



COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO  
SHERIFF'S OFFICE  
Ian Parkinson *Sheriff-Coroner*

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# 2019 PRISON RAPE ELIMINATION ACT (PREA) ANNUAL REPORT

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**County of San Luis Obispo Sheriff's Office**

1585 Kansas Ave. | San Luis Obispo, CA 93405 | (P) 805-781-4550

[www.slosheriff.org](http://www.slosheriff.org)

## **BACKGROUND**

The Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) was passed in 2003 to protect inmates from sexual harassment and/or assaults from other inmates and/or staff members. The goal of PREA is to prevent, detect, investigate any incidents of sexual assault, harassment, or misconduct. For further information, you can visit [Homepage | PREA \(prearesourcecenter.org\)](http://prearesourcecenter.org).

The San Luis Obispo County Sheriff's Office has a **zero-tolerance** policy regarding sexual harassment, assault, or misconduct directed toward inmates; either from other inmates and/or staff members.

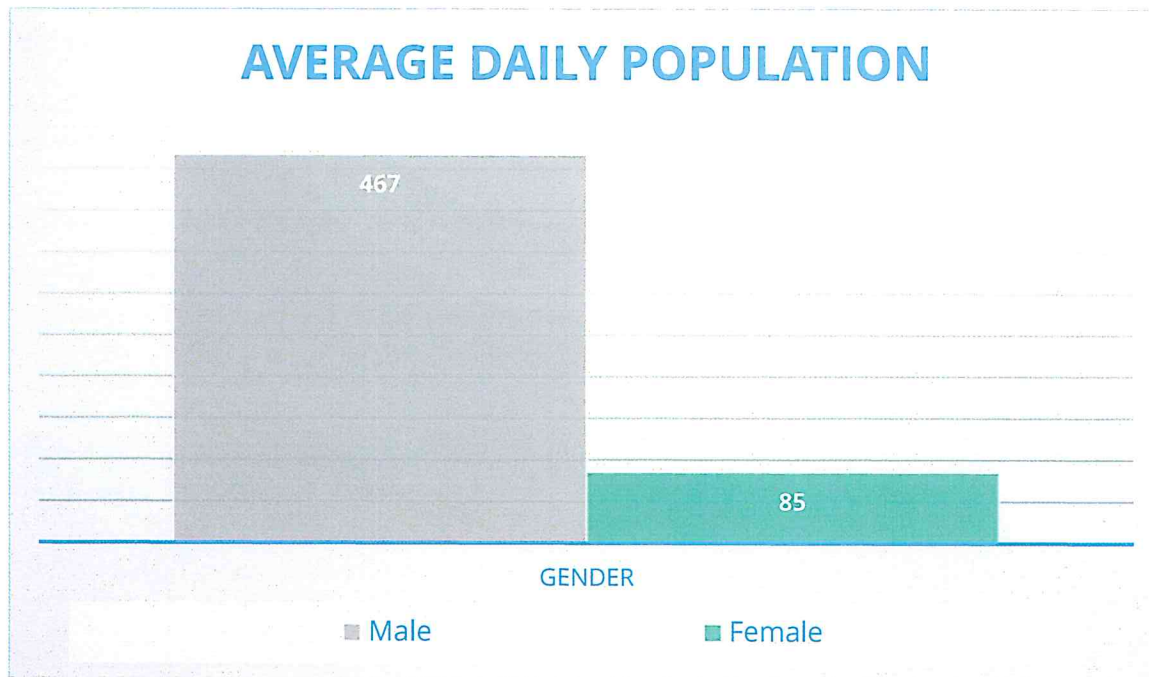
All staff members who encounter inmates; including Correctional Deputies, civilian employees, volunteers, and contractors, are provided PREA training prior to having unsupervised contact with inmates. This training emphasizes our zero-tolerance policy, prevention, and detection with regards to sexual harassment and/or abuse. Correctional Sergeants receive additional training in investigating PREA allegations. Correctional Deputies receive PREA training every two years to refresh and reiterate the importance of PREA guidelines and update them on any changes in PREA guidelines.

## **DEFINITIONS**

- Substantiated- an allegation that was investigated and determined to have occurred.
- Unsubstantiated- an allegation that was investigated and insufficient evidence was obtained to determine if the allegation did or did not occur.
- Unfounded- an allegation that was investigated and proven not to have occurred.
- Ongoing Investigation- The investigation was initiated and ongoing.

## **2019 Annual Statistics**

The Average Daily Population (ADP) of inmates is an important number to consider when reviewing the number of PREA allegations. Over the course of 2019 the Average Daily Population by gender is reflected in the chart below.



The San Luis Obispo County Jail houses both male and female inmates. The San Luis Obispo County Honor Farm houses only male inmates at the facility. In 2019 the Sheriff's Office received a total of 15 PREA allegations. Of the 15 allegations 11 were against other inmates and 4 were against staff. Below is a breakdown of cases by facility and their disposition following a detailed investigation.

#### **SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY JAIL**

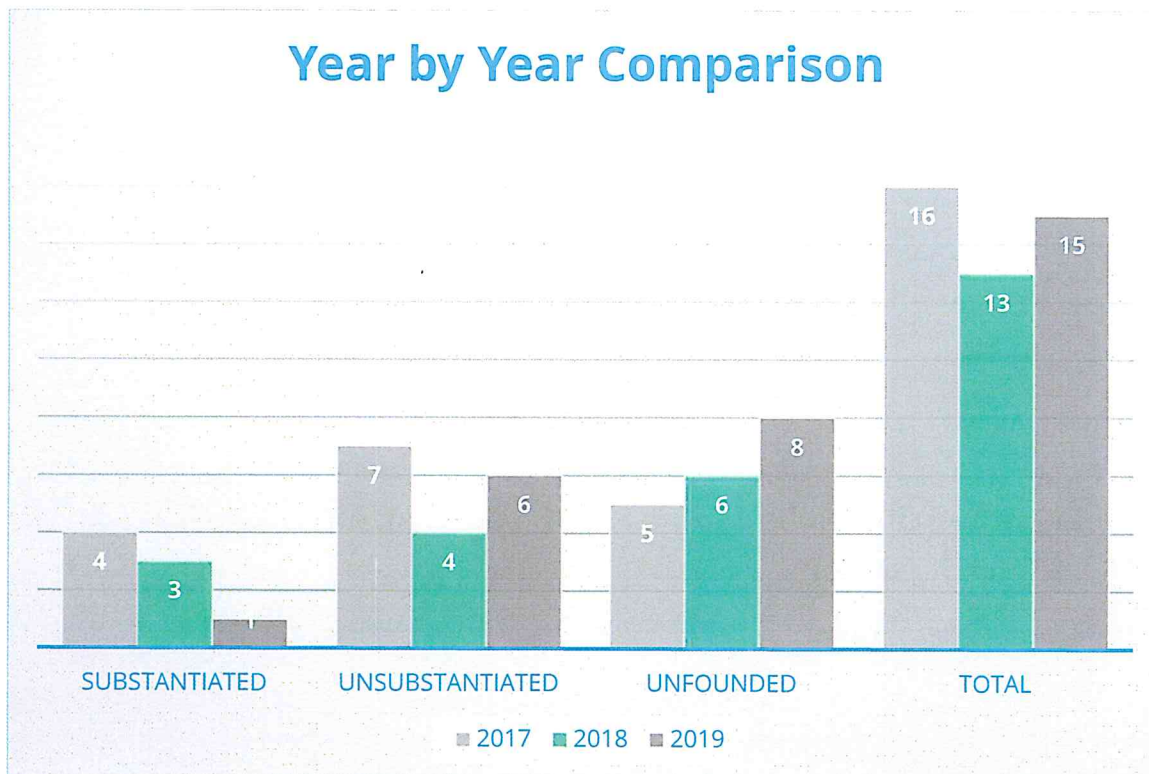
CASES	TYPE OF CONDUCT	DISPOSITION
1	IM/IM Sexual Harassment	Substantiated
2	IM/IM Sexual Harassment	Unsubstantiated
3	IM/IM Sexual Harassment	Unfounded
4	IM/IM Abusive Sexual Contact	Unsubstantiated
5	IM/IM Non-Consensual Sexual Act	Unfounded
6	Staff Sexual Misconduct	Unfounded
7	Staff Sexual Harassment	Unfounded
8	Staff Sexual Harassment	Unfounded
9	Staff Sexual Harassment	Unfounded
10	IM/IM Sexual Harassment	Unsubstantiated

11	IM/IM Sexual Harassment	Unfounded
12	IM/IM Sexual Harassment	Unfounded
13	IM/IM Abusive Sexual Contact	Unsubstantiated
14	IM/IM Non-Consensual Sexual Act	Unsubstantiated
15	IM/IM Sexual Harassment	Unsubstantiated

**SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY HONOR FARM**

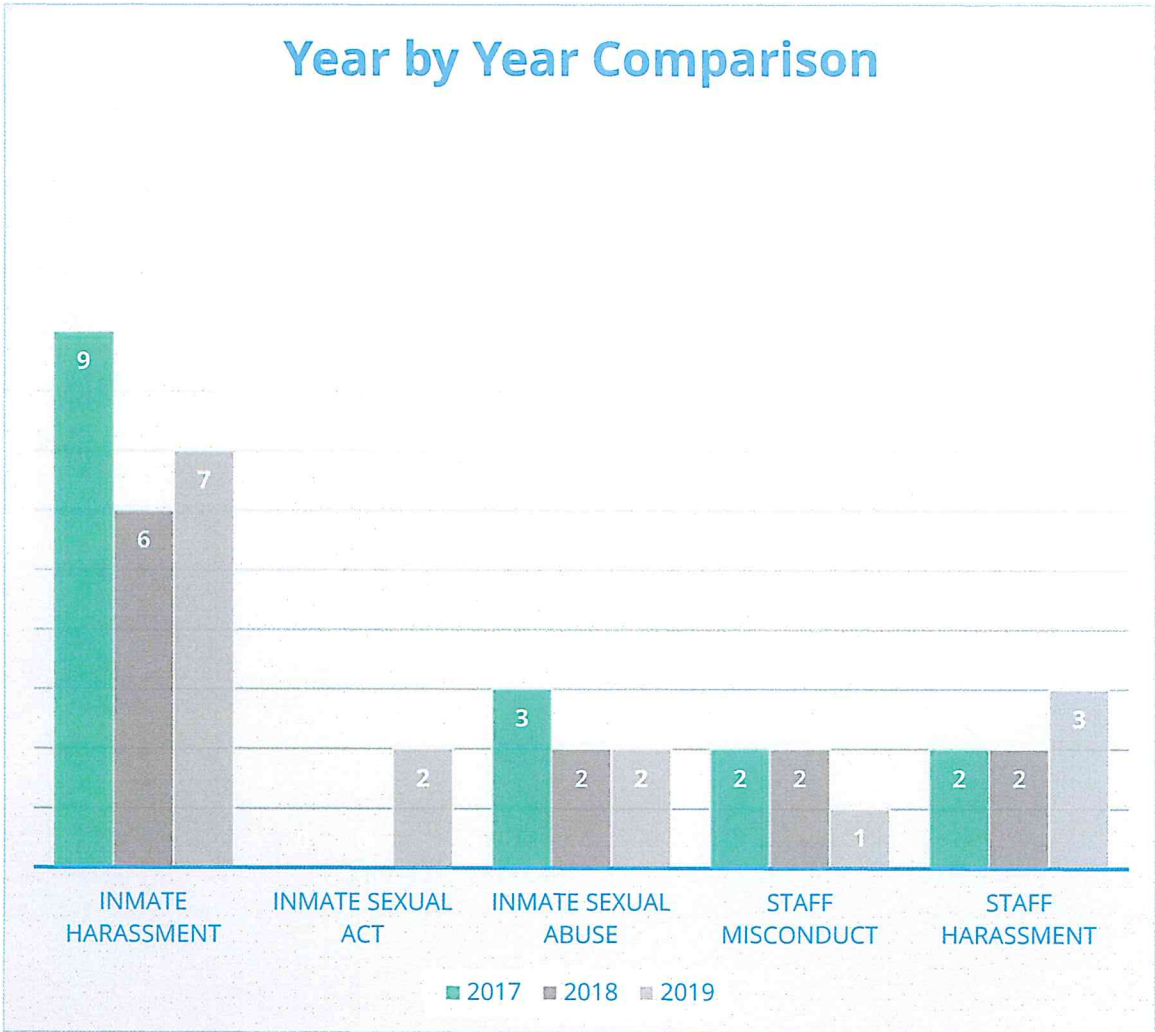
CASES	TYPE OF CONDUCT	DISPOSITION
0	N/A	N/A

A three-year comparison of total number of cases and the number of cases each year that are substantiated, unsubstantiated, unfounded is below.



A three-year comparison of various PREA allegations within both facilities.

# Year by Year Comparison



Reviewing the data from the previous year shows a slight increase in all categories except staff sexual misconduct, which went from 2 cases in 2018 to 1 case in 2019. These increases are too slight to indicate any procedural or policy deficiencies that they could be attributed to. The four PREA allegations against staff were all unfounded. After analyzing the data, no patterns have developed or operational flaws identified to decrease the total number of PREA allegations further.

## **FUTURE**

The San Luis Obispo County Sheriff's Office will continue to be diligent in education, prevention, and investigation of any PREA complaint. All investigations will continue to be reviewed to evaluate if corrective measures are warranted to provide the safest custody environment possible for staff and inmates.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ian Parkinson", written over a horizontal line.

Ian Parkinson, Sheriff-Coroner