Ocean County Department of Juvenile Services	Chapter 6.17a
Subject: Allegation Referrals **PREA § 115.322**	**Effective Date: 02/01/16**

POLICY:

The Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003 (PREA) requires that the Ocean County Juvenile Detention Center refer all incidents or suspected incidents of sexual abuse and sexual harassment are referred to the appropriate agency for a proper and thorough investigation. The Detention Center is also required to make sure that any retaliation by residents or staff against anyone who reports such abuse, harassment, or staff negligence that may have contributed to such incidents is also reported to the proper agency. This policy is written to meet or exceed these established PREA standards.

PROCEDURES:

INVESTIGATORS:

1) The Detention Center shall require the training of certain designated individuals as required in PREA Standard § 115.334.
2) Those trained individuals shall conduct any initial internal evaluation of sexual abuse and sexual harassment allegation to determine whether the allegation involves potential criminal behavior, or a possible failure of supervision.

INVESTIGATIONS OF SEXUAL HARASSMENT ALLEGATIONS

1) Allegations of sexual harassment shall be investigated internally by Detention Center investigators
2) If the investigation indicates a staff member is involved in the sexual harassment allegation, and based on a preponderance of the evidence it is believed that the staff member committed the harassment, the matter shall be turned over to the Ocean County Employee Relations Department and/or the Ocean County Prosecutor's Office.

INVESTIGATIONS OF SEXUAL ABUSE ALLEGATIONS

1) Any allegation of sexual abuse that potentially involves criminal behavior shall be turned over to the Ocean County Prosecutor's Office for investigation, especially in all cases that may have happened within a time frame that allows for the collection of physical evidence, or if the allegation involves a staff member.
2) Any allegation of sexual abuse that potentially involves criminal behavior, or involves a possible failure of facility supervision, and involves participants under the age of 18 shall be referred to DCP&P's Institutional Abuse Investigations Unit.

FACILITY COOPERATION

Staff at OCJDC shall cooperate fully with any investigation

PROGRESS OF INVESTIGATION

OCJDC shall endeavor to remain informed of the progress of the investigation