



Nevada Department of Corrections

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Press Release

For Immediate Release

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The Nevada Department of Corrections is proud to announce that after the first completed audit cycle, throughout our 7 institutions, 9 conservation camps and 2 transitional housing facilities, the NDOC was found in 100% compliance with the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) 28 C.F.R. Part 115.

In 2003, Congress unanimously passed the Prison Rape Elimination Act and a commission was formed to recommend a set of standards in which federal, state and local detention facilities would comply. The standards were adopted in 2009 after the attorney general's working group reviewed the Commission's proposal and public feedback was heard. PREA standards came into effect in May 2012, when the US Office of the Attorney General released the national standards designed specifically to prevent, detect, and respond to sexual abuse in confinement.

"The standards are extremely thorough and affect every aspect of custody," stated Pamela Del Porto the NDOC Inspector General and PREA Coordinator. "From policy and procedure regarding how we hire and train employees, to creating new lines of communication for inmates to report incidents, to how we respond and investigate those reports. There's so much to it. Not every state is in compliance and in Nevada we've worked very hard to earn 100%."

For those states not found to be in compliance during the audit, which by statute occurs every three years, they can lose up to 5% of federal funds they would normally receive for prison purposes. It's up to the Governor of the state in question to certify that 5% of future funds would be used to support compliance in future years. A National Resource Center for the Elimination of Prison Rape has been established with online and direct training in programs and practices, and to help with research or with technical assistance for federal, state and local agencies.

"I'm proud of our team for their hard work and professionalism," said the NDOC Director James Dzurenda. "This perfect score is the result of efforts by everyone in the department. I would expect to see more accomplishments like this in the future."

For more information on PREA visit: www.justice.gov or www.prearesourcecenter.org

The Nevada Department of Corrections is committed to protecting the public, the employees and the offenders. NDOC houses nearly 13,500 persons with felony convictions in eighteen facilities statewide. For more information on NDOC visit www.doc.nv.gov.