DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY JUSTICE

Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) Annual Report
October 2025 – September 2026

James Hartman Department of Community (DCJ) Justice PREA Coordinator

Summary

This report provides an annual overview of Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) data from the Multnomah County Donald E. Long Juvenile Detention Center for the reporting period of October 1, 2025, through September 30, 2026. Comparing outcomes from this reporting period with the 2024–2025 annual report allows the agency to evaluate trends and assess the effectiveness of current prevention, detection, and response protocols regarding allegations of sexual abuse and sexual harassment.

Background

Passed by Congress in 2003, the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) addresses the prevalence of sexual assault and harassment within correctional facilities across the United States. Finalized in August 2012, the PREA Juvenile Facility Standards establish national benchmarks to protect youth held in secure custody and community confinement placements. In adherence to these federal mandates, the Multnomah County Department of Community Justice (DCJ) publishes an annual PREA report and undergoes an independent compliance audit every three years. This annual report covers the reporting period from October 1, 2025, through September 30, 2026.

DCJ's Donald E. Long Juvenile Detention Center completed its third PREA audit cycle with an onsite visit conducted August 27–28, 2025, and the final report issued on December 5, 2025 (following previous triennial audits completed in June 2018 and August 2022).

The audit evaluated the facility across 43 PREA standards:

- **Standards Exceeded (2):**
  - **§ 115.332 (Volunteer and Contractor Training):** DCJ provides comprehensive initial PREA training followed by annual refresher training for contractors and volunteers, exceeding the federal standard.
  - **§ 115.367 (Agency Protection Against Retaliation):** DCJ exceeds federal requirements by mandating that managers conduct weekly check-ins (every seven days) with reporting individuals and alleged victims throughout their stay in the facility, extending beyond standard monitoring protocols.
- **Standards Met (41):** All remaining applicable standards were fully met.
- **Standards Not Met (0):** The facility achieved **100% compliance** with zero final non-compliance findings.

During the interim audit phase, two corrective action items were identified. Both were fully remediated and accepted by the auditor prior to the issuance of the final report:

1. **Organizational Hierarchy & PREA Coordinator Oversight (§ 115.311):**
   - *Finding:* The PREA Coordinator was positioned in middle management, reporting through Public Relations, rather than holding an upper-management role with direct access to executive leadership.
   - *Remedy:* DCJ restructured the placement of the PREA Coordinator, moving from a position in the Director's Office to the Juvenile Services Division (JSD). The PREA Coordinator position is now held by the Detention Senior Manager, who reports directly to the Director of the Juvenile Services Division, and the PREA Compliance Manager is now held by the Detention Deputy Manager, who reports directly to the PREA Coordinator.

2. **Victim Advocacy Services Memorandum of Understanding (§ 115.321):**
    - *Finding:* Due to regional budget cuts, the facility's prior partner agency paused victim advocacy coverage, leaving the facility without an executed agreement for outside crisis services.
    - *Remedy:* DCJ finalized and executed a formal Memorandum of Understanding with *Call to Safety* (effective October 10, 2025) to provide youth in custody with 24/7 access to independent, confidential victim advocacy and support services.

Through these prompt remedial actions and continuous policy enhancements, DCJ maintains full compliance with all federal PREA standards and continues to foster a safe, zero-tolerance environment for all youth in secure custody.

Awareness and Incident Reporting

All Department of Community Justice (DCJ) Juvenile and Adult Services staff who work directly with youth and justice-involved individuals complete PREA training upon hire. Juvenile Detention staff complete a Detention-specific new hire training and mandatory annual refresher courses. In addition, all Detention supervisory staff complete specialized training through the *National Institute of Corrections (NIC) Investigating Sexual Abuse in a Confinement Setting* (NIC ID: 19ECCS2338, updated for 2026) ensuring facility leadership maintains up-to-date investigative and oversight standards.

Upon admission to the Donald E. Long Juvenile Detention Center, youth receive comprehensive education regarding the facility's zero-tolerance policy for sexual abuse and sexual harassment. During the intake process youth review and sign the PREA intake notification, confirming their understanding of their right to remain free from sexual abuse, sexual harassment, and retaliation, as well as the available avenues for reporting. Once youth are admitted to the facility, they are required to watch the PREA Resource Center orientation video and complete the facility-specific orientation where staff provide unit-specific instructions, including detailing safety guidelines and confidential reporting options available directly on the living units as it relates to PREA. Youth verify completion of the unit-specific orientation process by signing the *Detention Orientation Checklist - Acknowledgement* form.

Zero-tolerance notices and reporting resources are permanently displayed throughout the facility, outlining the multiple ways youth can report concerns, including:

- Informing any staff member or requesting to speak with a manager;
- Submitting a written grievance or complaint;
- Contacting their attorney or Juvenile Court Counselor; or
- Calling the Oregon Department of Human Services (DHS) Abuse Hotline at 1-855-503-7233.

When a staff member becomes aware of an allegation, suspicion, or incident of sexual abuse or harassment, they immediately follow first-responder protocols:

1. The staff member immediately ensures the safety of the alleged victim and secures any physical scene or evidence.
2. The staff member submits a formal PREA Incident Report.
3. Reports are forwarded directly to the PREA Compliance Manager and PREA Coordinator, who oversee required notifications and initiate the preliminary investigation.

4. Following a comprehensive, objective administrative investigation, the case is concluded with a written outcome summary documenting the disposition rationale as *substantiated, unsubstantiated,* or *unfounded* based on the *preponderance of evidence.*

    a. If warranted the Multnomah County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) PREA Detectives are contacted for review and if necessary criminal investigation.

Disposition Definitions

- **Preponderance of Evidence:** standard of proof used in PREA administrative investigations, requiring that a claim is more likely to be true than not true based on the evidence presented [§ 115.372].
- **Substantiated:** an allegation that was investigated and determined to have occurred [§ 115.5].
- **Unfounded:** an allegation that was investigated and determined not to have occurred [§ 115.5].
- **Unsubstantiated:** an allegation that was investigated and the investigation produced insufficient evidence to make a final determination as to whether or not the event occurred [§ 115.5].

Table 1: Number and type of alleged incidents spanning **October 1, 2025 - September 30, 2026**

Type of Allegation	Substantiated	Unsubstantiated	Unfounded	Total
Youth-to-Youth Sexual Abuse (*physical contact*)	--	1	1	**2**
Youth-to-Youth Sexual Harassment (twice repeated *verbal / gestures*)	2	--	1	**3**
Staff-to-Youth Sexual Abuse (*physical contact*)	--	1	2	**3**
Staff-to-Youth Sexual Harassment or voyeurism	--	2	--	**2**
Non-DCJ facility reports (juveniles)	--	1	--	**1**
	TOTAL Reports for the year			**11**

Table 2: Age, gender and location for reports spanning **October 1, 2025 – September 30, 2026**

Perpetrator	**Female** (3) ≈ 27%	**Male** (5) ≈ 45%	**Nonbinary** (0) 0%	**Unknown Identity** (3) ≈ 27%	**Average age** *Undetermined
Victim	**Female** (5) ≈ 45%	**Male** (6) ≈ 55%	**Nonbinary** (0) 0%	**Unknown Identity** (0) 0%	**Average youth age** 15.8 years
Location of incident	Unit commons space (6); Unknown / Unspecified Location (2); Assigned Youth Room (2); Non-DCJ Facility (OYA) (1)				

* *(due to number of unknown alleged perpetrators)*

Table 3: Previous year's number & type of alleged incidents for the period **October 1, 2024 - September 30, 2025**

Type of Allegation	Substantiated	Unsubstantiated	Unfounded	Total
Youth-to-Youth Sexual Abuse (*physical contact*)	--	1	--	**1**
Youth-to-Youth Sexual Harassment (twice repeated *verbal / gestures*)	--	--	--	**0**
Staff-to-Youth Sexual Abuse (*physical contact*)	--	1	--	**1**
Staff-to-Youth Sexual Harassment or voyeurism	--	--	--	**0**
Non-DCJ facility reports (juveniles)	--	--	--	**0**
	TOTAL Reports for the year			**2**

Comparison between Last Two Years
The number of reported PREA incidents increased significantly from 2 in 2024–2025 to 11 in 2025–2026, a 450% rise that includes a notable increase in reports ultimately determined to be unsubstantiated.

DCJ encourages staff to report all claims to ensure they are investigated within the PREA framework, and has increased training and awareness so personnel feel empowered to file a report even when details are limited. This approach guarantees that every allegation undergoes a comprehensive, objective administrative investigation to establish the facts and determine whether it is substantiated, unsubstantiated, or unfounded.

During these reviews, trained DCJ managers apply PREA standards by evaluating the best available evidence, including video footage and party interviews. They also coordinate closely with the PREA Compliance Manager and PREA Coordinator to ensure a thorough and complete administrative investigative process as well as collaborating with criminal investigative support through the MCSO PREA Detectives as determined necessary. In the most recent reporting year, 5 of the 11 total reports were concluded as unsubstantiated (45%), 4 were unfounded (36%), and 2 were substantiated (18%).

Conclusion
This past year showed that our reporting system is working the way it should: people are speaking up, and concerns are being taken seriously. Achieving full compliance on our third PREA audit, and exceeding federal standards in how we train partners and protect youth from retaliation, reflects the daily effort our team puts into creating a culture of real accountability. Adding round-the-clock independent victim advocacy through Call to Safety and restructuring our PREA Coordinator and PREA Compliance Manager has only made those protections stronger.

Seeing our total reports jump from two to eleven is not necessarily a sign that the facility has suddenly become less safe. Instead, it shows that staff and youth are recognizing and reporting issues that may have previously been addressed or documented in alternative ways. By catching and investigating these behaviors early we can intervene to mitigate future incidents and hold accountability for perpetrators.

Looking ahead, we are committed to using data to make continuously improve in the prevention, detection, and investigation of any inappropriate sexual behaviors to keep the youth in our care safe.

This report is approved by the Department of Community Justice's Director, Denise Pena, and is accessible for review on the Multnomah County Juvenile Services Division's public website.

Next scheduled PREA incident report review: October 2027