

Ware Youth Center
Detention
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PREA ANNUAL REPORT

2025

This report was written in accordance with Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) Standard 115.388 Data review for corrective action.

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PREA Standard 115.388

The Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) was established to address sexual abuse and sexual harassment of persons confined to correctional facilities. Standard 115.388 Data Review for Corrective Action of PREA, requires that all public and private institutions that house adult or juvenile offenders review data collected and aggregated on an annual basis in order to assess and enhance the effectiveness of its sexual abuse prevention, detection and response policies, practices and training, including identifying problem areas; taking corrective action on an ongoing basis; and preparing an annual report of its findings and corrective actions for each facility as well as the agency as a whole.

Ware Youth Center Detention accepts juveniles from a six parish area; Bossier, Red River, Desoto, Sabine, Natchitoches and Webster. If additional beds are available Ware Youth Center Detention will accept additional juveniles from other areas of the state.

Key Terms and Definitions

NONCONSENSUAL SEXUAL ACTS – unwanted contact with another juvenile or any contact with staff that involves contact with the penis and the vagina or anus; contact between the mouth and the penis, vagina, or anus; penetration of the anal or vaginal opening of another person by a hand, finger or other object; and rubbing of another persons’ penis or vagina by a hand.

ABUSIVE SEXUAL CONTACT – Unwanted contact with another juvenile or any contact with staff that involved touching of the juveniles’ buttocks, thighs, penis, breast or vagina in a sexual way.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT – Repeated and unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors or verbal comments, gestures, or actions of a derogatory or offensive sexual nature by one juvenile directed toward another.

STAFF SEXUAL MISCONDUCT – All incidents of willing and unwilling sexual contact with facility staff, and all incidents of sexual activity that involved oral, anal or vaginal penetration.

STAFF SEXUAL HARASSMENT – Repeated verbal comments or gestures of a sexual nature to a juvenile by a staff member, contractor or volunteer including demeaning references to gender, sexually suggestive derogatory comments about body or clothing, or obscene language or gestures.

2024-2025 Comparison of PREA Allegations

This report includes a comparison of calendar years 2024 and 2025 data on sexual abuse and sexual harassment allegations and provides an assessment of Ware Youth Center Detention’s progress in preventing sexual abuse and sexual harassment of its juveniles. This review included a review of data from all available incident reports, grievances and investigations.

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REPORTING CRITERIA

	2024	2025
Number of <i>males</i> present on December 31 st	21	20
Number of <i>males</i> admitted during the target year	238	200
Number of <i>females</i> present on December 31 st	7	6
Number of <i>females</i> admitted during the target year	120	141
Number of <i>alleged</i> juvenile-on-juvenile NONCONSENSUAL SEXUAL ACTS	0	1
Number of <i>substantiated</i> juvenile-on-juvenile NONCONSENSUAL SEXUAL ACTS	0	0
Number of <i>alleged</i> juvenile-on-juvenile ABUSIVE SEXUAL CONTACT	1	2
Number of <i>substantiated</i> juvenile-on-juvenile ABUSIVE SEXUAL CONTACT	0	1
Number of <i>alleged</i> juvenile-on-juvenile SEXUAL HARASSMENT	0	1
Number of <i>substantiated</i> juvenile-on-juvenile SEXUAL HARASSMENT	0	0
Number of <i>alleged</i> staff-on-juvenile STAFF SEXUAL MISCONDUCT	0	1
Number <i>substantiated</i> staff-on-juvenile STAFF SEXUAL MISCONDUCT	0	0
Number of <i>alleged</i> staff-on-juvenile STAFF SEXUAL HARASSMENT	0	0
Number of <i>substantiated</i> staff-on-juvenile STAFF SEXUAL HARASSMENT	0	0

Comparative Analysis

In 2025, Ware Youth Center Detention experienced an increase in reported PREA allegations overall. Ware Youth Center Detention will continue its efforts in ensuring that juveniles, staff, volunteers and contractors are educated in the facility's Zero Tolerance policy, as well as the various methods of reporting allegations. Ware Youth Center Detention is committed to ensuring continued compliance with PREA Standards as well as the health and safety of the juveniles in our care. A comparative analysis of 2024 and 2025 indicates the following:

- In 2025, there was **one** reported incident of juvenile-on-juvenile nonconsensual sexual acts which was found to be unsubstantiated. This is compared to 2024 whereas there were **zero** reported incidents of juvenile-on-juvenile nonconsensual acts.
- In 2025, there were **two** reported incidents of juvenile-on-juvenile abusive sexual contact in which one incident was found to be substantiated and the other unsubstantiated. This is compared to 2024 where there was **one** reported incident of juvenile-on-juvenile abusive sexual contact which was found to be unsubstantiated.
- In 2025, there was **one** reported incident of juvenile-on-juvenile sexual harassment which was found to be unsubstantiated. This is compared to 2024, whereas there were **zero** reported incidents of juvenile-on-juvenile sexual harassment.
- In 2025, there was **one** reported incident of staff-on-juvenile sexual misconduct which was found to be unsubstantiated. This is compared to 2024 whereas there were **zero** reported incidents of staff-on-juvenile sexual misconduct.
- In 2024 and 2025, there were **zero** reported incidents of staff-on-juvenile sexual harassment.

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2025 Corrective Actions

In 2025, there were no reported incidents of staff-on-juvenile sexual harassment. There was one reported incident of staff-on-juvenile sexual misconduct which was determined unsubstantiated. There was also one reported incident of juvenile-on-juvenile nonconsensual acts and juvenile-on-juvenile sexual harassment which were both determined to be unsubstantiated. There were two reported incidents of juvenile-on-juvenile abusive sexual contact where one incident was unsubstantiated and the other was substantiated. In 2025, Ware Youth Center Detention implemented the following actions:

- The facility will continue administering the Diana Screen to all potential new hires.
- The facility will continue to conduct pre-hire psychological evaluations on all potential new hires before a formal offer of employment.
- The facility contracted with Guardian Alarm Systems to replace all existing security cameras to include audio.
- All facility staff were equipped with Axon Body Cameras with unlimited storage capabilities.
- Staff received training on the facility's Zero Tolerance policy on sexual harassment and sexual abuse.
- All staff were required to complete online Mandated Reporter Training through the Department of Children and Family Services online portal.
- All staff were required to complete online Ethics training through the Louisiana Ethics Board.
- All staff received training on proper supervision techniques of all juveniles.
- The facility continued to contract with Missouri Youth Services Institute to provide training and coaching to staff which included topics such as supervision, underlying causes of youth behavior and human dignity.

2024 Corrective Actions

In 2024, there was one reported incident of juvenile-on-juvenile abusive sexual contact which was determined to be unsubstantiated. Ware Youth Center Detention had zero reported incidents of juvenile-on-juvenile nonconsensual acts, juvenile-on-juvenile sexual harassment, staff-on-juvenile sexual misconduct or staff-on-juvenile sexual harassment. In 2024, Ware Youth Center Detention implemented the following actions:

- All potential new hires are administered the Diana Screen, which is a specialized, computer-based assessment tool used by youth-serving organizations to screen job applicants to evaluate candidates for behaviors, boundary issues or profiles that indicate a high risk of sexual misconduct or abuse against minors.
- The facility has also implemented pre-hire psychological examinations for all potential new hires to assess a candidate's personality traits, emotional stability, judgment, integrity and suitability for working with juveniles.
- Staff received training on the facility's Zero Tolerance policy on sexual harassment and sexual abuse.
- All staff were required to complete online Mandated Reporter Training through the Department of Children and Family Services online portal.
- All staff were required to complete online Ethics training through the Louisiana Ethics Board.

APPROVED BY:

Signature of Agency Head: Staci Scott

Name/Title of Agency Head: Staci Scott, Executive Director

Date Annual Report Approved: 1/02/2026