# St. Clair County Jail Sheriff Richard Watson

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# Prison Rape Elimination Act 2023 PREA Coordinator's Annual Report

This report has been prepared in accordance with §115.87 and §115.88 of the PREA Standards in order to address and improve the effectiveness of the St Clair County Jail in sexual abuse prevention, detection, response policies, practices, and training. In subsequent years, the information collected for this report will be used to identify problem area and to take corrective action on an ongoing basis.

## **Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA)**

The Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) establishes a "zero-tolerance" standard against sexual abuse and sexual assault of incarcerated persons. It was signed on September 2003 by President Bush. PREA is intended to address the detection, prevention, reduction, and prosecution of sexual harassment and sexual assault in all correctional facilities in the country.

The Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) is a federal law that prohibits sexual abuse and misconduct in correctional settings such as prisons, jails, lockups, juvenile facilities and community confinement facilities.

The St. Clair County Jail (SCCJ) is committed to emphasizing a <u>zero-tolerance</u> for sexual abuse or harassment of detainees/inmates, either by staff or other detainees/inmates. It shall be the policy of the St. Clair County Jail (SCCJ) to provide a safe and secure environment for all detainees, employees, contractors, and volunteers, free from the threat of sexual abuse or harassment by effective policies and procedures designed for preventing, reporting, responding to, investigating, and tracking incidents or allegations of sexual abuse or harassment. All claims of sexual abuse or harassment will be investigated in a manner that avoids unnecessary embarrassment or indignity to the detainee/inmate. It shall also be the policy of the St. Clair County Jail (SCCJ) to pursue administrative, disciplinary, and/or criminal sanctions against any detainee/inmate, staff member, contractor, or volunteer found to have committed sexual abuse or assault against a detainee/inmate. It shall be the responsibility of the health care staff to provide

immediate first-aid to the victim and to refer the detainee/inmate to the appropriate medical facility.

#### **General Information**

During 2023, there were 5,976 new admissions into the St. Clair County Jail (SCCJ). Of the new admissions 4,419 were males and 1,557 were females. The average daily population was 4.

### PREA Report Findings Substantiated:

<u>Substantiated:</u> The event was investigated and determined to have occurred based on a preponderance of the evidence.

<u>Unsubstantiated:</u> The investigation concluded that evidence was insufficient to determine whether or not the event occurred.

**<u>Unfounded:</u>** The investigation determined that the event did NOT occur.

**Non-PREA:** The investigation determined that the incident was not actually a PREA incident.

Ongoing: Investigation is not concluded.

Other Facility: Incident occurring in a facility other than the St. Clair County Jail (SCCJ).

<u>Out of Country:</u> Any allegations/incidents reported by detainees/inmates that occurred in a country other than the USA.

2022 PREA Statistics

2023 PREA Statistics