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# **NASHVILLE SHERIFF**

## DAVIDSON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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Daron Hall, Sheriff

## Davidson County Sheriff's Office

### Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003 2020 Annual Report

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### **Results of the PREA Audit: September 10-13, 2018**

The Davidson County Sheriff's Office (DCSO) received notice of PREA Compliance by passing the audit in all four facilities.

#### **3 AREAS EXCEEDED STANDARDS:**

- 115.17 Hiring and promotion decisions
- 115.31 Employee training
- 115.33 Inmate education

### **Current Upgrades to the Agency: Facilities and Technology: PREA 115.18**

In 2020, the agency completed the transition movement by opening a new housing facility, the Downtown Detention Center (DDC). The facility began housing inmates on April 22, 2020, and all planning and modifications for the new and existing facilities follows the guidelines of PREA standard 115.18.

The Hill Detention Center (HDC) was closed in May 2020.

The Maximum Correctional Center (MCC) inmates were moved to DDC in April and female inmates were moved to this site on May 29, 2020 as the facility re-opened as the Correctional Development Center-Female (CDF).

The Metro Detention Facility (MDF) was transferred from contracted Core Civic oversight to a DCSO facility on October 4, 2020. The majority of this building was closed on December, 2020, with the stand-alone annex being re-purposed to house the agency's female population. The MDF annex is now named CDF. Upon relocation of the female population, the Maximum Correctional Center (MCC) reopened at the previous CDF site. Four new cameras were added to Maximum Correctional Center (MCC) multi-purpose rooms over the past year.

Monitoring devices continue to be reviewed and upgraded/updated as needed. As always, the agency strives to make improvements in all areas safe, secure and free from abuse for our inmates and staff.

### **2019 Action Items:**

#### **a. The Agency:**

The PREA Coordinator continues to address inmate and staff education, identify PREA concerns, staff documentation, update PREA Awareness information, and adhere to PREA standards and ensure PREA protocols are continuously being followed.

The PREA policy continues to be updated as changes occur in the agency to ensure zero tolerance toward all forms of sexual abuse and sexual harassment.

Facility administrators and the PREA coordinator maintain communication to review potential facility modifications to improve safety and security areas to ensure PREA procedures are being followed in all facilities. The staffing plan continues to be reviewed and implemented with the transition of each facility as processes and operations evolve.

**b. Sexual Abuse Incident Reviews:**

Five cases were reviewed for the Sexual Abuse Incident Review meeting. One case required recommendations and corrective actions as listed below. Additional comments are listed as well.

- The majority of the meetings were conducted through Zoom to accommodate the social distance guidelines.
- Additional training was discussed related to an incident that involved contracted medical staff. Information related to reporting suspicious behavior of staff and general practices with inmates needs to be reinforced for this staff, as evidenced in one case.
- There was an increase of one case in the amount of incidents in need of review from the previous year.
- A need to continue to review inmate searches protocol with staff through training and on-going discussion was identified.
- The classification review for housing of all inmates (especially LGBTQI inmates) to ensure appropriate and safer housing placement for all inmates has been effective and will continue to improve.

**Aggregated Data for 2020 Data Collection:**

During 2020, there were 17 allegations of sexual abuse cases reported by inmates, staff, or third party reporting. There were 3 allegations of Staff on Inmate Sexual Abuse that were closed on initial inquiry. These cases reported and investigated, but were determined to be unfounded doing the initial investigation because of inmate recanting statements, video documentation availability, physically impossible situation, and additional evidence/relevant documentation.

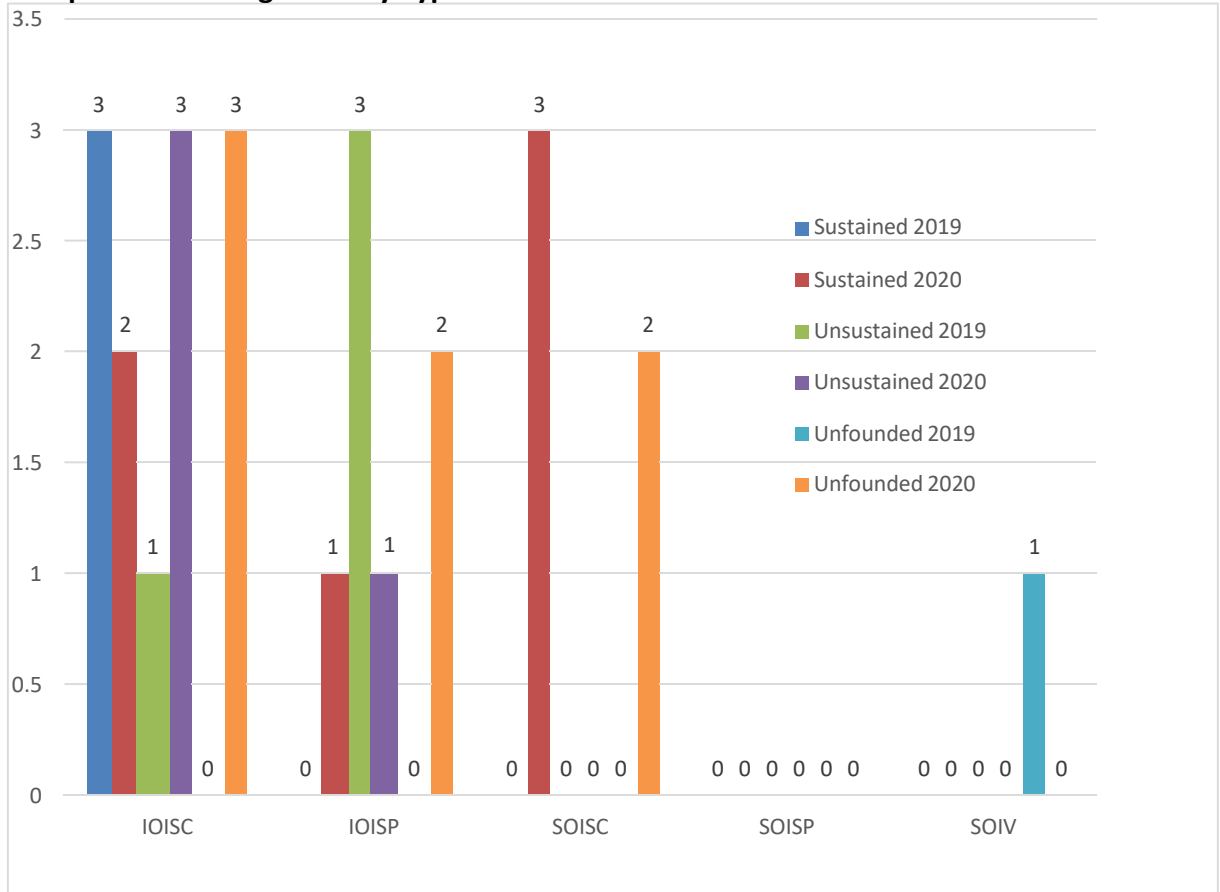
There were 12 complaints regarding Inmate on Inmate Sexual Abuse, which includes all complaints of sexual contact or penetration. Of these 12 complaints, 3 allegations were sustained. Of the remaining 9 complaints, 4 were unsubstantiated, and 5 were unfounded.

There were 3 complaints regarding Staff on Inmate Sexual Abuse. These complaints were sustained. The aggressor in these complaints was the same individual and the cases were referred to the Metropolitan Police Department for criminal investigation.

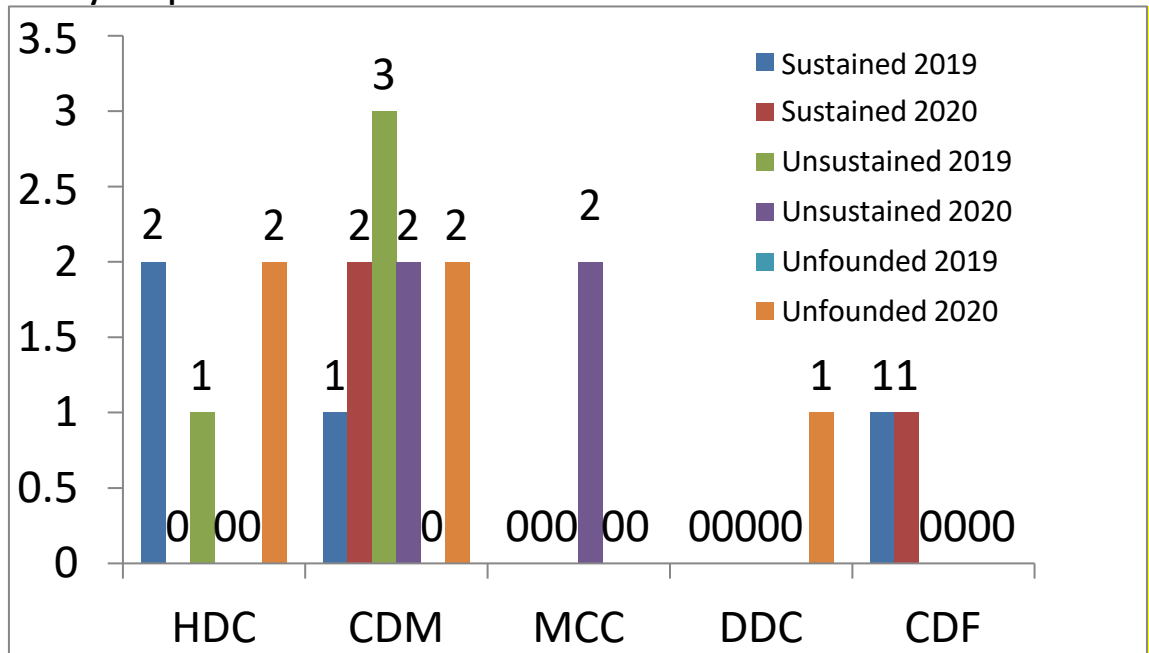
**2019-2020 Data Comparison :**

The aggregated data identifies progress with continued efforts to reduce and eliminate sexual abuse in the facilities. In comparison with data from 2019 and 2020 statistics, there was an increase in the total of abuse allegations in 2020. This increase is attributed to continued education, enforcement, and confidence in the system that reported allegations are taken seriously and investigated appropriately. The allegations of Inmate on Inmate Sexual Abuse (to include IOISC and IOISP) increased by 4 allegations.

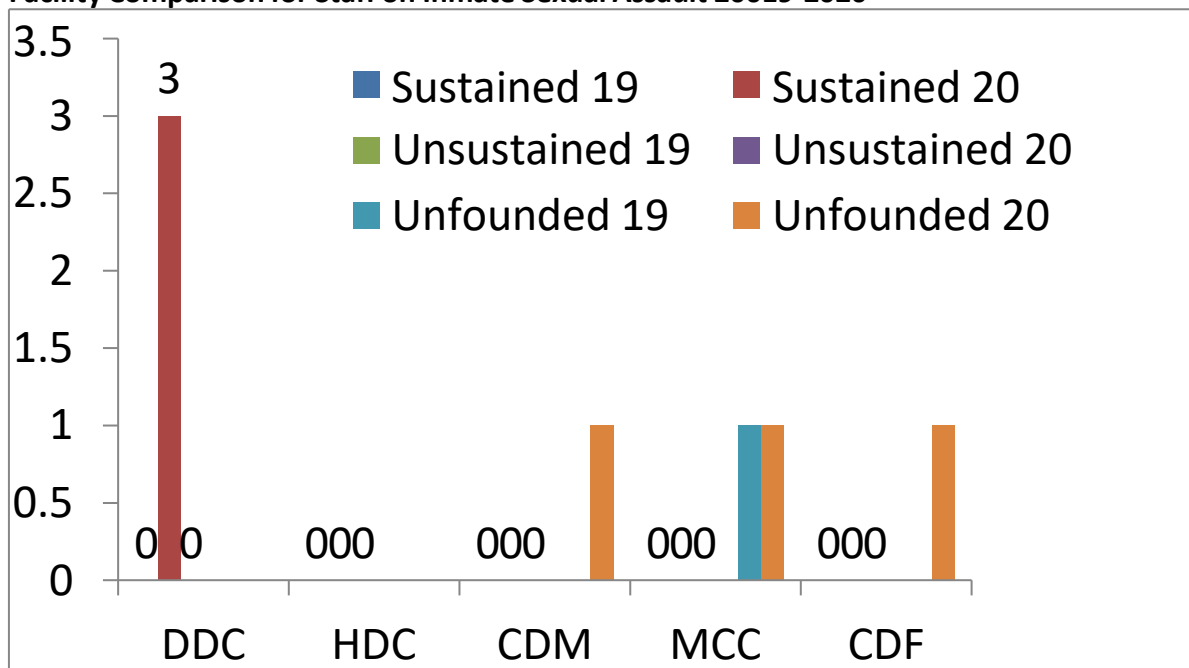
**Comparison of Allegations by Type 2019-2020**



**Facility Comparison For Inmate on Inmate Sexual Abuse 2019-2020**



**Facility Comparison for Staff on Inmate Sexual Assault 2019-2020**



Significant growth continues to be the primary efforts in the progress toward PREA compliance for the agency. As always, our goal is to continue to reduce PREA allegations, promote a positive environment for inmates to report, and staff response to be professional, positive, and in a timely manner. The agency continues to improve staff and inmate PREA awareness through innovative thinking in training, policies, procedures, and practices of the agency. The statistical information demonstrates that all allegations are taken seriously and investigated thoroughly.

**Summary:**

The agency completed the process of opening a new facility in early 2020. The agency continues to make PREA an important part of the mission of the DCSO. The agency will continue the process of keeping inmates safe and secure, while maintaining a zero tolerance culture for all forms of sexual abuse and sexual harassment.

Approved By:



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Sheriff Daron Hall

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Date