

Essex County Juvenile Detention Center
Practices a Strict

ZERO - TOLERANCE

Policy on all forms of PREA Violations and any form
of abuse against residents in this facility.

An Abuse of Power

Due to the imbalance of power between offenders and staff in correctional settings, sexual interactions between staff (who have power) and offenders (who lack power) are unprofessional, unethical and illegal.

Juveniles can not consent to sex with adults.

In fact, the law states

“consent”

is not a defense to prosecution.

PREA Online Info & Additional Resources

Visit our website at WWW.ESSEXCOUNTYNJ.ORG

(Dept of Citizen Services / ECJDC PREA Policies)

OR

WWW.NATIONALPREARESOURCECENTER

WWW.DEPTOFJUSTICEwebsite

PARENTS GUIDE HOW TO FILE A PREA REPORT

You as a Parent / Guardian/ or Caregiver have the
right to file a report or call:

Local Police Department / Sherriff Department.

Attorney / Public Defender representing your child.

Department of Child Protection & Permanency (DCP&P)
CHILD ABUSE/NEGLECT HOTLINE.

1-877-NJ ABUSE (652-2873) (24/7)

NJ Coalition Against Sexual Assault (NJCASA)

1 (800) 601-7200

Rape, Abuse and Incest National Network (RAINN)

1-800-656-4673 (24/7)

For Immediate response contact the

Essex County Juvenile Detention Center

By dialing Admin- (973) 497-4720

Director: Dennis E. Hughes @ Ext: 2228
Superintendent: Gina Saunders @ Ext: 2226
Internal Affairs Mr. Williams @ Ext 2234
Ms Morton @ Ext 2254

PREA Coordinator / Manager: @ Ext 2330

ALL INFORMATION REPORTED

IS

CONFIDENTIAL.

ESSEX COUNTY JUVENILE DETENTION CENTER



Prison Rape Elimination Act (P.R.E.A)

Information Guide for

PARENTS

GUARDIANS

CAREGIVERS



80 DURYEA STREET
NEWARK, NEW JERSEY 07103
TEL: (973) - 497-4720



Our primary concern at the Essex County Juvenile Detention Center is maintaining a safe environment for our staff and residents.

We encourage you to consult this manual from time to time as a reminder of your responsibilities and to refresh your memory of our Zero-Tolerance Policy for sexual abuse and harassment."

Joseph N. DiVincenzo, Jr.

Essex County Executive

and the Board of Chosen Freeholders

What is PREA?

On September 4, 2010, the Prison Rape Elimination Act was signed into law. All confinement institutions – public and private – community corrections, jails, prisons, and detention centers which house adult or juvenile offenders are accountable for this federal law.

The law covers both staff sexual misconduct and inmate on inmate assault.

The Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) is a law. The U.S. government made this law. The law says that all correctional institutions must reduce violent crimes that happen within them. Everyone deserves to be safe, and the law protects you from other residents or staff who may sexually violate your child.

Any conduct of a sexual nature with a resident, whether the resident invites the conduct or not, is prohibited by law and by the ECJDC's

Zero-Tolerance Policy.

ECJDC Follows This Law By:

- Providing a safe environment.
- Teaching residents and staff about the kinds of behavior that would indicate that a resident is being violated against.
- Teaching residents and staff what to do if they witness or are being violated by another resident or staff.

What are the goals of PREA?

- The goal of PREA is to provide safety inside for all throughout the ECJDC.

We take it seriously.

We want you to take it seriously.

What is Sexual Misconduct?

Sexual misconduct of any kind, by or with anyone, including residents, visitors and staff will not be tolerated. Examples of sexual misconduct are:

- Sexual touching.
- Possession of pornographic material.
- Exposing yourself.
- Making sexually inappropriate comments to residents, staff or others in the building.
- Sexual relationships with either staff or other residents.

Safety Assurances:

- Your child has the right to be safe at all times.
- No one has the right to ask your child for sex or sexual favors.
- Any sexual contact between residents, residents and staff, residents and volunteers and/or residents and contractors or vendors is against the law.

Forms of sexual misconduct include, but are not limited to:

1. Any behavior of a sexual nature directed toward an offender by a Department staff, contract staff, or volunteer.
2. Inappropriate touching between offenders and staff.
3. All completed, attempted, threatened, or requested sexual acts between Department staff and the offender.
4. Sexual comments and conversations with sexually suggestive innuendos or double meanings.
5. Display or transmittal of sexually suggestive posters, objects, or messages.

Depending on the investigation findings of an alleged incident, the outcome may result in :

Loss of offenders job/ assignment and the **possibility of criminal charges.**

In addition, persons accused of sexual harassment in civil or criminal proceedings may be held personally liable for damages to the person harassed.