

## **How to report Sexual Abuse or Sexual Harassment.**

### **You can report sexual abuse in multiple ways:**

If you have information regarding a resident who has been the victim of sexual abuse while under custody or community supervision, please call either of the following hotline numbers:

- **New Jersey Coalition against Sexual Assault (NJCASA) 1-800-601-7200**
- **Department of Child Protection & Permanency (DCP&P) 1-877 652-2873**

You don't have to give your name but it is critical that you provide as many details as possible.

This includes:

1. The name(s) and locations of persons involved
2. The name(s) or description of any witnesses to the incident
3. DOC number (if an offender)
4. A brief description of the incident(s)
5. A brief description of where the event(s) occurred
6. The date(s), time and place of occurrence(s)
7. Names and contact information of others who might have additional information about the incident
8. Your contact phone number and address (optional)

## **Investigation Process**

### **How does the PREA investigation process work?**

1. Essex County Juvenile Detention Center ( ECJDC) has zero tolerance towards any form of sexual abuse or harassment in accordance with the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA).
2. All allegations brought forward against offenders under the jurisdiction of ECJDC are thoroughly investigated.

### **Administrative Investigations**

1. Essex County Juvenile Detention Center (ECJDC) conducts administrative investigations into allegations of sexual misconduct, to include sexual harassment, promptly, thoroughly, and objectively. This includes all third-party and anonymous reports.
2. Internal Affairs staff who have received special training conduct in-house interviews as assigned by the Director.
3. Internal Affairs will contact third party agencies after a review of all physical and testimonial evidence included in the written investigation report.

### **Criminal Investigations**

1. When the quality of evidence appears to support criminal activity, the Internal Affairs will conduct in house interview and investigations before consulting with Law Enforcement (Sherriff's Department).
2. Law enforcement agencies will refer all applicable investigations to the Prosecutor's Office (SVU) for investigation and review.
3. Special Victims Unit (SVU) will document their findings in a written report that contains a thorough description of physical, testimonial, and documentary evidence and attached copies of all documentary evidence. And pursue legal action as feasible.