

Report to the United States Congress Activities of the Review Panel on Prison Rape in Calendar Year 2014

In accordance with Section 4(c)(1)(A) of the Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003 (PREA), Public Law No. 108-79, 117 Stat. 972 (codified as amended at 42 U.S.C. §§ 15601-15609 (2012)), the Attorney General submits this report to Congress on the activities of the Review Panel on Prison Rape (Panel) in the preceding calendar year.

Panel Members

The Panel consisted of the following three members in 2014: Dr. Reginald A. Wilkinson, President and Chief Executive Officer, Ohio College Access Network; Dr. Gary E. Christensen, President, Corrections Partners, Inc.; and Ms. Anne Seymour, a national crime victim advocate.

Purpose of the Panel

According to PREA, the duty of the Panel is to hold annual public hearings, based on data gathered by the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS), on the operations of the three correctional institutions with the highest incidence of sexual victimization and the two correctional institutions with the lowest incidence of sexual victimization in each category of facilities identified under Section 4(c)(4) of the statute. *Id.* § 15603(b)(3)(A). The purpose of the hearings is to identify the common characteristics of (1) sexual predators and victims, (2) correctional institutions with a high incidence of sexual victimization, and (3) correctional institutions with a low incidence of sexual victimization. *Id.*

Hearings

In June of 2013, BJS issued two reports that informed the Panel's hearings: *Sexual Victimization in Prisons and Jails Reported by Inmates, 2011-12*, which is available at <http://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/svpjri1112.pdf>, and *Sexual Victimization in Juvenile Facilities Reported by Youth, 2012*, which is available at <http://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/svjfry12.pdf>. These reports group prison, jail, and juvenile facilities according to the incidence of reported sexual victimization, and formed the basis of the Panel's decision about which facilities would be the subject of testimony. The Panel invited representatives from the following fifteen facilities to appear at public hearings on January 8-9, 2014, as well as the following ten additional witnesses:

Prisons

Facilities with especially high incidence rates of sexual victimization:

- Montana State Prison, Montana Department of Corrections,
- Mabel Bassett Correctional Center, Oklahoma Department of Corrections,¹ and
- Santa Rosa Correctional Institution, Florida Department of Corrections.

¹ Representatives from this prison declined to testify at the Panel's January hearings, but testified at supplemental hearings that the Panel held on August 28, 2014.

Facilities with especially low incidence rates of sexual victimization:

- Lawtey Correctional Institution, Florida Department of Corrections, and
- Jackie Brannon Correctional Center, Oklahoma Department of Corrections.²

Additional witnesses:

- Dr. Allen J. Beck, BJS,
- Robert W. Dumond, LCMHC, CCMHC, Diplomate CFC, Senior Program Director, Just Detention International,
- Joyce Lukima, Vice President of Services, Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape,
- Joshua C. Delaney, Senior Trial Attorney, Civil Rights Division, U.S. Department of Justice, and
- Jenni Trovillion, Co-Director, National PREA Resource Center.

Jails

Facilities with especially high incidence rates of sexual victimization:

- Philadelphia City Riverside Correctional Facility, Philadelphia, Pa., Prison System,
- Harris County Jail – 1200 Baker Street Jail, Harris County, Tex., Sheriff’s Office, and
- Baltimore City Detention Center, Maryland Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services.

Facilities with especially low incidence rates of sexual victimization:

- Jefferson County Jail, Jefferson County, Colo., Sheriff’s Office, and
- Cameron County Carrizales-Rucker Detention Center, Cameron County, Tex., Sheriff’s Office.³

Additional witnesses:

- Dr. Allen J. Beck, BJS,

² Representatives from this prison declined to testify at the Panel’s January hearings, but testified at supplemental hearings that the Panel held on August 28, 2014.

³ A representative from this jail declined to testify at the Panel’s January hearings, but testified at supplemental hearings that the Panel held on August 28, 2014.

- Estéban Gonzalez, President, American Jail Association, and
- Giovanna E. Shay, Professor of Law, Western New England University School of Law.

Juvenile Facilities

Facilities with especially high incidence rates of sexual victimization:

- Paulding Regional Youth Detention Center and Eastman Youth Development Campus, Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice, and
- Circleville Juvenile Correctional Facility, Ohio Department of Youth Services.

Facilities with especially low incidence rates of sexual victimization:

- Owensboro Treatment Center, Kentucky Department of Juvenile Justice, and
- Grand Mesa Youth Services Center, Colorado Division of Youth Corrections.

Additional witnesses:

- Dr. Allen J. Beck, BJS,
- Dr. Mary L. Livers, Deputy Secretary, Louisiana Office of Juvenile Justice and President-Elect, American Correctional Association,
- Brenda V. Smith, Professor of Law, American University Washington College of Law, and
- Kim Shayo Buchanan, Associate Professor of Law and Gender Studies, University of Southern California Gould School of Law.

The transcripts, written testimony, and additional hearing material from these hearings are available at <http://ojp.gov/reviewpanel/transcripts.htm>.

Report on Hearings

The Panel is in the process of completing a report of its findings related to the hearings it held in January and August of 2014.