

OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF
FAIRFIELD COUNTY

Alex W. Lape, Sheriff



2025 PREA Annual Report

In accordance with the Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003 (PREA) and Title 28 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Part 115, this letter serves as the PREA Annual Report for Fairfield County Sheriff's Office for the 2025 reporting period.

Fairfield County Sheriff's Office maintains a zero-tolerance policy toward all forms of sexual abuse and sexual harassment. The agency is committed to the prevention, detection, response to, and elimination of sexual abuse and sexual harassment within its facilities. All allegations are taken seriously and addressed in compliance with PREA standards and agency policy.

During the reporting year, all staff received PREA training upon hire and through annual refresher training. Training included staff responsibilities under PREA, professional boundaries, reporting obligations, and retaliation prevention. Inmates/residents received PREA education during intake and were informed of the agency's zero-tolerance policy, reporting methods, and protections against retaliation. Educational materials were provided in accessible formats, with accommodations made as necessary.

Fairfield County Sheriff's Office provides multiple methods for reporting sexual abuse and sexual harassment, including verbal and written reports to staff, third-party reporting, confidential reporting options, and anonymous reporting mechanisms. Reports may be made at any time without fear of retaliation.

During the reporting period, the following allegations were reported:

- Inmate-on-Inmate Sexual Abuse:0
- Staff-on-Inmate Sexual Abuse: 0
- Inmate-on-Inmate Sexual Harassment: 0
- Staff-on-Inmate Sexual Harassment: 0

All allegations were promptly referred for investigation. Investigations were conducted objectively and thoroughly in accordance with PREA standards and agency policy. Investigation outcomes included:

- Substantiated:0
- Unsubstantiated:0
- Unfounded:0
- Pending at the end of the reporting year:2025 total: 0

When allegations were substantiated, appropriate corrective or disciplinary action was taken, which may have included staff discipline, referral for criminal prosecution, policy revisions, or additional training. Corrective actions were documented and tracked.

In accordance with PREA standard §115.67, the agency monitored for retaliation against inmates/residents who reported sexual abuse or harassment and against staff who cooperated with investigations. Zero incidents of retaliation were identified during the reporting year.

Sexual abuse data was reviewed to identify trends and areas for improvement. Based on this review, the agency implemented enhancements to policies, training, and operational practices to strengthen PREA compliance and facility safety.

Fairfield County Sheriff's Office remains committed to maintaining a safe and secure environment free from sexual abuse and sexual harassment. This report reflects the agency's ongoing efforts to comply fully with PREA standards and to promote transparency and accountability.

Prepared by: SC Shawn Neal

PREA Coordinator Sergeant Shawn Neal

2-6-2026

Date

Approved by: Sheriff Alex Lape

Sheriff Alex Lape

2/9/2026

Date

TO SERVE AND PROTECT