

ZERO TOLERANCE

Marshall County Jail has a zero-tolerance policy for sexual abuse and harassment. What does this really mean? It means that YOU have the right to be free from sexual abuse and sexual harassment by anyone at the facility, including an inmate, staff member, volunteer, or contractor. No one has the right to sexually abuse or sexually harass you.

What Is Sexual Harassment?

- Repeated and unwelcome comments or gestures of a sexual nature, including demeaning references to gender, sexually suggestive or derogatory comments about body or clothing, or obscene language or gestures.
- Repeated and unwelcome sexual advances; requests for sexual favors; or verbal comments, gestures, or actions of a derogatory or offensive sexual nature.

What Is Sexual Abuse?

- Forced or coerced sexual intercourse or sexual contact when the victim does not consent or is unable to consent or refuse. This may include the use of fear or threat of physical violence, psychological intimidation, bullying, and physical force.
- Sexual abuse also can include incidents of penetration by a foreign object.

Tips for Avoiding Sexual Abuse and Sexual Harassment

A victim is never to blame for being attacked, but these tips may help you lower your risk of sexual abuse or harassment.

- Pay attention to your surroundings.
- Always carry yourself in a confident manner.
- Do not accept gifts or favors from others. They usually come with “strings attached” or future paybacks, including sexual favors.
- Do not accept an offer from another resident to be your protector or “friend”.
- Find a staff member with whom you feel comfortable discussing your fears and concerns. Confide in him/her if you feel threatened; or enter a grievance in the kiosk.
- Be alert! Do not use contraband such as drugs or alcohol, as they will weaken your ability to be alert and make good choices.
- Be direct and firm when others ask you to do things that you do not want to do.
- Do not give mixed messages to others regarding your wishes for sexual activity.
- Choose your acquaintances wisely.

Marshall County Jail does not tolerate any form of sexual abuse or sexual harassment. The goal of this facility is the safety of the inmates. The facility will hold accountable any persons found to have committed any form of sexual harassment against another person.

Marshall County Jail offers multiple ways to report sexual abuse and sexual harassment:

- Report to any staff member.
- Call the PREA number.
- Report to the PREA Coordinator

National Sexual Abuse Hotline:
800-656-4673

Iowa Sexual Abuse Hotline: 800-284-7821

Crisis Intervention Services: 800-479-9071

Iowa Office of Ombudsman: 515-281-3592