

Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) Information

The Vernon County Sheriff's Office has a zero tolerance policy with regard to sexual abuse and sexual harassment involving inmates, staff, volunteers and contractors in accordance with the Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003 (PREA).

This Office will take appropriate affirmative measures to protect all inmates from sexual abuse and harassment, and will promptly and thoroughly investigate all allegations of sexual abuse and sexual harassment.

If the Office receives information about a sexual assault or harassment in another jurisdiction, the Deputy or Correctional Officer, who receives the report, shall forward the report to the Jail Administrator. The Jail Administrator will contact the head of that facility or their designee as appropriate for that jurisdiction.

Any false reports or allegations of staff or inmate sexual assault or harassment shall be held accountable and may be subject to disciplinary action or criminal charges.

To make a report of sexual misconduct from outside the facility any person may:

- 1) Speak to a Correctional Officer by calling Master Control 608-638-5780 ext. 3
- 2) Come to the Sheriff's Office and ask to speak to a Jail Supervisor
- 3) Call Helpline at 608-637-7007.

If you think your safety, or the victim's safety, is at risk, we encourage you to report this immediately to a staff member.