Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003 (PREA)

The Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) of 2003 is a federal law established to address the elimination of sexual assault and rape in correctional systems. PREA applies to all federal, state and local prisons, jails, police lock-ups, private facilities and community settings such as residential facilities.

Zero-Tolerance for Sexual Assault, Sexual Harassment and Sexual Misconduct

The Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office has a zero-tolerance sexual abuse policy. It is the policy of the Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office that sexual abuse by an employee, contractor, volunteer, inmate or other non-employee with a business association with the Sheriff's Office is prohibited. The Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office will comply with PREA standards in their entirety and implement procedures for appropriate prevention, detection, intervention and treatment for all victims of sexual abuse.

Reporting a Sexual Assault

If you know of an incident of sexual assault, sexual harassment or sexual misconduct of a person in custody or, if you wish to file a third-party complaint of sexual abuse, sexual harassment or sexual misconduct on behalf of an inmate, you may report it to the Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office by using the following methods:

- In-person at the Main Jail Complex
- In-person at the Elmwood Complex
- Writing a confidential letter to the Facility Captain of either the Main Jail or Elmwood Complexes
 - Main Jail Complex Captain, 150 West Hedding Street, San Jose, CA 95110
 - Elmwood Complex Captain, 701 South Abel Street, Milpitas, CA 95035
- Writing a confidential letter to the Chief of Correction
 - Chief, Department of Correction, 180 West Hedding Street, San Jose, CA 95110
- Contacting the Internal Affairs Unit and submitting a complaint:
 - Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office-Internal Affairs, 55 West Younger Avenue, San Jose, CA 95110 or calling (408) 808-4930

In response to a report of inmate sexual abuse, sexual assault or sexual misconduct, the immediate supervisor will advise the Watch Commander, who will assess the situation and ensure the appropriate response and notifications have been made pursuant to the critical incident policy; and coordinate the appropriate response action with medical and mental health, investigators, and inmate advocates.