

**CT Renaissance, Inc.**  
**Annual PREA Report**  
**January 2023-December 2023**

The Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) was enacted to prevent sexual assaults and harassment in residential facilities housing individuals under the control of various components of the judicial system. PREA's provisions apply to both client/client and client/staff interactions. CT Renaissance has zero tolerance toward all forms of sexual abuse and sexual harassment. CT Renaissance ensures training, education, prevention, detection, response, investigation, and tracking of all reported acts of sexual abuse and sexual harassment.

The agency will take necessary measures to ensure protection of those reporting or assisting in the investigation of sexual abuse or sexual harassment. CT Renaissance provides victims with access to external victim advocates for emotional support services related to sexual abuse. Clients may make verbal or written reports of sexual abuse or harassment to their Clinician, Program Director, PREA Coordinator, or any other employee they feel comfortable in reporting sexual abuse or sexual harassment. They may contact the statewide CT Sexual Assault Crisis Service (24 hours) at 1-888-999-5545 in English and 1-888-568-8332 in Spanish. They may also contact Safe Haven, 29 Central Ave in Waterbury, CT at 203-753-3613 for sexual assault services or The Center for Family Justice located at 753 Fairfield Avenue, Bridgeport, 203-334-6154, with whom the agency maintains Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs). The crisis centers shall forward reports of sexual abuse and sexual harassment to agency officials. Clients may remain anonymous if they desire. Clients also may call 911 for an immediate report to local and CT State Police.

In accordance with state and federal regulations, CT Renaissance Annual PREA Report for January 2023-December 2023 is as follows:

**Community Confinement: CT Renaissance West at 466 West Main St, Waterbury**

CT Renaissance's Waterbury West is a 50 bed substance abuse treatment program. Waterbury West was last certified as PREA compliant by a DOJ PREA auditor in 2022. In 2023, there was one reported PREA allegation involving inappropriate behavior by an employee towards a resident. The staff member was placed on immediate suspension pending the investigation. The investigation determined that the allegation was substantiated. The employee was terminated and will not be eligible for re-hire. West is next scheduled for a PREA audit in 2025.

**Community Confinement: CT Renaissance Central Work Release at 24 Central Avenue, Waterbury**

CT Renaissance Central Work Release is a 45-bed community work release facility. The facility was last certified as PREA compliant by a DOJ-certified PREA auditor in 2022. In 2023, there were no reports of sexual abuse or sexual harassment in the facility. Central is next scheduled for a PREA audit in 2025.

**Community Confinement: CT Renaissance East Work Release at 31 Wolcott Street, Waterbury**

CT Renaissance East Work Release is a 64-bed work release facility. The facility was last certified as PREA compliant by a DOJ- certified PREA auditor in 2021. In 2023, there were no allegations of sexual harassment or sexual abuse. East is next scheduled for a PREA audit in April, 2024.

**Community Confinement: Maple Street Work Release at 575 Maple Street, Bridgeport**

Maple Street is a 61-bed work release program. There were three PREA allegations in 2023. One incident involved an allegation that an employee received an inappropriate text message from a resident that was sexual in nature. Through investigation, it was determined that the employee provided their personal phone number to a resident so he could check-in from his place of employment. Upon receipt of the text, staff immediately reported the incident through the chain of command. The PREA allegation was determined to be unsubstantiated as a sexual abuse or harassment allegation. The employee was disciplined for violating policies around providing personal contact information. A second incident involved allegations that a staff member was spending an inappropriate amount of time with a resident and through investigation it was determined that the PREA allegation was unsubstantiated. However, there was sufficient evidence for misconduct and violation of policies and procedures. The employee was terminated and is not eligible for re-hire. The third incident involved an allegation that there was inappropriate behavior by a Program Director towards a resident. Through investigation involving DOC and the State Police, it was determined that this allegation was substantiated. The employee was terminated and is not eligible for re-hire. The program was last certified by a DOJ PREA auditor in 2021. The program is scheduled for a PREA audit in May, 2024.

Facility	Unfounded	Unsubstantiated	Substantiated	Total
West Residential	0	0	1	1
Central Work Release	0	0	0	0
East Work Release	0	0	0	0
Maple Street Work Release	0	2	1	3
Total 2022	0	0	1	1

Outcomes Definitions

- **Substantiated allegation:** The allegation was determined to have occurred by a preponderance of evidence.
- **Unsubstantiated allegation:** The evidence was insufficient to make a final determination that the allegation was true or false.
- **Unfounded allegation:** The allegation was determined not to have occurred.

**2023 Summary**

In 2023, there were 5 PREA allegations among the four community confinement facilities at CT Renaissance. Immediate action was appropriately taken to ensure the safety of all involved while investigations were seen through to resolution.

**PREA in 2024**

The agency has continued to provide PREA training for all new hires New Employee Orientation program. A new online refresher training has been developed with completion required annually. Trainings in

mandated reporting and pat searches have been updated and are available to new and existing staff. Maple Street Work Release and East Work Release will be audited by a DOJ-certified PREA auditor in 2024.

Report prepared by:

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Date: 2/9/2024

Date Reviewed and approved by:

Dawn Patston, LMFT, COO

Date: 2/9/2024