

**PREA AUDIT REPORT     Interim    Final  
ADULT PRISONS & JAILS**

**Date of report:** July 5, 2016

<b>Auditor Information</b>			
<b>Auditor name:</b> Walter Sipple			
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<b>Telephone number:</b> 843-323-8851			
<b>Date of facility visit:</b> June 5-6, 2016			
<b>Facility Information</b>			
<b>Facility name:</b> Decatur Work Release Center			
<b>Facility physical address:</b> 1401 Hwy 20 W., Decatur, Alabama 35601			
<b>Facility mailing address:</b> <i>(if different from above)</i> Same as Above.			
<b>Facility telephone number:</b> 256-350-0876			
<b>The facility is:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Federal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State	<input type="checkbox"/> County
	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Municipal	<input type="checkbox"/> Private for profit
	<input type="checkbox"/> Private not for profit		
<b>Facility type:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prison	<input type="checkbox"/> Jail	
<b>Name of facility's Chief Executive Officer:</b> Guy Noe			
<b>Number of staff assigned to the facility in the last 12 months:</b> 14 of 77 staff			
<b>Designed facility capacity:</b> 745			
<b>Current population of facility:</b> 690			
<b>Facility security levels/inmate custody levels:</b> Level 2, Minimum Out, and Community Custody			
<b>Age range of the population:</b> 20 - 70			
<b>Name of PREA Compliance Manager:</b> Leo Hale		<b>Title:</b> Institutional PREA Compliance Manager	
<b>Email address:</b> leo.hale@doc.alabama.gov		<b>Telephone number:</b> 256-350-0876	
<b>Agency Information</b>			
<b>Name of agency:</b> Alabama Department of Corrections			
<b>Governing authority or parent agency:</b> <i>(if applicable)</i> State of Alabama			
<b>Physical address:</b> 301 South Ripley Street, Montgomery, Alabama 36301			
<b>Mailing address:</b> <i>(if different from above)</i> Same as above			
<b>Telephone number:</b> 334-353-3883			
<b>Agency Chief Executive Officer</b>			
<b>Name:</b> Jefferson Dunn		<b>Title:</b> Commissioner	
<b>Email address:</b> Jefferson.dunn@doc.alabama.gov		<b>Telephone number:</b> 334-353-3780	
<b>Agency-Wide PREA Coordinator</b>			
<b>Name:</b> Christy Vincent		<b>Title:</b> PREA Director	
<b>Email address:</b> Christy.vincent@doc.alabama.gov		<b>Telephone number:</b> 334-353-2501	

## AUDIT FINDINGS

### NARRATIVE

The Prison Rape Elimination Act on-site audit of the Decatur Work Release Center, located in Hamilton, Alabama, was conducted on June 7-8, 2016, to determine compliance with the Prison Rape Elimination Act standards of August 20, 2012. Please refer to the National Prison Rape Elimination Act Resource Center for further information at [www.prearesourcecenter.org](http://www.prearesourcecenter.org). The audit was conducted by Walter Sipple, United States Department of Justice Prison Rape Elimination Act certified adult facilities auditor, and no others, operating as an independent contractor with no conflict of interest. The Decatur Work Release Center is a male only facility and part of the State of Alabama Department of Corrections. The facility operates under the jurisdiction of the State of Alabama and is classified as a security level 2 minimum out and community custody, 745 maximum capacity facility, consisting of twelve housing units called dormitories. The inmate living areas are open bay style dormitories. The facility has 3 segregation or holding cells. The Decatur Work Release Center is the largest work release center in the State of Alabama.

The mission statement for the Alabama Department of Corrections is, as follows: "The mission of the Alabama Department of Corrections is to confine, manage and provide rehabilitative programs for convicted felons in a safe, secure, and humane environment; utilizing professionals who are committed to public safety and to the positive re-entry of offenders into society".

The audit process consists of a review of the agency and facility. The pre-audit preparation included a thorough review of all documentation and material submitted by the agency and facility along with data included in the completed Pre-Audit Questionnaire. The auditor received primary documentation which consists of policy and secondary documentation which consists of procedure on a flash drive for review prior to the on-site phase of the audit process. The documentation reviewed consisted of agency and facility policies, procedures, forms, education materials, training curriculum, organization charts, posters, brochures, quarterly reports, inmate population reports, memorandums of agreement, signed training rosters, community-based contact information, facility schematic, and other Prison Rape Elimination Act related materials that were provided to demonstrate compliance with the Prison Rape Elimination Act standards. This review prompted a series of questions that were reduced to writing and submitted to the Prison Rape Elimination Act Coordinator and Prison Rape Elimination Act Compliance Manager for review. Answers to the questions were submitted by the agency Prison Rape Elimination Act Coordinator and facility Prison Rape Elimination Act Compliance Manager and reviewed by the auditor prior to the on-site phase of the audit process. The agency defines the Prison Rape Elimination Act Coordinator as the Prison Rape Elimination Act Director and each facility has a designated primary and secondary Prison Rape Elimination Act Compliance Manager referred as the Institutional Prison Rape Elimination Act Compliance Manager.

An entrance meeting was held with the facility warden, facility captain, and facility level Prison Rape Elimination Act compliance manager, and the auditor during the on-site portion of the audit. The auditor was allowed access to the agency and facility in order to conduct the audit. Following the entrance meeting, the auditor toured and observed operations at the facility. The auditor contact information was posted throughout the facility prior to the on-site phase of the audit. The facility staff was fully cooperative with the auditor and audit process. A schematic layout of the facility was provided by the staff which consisted of the inmate housing areas. A list of staff, volunteers, and contractors to include assignments and roles was provided to the auditor along with listings by dormitory for a random and objective selection of inmates for interviews.

The auditor reviewed compliance with the Prison Rape Elimination Act standards based on a review of agency policy, procedure, practice, daily activities, documentation, observation, and interviews with staff and inmates. Interviews were conducted with outside agencies, to include but not limited to, the County Sheriff's Department; Rape, Abuse, and Incest National Network; Prison Rape Elimination Act Resource Center; Just Detention International; and the local rape crisis center, Northern Alabama Crisis Center and Madison Hospital (256) 265-5050; Lighthouse Counseling Center in Montgomery; Lifelines Counseling Services 24 hour hotline at (251) 473-7273, Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs (ADECA), and Alabama Coalition Against Rape at (334) 264-0123. The agency has a memorandum of agreement with an outside agency victim advocacy service available at no cost and confidential for the inmates at 1-800-639-4357.

Inmates were interviewed using the recommended Department of Justice protocols that question their knowledge of a variety of Prison Rape Elimination Act protections generally and specifically their knowledge of reporting mechanisms available to inmates to report abuse or harassment. Staff were questioned using the Department of Justice protocols that question their Prison Rape Elimination Act training and overall knowledge of the agency's and facility's zero tolerance policy, reporting mechanisms available to inmates and staff, the response protocols when an inmate alleges abuse, and first responder duties. An objective random sampling of staff, volunteer, inmate, and contractor interviews was selected from a series of lists presented to the auditor by the facility. Last names were randomly selected by the auditor from an alphabetically ordered list. A total of 14 agency and facility staff were interviewed per random sampling from the auditor. A total of 55 inmates were interviewed per random sampling from the auditor, along with special category inmates and a sampling identified during the in-take screening process. The auditor also conducted an after-normal-hours visit on June 7, 2016, to observe evening operations and interview night section staff. An exit interview was conducted at the end of the on-site visit by the auditor with the facility warden, facility captains, and facility Prison Rape Elimination Act compliance manager. The facility reported 5 allegations of sexual abuse or sexual harassment in the past 12 months. The auditor thoroughly reviewed each allegation.

## DESCRIPTION OF FACILITY CHARACTERISTICS

The Decatur Work Release Center is located in the middle of a commercial type industrial area of Decatur, Alabama, at 1401 Highway 20 West, in Decatur, Alabama. The community of Decatur is located in northern Alabama. It is an adult male, minimum out and community custody as well as level 2 custody facility with a maximum capacity of 745 inmates. The facility has a perimeter fence that surrounds the entire compound with two entry and exit gates. The agency, per regulation 454, defines youthful inmates as any inmate housed in an adult facility whose age is under eighteen. The facility reported that no youthful inmates are confined at the facility. The facility reported that the age range of inmates is from age 20 up to age 70. A total of 690 inmates were reported confined at the facility on the pre-audit questionnaire. The number of inmates admitted to the facility during the past 12 months is 1,015.

The Decatur Work Release Center was opened in 1981. The last major renovation to the facility was in 2008 with the addition of the 340 bed Dormitory J. The facility consists of nine buildings. The main dormitory building that includes a staff shift office, inmate processing and strip search room, holding cells, inmate dormitories, inmate bathrooms, classification offices, and captain's office. The medical building includes a nurse's station, inmate job placement office, Prison Rape Elimination Act compliance manager's office, captain's office, inmate intake area, and storage rooms. The inmate recreation building includes a chapel, weight room, two television rooms, and a maintenance shop. Dormitory J building includes a staff office, cubical, laundry room, and storage room. The inmate canteen building consists of storage rooms. The inmate substance abuse program building includes two restrooms, two counselor's offices, and two inmate classrooms. The staff administrative building includes the warden's office, business offices, conference room, and other offices. The recycling building consists of storage areas and an inmate property room. The inmate dining building consists of a kitchen and dining hall. The facility has a perimeter fence with two gates.

Inmate custody classifications and security levels definitions: Minimum-out custody is for inmates that are not seen as a risk to themselves or others and can be assigned to work assignments away from Alabama Department of Corrections property without supervision by correctional officers. Most minimum-out custody inmates are housed at community work centers like the Decatur Work Release Center; Minimum-community custody is for inmates that are not seen as a risk to themselves or others. Minimum-community custody inmates are allowed to work in the community and are housed in community based facilities when they are not working like the Decatur Work Release Center; Level 1 is the security level for minimum-community custody inmates at community based centers and for those on supervised re-entry programs; and Level 2 is the security level for community work centers and is where most inmates in minimum-out custody are housed.

The facility has ten (10) inmate dormitories. Dormitory A consists of three holding cells, each with four beds, for a total of twelve beds. Dormitory C consists of 110 open bay beds. Dormitory D1 consists of 38 open bay beds. Dormitory D2 consists of 22 open bay beds. Dormitory E consists of 80 open bay beds. Dormitory F consists of 6 open bay beds. Dormitory G consists of 78 open bay beds. Dormitory H consists of 15 open bay beds. Dormitory I consists of 44 open bay beds. Dormitory J consists of 340 open bay beds. The restroom and shower area of Dormitory J had privacy barriers installed around the entrance area and around a waist high wall to provide additional coverage and privacy for the inmates. The auditor observed all inmate dormitories, restrooms, and shower areas at night as well as during the day to check the lighting.

The Decatur Work Release Center offers inmates adult basic education programs to include preparation for completing the General Educational Development (GED) test. Inmate substance abuse meetings as part of the facility substance abuse treatment program are conducted weekly as well as relapse courses, aftercare, and narcotics anonymous meetings and alcoholics anonymous meetings. The facility has a job placement service and office. Any mental health related needs are handled by Limestone Correctional Facility.

The facility has approximately 77 staff employed at the facility, 48 volunteers and contractors, and no interns. Inmate health care is provided by Corizon Health Services with one nurse practitioner, two full-time and two part-time registered nurses, and four licensed practical nurses. The facility also has one drug treatment specialist and two drug treatment counselors. The Decatur Work Release Center also benefits from the utilization of resources as well as mental health care from the nearby Limestone Correctional Facility if and when needed.

## SUMMARY OF AUDIT FINDINGS

The auditor conducted a thorough facility-wide audit. Five sexual assault or sexual abuse harassment allegation cases were reported during the past 12 month period from the date of the audit. Three cases were investigated and determined to be unfounded. One case of inmate on inmate sexual harassment was considered substantiated and handled administratively at the facility level. One case resulted in an unfounded determination after the inmate that reported the allegation recanted his report concerning an inmate on inmate sexual assault allegation to consensual sex. The auditor received no inquiries or requests for an interview during the audit process or inquiries from the auditor posted contact information.

The agency Prison Rape Elimination Act Coordinator designated the Decatur Work Release Center as an adult prison in reference to Prison Rape Elimination Act standard compliance under the adult prisons and jails audit process. The pre-audit preparation included a thorough review of all primary/policy and secondary/practice documentation and materials submitted by the agency and facility along with the data included in the completed Pre-Audit Questionnaire to demonstrate compliance with the standards. The auditor was impressed with the thoroughness of the documentation submitted. The facility Prison Rape Elimination Act compliance manager also provided the auditor with several hard copies of facility policy and instruction during the on-site phase of the audit process.

The interviews of inmates reflected that they were aware of and understood the Prison Rape Elimination Act protections and the agency's zero tolerance policy. Inmates receive written materials at intake that provide detailed information about Prison Rape Elimination Act protections, the multiple ways to report sexual abuse or sexual harassment and ways to protect themselves from abuse. Inmates were able to articulate to the auditor what they would do and who they would tell if they were sexually abused. All facility staff interviewed indicated they had received detailed Prison Rape Elimination Act training and could articulate the meaning of the agency's zero tolerance policy.

The Alabama Department of Corrections partnered with The Moss Group, a nationally recognized consulting organization with over 25 years of experience working with correctional management issues, to aid the agency in complying with the Prison Rape Elimination Act standards. In March 2014, the Moss Group assisted the agency and facilities with staffing and safety assessments, policy review and development, technical assistance and training on internal investigations and other issues affecting facilities, staff, and inmate safety. The auditor was impressed with the agency wide commitment to become compliant with all Prison Rape Elimination Act standards.

The auditor was impressed with the size and scope of the Decatur Work Release Center. The inmates and staff have a focus on a community-based transition mission and program with active employment opportunities in the local community. The work and transition program as well as the pass and leave program and supervised re-entry program is very popular with the inmates and keeps them primarily focused on eventual release. The Decatur area offers the inmates a variety of different work opportunities. The staff and inmates were completely cooperative and helpful throughout the audit process. The agency and facility staff did a good job of providing the auditor with primary and secondary documentation to confirm compliance with the Prison Rape Elimination Act standards. The auditor was impressed with the newly updated agency website at [www.doc.alabama.gov](http://www.doc.alabama.gov). The auditor also noted that the Decatur Work Release Center benefits from additional resources and services available to them from the Limestone Correctional Facility if needed.

The auditor noted that this audit is the first of its kind for the facility, staff, and inmates. The auditor stressed the importance of maintaining compliance as well as conducting follow-up reviews by agency and facility leadership during the exit briefing. The auditor determined that the facility is 100% compliant with the Prison Rape Elimination Act standards for this relevant review period. In addition, the auditor determined that the facility exceeds standard 115.11 by the creation of agency regulation 454 and facility policy; exceeds standard 115.31 by the extensive agency and facility training plan; and exceeds standard 115.65 by creating a detailed and easy to follow coordinated response protocol for the facility staff (facility policy). The auditor determined that standard 115.14 and 115.52 is not applicable.

Number of standards exceeded: 3

Number of standards met: 38

Number of standards not met: 0

Number of standards not applicable: 2

## Standard 115.11 Zero tolerance of sexual abuse and sexual harassment; PREA Coordinator

- Exceeds Standard (substantially exceeds requirement of standard)
- Meets Standard (substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period)
- Does Not Meet Standard (requires corrective action)

**Auditor discussion, including the evidence relied upon in making the compliance or non-compliance determination, the auditor's analysis and reasoning, and the auditor's conclusions. This discussion must also include corrective action recommendations where the facility does not meet standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.**

Auditor comments: The Decatur Work Release Center standard operating procedure (facility policy 454-1) on inmate sexual abuse and harassment awareness specifically states, "It is the policy of Decatur Work Release to maintain a zero tolerance policy against inmate sexual abuse and harassment and custodial sexual misconduct. Any sexual conduct, whether inmate on inmate or employee on inmate, and whether consensual or forced is strictly prohibited." The auditor interviewed the agency Associate Commissioner of Operations on June 2, 2016 and the Decatur Work Release Center Warden on June 6, 2016, and confirmed the agency and facility commitment to the Prison Rape Elimination Act standards.

The auditor reviewed the Alabama Department of Corrections written policy (454) toward sexual abuse and sexual harassment and it specifically outlines the agency's approach to preventing, detecting, and responding to such conduct. The agency employs an agency-wide Prison Rape Elimination Act coordinator with sufficient time and authority to develop, implement, and oversee agency efforts to comply with the Prison Rape Elimination Act standards. The Prison Rape Elimination Act coordinator, defined as Prison Rape Elimination Act director in the agency regulation, reports to the General Counsel of the Alabama Department of Corrections as reflected on the agency organizational chart. The auditor was impressed that the agency Prison Rape Elimination Act Coordinator is also a certified Prison Rape Elimination Act auditor with many years of experience and did an excellent job providing primary/policy and secondary/practice documentation to confirm compliance with the standards. The agency General Counsel is experienced with the Prison Rape Elimination Act and actively involved with agency and individual facility compliance with the standards. The Prison Rape Elimination Act compliance manager is an experienced staff member and reports directly to the facility warden as reflected in the facility organizational chart. The facility Prison Rape Elimination Compliance Manager represented the facility and agency well during the audit process.

The Alabama Department of Corrections Administrative Regulation (454) establishes the responsibilities, policies, and procedures to implement a zero-tolerance policy for prohibiting, preventing, detecting, responding to and investigating the sexual abuse and sexual harassment of inmates under Alabama Department of Corrections care and control. Specifically, the agency Prison Rape Elimination Act regulation (454) states: "It is the policy of the Alabama Department of Corrections to maintain a zero-tolerance policy against inmate sexual abuse and harassment and custodial misconduct. Any sexual conduct, whether inmate-on-inmate or employee-on-inmate, and whether consensual or forced, is strictly prohibited". As defined in Alabama Code of Laws Section 14-11-31: "It shall be unlawful for any employee to engage in sexual conduct with a person who is in the custody of the Department of Corrections, the Department of Youth Services, a sheriff, a county, or a municipality". Any person violating the subsection shall, upon conviction, be guilty of custodial sexual misconduct which is a Class C felony. Alabama Code of Laws Section 13A-6-65.1 also defines other specific areas of the law such as sexual torture which is a Class A felony.

The agency regulation and facility policy mandates a zero tolerance policy and an implementation plan is in place outlining how the agency and facility will implement the zero-tolerance approach to preventing, detecting, and responding to sexual abuse and sexual harassment. The agency and facility has an easy to understand organizational chart and the auditor was provided a copy during the pre-audit phase of the audit. The facility staff acknowledged an understanding of the zero tolerance policy.

The auditor reviewed the Alabama Code of Laws, agency regulation, and facility policies and procedures (Alabama Code of Laws 13A-6-60 through 13A-6-70 (1975), 14-11-30 through 14-11-32, Administrative Regulation 454: Inmate Sexual Abuse and Harassment, facility Standard Operating Procedure 454-1); observed facility practices; reviewed data provided by the facility staff; and interviewed residents and staff during an on-site visit and tour of the facility. The auditor was impressed with the level of commitment that the agency commissioner, associate commissioners, agency general counsel, agency level director/coordinator, facility warden, and facility level compliance manager had toward compliance with the standards. The auditor was impressed with the facility's compliance with all of the standards. It was evident throughout the on-site phase of the audit process that all staff and residents have a thorough understanding of the agency policy and specifically the agency's zero tolerance policy. The regulation and policy forms the foundation and contains necessary definitions, sanctions and descriptions of the agency strategies and responses to sexual abuse and sexual harassment.

Based on the listed information, the agency and facility not only complies with the standard but exceeds the standard for the relevant review period.

Alabama Code of Laws, Policy, Materials, Interviews and Other Evidence Reviewed:

- Alabama Department of Corrections Administrative Regulation Number 454: Inmate Sexual Abuse and Harassment dated January 4, 2016.
- Alabama Department of Corrections Administrative Regulation Number 002: Organization and Objectives dated February 7, 2012.
- Decatur Work Release Center Standard Operating Procedure 454-1: Inmate Sexual Abuse and Harassment Awareness dated April 2016.
- Alabama Department of Corrections Organizational Chart.
- Interviews with agency Associate Commissioner of Operations, Prison Rape Elimination Act Coordinator, Warden, and facility Compliance Manager.
- Alabama Department of Corrections submitted Pre-Audit Questionnaire.
- Alabama Code of Laws 13A-6-60 through 13A-6-70 (1975) and 14-11-30 through 14-11-32.
- Alabama Department of Corrections Regulation Number 318.

### Standard 115.12 Contracting with other entities for the confinement of inmates

- Exceeds Standard (substantially exceeds requirement of standard)
- Meets Standard (substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period)
- Does Not Meet Standard (requires corrective action)

**Auditor discussion, including the evidence relied upon in making the compliance or non-compliance determination, the auditor's analysis and reasoning, and the auditor's conclusions. This discussion must also include corrective action recommendations where the facility does not meet standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.**

Auditor comments: The auditor interviewed the agency Associate Commissioner of Operations and Prison Rape Elimination Act coordinator as well as contracting officials. The auditor received confirmation of non-agency confinement of agency inmates in accordance with agency regulation (454). The General Counsel for the Alabama Department of Corrections is responsible for any contractual compliance with the Prison Rape Elimination Act standards. Specific contract documentation was received in reference to an agreement with the Talladega County Sheriff's Jail and the Alabama Department of Corrections dated July 9, 2015.

The agency and facility is in compliance with the standard for the relevant rating period.

Policy, Materials, Interviews and Other Evidence Reviewed:

- Alabama Department of Corrections Administrative Regulation Number 454: Inmate Sexual Abuse and Harassment dated January 4, 2016.
- Memorandum of Agreement with the Talladega County Sheriff's Department and Alabama Department of Corrections dated July 9, 2015.
- Interviews with agency Associate Commissioner of Operations, Prison Rape Elimination Act Coordinator and facility Compliance Manager.
- Alabama Department of Corrections submitted Pre-Audit Questionnaire.

### Standard 115.13 Supervision and monitoring

- Exceeds Standard (substantially exceeds requirement of standard)
- Meets Standard (substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period)

- Does Not Meet Standard (requires corrective action)

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Auditor comments: Per facility policy 454-2, “It is the policy of Decatur Work Release Center that each shift has an appropriate amount of staff on duty to ensure that all posts are manned and that all pertinent tasks are carried out.” The Alabama Department of Corrections establishes the responsibilities, policies, and procedures (per agency regulation 454) for a staffing plan that effectively maintains the Alabama Department of Corrections zero tolerance policy on inmate sexual offenses, sexual harassment and custodial misconduct.

The Decatur Work Release Center Staffing Plan (facility policy 454-2) specifically states that at least once per shift a shift commander or supervisor must conduct an unannounced walk through of the entire facility to monitor for any Prison Rape Elimination Act related incidents. At least once per shift a shift commander or supervisor must check the video camera monitors and ensure that they are working properly. First and Second shifts must also conduct Prison Rape Elimination Act hotline (call 91) checks and a (call 66) check on the inmate phone system to ensure the phones and line is working properly. The checks must be documented in the shift log and on the log of unannounced rounds. Any discrepancies must be noted and reported immediately and a maintenance report filled out and submitted to maintenance. The log of unannounced rounds and all corresponding documentation shall be attached to the shift log and forwarded to the facility Prison Rape Elimination Act compliance manager for filing purposes.

The auditor interviewed the agency Associate Commissioner of Operations, Prison Rape Elimination Act Coordinator, Decatur Work Release Center staff and verified that the staff develops, implements, and documents a staffing plan that provides for adequate levels of staffing, and, where applicable, video monitoring, to protect residents against sexual abuse. Specifically, per agency regulation 454, the Prison Rape Elimination Act coordinator shall meet with the Warden annually to assess and document if any adjustments are needed to the staffing plan, video monitoring systems and other monitoring technologies. Facilities will document the review utilizing Form 454-J: Annual Prison Rape Elimination Act Staffing Plan Review. The facility takes the following into consideration per the standard:

- 1) Generally accepted detention and correctional practices;
- 2) Any judicial findings of inadequacy;
- 3) Any findings of inadequacy from Federal investigative agencies;
- 4) Any findings of inadequacy from internal or external oversight bodies;
- 5) All components of the institution’s/facility’s/center’s physical plant (including “blind-spots” or areas where staff or residents may be isolated);
- 6) The composition of the inmate population;
- 7) The number and placement of supervisory staff;
- 8) Institution programs occurring on a particular shift;
- 9) Any applicable State or local laws, regulations, or standards;
- 10) The prevalence of substantiated and unsubstantiated incidents of sexual abuse;
- 11) Any other relevant factors.

In circumstances where the staffing plan is not complied with, the agency shall document and justify all deviations from the plan. Whenever necessary, but no less frequently than once each year, the agency shall assess, determine, and document whether adjustments are needed to:

- 1) The staffing plan established pursuant to the standard;
- 2) Prevailing staffing patterns;
- 3) The facility’s deployment of video monitoring systems and other monitoring technologies; and
- 4) The resources the facility has available to commit to ensure adequate staffing levels.

Specifically, the Decatur Work Release Center standard operating procedure details a step-by-step procedure on conducting unannounced rounds with documentation on facility form (454-G) logging such rounds for confirmation of compliance. The rounds and logs also include procedures for conducting video surveillance checks.

The agency and facility is in the first year cycle of becoming a Prison Rape Elimination Act compliant facility. The auditor reviewed agency regulation and policy (regulation 454 and facility policy 454-1). The agency and facility meets the standard and complies with the standard for the relevant review period. The auditor specifically interviewed the facility director and confirmed the required elements of the staffing plan along with documentation to support compliance. The auditor stressed and emphasized the importance of having and maintaining a thoroughly documented facility staffing plan and the facility warden acknowledged the importance. The auditor recommended a webinar for future reference and training opportunities titled, “Developing and Implementing a Prison Rape Elimination Act Compliant Staffing Plan”,

from the National Prison Rape Elimination Act Resource Center at [www.prearesourcecenter.org](http://www.prearesourcecenter.org).

Policy, Materials, Interviews and Other Evidence Reviewed:

- Alabama Department of Corrections Administrative Regulation Number 454: Inmate Sexual Abuse and Harassment dated January 4, 2016.
- Alabama Department of Corrections Administrative Regulation Form 454-J: Annual Prison Rape Elimination Act Staffing Plan Review.
- Decatur Work Center Standard Operating Procedure 454-1: Inmate Sexual Abuse and Harassment Awareness dated April 2016.
- Interviews with agency Prison Rape Elimination Act Coordinator, facility Compliance Manager, and Warden.
- Alabama Department of Corrections submitted Pre-Audit Questionnaire.

### Standard 115.14 Youthful inmates

- Exceeds Standard (substantially exceeds requirement of standard)
- Meets Standard (substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period)
- Does Not Meet Standard (requires corrective action)

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Not Applicable

Auditor comments: The Alabama Department of Corrections has an agency regulation (454). Per memorandum from the Decatur Work Release Center to the auditor, they do not confine youthful (inmates under age 18 as defined by agency regulation) inmates. The facility warden states that any youthful inmates would be confined at Draper Correctional Facility. This standard is considered not applicable for this rating review.

Policy, Materials, Interviews and Other Evidence Reviewed:

- Alabama Department of Corrections Administrative Regulation Number 454: Inmate Sexual Abuse and Harassment dated January 4, 2016.
- Decatur Work Center Memorandum to the Auditor.
- Interviews with agency Prison Rape Elimination Act Coordinator, facility Compliance Manager, and Warden.
- Alabama Department of Corrections submitted Pre-Audit Questionnaire.

### Standard 115.15 Limits to cross-gender viewing and searches

- Exceeds Standard (substantially exceeds requirement of standard)
- Meets Standard (substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period)
- Does Not Meet Standard (requires corrective action)

**Auditor discussion, including the evidence relied upon in making the compliance or non-compliance determination, the auditor's analysis and reasoning, and the auditor's conclusions. This discussion**



**must also include corrective action recommendations where the facility does not meet standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.**

Auditor comments: The Alabama Department of Corrections and Hamilton Work Release Center has a written regulation and policy (AR 454, 336, 302, and facility policy 454-1) that prohibits any cross-gender strip searches or cross-gender visual body cavity searches except in exigent circumstances or when performed by medical practitioners.

Specifically, the facility standard operating policy procedure (454-1) details cross-gender and transgender searching and viewing. Any incidents involving cross-gender strip searches are documented in accordance with agency administrative regulation 302.

The auditor specifically received documentation of policy and procedures, logs, and staff training curriculum and signature sheets to confirm compliance with the standard for this related review period.

Policy, Materials, Interviews and Other Evidence Reviewed:

- Alabama Department of Corrections Administrative Regulation Number 454: Inmate Sexual Abuse and Harassment dated January 4, 2016.
- Decatur Work Release Center Standard Operating Procedure 454-1: Inmate Sexual Abuse and Harassment Awareness dated April 2016.
- Alabama Department of Corrections Administrative Regulation Number 336 dated February 8, 2016.
- Decatur Work Release Center submitted signed training rosters.
- Interviews with agency Prison Rape Elimination Act Coordinator, facility Compliance Manager, and Warden.
- Alabama Department of Corrections submitted Pre-Audit Questionnaire.

#### **Standard 115.16 Inmates with disabilities and inmates who are limited English proficient**

- Exceeds Standard (substantially exceeds requirement of standard)
- Meets Standard (substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period)
- Does Not Meet Standard (requires corrective action)

**Auditor discussion, including the evidence relied upon in making the compliance or non-compliance determination, the auditor's analysis and reasoning, and the auditor's conclusions. This discussion must also include corrective action recommendations where the facility does not meet standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.**

Auditor comments: The Alabama Department of Corrections and the Decatur Work Release Center takes appropriate steps to ensure that inmates with disabilities have an equal opportunity to participate in or benefit from all aspects of the agency's efforts to prevent, detect, and respond to sexual abuse and sexual harassment. The agency takes reasonable steps to ensure meaningful access to all aspects of the agency's efforts to prevent, detect, and respond to sexual abuse and sexual harassment to inmates who are limited English proficient. An agency is not required to take actions that it can demonstrate would result in a fundamental alteration in the nature of a service, program, or activity, or in undue financial and administrative burden, as those terms are used in regulations promulgated under title II of the Americans With Disabilities Act, 28 CFR 35.164.

The auditor was able to confirm compliance with agency regulation (454), along with secondary documentation submitted by the agency and facility, observation, and interviews. The agency and facility has an agreement for services with the Alabama Institute for the Deaf and Blind. Specifically, the Dothan Regional Center, 111 Medical Drive, Dothan, Alabama, (334) 677-6270. The auditor also received and reviewed materials in formats for what the agency terms "lower functioning" abilities. The agency and facility utilizes the Prison Rape Elimination Act inmate education video titled, "What You Need to Know", from the Prison Rape Elimination Act Resource Center and Just Detention International organizations. The agency utilizes Google Translation Services for inmates that are limited English proficient. The agency and facility is in compliance with the standard for the relevant rating period.

Auditor note: The National Center for Victims of Crime recently initiated and launched the Victim Connect Resource Center which is a resource for victims, to include but not limited to, providing critical, confidential assistance through phone, text, and chat along with interpreter services in over 200 languages. These services can be accessed at 1-855-4VICTIM or [www.chat.victimconnect.org](http://www.chat.victimconnect.org). The anti-PREA Audit Report

sexual assault organization, RAINN, operates a national hotline at 1-800-656-4673 with access to a range of free services.

Policy, Materials, Interviews and Other Evidence Reviewed:

- Alabama Department of Corrections Administrative Regulation Number 454: Inmate Sexual Abuse and Harassment dated January 4, 2016.
- Alabama Institute for the Deaf and Blind, Dothan Regional Center, 111 Medical Drive, Dothan, Alabama, (334) 677-6270.
- Decatur Work Release Center reported facility quarterly inmate data, inmate educational documentation, brochures, and signed acknowledged forms.
- Interviews with agency Associate Commissioner of Operations, Prison Rape Elimination Act Coordinator, facility Compliance Manager, and Programs Staff.
- Alabama Department of Corrections submitted Pre-Audit Questionnaire.

**Standard 115.17 Hiring and promotion decisions**

- Exceeds Standard (substantially exceeds requirement of standard)
- Meets Standard (substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period)
- Does Not Meet Standard (requires corrective action)

**Auditor discussion, including the evidence relied upon in making the compliance or non-compliance determination, the auditor's analysis and reasoning, and the auditor's conclusions. This discussion must also include corrective action recommendations where the facility does not meet standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.**

Auditor comments: The Alabama Department of Corrections and the Decatur Work Release Center does not hire or promote anyone who may have contact with inmates, and does not enlist the services of any contractor who may have contact with inmates, who has engaged in sexual abuse in a prison, jail, lockup, community confinement facility, juvenile facility, or other institution, has been convicted of engaging or attempting to engage in sexual activity in the community facilitated by force, overt or implied threats of force, or coercion, or if the victim did not consent or was unable to consent or refuse; or has been civilly or administratively adjudicated to have engaged in the activity described.

The agency and facility considers any incidents of sexual harassment in determining whether to hire or promote anyone, or to enlist the services of any contractor, who may have contact with inmates. The agency and facility performs a criminal background records check before enlisting the services of any contractor who may have contact with inmates. A process is in place for criminal background checks at least every five years for current employees and contractors who may have contact with inmates.

An interview with agency and facility staff confirmed compliance with the Prison Rape Elimination Act standard. Specifically, per agency regulation 454, the Alabama Department of Corrections Personnel Division is responsible for the completion of agency regulation 216, background investigations; form 216-B, Prison Rape Elimination Act compliance; and regulation 208, employee standards of conduct and discipline. Each new hire along with volunteers, Interns, and contractors receive a thorough background screening. This screening specifically includes criminal background checks through the National Crime Information Center. A sampling of new hires or promotions in the last 12 months not only revealed thorough background checks, but a quality recruiting program for new staff. The auditor noted several veteran staff with many years of experience working with inmates and knowledgeable concerning agency policies and procedures.

The auditor specifically interviewed facility uniformed security section staff per random sampling and alternative shifts. The auditor reviewed the agency regulations, policies and procedures (agency regulation 454 and 216); observed agency and facility practices; reviewed data and documentation provided by the facility staff; and interviewed staff during an on-site visit and tour of the facility. The auditor was impressed with the quality of staff hires for the facility. The agency and facility meets the standard and complies with the standard for the relevant review period.

Policy, Materials, Interviews and Other Evidence Reviewed:

- Alabama Department of Corrections Administrative Regulation Number 454: Inmate Sexual Abuse and Harassment dated January 4, 2016.
- Alabama Department of Corrections Administrative Regulation Number 216: Background Investigations dated December 7, 2015.

- Alabama Department of Corrections Administrative Regulation Number 208: Standards of Conduct and Discipline.
- Alabama Department of Corrections Administrative Regulation Number Form 216-B: Prison Rape Elimination Act Compliance.
- Alabama Department of Corrections Human Resources Department, Montgomery, Alabama.
- Interviews with agency Prison Rape Elimination Act Coordinator, facility Compliance Manager, Warden, and Human Resource Staff.
- Alabama Department of Corrections submitted Pre-Audit Questionnaire.

### Standard 115.18 Upgrades to facilities and technologies

- Exceeds Standard (substantially exceeds requirement of standard)
- Meets Standard (substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period)
- Does Not Meet Standard (requires corrective action)

**Auditor discussion, including the evidence relied upon in making the compliance or non-compliance determination, the auditor’s analysis and reasoning, and the auditor’s conclusions. This discussion must also include corrective action recommendations where the facility does not meet standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.**

Auditor comments: The Decatur Work Release Center has an active monitoring system throughout the facility. The auditor reviewed all cameras along with schematic placements during the on-site visit portion of the audit process. The auditor also viewed the facility at night on June 5, 2016, and conducted a detailed review of the monitoring equipment and mirror placement. Specifically, the auditor was able to view camera coverage inside the inmate dormitories at night with the lights off. The facility has several mirrors placed throughout the facility.

The auditor interviewed the Associate Commissioner of Operations on June 2, 2016, and he confirmed that the agency takes inmate safety into consideration in reference to any facility upgrades. The agency and facility considers a variety of factors when upgrading technology in the facility including primarily sight lines, blind spots, and inaccessible areas. Interviews with facility staff indicate that placement of cameras and mirrors are discussed frequently to keep enhancing safety and security for all inmates and staff. The auditor reviewed the agency regulations and facility policies and procedures (regulation 454 and facility policy); observed facility practices; reviewed data and documentation provided by the facility staff; and interviewed staff during an on-site visit and tour of the facility. The agency and facility meets the standard and complies with the standard for the relevant review period.

Policy, Materials, Interviews and Other Evidence Reviewed:

- Alabama Department of Corrections Administrative Regulation Number 454: Inmate Sexual Abuse and Harassment dated January 4, 2016.
- Decatur Work Center Policy 454-1: Inmate Sexual Abuse and Harassment Awareness dated April, 2016.
- Decatur Work Center video monitoring system schematic.
- Interviews with agency Associate Commissioner of Operations, Warden, Prison Rape Elimination Act Coordinator, facility Compliance Manager, and Facility Staff.
- Alabama Department of Corrections submitted Pre-Audit Questionnaire.

### Standard 115.21 Evidence protocol and forensic medical examinations

- Exceeds Standard (substantially exceeds requirement of standard)
- Meets Standard (substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period)
- Does Not Meet Standard (requires corrective action)

**Auditor discussion, including the evidence relied upon in making the compliance or non-compliance determination, the auditor’s analysis and reasoning, and the auditor’s conclusions. This discussion must also include corrective action recommendations where the facility does not meet standard. These**

**recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.**

Auditor comments: The Decatur Work Release Center’s inmate medical and health care is provided, via contract, by Corizon Health Services. The medical health staff consist of one mid-level nurse practitioner, 2 full-time and 2 part-time registered nurses, and 4 licensed practical nurses. The auditor reviewed and interviewed the nursing staff during the on-site phase of the audit process.

To the extent the agency is responsible for investigating allegations of sexual abuse; the agency shall follow a uniform evidence protocol that maximizes the potential for obtaining usable physical evidence for administrative proceedings, and criminal prosecution. The auditor reviewed agency regulation 454 to confirm compliance with the standard. The facility utilizes a multidisciplinary team investigation protocol for responding to abuse. The auditor confirmed with receipts of training certificates that the agency investigators completed the National Institute of Corrections investigations course which is a recognized compliance requirement to meet the standard as well as the evidence protocol from the United States Department of Justice, “A National Protocol for Sexual Assault Medical Forensic Examinations”, dated April 2013. The crisis center for the facility is STAR (Standing Together Against Rape), 530 South Lawrence Street, Montgomery, Alabama, (334) 213-1227. STAR has a written agreement with Correctional Medical Services, Inc. which is the recognized medical provider for the Alabama Department of Corrections to provide crisis services in accordance with the response protocol. They maintain a 24 hour hotline for an on-call Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE), (334) 571-0999. Other local resources consist of the Shoals Crisis Center and Hospital, 201 W. Avalon Avenue, Muscle Shoals, Alabama, Decatur Morgan General Hospital, 1201 7<sup>th</sup> Street Southeast and the Mental Health Association, 207 Commerce Drive, in Decatur, Alabama. The facility and agency reported no forensic medical exams conducted during the past 12 months and meets the standard.

Specifically, the Decatur Work Release Center Standard Operating Procedure (454-1) states, The coordinated response establishes the responsibilities, policies, and procedures to coordinate actions taken in response to an incident of sexual abuse among first responders, medical and mental health providers, investigators and facility leadership. The facility benefits from having services available from the Limestone Correctional Facility. The agency and facility meets the standard and complies with the standard for the relevant review period.

Policy, Materials, Interviews and Other Evidence Reviewed:

- Alabama Department of Corrections Administrative Regulation Number 454: Inmate Sexual Abuse and Harassment dated January 4, 2016.
- Alabama Department of Corrections Administrative Regulation Number 306: Contraband and Evidence Management
- Alabama Department of Corrections Administrative Regulation Number 454-B: Prison Rape Elimination Act Investigation Checklist.
- Alabama Department of Corrections Administrative Regulation Number 302: Incident Reporting.
- Alabama Department of Corrections Administrative Regulation Number 327: Use of Force.
- Decatur Work Release Center Standard Operating Procedure 454-1 dated April, 2016.
- Limestone Correctional Facility, Lighthouse Counseling Center, and Decatur Morgan General.
- National Institute of Corrections investigations course certificate completions and continuing education credits.
- A National Protocol for Sexual Assault Medical Forensic Examinations.
- Memorandum of Understanding between STAR and Correctional Medical Services, Inc.
- Rape Crisis Centers listing, Shoals Crisis Center and Shoals Medical Hospital.
- Interviews with agency Prison Rape Elimination Act Coordinator, facility Compliance Manager, and Facility Staff.
- Alabama Department of Corrections submitted Pre-Audit Questionnaire.

**Standard 115.22 Policies to ensure referrals of allegations for investigations**

- Exceeds Standard (substantially exceeds requirement of standard)
- Meets Standard (substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period)
- Does Not Meet Standard (requires corrective action)

**Auditor discussion, including the evidence relied upon in making the compliance or non-compliance determination, the auditor’s analysis and reasoning, and the auditor’s conclusions. This discussion must also include corrective action recommendations where the facility does not meet standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.**

Auditor comments: The auditor interviewed the Associate Commissioner of Operations on June 2, 2016, and he confirmed that the agency ensures that an administrative or criminal investigation is completed for all allegations of sexual abuse or sexual harassment. The agency and facility refers all criminal investigations to the Alabama Department of Corrections Investigations and Intelligence Division and conducts administrative investigations at the facility level. The agency has a team of approximately 20-21 regional and headquarters level staff investigators.

Per Alabama Code of Laws 13A-6-66 and 13A-6-67: Unlawful sexual relations with a person of the same or opposite sex, done forcibly and/or against the person's will or done with a person incapable of consenting as a result of being drugged, drunk, unconscious, mentally abnormal, physically helpless, or legally incapable of giving consent (13A-6-63/64/65 addresses sexual misconduct and sodomy). Alabama Code Section 14-11-31: "It shall be unlawful for any employee to engage in sexual conduct with a person who is in the custody of the Department of Corrections".

The Decatur Work Release Center reported 5 allegations in the past 12 months that were investigated. The auditor received and thoroughly reviewed all 5 investigations. The auditor reviewed the agency and facility regulations, policies and procedures (regulation 454 and 300); observed agency practices; reviewed data provided by the facility staff; and interviewed inmates and staff during an on-site visit and tour of the facility. The auditor confirmed the agency and facility investigators completion of specialized investigative training from the National Institute of Corrections. The agency and facility meets the standard.

State Law, Policy, Materials, Interviews and Other Evidence Reviewed:

- Alabama Code of Laws 13 A-6-63/64/65/66/67 and Alabama Code Section 14-11-31.
- Alabama Department of Corrections Administrative Regulation Number 454: Inmate Sexual Abuse and Harassment dated January 4, 2016.
- National Institute of Corrections investigations course certificate completions and continuing education credits.
- Alabama Department of Corrections Administrative Regulation Number 300: Investigations and Intelligence Division dated August 11, 2004.
- Interviews with agency Associate Commissioner of Operations, Prison Rape Elimination Act Coordinator, Warden, facility Compliance Manager, and facility Staff.
- Alabama Department of Corrections submitted Pre-Audit Questionnaire.

### Standard 115.31 Employee training

- Exceeds Standard (substantially exceeds requirement of standard)
- Meets Standard (substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period)
- Does Not Meet Standard (requires corrective action)

**Auditor discussion, including the evidence relied upon in making the compliance or non-compliance determination, the auditor's analysis and reasoning, and the auditor's conclusions. This discussion must also include corrective action recommendations where the facility does not meet standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.**

Auditor comments: The Alabama Department of Corrections and the Decatur Work Release Center performs Prison Rape Elimination Act pre-service and in-service training. Specifically, per agency regulation 454, employee instruction shall be accomplished during initial training, annual in-service training, specialized training, and additional training, as needed. Employee training shall be documented to denote employee understanding of material and verified through employee signature and refresher training shall be accomplished at least every two years. The agency trains all employees who have contact with inmates on the following:

- 1) Its zero-tolerance policy for sexual abuse and sexual harassment;
- 2) How to fulfill their responsibilities under agency sexual abuse and sexual harassment; prevention, detection, reporting, and response policies and procedures;
- 3) Inmates' right to be free from sexual abuse and sexual harassment;
- 4) The right of residents and employees to be free from retaliation for reporting sexual abuse and sexual harassment;
- 5) The dynamics of sexual abuse and sexual harassment in confinement;
- 6) The common reactions of victims of sexual abuse and sexual harassment;
- 7) How to detect and respond to signs of threatened and actual sexual abuse;

- 8) How to avoid inappropriate relationships with inmates;
- 9) How to communicate effectively and professionally with inmates, including lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex, or gender nonconforming inmates; and
- 10) How to comply with relevant laws related to mandatory reporting of sexual abuse to outside authorities.

Specifically, the Decatur Work Release Center has a policy and procedure (454-1) detailing employee education and training in reference to the prevention, detection, response, and reporting of inmate sexual offenses, sexual harassment, and custodial sexual misconduct. The documentation of training is kept at a regional training center for archive and confirmation of compliance.

The Alabama Department of Corrections has made great strides in conforming to both spirit and letter of the law. The agency Training Division and Investigations & Intelligence Division has been working and training together to proactively implement policies and procedures for the detection, elimination and prosecution of rape, sexual assault and all other forms of prisoner abuse. The following is a brief summary of PREA related training events the ADOC has participated in or conducted as of August 14, 2009:

- Calendar year 2003 – all ADOC employees received a block on instruction on Professional Employee Conduct with Offenders (Staff Sexual Misconduct).
- March 2003 – Wendy Williams [Director of Training], John Jacobs [Director of Research], and Roy Hightower [Regional Coordinator] attended the NIC Program, “Addressing Staff Sexual Misconduct with Inmates,” in Washington DC at American University.
- November 2003 – all executive leadership of the ADOC attended a 2-day workshop on Staff Sexual Misconduct and PREA, provided thru technical support from NIC.
- Calendar Year 2004 - All ADOC staff and volunteers attended a one hour PREA orientation class conducted by the Training Division.
- March 2004 - Investigations & Intelligence representatives attended a 36-hour National Institute of Corrections (NIC) PREA Training Program in Washington DC.
- Calendar Year 2005 – all ADOC employees attended a block of instruction on Undue Familiarity with Offenders (Staff Sexual Misconduct / PREA).
- 2005 – Investigations & Intelligence representatives attended a PREA Regional Meeting in New Orleans, LA to prepare for our implementation of PREA procedures and policies.
- November 8-10, 2005 – Commissioners, Wardens, and Directors attended a two Day Seminar for Executive Leadership – Technical assistance on PREA provided by National Institute of Corrections (NIC) in conjunction with the Moss Group
- 2006– Investigations & Intelligence representatives attended a PREA Regional Meeting in Austin, TX to prepare for our implementation of PREA procedures and policies.
- 2006 – Investigations & Intelligence representatives attended a PREA Regional Meeting in Albany, NY to prepare for our implementation of PREA procedures and policies.
- January through April 2006 – A two hour seminar on PREA was provided to all LE Staff, Support staff, Contract staff and vendors. Additional training was provided to the Alabama Department of Public Health at sites throughout the state
- October 2006 – Training Director and Deputy Director attended a Training for Trainers presented by the National Institute of Corrections (NIC) in Portland OR in conjunction with the Moss Group.
- March 1st, 2007 – Nine (9) Regional PREA Coordinators were appointed to coordinate regional response teams who respond to PREA related incident.
- March 19 - 23, 2007 – Regional PREA Coordinators attended a 36-hour “Training for the Trainer” with resources provided by the National Institute of Corrections (NIC) in conjunction with the Moss Group.
- May 21 & 22, 2007 – Investigations & Intelligence Division Director, Training Division Director, Investigators and PREA Coordinators attended a 24-hour joint training conducted by the Moss Group focusing on Sexual Assault Investigation within Prison Settings.

- Calendar Year 2007 – A six hour block of PREA/Staff Custodial Sexual Misconduct Training was conducted for all LE Staff and all Support Staff. This training was conducted as part of annual In-Service Training.
- April 2007 – PREA Female Offender Education classes began at Julia Tutwiler Prison for Women and the Birmingham Community Work Center.
- May 2007 – PREA Male Offender Education classes began at Limestone Correctional Facility.
- June 2007 – PREA Offender Education was conducted for ADOC inmates incarcerated in a contracted Louisiana facility
- May 13 - 16, 2008 – Regional PREA Coordinators attended a 40-hour week long “Training for the Trainer” conducted by members of the ADOC Training Division with resources provided by the National Institute of Corrections (NIC) and the Moss Group
- November 2008 – PREA Offender Education was completed for all ADOC facilities located throughout the state
- January through December 2009 – A two hour PREA Update Seminar is being conducted for all ADOC LE Officers and all Support/Contract Staff. Also during this same period, a two hour PREA Supervisor Training Seminar is being conducted for all ADOC LE Supervisors and all Support/Contract Supervisors. This training is conducted as part of 2009 annual In-Service Training.
- July 13 - 16, 2009 – Regional PREA Coordinators attended a 40-hour week long “Training for the Trainer” conducted by members of the ADOC Training Division with resources provided by the National Institute of Corrections (NIC) and the Moss Group
- January through December 2010 – A two hour PREA Update Seminar was conducted for all ADOC LE Officers and all Support/Contract Staff. Also during that same period, a two hour PREA Supervisor Training Seminar was conducted for all ADOC LE Supervisor. This training was conducted as part of 2010 In-Service Training.
- Calendar Year 2011 – Implemented a PREA Dashboard within the ADOC computer system which consisted of training throughout the year.
- February 15-17, 2012 – Regional PREA Coordinators begin Training and Development Classes offered at the University of Alabama. These classes will take place periodically through out the year of 2012.

In March 2014, the Alabama Department of Corrections partnered with The Moss Group, a consulting group with over 25 years of experience working with correctional management issues, to aid the agency in complying with the Prison Rape Elimination Act standards. The Moss Group assisted the agency with staffing and safety assessments, policy review and development, technical assistance and training on internal investigations and other issues affecting facilities, staff, and inmate safety.

The Decatur Work Release Center staff attend a number of annual training sessions at the Limestone Correctinal Center as a form of coordinated regional staff training events. The auditor reviewed the agency and facility regulations, policies, and procedures (regulation 454 and facility policy 454-1) along with secondary documentation (practice) submitted with the pre-audit questionnaire; observed agency and facility practices; reviewed data and documentation provided by the agency and facility staff; and interviewed inmates and staff during an on-site visit and tour of the facility. The auditor received copies of specific lesson plans and staff signed training events and acknowledgement sheets. The agency and facility exceeds the standard for this rating period.

Policy, Materials, Interviews and Other Evidence Reviewed:

- Alabama Department of Corrections Administrative Regulation Number 454: Inmate Sexual Abuse and Harassment dated January 4, 2016.
- Decatur Work Release Center Standard Operating Procedure 454-1: Inmate Sexual Abuse and Harassment Awareness dated April, 2016.
- Staff In-service Training Curriculum and Test.
- Prison Rape Elimination Act pamphlet.
- Interviews with agency Prison Rape Elimination Act Coordinator, Warden, facility Compliance Manager, and facility Staff.
- Alabama Department of Corrections submitted Pre-Audit Questionnaire.

**Standard 115.32 Volunteer and contractor training**

- Exceeds Standard (substantially exceeds requirement of standard)

- Meets Standard (substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period)
- Does Not Meet Standard (requires corrective action)

**Auditor discussion, including the evidence relied upon in making the compliance or non-compliance determination, the auditor's analysis and reasoning, and the auditor's conclusions. This discussion must also include corrective action recommendations where the facility does not meet standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.**

Auditor comments: The auditor emphasized the importance of volunteer and contractor training with the Decatur Work Release Center Prison Rape Elimination Act compliance manager and Warden during the on-site visit phase of the audit process. The auditor interviewed both volunteer and contractor staff assigned to the facility and confirmed receipt and understanding of specific Prison Rape Elimination Act training requirements.

The auditor reviewed the agency regulation and facility policies and procedures (regulation 454 and facility policy 454-1); observed agency and facility practices; reviewed data and documentation provided by the facility staff; and interviewed volunteers and contractors during an on-site visit and tour of the facility. The agency and facility meets the standard for this relevant review period.

Policy, Materials, Interviews and Other Evidence Reviewed:

- Alabama Department of Corrections Administrative Regulation Number 454: Inmate Sexual Abuse and Harassment dated January 4, 2016.
- Contractor and Volunteer Training Curriculum and signed acknowledgement forms.
- Interviews with agency Prison Rape Elimination Act Coordinator, facility Compliance Manager, and Facility Contractors/Volunteers.
- Alabama Department of Corrections submitted Pre-Audit Questionnaire.

### **Standard 115.33 Inmate education**

- Exceeds Standard (substantially exceeds requirement of standard)
- Meets Standard (substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period)
- Does Not Meet Standard (requires corrective action)

**Auditor discussion, including the evidence relied upon in making the compliance or non-compliance determination, the auditor's analysis and reasoning, and the auditor's conclusions. This discussion must also include corrective action recommendations where the facility does not meet standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.**

Auditor comments: The Decatur Work Release Center reports that 1015 inmates have been admitted in the past 12 months and all have been provided comprehensive information within 30 days of intake. Prison Rape Elimination Act inmate education options were duplicative to include but not limited to postings on walls throughout the facility, brochures, handbook, pamphlet, and videos. During the intake process, inmates receive information explaining the agency's zero-tolerance policy regarding sexual abuse and sexual harassment and how to report incidents or suspicions of sexual abuse or sexual harassment. Each inmate receives additional written information in the form of an inmate handbook. The agency and facility provides a comprehensive education to inmates regarding their rights to be free from sexual abuse and sexual harassment and to be free from retaliation for reporting such incidents, and regarding agency policies and procedures for responding to such incidents.

The Prison Rape Elimination Act compliance staff utilizes multiple training options. Various forms of training materials are also available in Spanish to include posters and pamphlets. The auditor confirmed Prison Rape Elimination Act related education and training within a very short period of arrival time. The auditor also interviewed intake staff.



Specifically, the facility policy and procedures (454-1) details inmate education and training in reference to written and verbal general intake information that explains the agency's zero tolerance policy regarding sexual abuse and harassment. The documentation of training is kept by the facility Prison Rape Elimination Act compliance manager for confirmation of compliance. Per agency regulation 454, upon completion of an inmate's Prison Rape Elimination Act orientation, the inmate shall sign an inmate awareness acknowledgement form.

The interviews of inmates reflected that they were aware of and understood the Prison Rape Elimination Act protections and the agency's zero tolerance policy. The auditor also received inmate signed acknowledgement forms confirming the training. Inmates receive written material at intake that provides detailed information about Prison Rape Elimination Act protections and the multiple ways to report sexual abuse or harassment. The auditor reviewed the agency regulation and facility policies and procedures (regulation 454 and facility policy 454-1); observed facility practices; reviewed data and documentation provided by the facility staff; and interviewed inmates and staff during an on-site visit and tour of the facility. The agency and facility meets the standard for the relevant review period.

Policy, Materials, Interviews and Other Evidence Reviewed:

- Alabama Department of Corrections Administrative Regulation Number 454: Inmate Sexual Abuse and Harassment dated January 4, 2016.
- Alabama Department of Corrections Administrative Regulation Form 454-A: Inmate Awareness Acknowledgement.
- Decatur Work Release Center Standard Operating Procedure 454-1: Inmate Sexual Abuse and Harassment Awareness dated April, 2016.
- Inmate Training Curriculum and signed acknowledgement forms.
- Interviews with agency Prison Rape Elimination Act Coordinator, facility Compliance Manager, and facility Inmates.
- Alabama Department of Corrections submitted Pre-Audit Questionnaire.

**Standard 115.34 Specialized training: Investigations**

- Exceeds Standard (substantially exceeds requirement of standard)
- Meets Standard (substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period)
- Does Not Meet Standard (requires corrective action)

**Auditor discussion, including the evidence relied upon in making the compliance or non-compliance determination, the auditor's analysis and reasoning, and the auditor's conclusions. This discussion must also include corrective action recommendations where the facility does not meet standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.**

Auditor comments: The auditor noted and was impressed with the agency level investigative team and thoroughness of investigative reports. The agency maintains approximately 20-21 regional and headquarters level investigators. The auditor confirmed that they received specialized training in accordance with the standard. Specifically, the investigative staff completed the National Institute of Corrections investigator training, "Prison Rape Elimination Act: Investigating Sexual Abuse in a Confinement Setting", which fully complies with the standard. Any cases that involve criminal investigations are referred to the Alabama Department of Corrections Investigation and Intelligence Division. Specialized training included such things as techniques for interviewing sexual abuse victims, proper use of Miranda and Garrity warnings, sexual abuse evidence collection in confinement settings, and the criteria and evidence required to substantiate a case for administrative action or prosecution referral. The agency and facility training is in accordance with the Prison Rape Elimination Act standard.

The auditor reviewed the agency regulation and facility policies and procedures (regulation 454 and facility policy 454-1); observed agency and facility practices; reviewed data and documentation provided by the agency and facility staff; and interviewed inmates and staff during an on-site visit and tour of the facility. The agency and facility meets the standard and complies with the standard for the relevant review period.

Policy, Materials, Interviews and Other Evidence Reviewed:

- Alabama Department of Corrections Administrative Regulation Number 454: Inmate Sexual Abuse and Harassment dated January 4, 2016.
- Investigator National Institute of Corrections training certificates and other training credentials.
- Interviews with agency Prison Rape Elimination Act Coordinator, facility Compliance Manager, and facility Staff.

- Alabama Department of Corrections submitted Pre-Audit Questionnaire.

**Standard 115.35 Specialized training: Medical and mental health care**

- Exceeds Standard (substantially exceeds requirement of standard)
- Meets Standard (substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period)
- Does Not Meet Standard (requires corrective action)

**Auditor discussion, including the evidence relied upon in making the compliance or non-compliance determination, the auditor’s analysis and reasoning, and the auditor’s conclusions. This discussion must also include corrective action recommendations where the facility does not meet standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.**

Auditor comments: The Decatur Work Release Center benefits from the medical and mental health care resources offered in coordination with the Limestone Correctional Facility. The auditor noted that the agency and facility has a written agreement between The Lighthouse Counseling Center “Standing Together Against Rape” (STAR) Program and Correctional Medical Services for inmate medical and mental health assistance in reference to sexual abuse and sexual harassment. The local community-based resources consist of Shoals Crisis Center and Shoals Hospital. The auditor verified specialized training completion for the facility medical and mental health care staff. The auditor interviewed the medical and mental health staff and was thoroughly impressed with her knowledge and expertise. The medical and mental health staff interviewed was knowledgeable in reference to the Prison Rape Elimination Act training. The agency and facility ensures that all full, part-time, and contract medical and mental health care practitioners who work regularly with inmates have been trained in:

- 1) How to detect and assess signs of sexual abuse and sexual harassment;
- 2) How to preserve physical evidence of sexual abuse;
- 3) How to respond effectively and professionally to victims of sexual abuse/harassment;
- 4) How and to whom to report allegations or suspicions of sexual abuse and sexual harassment;
- 5) Recognize the special medical and mental health needs of all inmates;
- 6) Factors to consider in an inmates’ risk of sexual victimization; and
- 7) Training shall be documented to denote employee understanding of material and verified through employee signature.

Specifically, the facility standard operating policy and procedures (454-1) details specialized medical staff training. The documentation of training is kept at the regional training center for confirmation of compliance. The auditor also interviewed the nursing staff.

The auditor reviewed the agency regulatoin and facility policies and procedures (regulation 454 and facility policy 454-1); observed agency and facility practices; reviewed data and documentation provided by the agency and facility staff; and interviewed inmates and staff during an on-site visit and tour of the facility. The agency and facility meet the standard and complies with the standard for the relevant review period.

Policy, Materials, Interviews and Other Evidence Reviewed:

- Alabama Department of Corrections Administrative Regulation Number 454: Inmate Sexual Abuse and Harassment dated January 4, 2016.
- Decatur Work Release Center Standard Operating Procedure 454-1: Inmate Sexual Abuse and Harassment Awareness dated April, 2016.
- Medical and Mental Health Staff Training documentation with signatures.
- Interviews with agency Prison Rape Elimination Act Coordinator, nursing staff, facility Compliance Manager, and facility Staff.
- Alabama Department of Corrections submitted Pre-Audit Questionnaire.

**Standard 115.41 Screening for risk of victimization and abusiveness**

- Exceeds Standard (substantially exceeds requirement of standard)
- Meets Standard (substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period)

relevant review period)

- Does Not Meet Standard (requires corrective action)

**Auditor discussion, including the evidence relied upon in making the compliance or non-compliance determination, the auditor's analysis and reasoning, and the auditor's conclusions. This discussion must also include corrective action recommendations where the facility does not meet standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.**

Auditor comments: The auditor interviewed the agency Prison Rape Elimination Act Coordinator on June 2, 2016, and she confirmed having a secure computer-based system for inmate's risk assessments. The auditor recently completed a required webinar in April 2016 from the Prison Rape Elimination Act Resource Center in reference to the inmate intake process. Based on interviews with random inmates and intake staff, all inmates are assessed during an intake screening and upon transfer to another facility for their risk of being sexually abused by other inmates or sexually abusive toward other inmates. Intake screening shall ordinarily take place within 72 hours of arrival and more often is completed within 24 to 48 hours of arrival. Such assessments shall be conducted using an objective screening instrument. The intake screening shall consider, at a minimum, the following criteria to assess inmate for risk of sexual victimization:

- 1) Whether the inmate has a mental, physical, or developmental disability;
- 2) The age of the inmate;
- 3) The physical build of the inmate;
- 4) Whether the inmate has previously been incarcerated;
- 5) Whether the inmate's criminal history is exclusively nonviolent;
- 6) Whether the inmate has prior convictions for sex offenses against an adult or child;
- 7) Whether the inmate is or is perceived to be gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex, or gender nonconforming;
- 8) Whether the inmate has previously experienced sexual victimization;
- 9) The inmate's own perception of vulnerability; and
- 10) Whether the inmate is detained solely for civil immigration purposes.

Any other specific information about individual inmates that may indicate heightened needs for supervision, additional safety precautions, or separation from certain other inmates.

The initial screening considers prior acts of sexual abuse, prior convictions for violent offenses, and history of prior institutional violence or sexual abuse, as known to the agency, in assessing inmates for risk of being sexually abusive. An inmate's risk level is reassessed from the inmate's arrival when warranted due to a referral, request, incident of sexual abuse, or receipt of additional information that bears on the inmate's risk of sexual victimization or abusiveness.

The agency and facility implements appropriate controls on the dissemination within the agency of responses to questions asked pursuant to this standard or order to ensure that sensitive information is not exploited to the inmate's detriment by staff or other inmates. Only limited staff has access to the risk screening form (Alabama Department of Corrections Form 454-C) through a controlled access program.

The auditor interviewed the facility staff responsible for inmate intake screening. The intake staff acknowledged the importance of the inmate intake screening process. The facility staff understood the process as well as the Prison Rape Elimination Act standard.

The auditor reviewed the agency regulation and facility policies and procedures (regulation 454 and intake screening instrument Form 454-C); observed agency and facility practices (facility policy 454-1); reviewed data and documentation provided by the agency and facility staff; and interviewed inmates and staff during an on-site visit and tour of the facility. The agency and facility meet the standard and complies with the standard for the relevant review period.

Policy, Materials, Interviews and Other Evidence Reviewed:

- Alabama Department of Corrections Administrative Regulation Number 454: Inmate Sexual Abuse and Harassment dated January 4, 2016 and Decatur Work Release Center standard operating procedure 454-1.
- Risk Factor Checklist Form 454-C and "Vault Procedures" for controlled access.
- Interviews with agency Prison Rape Elimination Act Coordinator, Facility Compliance Manager, and facility Staff.
- Alabama Department of Corrections submitted Pre-Audit Questionnaire.

## **Standard 115.42 Use of screening information**

- Exceeds Standard (substantially exceeds requirement of standard)
- Meets Standard (substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period)
- Does Not Meet Standard (requires corrective action)

**Auditor discussion, including the evidence relied upon in making the compliance or non-compliance determination, the auditor’s analysis and reasoning, and the auditor’s conclusions. This discussion must also include corrective action recommendations where the facility does not meet standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.**

Auditor comments: The auditor recently completed a required webinar in April 2016 from the Prison Rape Elimination Act Resource Center in reference to Standard 115.42. The auditor confirmed that agency regulation (454) specifically states, “A transgender or intersex inmate’s own views with respect to his or her own safety shall be given serious consideration”. The auditor observed and reviewed the agency’s and facilities risk-based housing unit placement decisions and screening form. The agency and facility uses information from the risk screening to inform housing, cell, bed, work, and program assignments with the goal of keeping separate those inmates at high risk of being sexually victimized from those at high risk of being sexually abusive.

The auditor reviewed the agency regulation and facility policies and procedures (regulation 454, 433, and 435); observed agency and facility practices (facility policy 454-1); reviewed data and documentation provided by the agency and facility staff; and interviewed inmates and staff during an on-site visit and tour of the facility. The agency and facility meet the standard and complies with the standard for the relevant review period.

Policy, Materials, Interviews and Other Evidence Reviewed:

- Alabama Department of Corrections Administrative Regulation Number 454: Inmate Sexual Abuse and Harassment dated January 4, 2016; along with Regulation Number 433 and 435.
- Risk Factor Checklist Form 454-C and Housing Unit Placement documentation.
- Interviews with agency Prison Rape Elimination Act Coordinator, Facility Compliance Manager, Warden, and facility Staff.
- Alabama Department of Corrections submitted Pre-Audit Questionnaire.

### **Standard 115.43 Protective custody**

- Exceeds Standard (substantially exceeds requirement of standard)
- Meets Standard (substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period)
- Does Not Meet Standard (requires corrective action)

**Auditor discussion, including the evidence relied upon in making the compliance or non-compliance determination, the auditor’s analysis and reasoning, and the auditor’s conclusions. This discussion must also include corrective action recommendations where the facility does not meet standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.**

Auditor comments: The agency regulation (454 and Form 454-H: Post Allegation Protective Custody) mirrors the standard in that inmates at high risk for sexual victimization or those who report sexual victimization shall not be placed in involuntary administrative or punitive segregation unless there has been an assessment of all other available alternatives and a determination made that there are no other alternatives available.

The facility warden reports in a written memorandum to the auditor that the Decatur Work Release Center would transfer any inmate needing protective custody to the Limestone Correctional Facility. Any form of protective custody would consist among other alternatives to include the transfer of the inmate to another facility if necessary. The agency and facility meet the standard and complies with the standard for the relevant review period.

Policy, Materials, Interviews and Other Evidence Reviewed:

- Alabama Department of Corrections Administrative Regulation Number 454: Inmate Sexual Abuse and Harassment dated January 4, 2016.
- Limestone Correctional Facility protective custody transfer if needed by the Decatur Work Release Center.
- Risk Factor Checklist Form 454-H and Post Allegation Protective Custody.
- Interviews with agency Prison Rape Elimination Act Coordinator, Warden, facility Compliance Manager, and facility Staff.
- Alabama Department of Corrections submitted Pre-Audit Questionnaire.

**Standard 115.51 Inmate reporting**

- Exceeds Standard (substantially exceeds requirement of standard)
- Meets Standard (substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period)
- Does Not Meet Standard (requires corrective action)

**Auditor discussion, including the evidence relied upon in making the compliance or non-compliance determination, the auditor’s analysis and reasoning, and the auditor’s conclusions. This discussion must also include corrective action recommendations where the facility does not meet standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.**

Auditor comments: The auditor tested the Decatur Work Release Center inmate phone system, during the on-site visit phase of the audit process. The agency and facility has multiple ways for inmate reporting of sexual abuse and sexual harassment, retaliation by other inmates or staff for reporting sexual abuse and sexual harassment, and staff neglect or violation of responsibilities that may have contributed to such incidents. The auditor tested the inmate phone system to confirm agency and facility access for inmate reports of sexual abuse and sexual harassment to agency and facility officials. The auditor contacted the local rape crisis center, Shoals Crisis Center (256) 767-1100 of Florence, Alabama; Lighthouse Counseling Center in Montgomery; Lifelines Counseling Services 24 hour hotline at (251) 473-7273, Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs (ADECA), and Alabama Coalition Against Rape at (334) 264-0123., and they confirmed no calls were received from inmates within the last year. These are considered outside the agency organizations. The auditor also contacted Just Detention International, which is a national advocacy organization, and they stated that they have not fielded any calls or contacts related to the facility. The auditor interviewed inmates and they were well informed concerning the inmate reporting process for anything related to the Prison Rape Elimination Act. The facility reported having no male inmate grievances. The inmates can report to any facility staff member, Prison Rape Elimination Act compliance manager assigned to the facility, call the hotline number, or submit a report in the facility’s Prison Rape Elimination Act drop box which is a secured receptacle located at each facility.

The agency has an internal reporting process written in the inmate handbook and self-address envelopes for the Alabama Department of Correction Investigations and Intelligence Division. The inmates are told to call on the inmate phone system which is recorded or correspond via mail to the Director, Investigations and Intelligence Division, P.O. Box 301501, Montgomery, Alabama 36130. The auditor reviewed the Alabama state law, agency regulation and facility policies and procedures (Alabama Code of Laws 14-11-30 through 14-11-32, Agency regulation 454, 318, and Inmate Handbook); observed agency and facility practices; reviewed data and documentation provided by the facility staff; interviewed outside organizations; and interviewed inmates and staff during an on-site visit and tour of the facility. The agency and facility meets the standard.

Alabama State Code of Laws, Policy, Materials, Interviews and Other Evidence Reviewed:

- Alabama Code of Laws 14-11-30 through 14-11-32.
- Alabama Department of Corrections Administrative Regulation Number 454: Inmate Sexual Abuse and Harassment dated January 4, 2016.
- Inmate Handbook.
- Alabama Department of Corrections Hotline Number and written address to investigations.
- Interviews with agency Prison Rape Elimination Act Coordinator, facility inmates, facility Compliance Manager, and facility Staff.
- Alabama Department of Corrections submitted Pre-Audit Questionnaire.

### Standard 115.52 Exhaustion of administrative remedies

- Exceeds Standard (substantially exceeds requirement of standard)
- Meets Standard (substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period)
- Does Not Meet Standard (requires corrective action)

**Auditor discussion, including the evidence relied upon in making the compliance or non-compliance determination, the auditor's analysis and reasoning, and the auditor's conclusions. This discussion must also include corrective action recommendations where the facility does not meet standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.**

- Not Applicable

Auditor comments: An agency shall be exempt from this Prison Rape Elimination Act standard if it does not have administrative procedures to address inmate grievances regarding sexual abuse. The facility reported that it does not have an inmate grievance policy.

The auditor reviewed the agency regulation and facility policies and procedures (454); observed agency and facility practices; reviewed data provided by the agency and facility staff; reviewed the inmate handbook; and interviewed inmates and staff during an on-site visit and tour of the facility. The auditor requested and received a copy of the inmate handbook to confirm compliance with the standard. The agency and facility meets the standard for the relevant rating period.

Policy, Materials, Interviews and Other Evidence Reviewed:

- Alabama Department of Corrections Administrative Regulation Number 454: Inmate Sexual Abuse and Harassment dated January 4, 2016.
- Alabama Department of Corrections Hotline Number and written address to investigations.
- Interviews with agency Prison Rape Elimination Act Coordinator, Warden, facility Compliance Manager, and facility Staff.
- Alabama Department of Corrections submitted Pre-Audit Questionnaire.

### Standard 115.53 Inmate access to outside confidential support services

- Exceeds Standard (substantially exceeds requirement of standard)
- Meets Standard (substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period)
- Does Not Meet Standard (requires corrective action)

**Auditor discussion, including the evidence relied upon in making the compliance or non-compliance determination, the auditor's analysis and reasoning, and the auditor's conclusions. This discussion must also include corrective action recommendations where the facility does not meet standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.**

Auditor comments: The agency and facility has a documented memorandum of agreement with the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs (ADECA) which is a third party public entity. The agency and facility also has a documented memorandum of agreement between Standing Together Against Rape (STAR) and the Correctional Medical Services (CMS). The Alabama Coalition Against Rape, (334) 264-0123 is the rape crisis outside agencies. The agency has a memorandum of agreement with an outside the agency victim advocacy service at 1-800-639-4357. The agency also maintains informational posters and hotline number access for inmates.

The Decatur Work Release Center benefits from outside emergency services from the Shoals Crisis Center of Florence, Alabama and the Shoals Medical Hospital Center, if needed. The Shoals Crisis Center and Shoals Medical Hospital are both considered outside the agency support services. The auditor also received a copy of an agreement between Crisis Service Center of Northern Alabama located in

Huntsville, Alabama and Corizon Correctional Healthcare.

Auditor note: The National Center for Victims of Crime recently initiated and launched the Victim Connect Resource Center which is a resource for victims, to include but not limited to, providing critical, confidential assistance through phone, text, and chat along with interpreter services in over 200 languages. These services can be accessed at 1-855-4VICTIM or [www.chat.victimconnect.org](http://www.chat.victimconnect.org). The anti-sexual assault organization, RAINN, operates a national hotline at 1-800-656-4673 with access to a range of free services.

The auditor reviewed the agency regulation and facility policies and procedures (454 and Form MH – 008: Referral to Mental Health), observed agency and facility practices, reviewed data provided by the agency and facility staff, interviewed outside agencies, and interviewed inmates and staff during an on-site visit and tour of the facility. Based on the listed and provided information, the agency and facility meets the standard for the relevant review period.

Policy, Materials, Interviews and Other Evidence Reviewed:

- Alabama Department of Corrections Administrative Regulation Number 454: Inmate Sexual Abuse and Harassment dated January 4, 2016.
- Decatur Work Release Center Standard Operating Procedure Number 454-1 dated April 2016.
- Form MH – 008: Referral to Mental Health.
- Memorandum of Agreement: Department of Corrections and ADECA, STAR, CMS, and Alabama Coalition Against Rape.
- Interviews with agency Prison Rape Elimination Act Coordinator, Facility Compliance Manager, and facility Staff.
- Alabama Department of Corrections submitted Pre-Audit Questionnaire.

### Standard 115.54 Third-party reporting

- Exceeds Standard (substantially exceeds requirement of standard)
- Meets Standard (substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period)
- Does Not Meet Standard (requires corrective action)

**Auditor discussion, including the evidence relied upon in making the compliance or non-compliance determination, the auditor's analysis and reasoning, and the auditor's conclusions. This discussion must also include corrective action recommendations where the facility does not meet standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.**

Auditor comments: The auditor tested the Decatur Work Release Center inmate phone system on June 5, 2016, during the on-site visit phase of the audit process. The auditor confirmed that the agency and facility has regulations, policies, and procedures, specifically agency regulation 454, that third-party reports will be accepted. The agency offers opportunities for third-party reporting on the agency website located at [www.doc.alabama.gov](http://www.doc.alabama.gov). The reporting form on the website can also be submitted anonymously. The auditor verified through staff interviews that they are aware of and concur with reporting requirements in accordance with the agency regulation and Prison Rape Elimination Act standard.

The agency and facility also has a documented memorandum of agreement between Standing Together Against Rape (STAR) and the Correctional Medical Services (CMS). The Alabama Coalition Against Rape, (334) 264-0123 is the rape crisis outside agencies. The facility has additional emergency services access to the Shoals Crisis Center of Florence, Alabama or Shoals Medical Hospital and the Crisis Service Center of Northern Alabama, in Huntsville, Alabama, if needed.

Auditor note: The National Center for Victims of Crime recently initiated and launched the Victim Connect Resource Center which is a resource for victims, to include but not limited to, providing critical, confidential assistance through phone, text, and chat along with interpreter services in over 200 languages. These services can be accessed at 1-855-4VICTIM or [www.chat.victimconnect.org](http://www.chat.victimconnect.org). The anti-sexual assault organization, RAINN, operates a national hotline at 1-800-656-4673 with access to a range of free services.

The auditor reviewed the agency regulation and facility policies and procedures; observed agency and facility practices; reviewed data provided by the agency and facility staff; interviewed outside agencies; and interviewed inmates and staff during an on-site visit and tour of the facility. Based on the listed information, the agency and facility meet the standard and complies with the standard for the relevant review period.

Policy, Materials, Interviews and Other Evidence Reviewed:

- Alabama Department of Corrections Administrative Regulation Number 454: Inmate Sexual Abuse and Harassment dated January 4, 2016.
- Decatur Work Release Center Standard Operating Procedure Number 454-1 dated April, 2016.
- Alabama Department of Corrections website [www.doc.alabama.gov](http://www.doc.alabama.gov).
- Alabama ADECA, STAR, CMS and Alabama Coalition Against Rape.
- Interviews with agency Prison Rape Elimination Act Coordinator, Warden, facility Compliance Manager, and facility Staff.
- Alabama Department of Corrections submitted Pre-Audit Questionnaire.

**Standard 115.61 Staff and agency reporting duties**

- Exceeds Standard (substantially exceeds requirement of standard)
- Meets Standard (substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period)
- Does Not Meet Standard (requires corrective action)

**Auditor discussion, including the evidence relied upon in making the compliance or non-compliance determination, the auditor’s analysis and reasoning, and the auditor’s conclusions. This discussion must also include corrective action recommendations where the facility does not meet standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.**

Auditor comments: Based on a review of agency regulation and facility policy, procedure, and practice along with staff interviews, the agency requires all staff to report “immediately” and according to agency regulation any knowledge, suspicion, or information regarding an incident of sexual abuse or sexual harassment that occurred in any facility, whether or not it is part of the agency; retaliation against inmates or staff who reported such an incident; and any staff neglect or violation of responsibilities that may have contributed to an incident or retaliation.

Other than reporting to designated supervisors or officials, staff shall not reveal any information related to a sexual abuse report to anyone other than to the extent necessary, as specified in agency regulation, to make treatment, investigation, and other security and management decisions. Unless otherwise precluded by Federal, State, or local law, medical and mental health practitioners shall be required to report sexual abuse, and inform inmates of the practitioner’s duty to report, and the limits of confidentiality, at the initiation of services. The facility shall report all allegations of sexual abuse and sexual harassment, including third-party and anonymous reports, to the agency’s designated investigators.

If the alleged victim is a vulnerable adult under a State or local vulnerable person’s statute, the agency shall report the allegation to the designated State or local services agency under applicable mandatory reporting laws. Alabama Code of Law 38-9-8 is the mandatory reporting law for vulnerable adults. The Alabama Adult Protective Services Adult Abuse Hotline is 1-800-458-7214.

The auditor reviewed the agency regulation and facility policies and procedures (regulation 454 and facility policy 454-1) along with Alabama Code of Law 38-9-8; observed agency and facility practices; reviewed data provided by the agency and facility staff; interviewed outside agencies; and interviewed inmates and staff during an on-site visit and tour of the facility. Based on the listed information, the agency and facility meets the standard and complies with the standard for the relevant review period.

Alabama Code of Laws, Policy, Materials, Interviews and Other Evidence Reviewed:

- Alabama Department of Corrections Administrative Regulation Number 454: Inmate Sexual Abuse and Harassment dated January 4, 2016.
- Alabama Code of Law 38-9-8: Vulnerable Adult Protections and Mandatory Reporting.
- Alabama ADECA, STAR, CMS, Crisis Service Center of Northern Alabama, and/or Shoals Crisis Center if needed.
- Interviews with agency Prison Rape Elimination Act Coordinator, Facility Compliance Manager, and facility Staff.
- Alabama Department of Corrections submitted Pre-Audit Questionnaire.



### Standard 115.62 Agency protection duties

- Exceeds Standard (substantially exceeds requirement of standard)
- Meets Standard (substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period)
- Does Not Meet Standard (requires corrective action)

**Auditor discussion, including the evidence relied upon in making the compliance or non-compliance determination, the auditor's analysis and reasoning, and the auditor's conclusions. This discussion must also include corrective action recommendations where the facility does not meet standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.**

Auditor comments: The auditor confirmed through agency regulation and facility policies and procedures along with staff and inmate interviews that they will act immediately to any and all inmates in imminent danger or substantial risk of sexual abuse. When the agency learns that an inmate is subject to a substantial risk of imminent sexual abuse, it shall take immediate action to protect the inmate. The facility reported to the auditor of no inmates determined to be at risk of imminent sexual abuse within the past 12 months.

The agency regulation (454 and Form 454-H: Post Allegation Protective Custody) mirrors the standard. The auditor reviewed the agency regulation and facility policies and procedures (regulation 454); observed agency and facility practices; reviewed data provided by the agency and facility staff; and interviewed inmates and staff during an on-site visit and tour of the facility. Based on the listed information, the agency and facility meets the standard and complies with the standard for the relevant review period.

Alabama Code of Laws, Policy, Materials, Interviews and Other Evidence Reviewed:

- Alabama Department of Corrections Administrative Regulation Number 454: Inmate Sexual Abuse and Harassment dated January 4, 2016 and 454-H: Post Allegation Protective Custody.
- Alabama Code of Law 38-9-8: Vulnerable Adult Protections and Mandatory Reporting.
- Alabama ADECA, STAR, CMS, Crisis Service Center of Northern Alabama, and Alabama Coalition Against Rape.
- Interviews with agency Prison Rape Elimination Act Coordinator, Facility Compliance Manager, and facility Staff.
- Alabama Department of Corrections submitted Pre-Audit Questionnaire.

### Standard 115.63 Reporting to other confinement facilities

- Exceeds Standard (substantially exceeds requirement of standard)
- Meets Standard (substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period)
- Does Not Meet Standard (requires corrective action)

**Auditor discussion, including the evidence relied upon in making the compliance or non-compliance determination, the auditor's analysis and reasoning, and the auditor's conclusions. This discussion must also include corrective action recommendations where the facility does not meet standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.**

Auditor comments: The auditor interviewed the agency Associate Commissioner of Operations and he confirmed agency policy concerning reporting to other confinement facilities. Upon receiving an allegation that an inmate was sexually abused while confined at another facility, the warden of the facility that received the allegation shall notify the head of the facility or appropriate office of the agency where the alleged abuse occurred. Such notification shall be provided as soon as possible, but no later than 72 hours after receiving the allegation. The agency and facility document that it has provided such notification. The head or agency office that receives such notification shall ensure that the allegation is investigated in accordance with the Prison Rape Elimination Act standard. The Alabama Department of Corrections regulation and policy mirrors the Prison Rape Elimination Act standard.

The auditor reviewed the agency regulation and facility policies and procedures (regulation 454 and specifically form 454-F); observed

agency and facility practices; reviewed data provided by the agency and facility staff; and interviewed inmates and staff during an on-site visit and tour of the facility. Based on the listed information, the agency and facility meets the standard and complies with the standard for the relevant review period.

Policy, Materials, Interviews and Other Evidence Reviewed:

- Alabama Department of Corrections Administrative Regulation Number 454: Inmate Sexual Abuse and Harassment dated January 4, 2016.
- Alabama Department of Corrections Regulation Form 454-F: Reporting to other Confinement Facilities.
- Alabama ADECA, STAR, CMS, Crisis Service Center of Northern Alabama, and Alabama Coalition Against Rape.
- Interviews with agency Associate Commissioner of Operations, Prison Rape Elimination Act Coordinator, Warden, facility Compliance Manager, and facility Staff.
- Alabama Department of Corrections submitted Pre-Audit Questionnaire.

**Standard 115.64 Staff first responder duties**

- Exceeds Standard (substantially exceeds requirement of standard)
- Meets Standard (substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period)
- Does Not Meet Standard (requires corrective action)

**Auditor discussion, including the evidence relied upon in making the compliance or non-compliance determination, the auditor’s analysis and reasoning, and the auditor’s conclusions. This discussion must also include corrective action recommendations where the facility does not meet standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.**

Auditor comments: Based on agency regulation and facility policy and procedures along with agency staff and inmate interviews during the on-site portion of the audit, upon learning of an allegation that a inmate was sexually abused, the first staff member to respond to the report shall: separate the alleged victim and abuser; preserve and protect any crime scene until appropriate steps can be taken to collect any evidence; if the abuse occurred within a time period that still allows for the collection of physical evidence, request that the alleged victim not take any actions that could destroy physical evidence, including, as appropriate, washing, brushing teeth, changing clothes, urinating, defecating, smoking, drinking, or eating; and if the abuse occurred within a time period that still allows for the collection of physical evidence, ensure that the alleged abuser does not take any actions that could destroy physical evidence, including, as appropriate, washing, brushing teeth, changing clothes, urinating, defecating, smoking, drinking, or eating.

If the first responder is not a security staff member, the responder shall be required to request that the alleged victim not take any actions that could destroy physical evidence, and then notify security staff. The auditor reviewed an agency and facility generated check list for first responder use.

Specifically, the Decatur Work Release Center standard operating policy and procedure (454-1) details first responder duties. Any incident is documented in accordance with agency regulation 302 and incident reporting.

The auditor reviewed the agency regulation and facility policies and procedures (regulation 454, facility policy 454-1, and Form 302-A: Incident Report); agency and facility pocket size first responder card (specific reference to security and non-security staff on card); Agency Investigations Mapping protocol; observed agency and facility practices; reviewed data provided by the agency and facility staff; and interviewed inmates and staff during an on-site visit and tour of the facility. Based on the listed information, the agency and facility meet the standard and complies with the standard for the relevant review period.

Policy, Materials, Interviews and Other Evidence Reviewed:

- Alabama Department of Corrections Administrative Regulation Number 454: Inmate Sexual Abuse and Harassment dated January 4, 2016.
- Decatur Work Release Center Standard Operating Procedure 454-1: Inmate Sexual Abuse and Harassment Awareness dated April, 2016 and Alabama Department of Corrections Regulation Form 302-A: Incident Report.
- Decatur Work Release Center staff first responder pocket-sized cards.
- Alabama Department of Correction Investigations Mapping template and protocol.

- Interviews with agency Prison Rape Elimination Act Coordinator, Warden, facility Compliance Manager, and facility Staff.
- Alabama Department of Corrections submitted Pre-Audit Questionnaire.

### Standard 115.65 Coordinated response

- Exceeds Standard (substantially exceeds requirement of standard)
- Meets Standard (substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period)
- Does Not Meet Standard (requires corrective action)

**Auditor discussion, including the evidence relied upon in making the compliance or non-compliance determination, the auditor’s analysis and reasoning, and the auditor’s conclusions. This discussion must also include corrective action recommendations where the facility does not meet standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.**

Auditor comments: The Alabama Department of Corrections and the Decatur Work Release Center has a coordinated response to an incident of sexual abuse among staff first responders, medical, and mental health practitioners, investigators, and facility leadership. Specifically, the Decatur Work Release Center has a coordinated response standard operating procedure and facility staff carry a coordinated response checklist card. The auditor reviewed the agency regulations and facility policies and procedures (regulation 454 and 302 and policy 454-1 and 454-3); observed agency and facility practices; reviewed data provided by the agency and facility staff; and interviewed inmates and staff during an on-site visit and tour of the facility. The auditor was impressed with the facility coordinated response protocol and determines the facility not only meets the standard but exceeds the standard. Specific justification, the facility has a detailed policy and procedure on a coordinated response. The policy is detailed and easy to follow. Based on the listed information, the agency and facility not only met the standard but exceeds the standard for the relevant review period. The auditor received and reviewed primary (policy) and secondary (practice) documentation from the facility as confirmation.

Policy, Materials, Interviews and Other Evidence Reviewed:

- Alabama Department of Corrections Administrative Regulation Number 454: Inmate Sexual Abuse and Harassment dated January 4, 2016.
- Alabama Department of Corrections Regulation Form 302-A: Incident Report.
- Alabama Department of Corrections Investigations Mapping template and protocol..
- Alabama Department of Corrections 454-E: Sexual Abuse Incident Review Form.
- Decatur Work Release Center Standard Operating Procedure 454-3: Coordinated Response and Staff Checklist Card and First Responder Cards.
- Alabama Department of Corrections submitted Pre-Audit Questionnaire.
- Interviews with agency Prison Rape Elimination Act Coordinator, Facility Compliance Manager, and facility Staff.
- Alabama Department of Corrections 302-C: Duty Officer Report.

### Standard 115.66 Preservation of ability to protect inmates from contact with abusers

- Exceeds Standard (substantially exceeds requirement of standard)
- Meets Standard (substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period)
- Does Not Meet Standard (requires corrective action)

**Auditor discussion, including the evidence relied upon in making the compliance or non-compliance determination, the auditor’s analysis and reasoning, and the auditor’s conclusions. This discussion must also include corrective action recommendations where the facility does not meet standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.**

Auditor comments: The auditor interviewed the agency Associate Commissioner of Operations. Neither the agency nor any other government entity responsible for collective bargaining on the agency's behalf entered into or renewed any collective bargaining agreement or other agreement that limits the agency's ability to remove alleged staff sexual abusers from contact with any inmates pending the outcome of an investigation or of a determination of whether and to what extent discipline is warranted.

The agency and facility has no collective bargaining as verified with the agency during the audit. The staff is fully aware that a violation of policy may more than likely result in termination. The auditor reviewed the agency regulation and facility policies and procedures (regulation 454); observed agency and facility practices; reviewed data provided by the agency and facility staff; and interviewed inmates and staff during an on-site visit and tour of the facility. Based on the listed information, the agency and facility meet the standard and complies with the standard for the relevant review period.

Policy, Materials, Interviews and Other Evidence Reviewed:

- Alabama Department of Corrections Administrative Regulation Number 454: Inmate Sexual Abuse and Harassment dated January 4, 2016.
- Alabama Department of Corrections Human Resources Department.
- Alabama Department of Correction Investigations Mapping template and protocol.
- Interviews with agency Associate Commissioner of Operations, agency Prison Rape Elimination Act Coordinator, Warden, facility Compliance Manager, and facility Staff.
- Alabama Department of Corrections submitted Pre-Audit Questionnaire.

#### Standard 115.67 Agency protection against retaliation

- Exceeds Standard (substantially exceeds requirement of standard)
- Meets Standard (substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period)
- Does Not Meet Standard (requires corrective action)

**Auditor discussion, including the evidence relied upon in making the compliance or non-compliance determination, the auditor's analysis and reasoning, and the auditor's conclusions. This discussion must also include corrective action recommendations where the facility does not meet standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.**

Auditor comments: The Decatur Work Release Center reported zero incidents of retaliation reported, known or suspected within the past 12 months. Per written memorandum and interview with the facility warden any inmate needing protective custody would be transferred to Limestone Correctional Facility. The agency and facility protects all inmates and staff who report sexual abuse or sexual harassment or cooperate with sexual abuse or sexual harassment investigations from retaliation by other inmates or staff. The agency and facility shall employ multiple protection measures, such as housing unit or facility transfers for inmate victims or abusers, removal of alleged staff or inmate abusers from contact with victims, and emotional support services for inmates or staff that fear retaliation for reporting sexual abuse or sexual harassment or for cooperating with investigations. The agency regulation 454 mirrors the written language of the Prison Rape Elimination Act standard.

For at least 90 days following a report of sexual abuse, the agency and facility monitors the conduct and treatment of inmates or staff who reported the sexual abuse and of inmates who were reported to have suffered sexual abuse to see if there are changes that may suggest possible retaliation by inmates or staff, and shall act promptly to remedy any such retaliation. The Prison Rape Elimination Act compliance manager monitors inmate disciplinary reports, housing, or program changes, or negative performance reviews or reassignments of staff. Monitoring continues beyond 90 days, consisting of 30 day continuations, if the initial monitoring indicates a continuing need. Monitoring also includes periodic status checks. Any other individuals who cooperate with an investigation expresses a fear of retaliation, the agency and facility takes appropriate measures to protect that individual against retaliation.

Specifically, the agency Prison Rape Elimination Act coordinator and facility compliance manager confirmed no incidents of retaliation during the past 12 month period from the date of the audit. The auditor reviewed the agency regulation and facility policies and procedures (regulation 454 and form 454-D: Sexual Abuse/Harassment Retaliation Monitoring); observed agency and facility practices; reviewed data provided by the agency and facility staff; interviewed outside agencies; and interviewed inmates and staff during an on-site visit and tour of the facility. Based on the listed information, the agency and facility meets the standard and complies with the standard for the relevant

review period. Agencies must establish a policy for the protection of inmates and staff who report sexual abuse or sexual harassment, or cooperate with investigations of sexual abuse or sexual harassment. The policy shall designate staff members or departments within the agency that are responsible with monitoring any retaliation. Agencies must utilize multiple strategies to inhibit and prevent retaliation. The agency and facility meet the standard for the relevant review period.

Policy, Materials, Interviews and Other Evidence Reviewed:

- Alabama Department of Corrections Administrative Regulation Number 454: Inmate Sexual Abuse and Harassment dated January 4, 2016.
- Alabama Department of Corrections Form 454-D: Sexual Abuse/Harassment Retaliation Monitoring.
- Alabama Department of Correction Investigations Mapping template and protocol.
- Interviews with agency Prison Rape Elimination Act Coordinator, Warden, facility Compliance Manager, and facility Staff.
- Alabama Department of Corrections submitted Pre-Audit Questionnaire.
- Limestone Correctional Facility transfers.

### Standard 115.68 Post-allegation protective custody

- Exceeds Standard (substantially exceeds requirement of standard)
- Meets Standard (substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period)
- Does Not Meet Standard (requires corrective action)

**Auditor discussion, including the evidence relied upon in making the compliance or non-compliance determination, the auditor's analysis and reasoning, and the auditor's conclusions. This discussion must also include corrective action recommendations where the facility does not meet standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.**

Auditor comments: Per written memorandum from the Decatur Work Release Center Warden, any inmate needing protective custody would be transferred to the Limestone Correctional Facility. The agency and facility has a protective custody policy and procedure. The auditor thoroughly reviewed agency regulation and policy (454) and it has several provisions for any form of protective custody in accordance with Prison Rape Elimination Act standard 115.43. Any use of segregated housing to protect a inmate who is alleged to have suffered sexual abuse shall be subject to the requirements of protective custody policy and procedure. The facility compliance manager reported no inmates being placed in involuntary segregation in accordance with protective custody policy during the previous 12 months prior to the audit.

The auditor reviewed the agency regulation and facility policies and procedures (454 and form 454-H: Prison Rape Elimination Act Post Allegation Protective Custody); observed agency and facility practices; reviewed data provided by the agency and facility staff; interviewed outside agencies; and interviewed inmates and staff during an on-site visit and tour of the facility. Based on the listed information, the agency and facility meets the standard and complies with the standard for the relevant review period.

Policy, Materials, Interviews and Other Evidence Reviewed:

- Alabama Department of Corrections Administrative Regulation Number 454: Inmate Sexual Abuse and Harassment dated January 4, 2016.
- Alabama Department of Corrections Form 454-H: Prison Rape Elimination Act Post Allegation Protective Custody.
- Interviews with agency Prison Rape Elimination Act Coordinator, Warden, facility Compliance Manager, and facility Staff.
- Alabama Department of Corrections submitted Pre-Audit Questionnaire.
- Limestone Correctional Facility inmate transfers and protocol.

### Standard 115.71 Criminal and administrative agency investigations

- Exceeds Standard (substantially exceeds requirement of standard)
- Meets Standard (substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period)

relevant review period)

- Does Not Meet Standard (requires corrective action)

**Auditor discussion, including the evidence relied upon in making the compliance or non-compliance determination, the auditor's analysis and reasoning, and the auditor's conclusions. This discussion must also include corrective action recommendations where the facility does not meet standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.**

Auditor comments: The agency refers all substantiated criminal cases to the local District Attorney's office per agency regulation 454. The Investigations and Intelligence Division has numerous investigators assigned and is responsible for first responder investigative duties and facility administrative type of investigations. The agency Investigations and Intelligence Division is headquartered in Montgomery, Alabama, (334) 353-8916.

Per the standard, when an agency conducts its own investigations into allegations of sexual abuse and sexual harassment, it shall do so promptly, thoroughly, and objectively for all allegations, including third-party and anonymous reports. Where sexual abuse is alleged, the agency shall use investigators who have received special training in sexual abuse investigations involving juvenile victims pursuant to Prison Rape Elimination Act Standard 115.334. Investigators shall gather and preserve direct and circumstantial evidence, including any available physical and deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) evidence and any available electronic monitoring data; shall interview alleged victims, suspected perpetrators, and witnesses; and shall review prior complaints and reports of sexual abuse involving the suspected perpetrator. When the quality of evidence appears to support criminal prosecution, the agency shall conduct compelled interviews only after consulting with prosecutors as to whether compelled interviews may be an obstacle for subsequent criminal prosecution. The credibility of an alleged victim, suspect, or witness shall be assessed on an individual basis and shall not be determined by the person's status as inmate or staff. No agency shall require a inmate who alleges sexual abuse to submit to a polygraph examination or other truth-telling device as a condition for proceeding with the investigation of such an allegation.

The agency investigators are assigned to a division within the Alabama Department of Corrections. The agency has an acknowledgement and training form along with National Institute of Corrections Prison Rape Elimination Act investigator training certificates for staff specifically referencing the required Garrity warning.

Administrative investigations include efforts to determine whether staff actions or failures to act contributed to the abuse; and are documented in written reports that include a description of the physical and testimonial evidence, the reasoning behind credibility assessments, and investigative facts and findings. Criminal investigations are documented in a written report that contains a thorough description of physical, testimonial, and documentary evidence and attaches copies of all documentary evidence where feasible. Substantiated allegations of conduct that appears to be criminal are referred for prosecution. The agency retains all written reports for as long as the alleged abuser is incarcerated or employed by the agency, plus five years.

The auditor reviewed the agency regulation and facility policies and procedures (regulation 454, Form 302, and Form 454-I: Investigative Reports); observed agency and facility practices; reviewed data provided by the agency and facility staff; interviewed outside agencies; and interviewed inmates and staff during an on-site visit and tour of the facility. Based on the listed information, the agency and facility meets the standard and complies with the standard for the relevant review period.

Policy, Materials, Interviews and Other Evidence Reviewed:

- Alabama Department of Corrections Administrative Regulation Number 454: Inmate Sexual Abuse and Harassment dated January 4, 2016.
- Alabama Department of Corrections Form 454-I: Investigative Reports and 302: Incident Reporting.
- Alabama Department of Correction Investigations Mapping template and protocol.
- Interviews with agency Prison Rape Elimination Act Coordinator, Facility Compliance Manager, and facility Staff.
- Alabama Department of Corrections submitted Pre-Audit Questionnaire.

#### **Standard 115.72 Evidentiary standard for administrative investigations**

- Exceeds Standard (substantially exceeds requirement of standard)
- Meets Standard (substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period)

- Does Not Meet Standard (requires corrective action)

**Auditor discussion, including the evidence relied upon in making the compliance or non-compliance determination, the auditor's analysis and reasoning, and the auditor's conclusions. This discussion must also include corrective action recommendations where the facility does not meet standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.**

Auditor comments: Per agency regulation 300: The policy of the Alabama Department of Corrections is to conduct all investigations in a fair and impartial manner, maintain confidentiality in all investigations, and protect the constitutional rights of all individuals subject to investigation.

The agency has approximately 20 Prison Rape Elimination Act trained investigators assigned as administrative and criminal investigators for the statewide facilities. The agency and facility answered no on the audit questionnaire along with written in agency regulation 454 in reference to if the agency and facility imposes no standard higher than a preponderance of the evidence in determining whether allegations of sexual abuse or sexual harassment are substantiated.

The auditor reviewed the agency regulation and facility policies and procedures (regulation 454 and 300); observed agency and facility practices; reviewed data provided by the agency and facility staff; interviewed outside agencies; and interviewed inmates and staff during an on-site visit and tour of the facility. Based on the listed information, the agency and facility meets the standard and complies with the standard for the relevant review period.

Policy, Materials, Interviews and Other Evidence Reviewed:

- Alabama Department of Corrections Administrative Regulation Number 454: Inmate Sexual Abuse and Harassment dated January 4, 2016.
- Alabama Department of Corrections Form 454-I: Investigative Reports and 302: Incident Reporting.
- Alabama Department of Correction Investigations Mapping template and protocol.
- Interviews with agency Prison Rape Elimination Act Coordinator, Facility Compliance Manager, and facility Staff.
- Alabama Department of Corrections submitted Pre-Audit Questionnaire.
- Alabama Department of Corrections Regulation Number 300: Investigations and Intelligence Division.

### Standard 115.73 Reporting to inmates

- Exceeds Standard (substantially exceeds requirement of standard)
- Meets Standard (substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period)
- Does Not Meet Standard (requires corrective action)

**Auditor discussion, including the evidence relied upon in making the compliance or non-compliance determination, the auditor's analysis and reasoning, and the auditor's conclusions. This discussion must also include corrective action recommendations where the facility does not meet standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.**

Auditor comments: Per agency regulation 454, the Alabama Department of Correction Investigations and Intelligence Division is responsible for reporting back to any inmates in reference to any Prison Rape Elimination Act related incidents. The agency and facility informs the inmate as to whether the allegation has been determined to be substantiated, unsubstantiated, or unfounded. Based on the agency's regulation, following an inmate's allegation that a staff member has committed sexual abuse against a inmate, the agency shall subsequently inform the inmate (exception being if the allegation is determined to be unfounded) whenever:

- 1) The staff member is no longer employed by the agency;
- 2) The staff member is no longer posted within the inmate's unit;
- 3) The agency learns that the staff member has been indicted on a charge related to sexual abuse within the agency; or
- 4) The agency learns that the staff member has been convicted on a charge related to sexual abuse within the agency.

Following an inmate’s allegation that he has been sexually abused by another inmate, the facility shall subsequently inform the alleged victim whenever: The facility learns that the alleged abuser has been indicted on a charge related to sexual abuse within the agency; or the facility learns that the alleged abuse has been convicted on a charge related to sexual abuse within the agency.

All such notifications or attempted notifications are documented and retained by the agency. The agency’s obligation to report under this standard shall terminate if the inmate is released from the agency’s custody. Per agency regulation and facility policies and procedures (regulation 454); observed agency and facility practices; reviews of data provided by the agency and facility staff; interviews with outside agencies; and interviews with inmates and staff during an on-site visit and tour of the facility, the agency and facility meets the standard and complies with the standard for the relevant review period.

Policy, Materials, Interviews and Other Evidence Reviewed:

- Alabama Department of Corrections Administrative Regulation Number 454: Inmate Sexual Abuse and Harassment dated January 4, 2016.
- Alabama Department of Corrections Form 454-I: Investigative Reports and 302: Incident Reporting.
- Alabama Department of Correction Investigations Mapping template and protocol.
- Interviews with agency Prison Rape Elimination Act Coordinator, Facility Compliance Manager, and facility Staff.
- Alabama Department of Corrections submitted Pre-Audit Questionnaire.
- Alabama Department of Corrections Regulation Number 300: Investigations and Intelligence Division.

### Standard 115.76 Disciplinary sanctions for staff

- Exceeds Standard (substantially exceeds requirement of standard)
- Meets Standard (substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period)
- Does Not Meet Standard (requires corrective action)

**Auditor discussion, including the evidence relied upon in making the compliance or non-compliance determination, the auditor’s analysis and reasoning, and the auditor’s conclusions. This discussion must also include corrective action recommendations where the facility does not meet standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.**

Auditor comments: Per agency regulation 208 and 454, “Employees shall be subject to disciplinary sanctions up to and including termination for violating sexual abuse or sexual harassment policies”. Disciplinary sanctions for violations of agency policies relating to sexual abuse or sexual harassment are commensurate with the nature and circumstances of the acts committed, the staff member’s disciplinary history, and the sanctions imposed for comparable offenses by other staff with similar histories.

All terminations for violations of agency sexual abuse or sexual harassment policies, or resignations by staff who would have been terminated if not for their resignation, shall be reported to law enforcement agencies, unless the activity was clearly not criminal, and to any relevant licensing bodies.

Specifically, the Decatur Work Release Center standard operating policy and procedure (454-1) details discipline for employees to include but not limited to termination for violating agency sexual abuse or sexual harassment policies.

The auditor reviewed the Alabama Code of Laws, agency regulations and facility policies and procedures (Code of Alabama Title 14, 1975, as amended; Title 13A-6-65; Title 14-11-31: Sexual Misconduct; regulation 454; facility policy; and regulation 208: Employee Standards of Conduct and Discipline); observed agency and facility practices; reviewed data provided by the agency and facility staff; interviewed outside agencies; and interviewed inmates and staff during an on-site visit and tour of the facility. Based on the listed information, the agency and facility meets the standard and complies with the standard for the relevant review period.

Alabama Code of Laws, Policy, Materials, Interviews and Other Evidence Reviewed:

- Alabama Department of Corrections Administrative Regulation Number 454: Inmate Sexual Abuse and Harassment dated January 4, 2016.
- Alabama Department of Corrections Regulation Number 208: Employee Standards of Conduct and Discipline dated August 17, 2005.



- Code of Alabama Title 14, 1975, as amended; Title 13A-6-65; and Title 14-11-31 (sexual misconduct) .
- Decatur Work Release Center Standard Operating Procedure 454-1: Inmate Sexual Abuse and Harassment Awareness dated April, 2016.
- Interviews with agency Prison Rape Elimination Act Coordinator, Facility Compliance Manager, and facility Staff.
- Alabama Department of Corrections submitted Pre-Audit Questionnaire.

**Standard 115.77 Corrective action for contractors and volunteers**

- Exceeds Standard (substantially exceeds requirement of standard)
- Meets Standard (substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period)
- Does Not Meet Standard (requires corrective action)

**Auditor discussion, including the evidence relied upon in making the compliance or non-compliance determination, the auditor’s analysis and reasoning, and the auditor’s conclusions. This discussion must also include corrective action recommendations where the facility does not meet standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.**

Auditor comments: Any contractor or volunteer who engages in sexual abuse shall be prohibited from contact with inmates and shall be reported to law enforcement agencies, unless the activity was clearly not criminal, and to relevant licensing bodies. Appropriate steps are taken in reference to remedial measures, and consideration made whether to prohibit further contact with inmates, in the case of any other violation of agency and facility sexual abuse or sexual harassment policies by a contractor or volunteer. The agency and facility reported no incidents of sexual abuse by contractors or volunteers within the past 12 months of the audit.

Specifically, the Decatur Work Release Center standard operating policy and procedure (454-1) details contractor and volunteer corrective action to include but not limited to termination from facility and contact with inmates.

The auditor reviewed the agency regulation and facility policies and procedures (regulation 454 and facility policy 454-1); observed agency and facility practices; reviewed data provided by the agency and facility staff; interviewed outside agencies; and interviewed inmates and staff during an on-site visit and tour of the facility. Based on the listed information, the agency and facility does meet the standard and complies with the standard for the relevant review period.

Alabama Code of Laws, Policy, Materials, Interviews and Other Evidence Reviewed:

- Alabama Department of Corrections Administrative Regulation Number 454: Inmate Sexual Abuse and Harassment dated January 4, 2016.
- Alabama Department of Corrections Regulation Number 208: Employee Standards of Conduct and Discipline dated August 17, 2005.
- Code of Alabama Title 14, 1975, as amended; Title 13A-6-65; and Title 14-11-31 (sexual misconduct) .
- Decatur Work Release Center Standard Operating Procedure 454-1: Inmate Sexual Abuse and Harassment Awareness dated April, 2016.
- Interviews with agency Prison Rape Elimination Act Coordinator, Facility Compliance Manager, and facility Staff.
- Alabama Department of Corrections submitted Pre-Audit Questionnaire.

**Standard 115.78 Disciplinary sanctions for inmates**

- Exceeds Standard (substantially exceeds requirement of standard)
- Meets Standard (substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period)
- Does Not Meet Standard (requires corrective action)

**Auditor discussion, including the evidence relied upon in making the compliance or non-compliance determination, the auditor's analysis and reasoning, and the auditor's conclusions. This discussion must also include corrective action recommendations where the facility does not meet standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.**

Auditor comments: The auditor reviewed the agency and facility inmate handbook. The rules are clearly listed with definitions along with references to Alabama Code of Laws 13A-6-60 through 13A-6-70 (1975) and 14-11-30 through 14-11-32. Sanctions are commensurate with the nature and circumstances of the abuse committed, the inmate's disciplinary history, and the sanctions imposed for comparable offenses by other inmates with similar histories. The disciplinary process considers whether an inmate's mental disabilities or mental illness contributed to their behavior when determining what type of sanction, if any, should be imposed.

A report of sexual abuse made in good faith based upon a reasonable belief that the alleged conduct occurred shall not constitute falsely reporting an incident or lying, even if an investigation does not establish evidence sufficient to substantiate the allegation. The agency and facility prohibits all sexual activity between inmates and may discipline inmates for such activity. If the facility offers therapy, counseling, or other interventions designed to address and correct underlying reasons or motivations for the abuse, the facility shall consider whether to offer the offending inmate participation in such interventions.

Specifically, the Decatur Work Release Center standard operating policy and procedure (454-1) details inmate disciplinary sanctions in accordance with agency administrative regulation 403 to confirm compliance with the standard.

The auditor reviewed the Alabama Code of Laws, agency regulations, and facility policies and procedures (403, 454 and 318 along with facility policy 454-1); observed agency and facility practices; reviewed data provided by the agency and facility staff; interviewed outside agencies; and interviewed inmates and staff during an on-site visit and tour of the facility. Based on the listed information, the agency and facility meets the standard and complies with the standard for the relevant review period.

Alabama Code of Laws, Policy, Materials, Interviews and Other Evidence Reviewed:

- Alabama Department of Corrections Administrative Regulation Number 454: Inmate Sexual Abuse and Harassment dated January 4, 2016.
- Alabama Department of Corrections Regulation Number 318 and 403.
- Alabama Code of Laws 13A-6-60 through 13A-6-70 and 14-11-30 through 14-11-32 .
- Decatur Work Release Center Standard Operating Procedure 454-1: Inmate Sexual Abuse and Harassment Awareness dated April, 2016.
- Interviews with agency Prison Rape Elimination Act Coordinator, Warden, facility Compliance Manager, and facility Staff.
- Alabama Department of Corrections submitted Pre-Audit Questionnaire.

#### **Standard 115.81 Medical and mental health screenings; history of sexual abuse**

- Exceeds Standard (substantially exceeds requirement of standard)
- Meets Standard (substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period)
- Does Not Meet Standard (requires corrective action)

**Auditor discussion, including the evidence relied upon in making the compliance or non-compliance determination, the auditor's analysis and reasoning, and the auditor's conclusions. This discussion must also include corrective action recommendations where the facility does not meet standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.**

Auditor comments: Per agency regulation 454, 433, and 435 along with Prison Rape Elimination Act standard 115.41, if the medical and mental health screening indicates that an inmate has experienced prior sexual victimization, whether it occurred in an institutional setting or in the community, agency staff ensures that the inmate is offered a follow-up meeting with a medical or mental health practitioner within 14 days of the intake screening. If the screening indicates that an inmate has previously perpetrated sexual abuse or sexual victimization, whether it occurred in an institutional setting or in the community, agency and facility staff shall ensure that the inmate is offered a follow-up meeting with a mental health practitioner within 14 days of the intake process.

Alabama Code of Law 26-14-3, outlines mandatory reporting requirements. Any information related to sexual victimization or abusiveness that occurred in an institutional setting is strictly limited to medical and mental health practitioners and other agency staff, as necessary, to inform treatment plans and security and management decisions, including housing, bed, work, and program assignments, or as otherwise required by Federal, State, or local law. Medical and mental health practitioners shall obtain informed consent from inmates before reporting information about prior sexual victimization that did not occur in an institutional setting, unless the inmate is under the age of 18.

The auditor interviewed the facility staff, counseling staff, and the inmate intake staff. The auditor reviewed the agency regulation and facility policies and procedures (454, 433, 435); observed agency and facility practices; reviewed data provided by the agency and facility staff; interviewed outside agencies; and interviewed inmates and staff during an on-site visit and tour of the facility. Based on the listed information, the agency and facility meets the standard.

Alabama Code of Laws, Policy, Materials, Interviews and Other Evidence Reviewed:

- Alabama Department of Corrections Administrative Regulation Number 454: Inmate Sexual Abuse and Harassment dated January 4, 2016.
- Alabama Department of Corrections Regulation Number 433 and 435.
- Alabama Code of Law 26-14-3: Mandatory Reporting.
- Interviews with agency Prison Rape Elimination Act Coordinator, Nurse, facility Compliance Manager, and facility Staff.
- Alabama Department of Corrections submitted Pre-Audit Questionnaire.

### Standard 115.82 Access to emergency medical and mental health services

- Exceeds Standard (substantially exceeds requirement of standard)
- Meets Standard (substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period)
- Does Not Meet Standard (requires corrective action)

**Auditor discussion, including the evidence relied upon in making the compliance or non-compliance determination, the auditor’s analysis and reasoning, and the auditor’s conclusions. This discussion must also include corrective action recommendations where the facility does not meet standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.**

Auditor comments: The Decatur Work Release Center benefits from be located within close proximity to the Crisis Center of Northern Alabama as well as the Shoals Crisis Center and Shoals Medical Hospital for forensic examinations or need for immediate emergency services. The facility has access to emergency medical and mental health services. Inmate victims of sexual abuse receive timely, unimpeded access to emergency medical treatment and crisis intervention services, the nature and scope of which are determined by medical and mental health practitioners according to their professional judgment. If no qualified medical or mental health practitioners are on duty at the time a report of recent abuse is made, security staff first responders take preliminary steps to protect the victim and shall immediately notify the appropriate medical and mental health practitioners. Inmate victims of sexual abuse while incarcerated are offered timely information about and timely access to emergency contraception and sexually transmitted infections prophylaxis, in accordance with professionally accepted standards of care, where medically appropriate. Treatment services are provided to the victim without financial cost and regardless of whether the victim names the abuser or cooperates with any investigation arising out of the incident.

The auditor reviewed agency regulation 454 to confirm compliance with the standard. The facility utilizes a multidisciplinary team investigation protocol for responding to abuse. The auditor confirmed with receipts of training certificates that the agency investigators completed the National Institute of Corrections investigations course which is a recognized compliance requirement to meet the standard as well as the evidence protocol from the United States Department of Justice, “A National Protocol for Sexual Assault Medical Forensic Examinations”, dated April 2013. The local crisis center for the facility is Shoals Crisis Center (256) 767-1100 of Florence, Alabama and STAR (Standing Together Against Rape), 530 South Lawrence Street, Montgomery, Alabama, (334) 213-1227. STAR has a written agreement with Correctional Medical Services, Inc. which is the recognized medical provider for the Alabama Department of Corrections to provide crisis services in accordance with the response protocol. They maintain a 24 hour hotline for an on-call Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE), (334) 571-0999. The agency has a memorandum of agreement with an outside the agency victim advocacy service, confidential and at no cost to the inmates, at 1-800-639-4357. The Crisis Center of Northern Alabama is an additional beneficial resource. The facility and agency reported no forensic medical exams conducted during the past 12 months and meets the standard.

Specifically, the Decatur Work Release Center Standard Operating Procedure (454-1) states, victims shall receive timely access to emergency medical and mental health treatment and crisis intervention services at no cost to the victim.

Auditor note: The National Center for Victims of Crime recently initiated and launched the Victim Connect Resource Center which is a resource for victims, to include but not limited to, providing critical, confidential assistance through phone, text, and chat along with interpreter services in over 200 languages. These services can be accessed at 1-855-4VICTIM or [www.chat.victimconnect.org](http://www.chat.victimconnect.org). The anti-sexual assault organization, RAINN, operates a national hotline at 1-800-656-4673 with access to a range of free services.

The auditor reviewed the agency regulation and facility policies and procedures (454 and Form MH-008: Referral to Mental Health); observed agency and facility practices; reviewed data provided by the agency and facility staff; interviewed outside agencies; and interviewed inmates and staff during an on-site visit and tour of the facility. The agency and facility meets and complies with the standard for the relevant review period.

Policy, Materials, Interviews and Other Evidence Reviewed:

- Alabama Department of Corrections Administrative Regulation Number 454: Inmate Sexual Abuse and Harassment dated January 4, 2016 and Form MH-008: Referral to Mental Health.
- Decatur Work Release Standard Operating Procedure 454-1 dated April, 2016.
- Crisis Center of Northern Alabama, Shoals Crisis Center and Medical Hospital.
- National Institute of Corrections investigations course certificate completions and continuing education credits.
- A National Protocol for Sexual Assault Medical Forensic Examinations.
- Memorandum of Understanding between STAR and Correctional Medical Services, Inc.
- Rape Crisis Centers listing.
- Interviews with agency Prison Rape Elimination Act Coordinator, facility Compliance Manager, and Facility Staff.
- Alabama Department of Corrections submitted Pre-Audit Questionnaire.

**Standard 115.83 Ongoing medical and mental health care for sexual abuse victims and abusers**

- Exceeds Standard (substantially exceeds requirement of standard)
- Meets Standard (substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period)
- Does Not Meet Standard (requires corrective action)

**Auditor discussion, including the evidence relied upon in making the compliance or non-compliance determination, the auditor's analysis and reasoning, and the auditor's conclusions. This discussion must also include corrective action recommendations where the facility does not meet standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.**

Auditor comments: The Alabama Department of Corrections and the Decatur Work Release Center offers medical and mental health evaluation and, as appropriate, treatment to all inmates who have been victimized by sexual abuse in the facility. The evaluation and treatment of such victims include, as appropriate, follow-up services, treatment plans, and, when necessary, referrals for continued care following their transfer to, or placement in, other facilities, or their release from custody. The agency and facility provides such victims with medical and mental health services consistent with the community level of care. Inmate victims of sexual abuse while incarcerated are offered tests for sexually transmitted infections as medically appropriate. Treatment services are provided to the victim without financial cost and regardless of whether the victim names the abuser or cooperates with any investigation arising out of the incident.

Specifically, agency regulation 454 details ongoing medical and mental health care for sexual abuse victims and abusers along with documentation with Form MH-008: Referral to Mental Health to confirm compliance with the standard.

The auditor interviewed the facility staff during the on-site portion of the Prison Rape Elimination Act audit. The auditor reviewed the agency and facility policies and procedures (regulation 454, Form MH-008); observed agency and facility practices; reviewed data provided by the agency and facility staff; interviewed outside agencies; and interviewed inmates and staff during an on-site visit and tour of the facility. Based on the listed information, the agency and facility meets the standard and complies with the standard for the relevant review period.

Policy, Materials, Interviews and Other Evidence Reviewed:

- Alabama Department of Corrections Administrative Regulation Number 454: Inmate Sexual Abuse and Harassment dated January 4, 2016 and Form MH-008: Referral to Mental Health.
- Decatur Work Release Center Standard Operating Procedure 454-1 dated April, 2016.
- Crisis Center of Northern, Alabama, and Shoals Crisis Center services.
- A National Protocol for Sexual Assault Medical Forensic Examinations.
- Memorandum of Agreement between STAR and Correctional Medical Services, Inc.
- Rape Crisis Centers listing.
- Interviews with agency Prison Rape Elimination Act Coordinator, facility Compliance Manager, and Facility Staff.
- Alabama Department of Corrections submitted Pre-Audit Questionnaire.

### Standard 115.86 Sexual abuse incident reviews

- Exceeds Standard (substantially exceeds requirement of standard)
- Meets Standard (substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period)
- Does Not Meet Standard (requires corrective action)

**Auditor discussion, including the evidence relied upon in making the compliance or non-compliance determination, the auditor’s analysis and reasoning, and the auditor’s conclusions. This discussion must also include corrective action recommendations where the facility does not meet standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.**

Auditor comments: The agency and facility conducts a sexual abuse incident review, per agency regulation 454, at the conclusion of every sexual abuse investigation, including where the allegation has not be substantiated, unless the allegation has been determined to be unfounded. This review ordinarily occurs within 30 days of the conclusion of the investigation. The review team includes upper-level management officials, with input from line supervisors, investigators, and medical or mental health practitioners. The agency and facility review team considers the following:

- 1) Consider whether the allegation or investigation indicates a need to change policy or practice to better prevent, detect, or respond to sexual abuse;
- 2) Consider whether the incident or allegation was motivated by race; ethnicity; gender identity; lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or intersex identification, status, or perceived status; or gang affiliation; or was motivated or otherwise caused by other group dynamics at the facility;
- 3) Examine the area in the facility where the incident allegedly occurred to assess whether physical barriers in the area may enable abuse;
- 4) Assess the adequacy of staffing levels in that area during different shifts;
- 5) Assess whether monitoring technology should be deployed or augmented to supplement supervision by staff; and
- 6) Prepare a report of its findings, including but not necessarily limited to determinations made pursuant to above paragraph numbers 1 to 5, and any recommendations for improvement, and submit such report to the facility head and Prison Rape Elimination Act compliance manager.

Facility staff provided the auditor with secondary documentation confirming compliance with the standard. Specifically, agency form 454-E: Sexual Abuse Incident Review. The auditor reviewed the agency regulation and facility policies and procedures (454 and Form 454-E); observed agency and facility practices; reviewed data provided by the agency and facility staff; interviewed outside agencies; and interviewed inmates and staff during an on-site visit and tour of the facility. The auditor emphasized the importance of reviewing past incidents at the exit briefing during the on-site portion of the audit process for continued process improvements and staff training. Based on the listed information, the agency and facility meets the standard and complies with the standard for the relevant review period.

#### Policy, Materials, Interviews and Other Evidence Reviewed:

- Alabama Department of Corrections Administrative Regulation Number 454: Inmate Sexual Abuse and Harassment dated January 4, 2016.
- Decatur Standard Operating Procedure 454-1 dated April, 2016.
- Alabama Department of Corrections Form 454-E: Sexual Abuse Incident Review.
- Interviews with agency Prison Rape Elimination Act Coordinator, facility Compliance Manager, and facility Staff.

- Alabama Department of Corrections submitted Pre-Audit Questionnaire.

### Standard 115.87 Data collection

- Exceeds Standard (substantially exceeds requirement of standard)
- Meets Standard (substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period)
- Does Not Meet Standard (requires corrective action)

**Auditor discussion, including the evidence relied upon in making the compliance or non-compliance determination, the auditor's analysis and reasoning, and the auditor's conclusions. This discussion must also include corrective action recommendations where the facility does not meet standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.**

Auditor comments: The auditor interviewed the agency Prison Rape Elimination Act Coordinator on June 2, 2016, and she confirmed the secure process of data collection in order to assess and improve the effectiveness of the agency's sexual abuse prevention, detection, and response policies, and training. The agency and facility is completing the first year audit. The agency collects accurate, uniform data for every allegation of sexual abuse at facilities under its direct control using a standardized instrument and set of definitions. The agency aggregates the incident-based sexual abuse data at least annually. The incident-based data collected shall include, at a minimum, the data necessary to answer all questions from the most recent version of the Survey of Sexual Violence conducted by the Department of Justice. The agency maintains, reviews, and collects data as needed from all available incident-based documents, including reports, investigation files, and sexual abuse incident reviews. Upon request, the agency shall provide all such data from the previous calendar year to the United States Department of Justice no later than June 30.

The agency utilizes a computer-based program to document and track agency wide data along with maintaining a website at [www.doc.alabama.gov](http://www.doc.alabama.gov). The agency also tracks incidents at all of its facilities and maintains an annual report. The auditor reviewed the agency regulation and facility policies and procedures (454 and 302-A); observed agency and facility practices; reviewed data provided by the agency and facility staff; interviewed outside agencies; and interviewed inmate and staff during an on-site visit and tour of the facility. Based on the listed information, the agency and facility meets the standard.

Policy, Materials, Interviews and Other Evidence Reviewed:

- Alabama Department of Corrections Administrative Regulation Number 454: Inmate Sexual Abuse and Harassment dated January 4, 2016.
- Department of Justice Survey Forms.
- Alabama Department of Corrections 302-A.
- Interviews with agency Prison Rape Elimination Act Coordinator, facility Compliance Manager, and Facility Staff.
- Alabama Department of Corrections submitted Pre-Audit Questionnaire.

### Standard 115.88 Data review for corrective action

- Exceeds Standard (substantially exceeds requirement of standard)
- Meets Standard (substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period)
- Does Not Meet Standard (requires corrective action)

**Auditor discussion, including the evidence relied upon in making the compliance or non-compliance determination, the auditor's analysis and reasoning, and the auditor's conclusions. This discussion must also include corrective action recommendations where the facility does not meet standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.**

Auditor comments: Based on agency regulation and facility policy and procedure along with staff interviews, the agency reviews data collected and aggregated in order to assess and improve the effectiveness of its sexual abuse prevention, detection, and response policies, practices, and training, by:

- 1) Identifying problem areas;
- 2) Taking corrective action on an ongoing basis; and
- 3) Preparing an annual report of its findings and corrective actions for each facility, as well as the agency as a whole.

The agency is in its first year audit review and will compare the current year's data and corrective action with those from next years and shall provide an assessment of the agency's progress in addressing sexual abuse. The agency's report is reviewed by the agency leadership and makes certain reports readily available to the public through its website at [www.doc.alabama.gov](http://www.doc.alabama.gov). The agency redacts specific material from the reports when publication would present a clear and specific threat to the safety and security of a facility, but must indicate the nature of the material redacted.

The auditor was impressed with the agency website. The agency and facility is in compliance with the standard for the relevant rating period.

Policy, Materials, Interviews and Other Evidence Reviewed:

- Alabama Department of Corrections Administrative Regulation Number 454: Inmate Sexual Abuse and Harassment dated January 4, 2016.
- Department of Justice Survey Forms.
- Alabama Department of Corrections website: [www.doc.alabama.gov](http://www.doc.alabama.gov).
- Interviews with agency Prison Rape Elimination Act Coordinator, facility Compliance Manager, and Facility Staff.
- Alabama Department of Corrections submitted Pre-Audit Questionnaire.

### Standard 115.89 Data storage, publication, and destruction

- Exceeds Standard (substantially exceeds requirement of standard)
- Meets Standard (substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period)
- Does Not Meet Standard (requires corrective action)

**Auditor discussion, including the evidence relied upon in making the compliance or non-compliance determination, the auditor's analysis and reasoning, and the auditor's conclusions. This discussion must also include corrective action recommendations where the facility does not meet standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.**

Auditor comments: Based on a review of documents, agency regulation (454), facility policy, and procedure along with interviewing the agency Prison Rape Elimination Act coordinator, the agency should ensure that data is collected and securely retained. The agency makes all aggregated sexual abuse data, from facilities under its direct control, readily available to the public at least annually through its website. The auditor thoroughly reviewed the newly updated agency website, [www.doc.alabama.gov](http://www.doc.alabama.gov), and was impressed with the sections addressing the Prison Rape Elimination Act. Before making aggregated sexual abuse data publicly available, the agency removes all personal identifiers. The agency maintains sexual abuse data collected for at least 10 years after the date of the initial collection.

The agency actively maintains a website. The agency and facility is in compliance with the standard for the relevant review period.

Policy, Materials, Interviews and Other Evidence Reviewed:

- Alabama Department of Corrections Administrative Regulation Number 454: Inmate Sexual Abuse and Harassment dated January 4, 2016.
- Department of Justice Survey Forms.
- Alabama Department of Corrections website: [www.doc.alabama.gov](http://www.doc.alabama.gov).
- Interviews with agency Prison Rape Elimination Act Coordinator, facility Compliance Manager, and Facility Staff.
- Alabama Department of Corrections submitted Pre-Audit Questionnaire.

**AUDITOR CERTIFICATION**

I certify that:

- The contents of this report are accurate to the best of my knowledge.
- No conflict of interest exists with respect to my ability to conduct an audit of the agency under review, and
- I have not included in the final report any personally identifiable information (PII) about any inmate or staff member, except where the names of administrative personnel are specifically requested in the report template.

Walter Sipple

July 5, 2016

Auditor Signature

Date