

Report Sexual Abuse
Platte County Detention Facility
1125 E. 17th Street
Columbus, NE 68601

The Prevention of Sexual Assault

In the Platte County

Detention Facility

Inmate Orientation Policy

You have the right to be free from sexual abuse and sexual harassment. Sexual abuse is unwanted sexual contact with another inmate or any sexual contact with a staff member. Sexual harassment includes repeated sexual comments or gestures.

The Platte County Detention Facility does not tolerate sexual abuse or sexual harassment. All complaints of sexual abuse, sexual harassment or retaliation because of such a complaint will be investigated. Anyone who sexually abuses or harasses someone will be disciplined and prosecuted if the conduct is a crime.

About Your Safety

You have the right to be safe from sexual abuse and harassment.

-No one has the right to make you do a sexual act.

THE PLATTE COUNTY DETENTION FACILITY HAS ZERO TOLERANCE FOR SEXUAL ABUSE AND SEXUAL HARASSMENT

-You do not have to put up with sexual harassment, sexual abuse or being forced to have unwanted sexual contact with anyone.

-If you are being pushed, threatened or blackmailed into a sex act by another inmate or by staff, you should report it.

-You should also report if anyone tries to get back at you because you reported such an incident or spoke to an investigator.

What to do if you are abused: If you are sexually abused, report it immediately to staff. *Staff will protect you from the abuser and take you to medical.* Help will be provided whether or not you name your abuser, but be as clear as you can when you report the abuse. The more you tell staff, the easier it will be to help you.

Even though you may want to clean up after the abuse, it is important to go to Medical **BEFORE** you shower, wash, drink, eat, change clothing or use the bathroom.

The person or persons responsible for sexual abuse of inmates can only be disciplined or prosecuted if the abuse is reported.

Reporting

How do you report sexual abuse?

It is important to tell staff if you have been sexually abused or sexually harassed. **You can tell Jail Staff, Sheriff, Jail Administrator, Chaplain, Medical Personnel or any employee of the Platte County Sheriff's Office.** If you would like to speak confidentially with someone outside of the facility call 402-564-3229 and ask to speak to the Sheriff or leave a message for him. PREA reports can also be made using the Encartele phones in each pod. Just follow the prompts, which will allow you to leave a message that will be forwarded to the PREA Coordinator and Victims Assistance of Platte and Colfax Counties. You may submit an Inmate Grievance form. If being held solely for civil immigration purposes you may contact consular officials at 1-888-351-4024 (Community and Detainee hotline) or write U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement 500 12th St., SW Washington, D.C. 20536

If you feel that you have been a victim of sexual abuse or harassment, you should report it right away.

You can also have someone else report the abuse for you. If you think someone else is being sexually abused or harassed, you should report that too.

What happens with reports of sexual abuse? All reports of sexual abuse, harassment, retaliation for reporting sexual abuse or harassment, or retaliation for taking part in an investigation of possible sexual abuse or harassment will be investigated. Cases may also be reported to Law Enforcement. Cases that involve Platte County Detention Staff will be investigated by the Nebraska State Patrol.

Retaliation is not allowed. An inmate will not be punished for good faith reporting of sexual abuse or sexual harassment.

24-hour crisis phone line: Inmates may call the National Sexual Abuse Hotline-Rape, Abuse and Incest National Network (RAINN) 800-656-4673. This is a free call and can be made on the phones in each pod. We do not monitor or record these calls. You may also write the Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network (RAINN) at 1220 L Street, NW Suite 505 Washington, DC 20005

Things to Remember: Unwanted sex with another inmate or any sex with a staff member is sexual abuse.

- Do not believe another inmate who says he or she will protect you or take care of you in exchange for sexual favors.
- Do not take gifts or favors from others. Sexual abuse is one way people are sometimes forced to pay off a debt.
- Pay attention to uncomfortable feelings about others. If you think something is dangerous, it probably is. If you think you are not safe, tell staff.
- Do not flirt or talk to other inmates or staff about having sex. If someone asks you to do something sexual, you have the right to say "no."
- Tell a staff member if you are being harassed or threatened for sex.

If another inmate or staff sexually abuses you, report it. Platte County Detention Facility will protect you from the abuser and help will be provided whether or not you name your abuser.

This pamphlet provides a brief overview of the Platte County Jail's Zero Tolerance Policy regarding sexual abuse and sexual harassment and informs inmates who are new to the PCDF regarding reporting procedures.

Platte County Sheriff's Department will investigate all claims of sexual assault unless such claim involves Platte County Detention Facility Staff, which in that case will be investigated by the Nebraska State Patrol.