

DJJ Zero-Tolerance Policy

- All sexual behavior is prohibited while under the jurisdiction/ custody of the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ).
- DJJ has a zero-tolerance policy regarding sexual abuse and harassment.
- There are procedures for reporting sexual abuse and harassment.
- Treatment is available through medical, Behavioral Specialists and community partners outside the facility.
- Everyone is required to report alleged occurrences of sexual abuse and sexual harassment.
- Everyone is required to report any retaliation for reporting sexual abuse or sexual harassment.
- Participation in any form of sexual abuse will be investigated and is subject to penalty or prosecution.

The Right To Be Safe

Everyone has the right to be safe from sexual abuse.

- Say NO to anyone who asks or pressures you to participate in any type of sexual activity.
- Immediately report any sexual abuse or sexual misconduct (or attempts).

If You Are A Victim

In the event of a sexual assault or rape:

- Preserve the evidence. **Do NOT:**



Change your clothes.



Brush your teeth.



Take a shower.



Go to the bathroom.

- Seek medical help immediately. Get examined and treated for sexually transmitted infections.
- Talk to your therapist or a Behavioral Specialist.

False Allegations

Anyone who makes a false claim of sexual abuse may face serious consequences, including disciplinary action and potential charges filed.



Zero Tolerance

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Richmond, VA 23218
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PRISON RAPE ELIMINATION ACT



PREA

Youth
Safety
Guide



for
Secure
Facilities



and
Residential
Placements



Virginia Department
of Juvenile Justice

Safety. Connection.
Purpose. Fairness.

How To Make A Report

All reports are confidential and only shared on a need to know basis for investigations.

If you have experienced, witnessed or know about an incident of sexual abuse/sexual harassment, or if you are experiencing retaliation for reporting sexual abuse/sexual harassment, make a report by:



- Completing a grievance form.
- Calling the PREA hotline by dialing #55.
- For emotional support and/or outside reporting, contact the Greater Richmond YWCA by dialing #55 and selecting option #2 or mailing a letter to:

6 N. 5th Street, Richmond, VA 23219

- Telling an adult you trust:
 - Counselor
 - Facility PREA Compliance Manager
 - Parole Officer
 - Medical or Behavior Specialist staff member
 - Parent or guardian



* Retaliation against someone reporting sexual abuse is prohibited and punishable.

Sexual Abuse or Harassment Are Never OK

ACTS OF SEXUAL ABUSE

- Sexual intercourse.
- The attempt of a sexual act, including inappropriate touching and exposure.
- Any verbal or physical pressure, intimidation or influence of a sexual nature.
- Implied threats of violence of a sexual nature.

APPROPRIATE BOUNDARIES

Staff and youth must maintain appropriate boundaries.

- Any sexual activity between youth and staff, contractors, volunteers or interns is strictly prohibited. This includes resident-on-resident acts.
- Intimate relationships with staff or other youth are prohibited.
- Staff are not allowed to contact residents family or friends outside of their required job duties and expectations.
- Do not exchange personal contact information or ask questions with a sexual content.

Protect Yourself

You can help protect yourself from sexual abuse and take care of yourself by following these tips:

- Act confident. Many sexual abusers target youth who look like they would not defend themselves.
- Be alert and trust your instincts. Avoid situations that make you feel uncomfortable.
- Be aware of your surroundings.
- Avoid secluded areas. Always stay in plain view of staff members.
- Do not accept gifts, loans or favors from other youth or staff.
- Do not allow another youth to be your “protector.”
- Report incidents and dangerous situations.
- Be direct and firm when saying no.
- Get involved in DJJ-approved activities and programs.
- Know who you are associating with at all times.

