I. AUTHORITY

The Commissioner of Corrections adopts this policy pursuant to the authority contained in 34-A M.R.S.A. Section 1403.

II. APPLICABILITY

Entire Department of Corrections

III. POLICY

In accordance with the United States Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003 (PREA), 42 U.S.C. Sections 15601 et seq., and 17-A M.R.S.A Sections 251, 253, 255-A, 260, and 760, it is the policy of the Department of Corrections to prohibit staff (which includes Department employees and persons in Department facilities providing services to clients by agreement with or under contract with the Department), volunteers, and student interns from engaging in sexual misconduct with a client or sexual harassment of a client. It is also the policy of the Department to prohibit any prisoner or resident from engaging in sexual misconduct with another prisoner or resident. It is also the policy of the Department to require the reporting of any sexual misconduct or sexual harassment or suspicion of either.

Any staff, volunteer, or student intern who engages in or threatens to engage in, fails to report, or otherwise fails to take appropriate steps in response to sexual misconduct with a client or sexual harassment of a client by any staff, volunteer, or student intern is subject to appropriate action, up to possible criminal prosecution. Any staff, volunteer, or student intern who fails to report or otherwise fails to take appropriate steps in response to sexual misconduct between prisoners or residents is subject to appropriate action, up to possible criminal prosecution.

The Department has zero tolerance toward all forms of sexual misconduct or sexual harassment, regardless of whether there is a violation of federal or state law.
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Procedure A: Sexual Misconduct and Sexual Harassment, General

1. This policy and related policies implement the U.S. Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003 (PREA), 42 U.S.C. Sections 15601 et seq., and the Maine Criminal Code, 17-A M.R.S.A Sections 251, 253, 255-A, 260, and 760, by, among other things, prohibiting sexual misconduct and sexual harassment toward prisoners, residents, and persons under the supervision of the Department in the community and requiring the reporting of any such sexual misconduct and sexual harassment.

2. All departmental sexual misconduct policies shall be posted on the Department's website.

3. The following constitute PREA violations by staff, volunteers, or student interns:

   a. Staff, Volunteer, or Intern Sexual Misconduct - Any act of a sexual nature directed toward a prisoner or resident by staff, volunteer, or student intern. Sexual relationships of a romantic nature with a prisoner or resident are included in this definition. Prohibited acts, whether consensual or nonconsensual, include: contact with or intentional touching of, directly or through clothing, the genitalia, anus, groin, breast, inner thigh, or buttocks that is unrelated to official duties or with the intent to abuse, arouse, or gratify sexual desire. It includes such acts regardless of whether the contact or touching is by a body part or through the use of an instrument or animal and regardless of whether there is any penetration. PREA prohibits completed, attempted, threatened, or requested sexual acts. Also prohibited is indecent exposure, invasion of the privacy of an unclothed or partially clothed prisoner or resident, or voyeurism for reasons unrelated to official duties or for the purpose of arousing or gratifying sexual desire.

   b. Staff, Volunteer, or Intern Sexual Harassment - Repeated verbal statements, comments, or gestures of a sexual nature directed to a prisoner or resident by staff, volunteer, or student intern. Prohibited acts, whether or not welcome, include: demeaning references to a gender, sexually suggestive or derogatory comments about body or clothing, or repeated obscene language or gestures.

4. The following constitute PREA violations by prisoners or residents:
a. Nonconsensual Sexual Acts - Contact between the penis and the vulva or the penis and the anus, with penetration, however slight; contact between the mouth and the penis, vulva or anus; or penetration of the anal or genital opening of another prisoner or resident, however slight, by a hand, finger, object, or other instrument. PREA prohibits completed, attempted, threatened, or requested sexual acts.

b. Abusive (Nonconsensual) Sexual Contact - Intentional touching, either directly or through the clothing, of the genitalia, anus, groin, breast, inner thigh, or buttocks of another prisoner or resident, without penetration. PREA prohibits completed, attempted, threatened, or requested sexual contact.

c. Sexual Harassment - Repeated or unwanted sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or verbal comments, gestures, or actions of a derogatory or offensive sexual nature by one prisoner or resident directed toward another.

5. The following constitute violations of Maine criminal law by staff with supervisory or disciplinary authority over a prisoner, resident, or person under the supervision of the Department in the community (regardless of whether they also constitute PREA violations):

a. Gross Sexual Assault - A sexual act directed toward a prisoner, resident, or person under the supervision of the Department in the community by staff with supervisory or disciplinary authority over the person. Prohibited sexual acts, whether consensual or nonconsensual, include: any act between person involving direct physical contact between the genitals of one and the mouth or anus of the other or direct physical contact between the genitals of one and the genitals of the other; any act between a person and an animal being used by another person involving direct physical contact between the genitals of one and the mouth or anus of the other or direct physical contact between the genitals of one and the genitals of the other; and direct physical contact between the genitals or anus of one person and an instrument being used by another person for the purpose of arousing or gratifying sexual desire or for the purpose of causing bodily injury or offensive physical contact. It includes such acts regardless of whether there is any penetration. Maine criminal law prohibits completed or attempted sexual acts, as well as solicitation, conspiracy, and participation as an accessory.

b. Unlawful Sexual Contact - Any other intentional touching, consensual or nonconsensual, of the genitals or anus, directly or through clothing, directed toward a prisoner, resident, or person under the supervision of the Department in the community by staff with supervisory or disciplinary authority over the person for the purpose of arousing or gratifying sexual desire or for the purpose of causing bodily injury or offensive physical contact. It includes such contact regardless of whether there is any penetration. Maine criminal law prohibits completed or attempted unlawful
sexual contact, as well as solicitation, conspiracy, and participation as an accessory.

c. Unlawful Sexual Touching - Any intentional touching, consensual or nonconsensual, of the groin, breast, inner thigh, or buttocks, directly or through clothing, directed toward a prisoner, resident, or person under the supervision of the Department in the community by staff with supervisory or disciplinary authority over the person for the purpose of arousing or gratifying sexual desire. Maine criminal law prohibits completed or attempted unlawful sexual touching, as well as solicitation, conspiracy, and participation as an accessory.

6. The following constitute violations of Maine criminal law by staff without supervisory or disciplinary authority over a prisoner, resident, or person under the supervision of the Department in the community, as well as by volunteers or student interns (regardless of whether they also constitute PREA violations): sexual act, sexual contact, or sexual touching as defined above, provided it is nonconsensual. Maine criminal law prohibits completed or attempted gross sexual assault, unlawful sexual contact, or unlawful sexual touching, as well as solicitation, conspiracy, and participation as an accessory.

7. The following constitute violations of Maine criminal law by prisoners or residents (regardless of whether they also constitute PREA violations): sexual act, sexual contact, or sexual touching as defined above, provided it is nonconsensual. Maine criminal law prohibits completed or attempted gross sexual assault, unlawful sexual contact, or unlawful sexual touching, as well as solicitation, conspiracy, and participation as an accessory.

8. The following constitute violations of Maine criminal law by any person (regardless of whether they also constitute PREA violations): indecent conduct (exposure of genitals with the intent it be seen by another person under circumstances that the person knows are likely to cause affront or alarm); and invasion of privacy (installing or using a device to observe, hear, photograph, or record any other person, without that person’s consent, in a bathroom, dressing or changing room, shower, or other place where the person can reasonably expect to be free from surveillance for reasons unrelated to official duties). Maine criminal law prohibits completed or attempted indecent conduct or invasion of privacy, as well as solicitation, conspiracy, and participation as an accessory.

9. All of the above acts are violations of this Department policy, regardless of whether they are consensual or nonconsensual. In addition to the above, the following constitute violations of this policy by staff, volunteers, or student interns, regardless of whether they are consensual or nonconsensual: any act done for the purpose of arousing or gratifying sexual desire, including, but not limited to, exposure of buttocks or of female breasts; kissing; and romantic acts, sexual and nonsexual, directed toward a prisoner, resident, or person under the supervision of the Department in the community. Department policy prohibits
completed or attempted violations, as well as solicitation, conspiracy, and participation as an accessory.

10. All of the above acts are violations of this Department policy, regardless of whether they are consensual or nonconsensual. In addition to the above, the following constitute violations of Department policy by prisoners or residents: consensual sexual act, sexual contact, or sexual touching. The following also constitute violations of Department policy by prisoners or residents, regardless of whether they are consensual or nonconsensual: any act done for the purpose of arousing or gratifying sexual desire, including, but not limited to, exposure of buttocks or of female breasts; kissing; and romantic acts, sexual and nonsexual, directed toward another prisoner or resident. Department policy prohibits completed or attempted violations, as well as solicitation, conspiracy, and participation as an accessory.

11. Each Chief Administrative Officer, or designee, and Regional Correctional Administrator, or designee, shall ensure that all staff, volunteers, and student interns are informed and acknowledge that sexual misconduct and sexual harassment between prisoners or residents is prohibited, that sexual misconduct with and sexual harassment of a prisoner, resident or person under supervision of the Department is prohibited, that a claim of consent shall not be accepted as an excuse for engaging in any form of sexual misconduct, and that a prisoner, resident or person under supervision has a right to report if sexual misconduct or sexual harassment occurs.

Procedure B: Department PREA Coordinator and Facility PREA Monitors

1. The Department PREA Coordinator shall develop, implement, and oversee the Department’s efforts to comply with PREA standards in all of its facilities and shall receive reports and track responses to reports of sexual misconduct elsewhere in the Department.

2. Duties of this position include, but are not limited to:
   a. serving as the primary contact and resource for the Department on PREA related inquiries;
   b. collaborating with the Department’s Policy Development Coordinator to develop policy and procedures in compliance with federal and state statutes, national standards, and Departmental goals concerning PREA issues;
   c. receiving reports of complaints and alleged incidents of PREA violations from the facility PREA monitors;
   d. reviewing PREA investigations as well as the resolution of complaints and alleged incidents;
   e. assisting in the development, implementation, and evaluation of all PREA related training;
f. collaborating with the Department’s Policy Development Coordinator to provide updates regarding law, policy, or services related to PREA;

g. collaborating with the Department’s Director of Operations to ensure that all new contracts and contract renewals for the confinement of prisoners or residents outside the Department includes the other facility’s obligation to adopt and comply with PREA Standards and monitoring by the Department for compliance;

h. collaborating with the Department’s Director of Operations to ensure that when a new facility is designed or an existing facility is expanded or modified or facility monitoring technology is installed or updated, consideration is given to ways of enhancing protection of prisoners or residents from sexual misconduct and harassment;

i. collaborating with the Department’s Director of Health Services and Director of Training to ensure that all facility health care staff have been trained in the prevention of, detection of, preservation of evidence of, response to, and reporting of sexual misconduct; and

j. maintaining a memorandum of understanding with the Maine Coalition Against Sexual Assault for the provision of support services to prisoners and residents.

3. Each facility’s Chief Administrative Officer shall designate a PREA monitor to coordinate the facility’s compliance with PREA standards. The designated PREA monitor must be a staff person who has a supervisory position at the facility.

4. The PREA monitor’s duties shall also include, but are not limited to, the following:

   a. ensuring that all prisoners or residents are screened for risk of sexual victimization or abusiveness, in accordance with the timeframes set out in departmental policy;

   b. ensuring that all prisoners or residents are provided timely, comprehensive education, through written materials and/or video, regarding their rights to be free from sexual misconduct and sexual harassment and to be free from retaliation for reporting such incidents, as well as departmental policies and procedures for reporting and responding to such incidents. This education shall also include prevention, self-protection, and the availability of treatment and counseling;

   c. ensuring that key information is continuously and readily available to prisoners or residents through posters, prisoner handbooks, or other written materials;

   d. reporting or ensuring the reporting of all PREA related complaints and alleged incidents to the PREA Coordinator within twenty-four (24) hours of the complaint or allegation;
e. working with the facility’s investigator to ensure that all complaints/allegations of PREA violations are appropriately investigated;

f. submitting a detailed report to the PREA Coordinator within three (3) weeks from the date of the complaint or allegation, to include a thorough description of the alleged incident, as well as any investigative steps taken;

g. tracking each complaint/allegation of sexual misconduct on an ongoing basis using the PREA Supervisor and Monitor Checklist (Attachment A);

h. ensuring that unannounced rounds to identify and deter staff sexual misconduct and sexual harassment are conducted by supervisory staff. These rounds shall be conducted on all shifts and shall be documented in unit logbooks. The PREA monitor shall ensure that staff are not alerted that these rounds are occurring;

i. assisting in review and data collection relating to alleged incidents of sexual misconduct;

j. developing and, as necessary, revising a plan, to be reviewed at least once a year with the PREA Coordinator, to protect prisoners or residents against sexual misconduct. When developing the facility’s plan, the following shall be considered:

1) generally accepted correctional practices;
2) any findings of inadequacy by courts or by federal or state investigative or oversight agencies;
3) all components of the facility’s physical plant (including “blind-spots” or areas where staff or prisoners or residents may be isolated) and availability of video monitoring;
4) the composition of the prisoner or resident population;
5) the number and placement of staff, including supervisory staff;
6) facility programs occurring on a particular shift;
7) any applicable state laws, regulations, or standards; and
8) the prevalence of substantiated and unsubstantiated incidents of sexual misconduct; and any other relevant factors.

k. developing a written facility plan to coordinate actions taken in response to an incident of sexual misconduct or sexual harassment among security staff, first responders, medical and mental health staff, investigators and facility management; and

l. monitoring compliance with the plans to ensure that they are not deviated from except in emergencies and to ensure that the reasons for any deviations are documented.

**VII. PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS**

**ACA:**

**ACI - 4-4281-6** Written policy, procedure, and practice ensure that sexual conduct between staff and prisoners, volunteers, or contract personnel and prisoners, regardless of consensual status, is prohibited and subject to administrative and criminal disciplinary sanctions.
Sexual conduct between staff and juveniles, volunteers, or contract personnel and juveniles, regardless of consensual status, is prohibited and subject to administrative and criminal disciplinary sanctions.

PREA:

§ 115.11 Zero tolerance of sexual abuse and sexual harassment; PREA coordinator
§ 115.12 Contracting with other entities for the confinement of inmates
§ 115.13 Supervision and monitoring
§ 115.15 Limits to cross-gender viewing and searches
§ 115.16 Inmates with disabilities and inmates who are limited English proficient
§ 115.18 Upgrades to facilities and technologies
§ 115.22 Policies to ensure referrals of allegations for investigations
§ 115.31 Employee training
§ 115.33 Inmate education
§ 115.41 Screening for risk of victimization and abusiveness
§ 115.42 Use of screening information
§ 115.43 Protective custody
§ 115.51 Inmate reporting
§ 115.61 Staff and agency reporting duties
§ 115.62 Agency protection duties
§ 115.66 Preservation of ability to protect inmates from contact with abusers
§ 115.67 Agency protection against retaliation
§ 115.81 Medical and mental health screenings; history of sexual abuse
§ 115.82 Access to emergency medical and mental health services
§ 115.86 Sexual abuse incident reviews
§ 115.87 Data collection
§ 115.88 Data review for corrective action
§ 115.89 Data storage, publication, and destruction
§ 115.501 State determination and certification of full compliance