



Bingham County Jail

501 N. Maple # 408
Blackfoot ID, 83221 (208) 785-1238

Craig Rowland	Robert Sobieski	Joni Ramirez
Sheriff	Captain	Sgt. /PREA Coordinator
Jeff Gardner	Darrell Fellows	Forrest VanBuren
Chief Deputy	Lieutenant	Sgt. /PREA Manager

Bingham County Jail 2021 Annual PREA report

Rape and sexual activity seriously reduces the mission of the Bingham County Sheriff's Office to prevent crime and provide quality criminal justice service. In accordance with the prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) of 2003, the Bingham County Jail has established a zero tolerance standard regarding the incidence of rape and sexual activity.

By providing training, education, and reviewing our policy and procedures on a yearly basis we are confident that we are providing the inmates, staff, contractors, and volunteers everything we can so they are confident and comfortable with the PREA mandates. A PREA incident review is conducted on all PREA allegations that have been substantiated and unsubstantiated. The results of these reviews are used to assess and improve our effectiveness and any corrective actions that may be needed pursuant to PREA mandate 115. 88. The occurrence of sexual abuse at the Bingham County Jail is very low.

Upon reviewing the aggregated data for 2021 we had one (1) unsubstantiated allegation of sexual abuse from three years prior. The alleged victim was unable to provide any suspect names or information and due to the length of time (3 years) in reporting the allegations, there was no camera footage to review. The alleged victim would not provide any further details during the investigation. The alleged victim was offered a victim advocate and mental health services free of charge. We had one (1) substantiated allegation of sexual harassment. The inmate perpetrator was given disciplinary sanctions and separated from the victim and housed in a single cell due to his actions. The victim was moved to a different pod and offered mental health services free of charge and monitored for any retaliation.

We had 2 unfounded investigations of sexual harassment reported by staff. In both cases the information was caught early enough by staff that it provided prevention from a situation escalating into a possible sexual harassment/sexual abuse incident. The alleged suspects in both situations were contracted staff and resulted in one resigning from his/her position and one being dismissed from his/her contracted position. All personal identifying information and specific investigatory information has been withheld for privacy and safety for all parties.

In assessing and reviewing the one (1) unsubstantiated allegation of sexual abuse, we determined that no corrective action was needed. The alleged victim was aware of the many ways to report sexual harassment/sexual abuse. The PREA incident team felt that our current policy and procedures

effectively provided prevention, detection, and response to the allegation. We remain dedicated to providing strong zero-tolerance policies and procedures and monitoring to provide a safe environment.