



# **POWER HOUR**

**Chat with a PREA Expert**

**March 13, 2025**

**115.81 &  
115.381**

**Access to Medical and Mental  
Health Services**

**IMPACT/JUSTICE**

NATIONAL  
**PREA**  
RESOURCE  
CENTER



# Phebia Moreland

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NATIONAL  
**PREA**  
RESOURCE  
CENTER

# Mission

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The mission of the PRC is to assist adult prisons and jails, juvenile facilities, lockups, community confinement, and tribal facilities in their efforts to eliminate sexual abuse by increasing their capacity for prevention, detection, monitoring, responses to incidents, and services to victims and their families.

The PRC is funded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance.

# Logistics

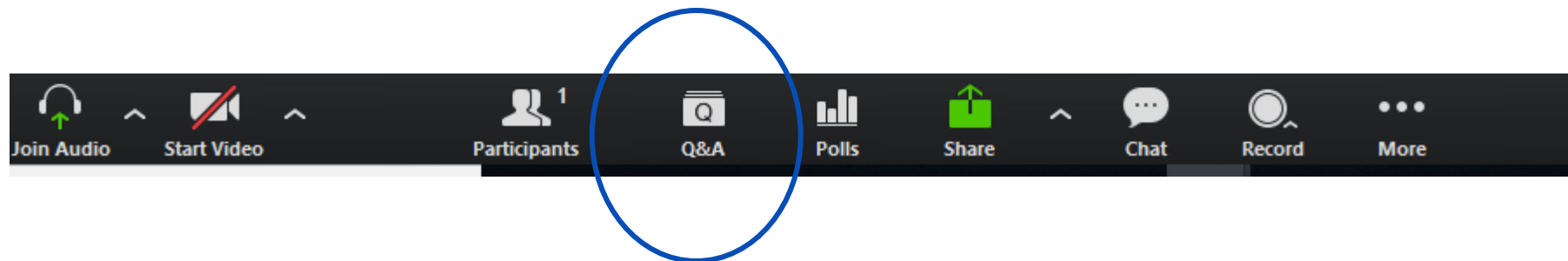
## Technical Support

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- If you have trouble using this function, please contact **Ramses Prashad:** [rprashad@impactjustice.org](mailto:rprashad@impactjustice.org).

# Logistics

## Submitting Questions

- To submit a question during the webinar, use the **Q&A feature** on your webinar toolbar as seen below.
- Presenters will address the questions at the end of the presentation.



# Speakers



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# Agenda

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- 1. Standard overview.**
- 2. Variations for different facility types.**
- 3. Discuss implementation expectations.**
- 4. Challenges implementing this Standard.**
- 5. Promising practices.**
- 6. Auditing considerations.**
- 7. Resources.**
- 8. Questions.**

# Standard 115.81 & 115.381

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# Access to Medical and Mental Health Services

## Poll Question

**What is the biggest challenge your agency/facility faces when addressing the medical and mental health needs of incarcerated people with a history of sexual abuse?**

- A. Ensuring timely and appropriate medical treatment.
- B. Providing mental health support.
- C. Maintaining confidentiality and privacy.
- D. Coordinating with various departments and/or the community.
- E. All of the above.

## Purpose of the Standard: Address Needs and Protect Confidentiality

### Medical Care

- Prompt evaluation and treatment for physical injuries and other health concerns

### Mental Health Support

- Immediate and ongoing access to trauma informed services

### Sexual Safety Measures

- Prioritize safety
- Protect Confidentiality
- Prevent re-traumatization

## Purpose of the Standard:

### Address Needs

- Ensure timely interventions
- Address immediate needs and prevent future incidents

### Protect Confidentiality

- Limit access to information
- Informed Consent
- Build Trust



## Follow-Up Requirement for Prior Sexual Victimization

### Offer Follow-up Care:

- Medical and mental health within 14 days
- Use screening info to inform care and support

### Info strictly limited to:

- Medical and mental health staff
- Relevant staff as necessary

[See Standard in Focus § 115.41, Screening for Risk of Victimization and Abusiveness](#)



## Non-Institutional Prior Sexual Victimization

### Informed Consent

- Medical and mental health must obtain before reporting

### Exception

- Under 18, reporting may be required by law without consent.

# Informed Consent



- Informed consent allows patients to make voluntary, well-informed decisions.
- Key elements of informed consent:

Voluntariness

Capacity

Documentation

# Access to Medical and Mental Health Services

## Poll Question

**Does your agency/facility have a clear protocol for obtaining informed consent before reporting prior sexual victimization that occurred outside of an institutional setting?**

- A. Yes, it's well-established.
- B. There's a protocol, but it needs improvement.
- C. No, there's no clear protocol.
- D. Unsure.

# Standard Variations

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## Deviation Between Standards Provisions

- **Prisons:** Follow-up meetings offered for **both** prior victimization **and** perpetration within 14 days of intake.
- **Jails:** Follow-up meetings are required **only** for prior victimization; no obligation for those who have perpetrated abuse.

## Deviation Between Standards Provisions

- **Juvenile:** Must offer follow-up meetings for both prior victimization and perpetration, similar to prison Standards.
- **Lockups and community confinements:** There is no comparable Standard for lockups and community confinement facilities.

# Implementation

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# Implementation Strategies

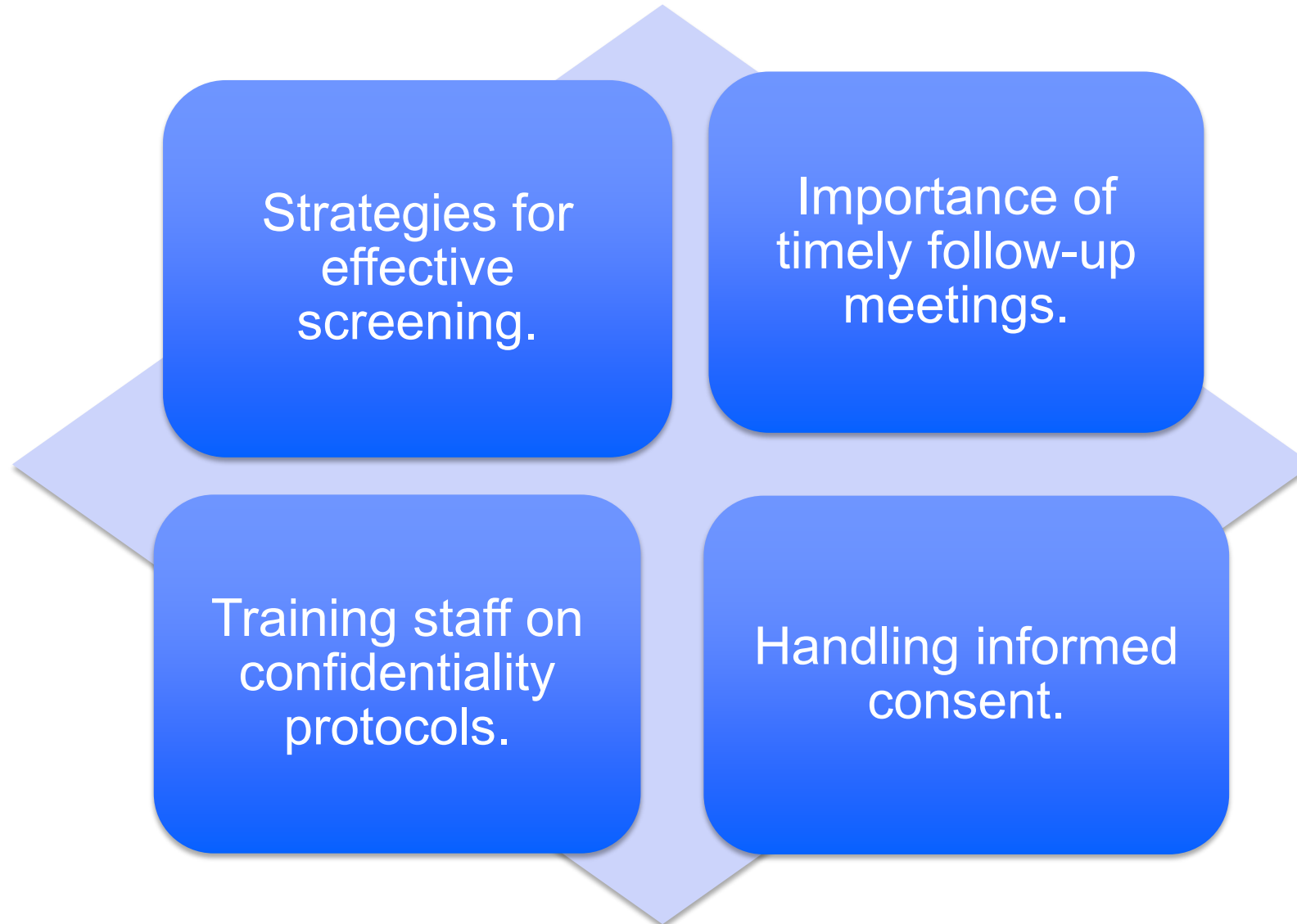


**Tailored follow-up:** Ensure different protocols for prisons and juvenile facilities (victimization and perpetration) and jails (victimization only).

**Discreet use of information:** Ensure that information on past sexual abuse is only shared with relevant staff for safety and treatment purposes.

**Documentation systems:** Maintain secure and restricted records (e.g., forms, logs) to track compliance with follow-up services.

# Practical Implementation



# Strategies for Effective Screening



- **Risk screening tools:**
  - Use standardized question or indicators.
  - Incorporate within the PREA Risk Assessment Instrument.
  - Effectively identify individuals at risk of sexual victimization or abusiveness.

# Strategies for Effective Screening



## Privacy Measures

Conduct screening in private, confidential settings

Safeguard info

Encourage disclosures

# Strategies for Effective Screening



## Multidisciplinary Approach

Involve mental health in the screening process

Include medical for comprehensive evaluations

Provide assessment of risk



# Strategies for Effective Screening



## Training Staff

- Emphasize trauma – informed approaches
- Teach techniques for asking sensitive questions

# Informed Consent

- **Language:** Use clear and simple language to explain informed consent, ensuring that the individual fully understands the process.
- **Cultural sensitivity:** Train staff to address cultural differences that may affect how people in custody understand and provide consent.



# Informed Consent (cont.)

## Written & Verbal Consent

- Medical and mental health services
- People in custody have the opportunity to ask questions

## Documentation

- Maintain detailed records
- Include questions asked and responses given
- Transparency
- Document consent for minors

# Access to Medical and Mental Health Services

## Poll Question

Which of the following do you believe is **the most important factor** in supporting safety and trust in a correctional facility's response to prior sexual victimization?

- A. Timely access to medical and mental health care.
- B. Providing follow-up mental health to those with histories of perpetration.
- C. Protecting the confidentiality of all sensitive information.
- D. Ensuring informed consent before sharing information on prior sexual victimization.
- E. All of the above.

# Challenges

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# Access to Medical and Mental Health Services

## Poll Question

**What is the biggest challenge your agency/facility faces in implementing follow-up care within 14 days of intake?**

- A. Tracking incarcerated people for follow-up.
- B. Communication between intake and medical and mental health units.
- C. High incarcerated person turnover rates.
- D. Lack of resources or staff availability to provide services.
- E. Other (write in chat).

# Access to Medical and Mental Health Services

## Challenges

- Track individuals with prior victimization or perpetration to ensure follow-up care within 14 days.
- Document follow-up care/needs and refusals offers.
- Limit disclosure of information within the facility.

# Promising Practices

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# Promising Practices



- Develop policies to document whether accept or decline follow-up care.
- Prioritize offering follow-up meetings as soon as possible, even before the 14-day deadline.
- Implement reliable tracking and communication systems between intake and medical and mental health units.

# Audit Considerations

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# Audit Tools that Address Compliance



- **PAQ (Pre-Audit Questionnaire):**
  - Tracks the percent of incarcerated people who disclosed prior victimization and received a follow-up meeting with medical or mental health staff in the past 12 months.
- **ACT (Audit Compliance Tool):**
  - Aids in verifying facility adherence to PREA Standards, specifically regarding timely access to mental health services, informed consent, and protection of information.

# Audit Considerations



- **Policy(ies):**
  - governing the facility response to follow-up meeting(s) and other services with a medical and/or mental health practitioner, protection of information and informed consent.

# Audit Considerations



Standard		Policies/Procedures/Other Documents	
		Pre-Audit	During Audit
IND MENTAL CARE	<b>§115.81 – Medical and mental health screenings; history of sexual abuse</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❑ Policy(ies) governing the facility response (including follow-up meetings and other services with a medical or mental health practitioner) for inmates who indicate a prior history of sexual victimization or sexual abusiveness towards others.</li> <li>❑ Secondary materials documenting compliance with required services. (The term secondary materials refers to materials maintained by health staff in a secure area but separate from the inmate’s medical record that document compliance with the provisions of this standard.)</li> <li>❑ Sample of mental health secondary materials.</li> <li>❑ Sample of inmate confinement records/other records available to custody staff or non-health personnel.</li> <li>❑ Consent documentation/logs obtained from inmates over age 18 by medical/mental health practitioners before reporting information about prior sexual victimization that did not occur in an institutional setting.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❑ Additional medical/mental health secondary materials.</li> <li>❑ Additional sample of inmate confinement records/other records available to custody staff or non-health personnel.</li> </ul>

[Checklist of Documentation Resource](#)

# Audit Considerations



- **Interviews:**
  - Auditors will interview confined people and staff to verify that follow-up care was offered within 14 days of intake and that the facility adhered to confidentiality protocols.

# Site Review Considerations



- **Physical storage of records – auditors will:**
  - Observe secured areas for hard copy records.
- **Electronic safeguards – auditors will:**
  - Confirm secure electronic storage.
  - Role-based access limited to authorized personnel.

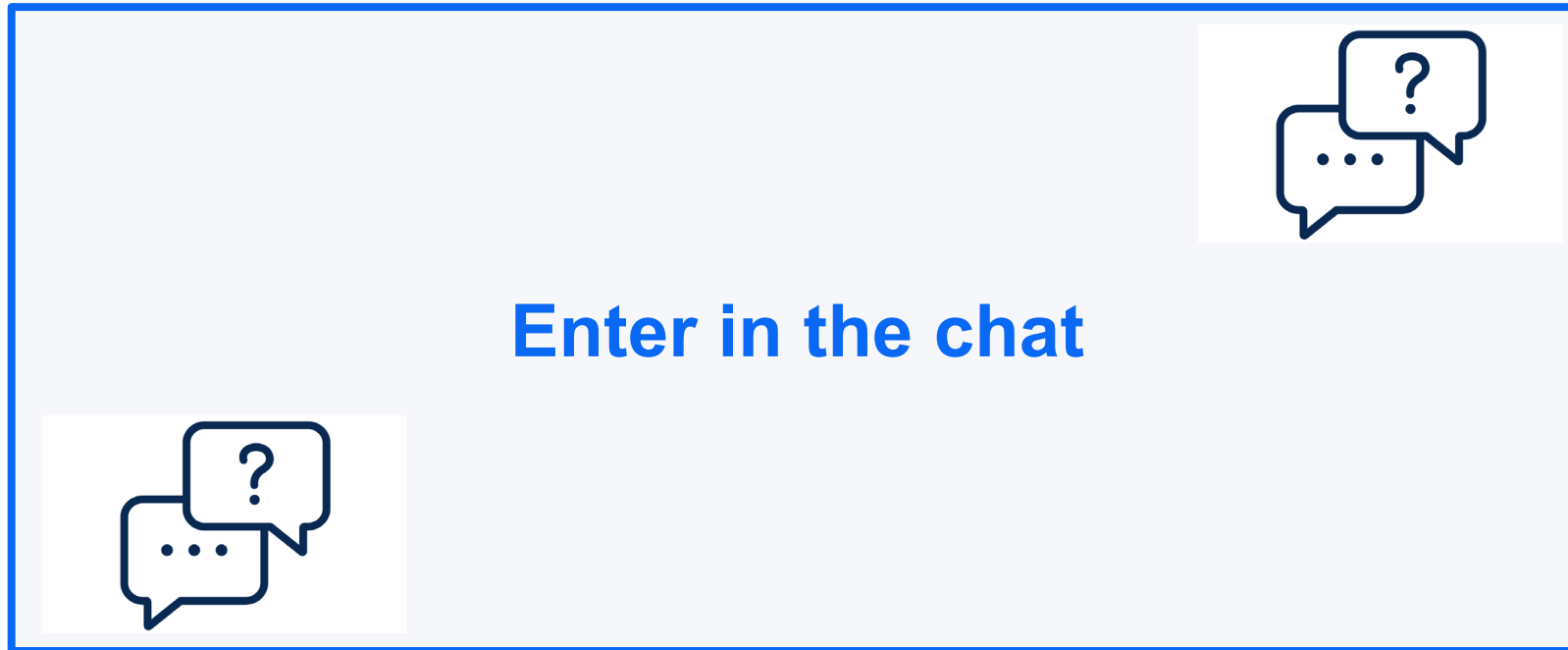
# Wrap-Up

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# Access to Medical and Mental Health Services

What was your key takeaway(s) from today's webinar?





## Recap of Key Points

- Ensures that immediate medical and mental health needs are addressed.
- Unaddressed medical and mental health needs may lead to negative impacts on the safety of all individuals in the facility.
- Proactive measures can decrease the likelihood of future sexual abuse incidents.



## Recap of Key Points

- Accessibility to medical and mental health services increases confidence in the facility's treatment systems among people in confinement.
- Improves overall sexual safety culture.
- Informed consent.



# Resources

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# Resources

- **PREA Resource Center Library**

[https://www.prearesourcecenter.org/library/search?standards%5B%5D=1127&toolset=All&keyword=&sort\\_bef\\_combine=updated\\_date\\_DESC](https://www.prearesourcecenter.org/library/search?standards%5B%5D=1127&toolset=All&keyword=&sort_bef_combine=updated_date_DESC)

- **Standard in Focus**

<https://www.prearesourcecenter.org/resource/prea-standard-focus-11581>

# Resources

- **PREA Resource Center Library**

- *Module 11: Sexual Victimization and Mental Health Interventions in Correctional Settings*

<https://www.prearesourcecenter.org/sites/default/files/library/module11victimizationandmentalhealthcare.pdf>

- *Specialized Training: Medical/Mental Healthcare (Regional Training Files) Introduction and Module 1: Detecting and Assessing Signs of Sexual Abuse and Harassment*

<https://www.prearesourcecenter.org/sites/default/files/library/medmhrepresentationmod1detectingassessing.pdf>

# Questions?



# PRC Library

NATIONAL PREA RESOURCE CENTER

About Implementation Library Audit DOJ FAQ

**Filter** [Reset All](#)

**Facility**

- Community Confinement
- Juvenile Facility
- Lockup Facility
- Prisons and Jails

**Standards**

| Search

**Term**

| Search

**Type**

- Tool
- Publication
- Webinar
- Featured Resource

**Toolset**

- Any -

**Keyword**

| Search

## Resource library

423 results Sort by Date

**TOOL: AUDIT**

**Documentation Requirements - Juvenile PREA Standards**

**STANDARDS:** All

**FACILITY:** Juvenile Facility

**TERMS:** Audit, Audit Instrument (+1)

**TOOL: AUDIT**

**Documentation Requirements - Prisons and Jail PREA Standards**

**STANDARDS:** All

**FACILITY:** Prisons and jails

**TERMS:** Compliance, Audit (+1)

**FEATURED RESOURCE**

**WEBINAR**

**Power Hour: Chat with a PREA Expert on Standard 115.32**

**STANDARDS:** 115.32

**FACILITY:** Community Confinement, Juvenile Facility (+2)

**TERMS:** Volunteers, Contractors (+2)

**WEBINAR**

**PRC Website Revision: Overview and Q&A**

**STANDARDS:** None

**FEATURED RESOURCE**

**WEBINAR**

**Developing a PREA-Compliant Language Access Plan for Incarcerated...**

**STANDARDS:** 115.16, 115.21, 115.51, 115.53

**FACILITY:** Community Confinement, Juvenile Facility

**TERMS:** Accessibility, Limited English proficient

**TOOL: AUDIT**

**Audit Report Template - Juvenile Facilities**

**STANDARDS:** 115.401

**FACILITY:** Juvenile Facility

**TERMS:** Audit, Audit Instrument (+2)



# Request Assistance

## PRC Website

Jurisdictions can request assistance by completing a web form on the PRC website under the “Implementation” tab and clicking “Request for assistance” under “Training.”

The screenshot shows the National PRC Resource Center website. The navigation menu includes 'About', 'Implementation' (which is underlined), 'Library', 'Audit', and 'DOJ FAQ'. The main content area is titled 'Implementation' and has sub-links for 'Implementation', 'Training', and 'Request for assistance'. A sidebar on the left lists various resources: 'PREA Standards', 'PREA toolsets', 'PREA in action', 'Training' (with sub-links for 'PREA Academy', 'Field training audit', 'Webinars', 'Upcoming events', and 'Request for assistance'), and a 'Request Assistance' button. The main content area is titled 'Request for assistance' and contains text explaining the purpose of the form and providing instructions on how to use it.

NATIONAL PRC RESOURCE CENTER

About Implementation Library Audit DOJ FAQ

## Implementation

Implementation | Training | Request for assistance

PREA Standards  
PREA toolsets  
PREA in action  
Training  
PREA Academy  
Field training audit  
Webinars  
Upcoming events  
Request for assistance

### Request for assistance

Please fill out the form below in order to request PREA-related training and/or technical assistance for your jurisdiction or agency. The more detail provided in your request will improve the PREA Resource Center's (PRC) ability to meet your needs. For jurisdictions less familiar with PREA, the PRC would encourage you to browse the resources on the [Where to begin page](#). If your jurisdiction has general questions or comments for the PRC you can communicate those through the [Contact us form](#).

To submit information on complaints or concerns about the conduct of a DOJ-certified PREA auditor, please refer to the [Auditor feedback form](#).

The PRC collects the information below in order to efficiently route and respond to inquiries. While all fields are not required, please fill out as much information as possible so that we may better assist you.

Request Assistance

## Mailing List Signup

First name \*

Last name \*

Phone

Email \*

Confirm email \*

Do you wish to name your employer? \*

## Sign Up for Our PRC Newsletter

Jurisdictions can sign up for the PRC newsletter by completing a web form on the PRC website under the “How to use this site” tab and going to “Frequently asked questions” and clicking “Subscribe to our newsletter.”

NATIONAL  
**PREA**  
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# Dana Shoenberg

**PRC Director**

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For more information about the National PREA Resource Center, visit [www.prearesourcecenter.org](http://www.prearesourcecenter.org).

To ask a question, please visit our [Contact Us](#) page.



# **POWER HOUR**

**Chat with a PREA Expert**



# **Thank You!**

## Notice of Federal Funding and Federal Disclaimer

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