County of Ocean

Department of Juvenile Services

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PREA Compliance Statement

The Ocean County Department of Juvenile Services is in full compliance with the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) of 2003. This Federal law establishes a "zero tolerance" policy towards sexual abuse, sexual harassment, and/or sexual intimidation of any type within the facility or its offsite programs. Likewise, this agency, also in compliance with PREA, has established a "zero tolerance" policy towards retaliation in any form towards any person who reports an incident, or a suspicion of sexual abuse, sexual harassment, and/or a sexual intimidation incident involving residents.

All staff, contractors, volunteers and interns have an obligation to maintain clear boundaries with residents and to maintain at all times a relationship of authority, objectivity and professionalism. The development of a personal, unduly familiar, emotional or sexual relationship with any resident is a breach of ethical standards. Any sexual contact between a resident, including residents age 18 and older, and staff, contractor, volunteer or intern is sexual abuse as defined in PREA standards and departmental policy and may be prosecuted as such.

If a resident discloses to you, or if you suspect that sexual abuse or retaliation for reporting abuse has happened at the Ocean County Juvenile Detention Facility, it is imperative that you make a report of such a disclosure or suspicion. You may report such information to any custody officer including the shift supervisor, before leaving the facility. You may also confidentially report such information by contacting the Ocean County Prosecutors Office @ (732)-929-2027, the NJ DCP&P Institutional Abuse Hotline @ (877) 652-2873. Please have any information or evidence available for the investigator who will be assigned to handle the case. All reports are taken seriously and investigated thoroughly. As an alternative, you can anonymously mail any information regarding a disclosure of an incident, or your suspicions of such an incident to:

Ocean County Juvenile Services

Attn: PREA Coordinator

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