Gary M. Brizzee
Chief of Police

PRISON RAPE ELIMINATION ACT (P.R.E.A)

The Department provides guidance for complying with the Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003 (PREA) and the implementing regulation that establishes standards (PREA Rule) to prevent, detect and respond to sexual abuse, harassment and retaliation against detainees or prisoners in the Los Banos Police Department Type-1 facility (28 CFR 115.111).

It is the policy of the Department to thoroughly investigate every allegation of sexual abuse, and where warranted by evidence, proportional sanctions, up to and including criminal prosecution, is implemented.

During the intake the Department shall notify all detainees and prisoners of the zero-tolerance policy regarding sexual abuse and sexual harassment, and of at least one way to report abuse or harassment to a public or private entity that is not part of the Department and that is able to receive and immediately forward detainee or prisoner reports of sexual abuse and sexual harassment to agency officials. This allows the detainee or prisoner to remain anonymous (28 CFR 115.132; 28 CFR 115.151).

Detainees or prisoners may make reports to any staff member verbally, in writing, privately, or anonymously of any of the following (28 CFR 115.151; 15 CCR 1029): Sexual Abuse, Sexual Harassment, Retaliation by other detainees or prisoners or staff reporting sexual abuse or sexual harassment, and Staff neglect or violation of responsibilities that may have contributed to sexual abuse or sexual harassment.

There are no time limit for reporting allegations

Allegations maybe reported directly to any Community Service Officer, Police Officer, or Shift Supervisor, or by completing a grievance form. Another option is contacting the California Attorney General's Public Inquiry Unit at 1-800-952-5225.

Members of the public may report allegations of misconduct by any of the following: Letter, phone, or e-mail to this or any law enforcement agency, National Sexual Assault Hotline 1-800-656-4673, Rape Crisis Services 1-866-487-7233, Merced County Victim/Witness 209-725-3515, Valley Crisis Center 209-725-7900.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Commander Ray Reyna at (209) 827-2502 or via email at ray.reyna@losbanos.org