

Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) Reporting Information

SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS

This document is required to be posted in each Housing Unit. While detained in the Caldwell County Jail you have a right to be safe and free from sexual harassment and sexual assaults.

DEFINITIONS

A. Inmate-on-Inmate Sexual Abuse/Assault

One or more detainees engaging in or attempting to engage in a sexual act with another detainee or the use of **threats, intimidation, inappropriate touching** or other actions and/or communications by one or more detainees aimed at **coercing and/or pressuring** another detainee to engage in a sexual act.

B. Staff-on-Inmate Sexual Abuse/Assault

Staff member engaging in, or attempting to engage in a sexual act with any detainee or the intentional touching of a detainee's genitalia, anus, groin, breast, inner thigh, or buttocks with the intent to abuse, humiliate, harass, degrade, arouse, or gratify the sexual desires of any person. **Sexual abuse/assault of detainees by staff or other detainees is an inappropriate use of power and is prohibited by CCSO policy and the law.**

C. Staff Sexual Misconduct is:

Any sexual behavior between a staff member and detainee with or without consent of the detainee including but not limited to: Contact between the penis and the vulva or penis and anus including penetration however slight; contact between the mouth and the penis, vulva or anus: Contact between the mouth and any body part where the staff member has the intent abuse, arouse, or gratify sexual desire. Penetration of the anal or genital opening, however slight by hand, finger or other object, that is unrelated to official duties. Any other intentional contact directly or through clothing of genitalia, anus, groin, breast, inner thigh or buttocks that is unrelated to official duties. Any display by staff member of his/her uncovered genitalia,

buttocks or breast. Voyeurism be a staff member for reasons unrelated to official duties. Sexual Harassment includes: Repeated and unwelcome sexual advances, request for sexual favors, or verbal comments, gestures of a derogatory or offensive nature. Repeated comments or gestures of a sexual nature by a staff member, including demeaning references to gender, sexually suggestive or derogatory comments about body, or clothing, or obscene language or gestures.

Prohibited Acts

An inmate, who engages in inappropriate sexual behavior with or directs it at others, can be charged with the following Prohibited Acts under the Inmate Disciplinary Policy.

- **Using Abusive or Obscene Language**
- **Sexual Assault**
- **Making a Sexual Proposal**
- **Indecent Exposure**
- **Engaging in Sex Act**

Detention as a Safe Environment

While you are detained, no one has the right to pressure you to engage in sexual acts or engage in unwanted sexual behavior regardless of your age, size, race, or ethnicity. Regardless of your sexual orientation, you have the right to be safe from unwanted sexual advances and acts.

Confidentiality

Information concerning the identity of a inmate victim reporting a sexual assault, and the facts of the report itself, shall be limited to those who have the need to know in order to make decisions concerning the inmate-victim's welfare and for law enforcement investigative purposes.

Report All Assaults!

If you become a victim of a sexual assault, you should report it immediately to any staff person, to include housing officers, chaplains, medical staff, or supervisors. Staff members keep the reported information confidential and only discuss it with the appropriate officials on a need to know basis. If you are not comfortable reporting the assault to staff, you have other options:

- Write a letter reporting the sexual misconduct to the Jail Captain. To ensure confidentiality, use special (Legal) mail procedures.
- File a Grievance - If you decide your complaint is too sensitive to file with the Officer in Charge, you can file your Grievance directly with the Jail Lieutenant. You can get the forms from your housing unit officer.

REPORT SEXUAL ABUSE AND SEXUAL HARASSMENT

- *Tell ANY staff person*
- *Dial #5 from any inmate phone (private/external reporting option provided by Lockhart PD)*
- *File a grievance (anonymously if desired)*
- *Have a family/friend report on your behalf by: (third party reporting)*
 - *Email*
 - ccso.prea@co.caldwell.tx.us
 - *Write letter to Caldwell County Jail 1204 Reed Dr. Lockhart, Tx. 78644*
 - *Call 512-398-6777*
- *If You need access to an outside victim advocate for emotional support services related to sexual abuse you may contact HCWC (Hays-Caldwell Women's Center)*
- *Dialing # 4 on any inmate phone (this is private/unrecorded call)*
- *Call (512) 396-HELP (4357)*
- *Contact by mail: PO Box 234 San Marcos, Tx. 78667 (this mail is privileged- unmonitored / treated as legal mail)*
ALL REPORTS ARE CONFIDENTIAL

What is Institutional Sexual Violence?

Sexual violence can include both sexual abuse and sexual harassment by another resident, staff member, contractor or volunteer.

Sexual Harassment

- Repeated and unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or verbal comments, gestures or actions of a derogatory or an offensive sexual nature by one offender directed towards another.
- Repeated comments or gestures of a sexual nature towards a resident by a staff member, contractor or volunteer.

Sexual Abuse

- Forced sexual intercourse, including psychological intimidation or bullying and physical force.
- Sexual abuse is achieved through use of fear or threat of physical violence.
- Can also include incidents where penetration is from a foreign object.
- Definition includes male or female victims, regardless of sexual orientation.

There are three types of Facility Sexual Abuse:

1. **Inmate on Inmate:** One or more residents engaging in or attempting to engage in a sexual act.
2. **Staff on Inmate:** Staff engaging in or attempting to engage in a sexual act with a resident.
3. **Staff on Inmate Misconduct:** Sexual behavior between Staff and an Inmate which can include indecent, profane or abusive language or gestures or inappropriate surveillance of residents.

Tips for Avoiding Sexual Abuse

A victim is never to blame for being attacked, but these tips may help you lower your risk of being abused.

1. Carry yourself in a confident manner at all times.
2. Pay attention to your surroundings.
3. Do not permit your emotions (fear/anxiety) to be obvious to others.
4. Do not accept gifts or favors from others.
5. Do not accept any offer from another inmate to be your protector or “friend”.
6. Find a staff member with whom you feel comfortable discussing your fears and concerns. Confide in them if you feel threatened.
7. **Be Alert!** Do not use contraband such as drugs or alcohol as they will weaken your ability to stay alert and make good judgments.
8. Be direct and firm when others ask you to do things that you don’t want to do.
9. Do not give mixed messages to others regarding your wishes for sexual activity.
10. Stay in well-lit areas.
11. Choose your associates wisely.

What To Do If You Have Been Sexually Abused?

1. Tell a staff member as soon as possible.
2. Seek medical attention **BEFORE** you shower, eat, drink, change clothing, brush your teeth or use the bathroom.
3. Give as much information as possible to the questions you are asked.

CALDWELL COUNTY SHERIFF’S OFFICE



SEXUAL ABUSE AWARENESS

End the Silence...

Caldwell County Sheriff's Office Has **ZERO TOLERANCE** regarding Sexual Abuse and Sexual Harassment. The goal of CCSO and this Facility is the safety of the inmates incarcerated here. CCSO will hold accountable any persons found to have committed any form of sexual abuse against another person.