provides to staff across the state who are selected to conduct PREA investigations. The specialized PREA investigator training includes the Director and the Assistant Director. We have participated in all trainings sponsored by the KDOC.

An overall comparison of incident-based data that was collected for the facility in 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, and 2020 is as follows:

BQJ Hope Center for Women

**Total Allegations of
Sexual Abuse/Consensual Sexual**

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Substantiated	0	1(CS)	0	4 (CS)	0
Unsubstantiated	1	0	1	6	1
Unfounded	1	0	0	6	0
Total	2	1(CS)	1	12	1

BQJ Hope Center for Women

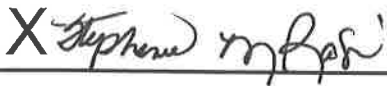
**Total Allegations of
Sexual Harassment**

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Substantiated	0	0	1	0	1
Unsubstantiated	0	0	0	0	0
Unfounded	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	1	0	1

The BQJ Hope Center for Women continues to evaluate this data and to ensure that accurate information is reported to the Department of Justice on a yearly basis. An external review of prior-year cases in 2019 indicated problems with reporting and investigation practices, resulting

in inflated numbers of sexual abuse and sexual harassment cases. Specifically, the reporting of sexual abuse and sexual harassment was too inclusive, and often included allegations which should have only been classified as staff or inmate misconduct as opposed to PREA-related allegations. By and large, this error featured the reporting of non-repeated sexual harassment as PREA allegations, which were then unfounded based on the fact that the allegations did not meet the PREA standard definition of sexual harassment, which requires the actions, comments, or gestures reported be repeated. Following this review, corrected numbers for prior-year cases (2014-2017) were submitted to the Department of Justice by the agency that conducted the review. However, the numbers reported in the tables above for 2015-2017 include the original, raw data from the relevant investigations and not the corrected data that resulted from this review. As a result of this external review, the Department conducted its own review of all 2018 and 2019 PREA cases, which sought to ensure proper categorization of each case and appropriate data reporting to the Department of Justice.

Approved by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stephanie M. Raqlin", is written over a solid horizontal line.

Stephanie M. Raqlin
Director of Programs