

Wyoming

Office of the Governor

May 14, 2015

Ms. Karol Mason
Assistant Attorney General
Office of Justice Programs
Washington, D.C. 20531

RE: Assurance to Utilize DOJ Grants to Achieve Full Compliance with the National Standards to Prevent, Detect and Respond to Prison Rape - 2015

Dear Assistant Attorney General Mason:

The intent of the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) is commendable. Sexual assault in correctional facilities is unacceptable. Wyoming has a zero tolerance for sexual misconduct and sexual victimization of inmates in any detention facility. This core value was in place in Wyoming before the PREA standards were finalized.

The PREA standards present challenges. They are cumbersome and expensive to implement. The Wyoming Department of Corrections spent \$149,298 for additional video monitoring cameras and recording capabilities to achieve compliance in two facilities. In the three prison facilities not yet audited, it will spend between \$130,000 and \$450,000 per institution to meet requirements.

An estimated \$500,000 will be required to bring the Wyoming Boys' School and the Wyoming Girls' School into compliance. The Wyoming Girls' School will undergo an audit in June 2015 which will include an audit of the Department of Family Services' PREA compliance and progress.

Adult confinement facilities under the operational control of Wyoming's executive branch are:

Wyoming prisons:

- WY Women's Center, Lusk, WY (PREA audited and compliant as of 2014)
- WY Honor Conservation Camp, Newcastle, WY (PREA audited and compliant as of 2014)
- WY Medium Correctional Institution, Torrington, WY (to be PREA audited in 2015)

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- WY State Penitentiary, Rawlins, WY (to be PREA audited in 2016)
- WY Honor Farm, Riverton, WY (to be PREA audited in 2016)

Contract Adult Community Confinement Facilities:

- Community Corrections Center, Casper, WY, (PREA audited and compliant as of 2014)
- Community Corrections Center, Cheyenne, WY (to be PREA audited in 2015)
- Community Corrections Center, Gillette, WY (to be PREA audited in 2016)

Juvenile Confinement facilities in Wyoming that are considered to be under the operational control of the Wyoming's executive branch include:

- WY Boys' School, Worland, WY (to be PREA audited in 2016)
- WY Girls' School, Sheridan, WY (to be PREA audited in 2015)

Enclosed please find the State of Wyoming's 2015 mandatory assurance for use of Department of Justice Grants to achieve compliance with PREA national standards.

Sincerely,



Matthew H. Mead
Governor

MHM:mdm

Enclosure

cc: The Honorable Mike Enzi, U.S. Senate
The Honorable John Barrasso, U.S. Senate
The Honorable Cynthia Lummis, U.S. House of Representatives
Peter K. Michael, Wyoming Attorney General
Bob Lampert, Director, Wyoming Department of Corrections
Steve Corsi, Director, Wyoming Department of Family Services

Assurance to Utilize Department of Justice Grants to Achieve Full Compliance with
the National Standards to Prevent, Detect, and Respond to Prison Rape

2015

Pursuant to 42 U.S.C. §15607(e)(2), I assure the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) that, subject to the exceptions checked below (if applicable), the State/jurisdiction named below will use not less than 5 percent of its covered DOJ grant funds for FY 2015 to enable the State/jurisdiction to adopt, and achieve full compliance with, the National Standards to Prevent, Detect, and Respond to Prison Rape (28 C.F.R. Part 115), so as to ensure that a certification of full compliance may be submitted in future years.

1. the State/jurisdiction named below has adopted, and is in full compliance with, the National Standards to Prevent, Detect, and Respond to Prison Rape, 28 C.F.R. Part 115, insofar as those standards implicate juvenile facilities, as defined in 28 C.F.R. Part 115, but is not in full compliance with one or more standards insofar as those standards implicate non-juvenile facilities. Accordingly, grants issued by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention are not subject to the required set aside of funds for PREA purposes and shall not be used for purposes of the above Assurance.

2. the State/jurisdiction named below has adopted, and is in full compliance with, the National Standards to Prevent, Detect, and Respond to Prison Rape, 28 CFR Part 115, except to the extent that full compliance would require new construction. Accordingly, grants issued by the Office on Violence Against Women are not subject to the required set aside of funds for PREA purposes and shall not be used for the purposes of the above Assurance.

If the State/jurisdiction has checked Box 1 and/or 2, and after the date of signature of this Assurance, credible information should come to the attention of the undersigned (or his or her successor) that casts reasonable doubt on the accuracy (as of the date of signature) of the information relied upon in checking Box 1 and/or 2, the same shall conduct a reassessment and determine whether this selection of such box(es) was accurate as of the date of signature. If the selection of one or both boxes is determined not to have been accurate, the undersigned or a designee will:

1. Within 15 days, notify DOJ via the email address below of the existence of the inaccuracy; and
2. Within 15 days of providing such notice, submit a revised Assurance, signed by the Chief Executive.


Signature of Chief Executive

Matthew H. Mead
Printed name of Chief Executive

State of Wyoming
Name of State/jurisdiction

5-14-15
Date

This form must be received by the Department of Justice, PREA Management Office, by May 15, 2015. A signed, electronic version of this form may be sent to: PREACompliance@usdoj.gov

A false statement in this certification or in the grant application that it supports may be subject to criminal prosecution, including under 18 U.S.C. § 1001 and 42 U.S.C. § 3795a. DOJ grants, including certifications provided in connection with such grants, are subject to review by the DOJ component that issued the grant and/or by the DOJ Office of the Inspector General.