**Agency/Facility Name**

**PREA REFRESHER: Juvenile Detention**

**Encouraging Residents to Report Sexual Abuse**

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**Reporting Improves Facility Safety**

If a resident has been sexually abused or harassed, this facility wants to know so we can keep the resident safe and provide them the necessary support and resources.

Unfortunately, sexual abuse is underreported and this agency wants to change that.



**As staff, your role is NOT to determine the validity of a PREA report. You should always:**

* Take **ALL** reports seriously
* Respond immediately following agency response protocols
* Tell a supervisor

***Remember*** *– Treat all reports of sexual abuse or sexual harassment as* ***credible****. All reports will be thoroughly investigated and residents will be protected from retaliation. Where the resident is acting in* ***good faith*** *and with a* ***reasonable belief*** *that the abuse occurred, discipline is not appropriate.*

**Consequences for misusing PREA**

* Residents can receive an institutional charge if a report is submitted in bad faith
* A finding of “unsubstantiated” or “unfounded” does not mean the resident is lying or the report is false

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**False PREA reports happen.**

**But why?**

* To seek protection from bullying or physical threats
* To get staff or residents in trouble
* To attempt to get basic needs met (medical care, hygiene items, etc.)