

## COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Ian Parkinson Sheriff-Coroner

# 2020 PRISON RAPE ELIMINATION ACT (PREA) ANNUAL REPORT

#### 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 <a href="Homepage">Homepage</a> | PREA (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.

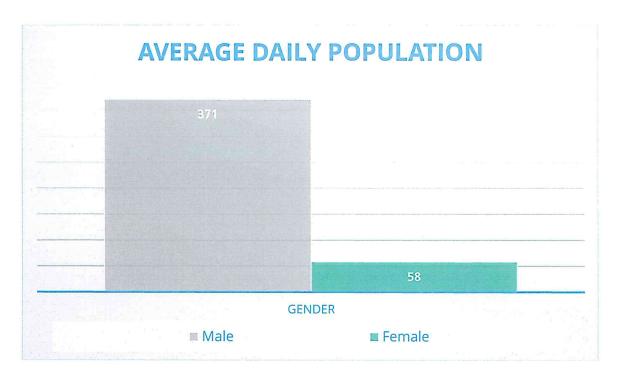
#### **DEFINITIONS**

- > 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.

#### **2020 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 2020 the Average Daily Population by gender is reflected in the chart below. The average daily

populations went down significantly due to the Covid-19 pandemic and restrictions put in place by the San Luis Obispo County Sheriff's Office to protect the health of staff and inmates.



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 2020 the Sheriff's Office received a total of 18 PREA allegations. Of the 18 allegations 10 were against other inmates and 8 were against staff. Below is a breakdown of cases by facility and their disposition following a detailed investigation.

### SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY JAIL

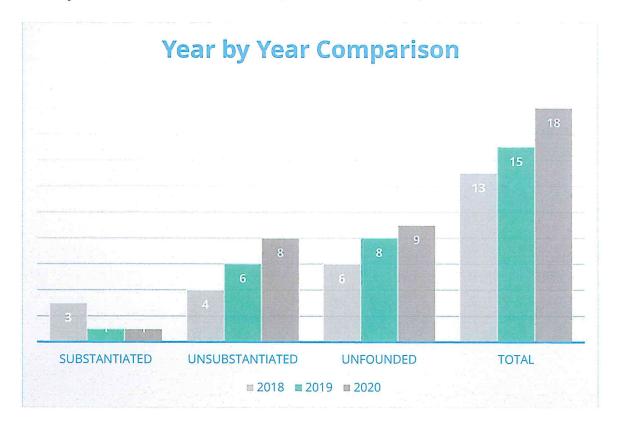
CASES	TYPE OF CONDUCT	DISPOSITION
1	IM/IM Sexual Harassment	Substantiated
2	IM/IM Sexual Harassment	Unsubstantiated
3	Staff Sexual Misconduct	Unfounded
4	IM/IM Abusive Sexual Contact	Unsubstantiated
5	IM/IM Sexual Harassment	Unsubstantiated
6	IM/IM Sexual Harassment	Unsubstantiated
7	Staff Sexual Misconduct	Unfounded

8	Staff Sexual Misconduct	Unfounded
9	IM/IM Sexual Harassment	Unsubstantiated
10	Staff Sexual Misconduct	Unfounded
11	Staff Sexual Harassment	Unfounded
12	Staff Sexual Harassment	Unfounded
13	Staff Sexual Misconduct	Unfounded
14	IM/IM Sexual Harassment	Unsubstantiated
15	IM/IM Non-Consensual Sexual Act	Unfounded
16	Staff Sexual Harassment	Unfounded
17	IM/IM Non-Consensual Sexual Act	Unsubstantiated
18	IM/IM Sexual Harassment	Unsubstantiated

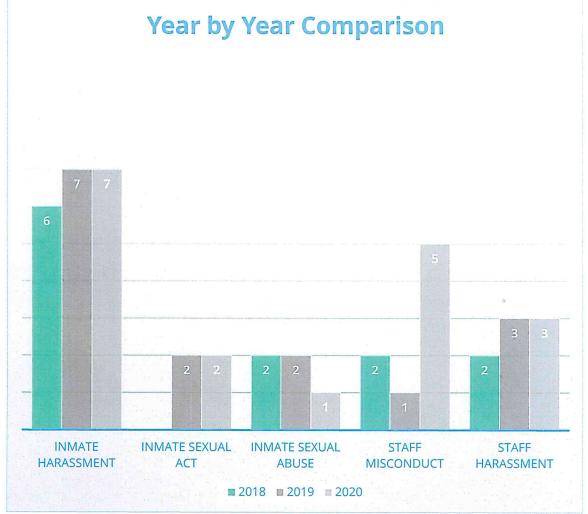
# SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY HONOR FARM

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.







Reviewing the data from the previous year shows a significant increase in allegations of staff sexual misconduct. 2019 had one reported case and that number jumped to 5 in 2020. Although after thorough investigations, all these cases were determined to be unfounded. All other categories remained the same except for 1 fewer report of inmate/inmate sexual abuse. 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.

Ian Parkinson, Sheriff-Coroner