

**TRAVIS COUNTY JUVENILE PROBATION DEPARTMENT**

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Phone: (512) 854-7000

**CORY J. BURGESS**  
Chief Juvenile Probation Officer

# 2026

## PREA Annual Report

Reference: 28 CFR 115.388: Data Review for Corrective Action

The Travis County Juvenile Probation Department (Department) maintains a zero-tolerance policy for all forms of abuse, neglect, and exploitation including sexual abuse and sexual harassment. Prevention and detection efforts include comprehensive staff screening, training, adequate supervision, resident education, and early identification of risk indicators.

Community members, family, and other third parties who suspect abuse or misconduct within any of the Department's residential facilities are encouraged to report concerns by calling **1-877-786-7263 (STOP ANE)**.

During the period of January 1 through December 31, 2025, the Gardner-Betts Juvenile Justice Center reported two allegations of voyeurism (i.e., staff-on-youth sexual abuse) that were determined to be unsubstantiated. This represents a slight increase compared to prior years, as the only other allegation in this category between 2018 and 2024 occurred in 2018 (see Chart DS-1). Moreover, there was one allegation of youth-on-youth sexual harassment reported in 2025; however, this allegation was determined to be unfounded. No other allegations of this type were reported between 2018 and 2024. Although this data reflects a slight uptick compared to previous years, there is no indication of a sustained pattern or prevalence of misconduct.

During the same period, the Jeanne Meurer Intermediate Sanctions Center (ISC) reported four incidents of alleged staff sexual misconduct. Of these, three involved allegations of staff-on-youth sexual harassment, while one involved an allegation of staff-on-youth abuse. Following investigation, all three harassment allegations were determined to be unfounded, and the single abuse allegation was classified as unsubstantiated. Although the total number of allegations remains relatively low and none were substantiated, this reflects a slight increase compared to previous years (see Chart RS-1).

Additionally, there were two reports of youth-on-youth sexual harassment, both of which were determined to be unfounded. Compared to data from 2018 through 2024, there is no indication of a significant change in the number of youth-on-youth allegations of sexual misconduct. Overall, the data does not indicate a prevalent pattern of sexual abuse within the facility.

To further ensure the safety and well-being of youth in its care, the Department will continue to:

- I. Maintain public access to PREA information via the Department's website.
- II. Prominently display third-party reporting posters in public areas, programming areas, and housing areas detailing how to report allegations directly to the Texas Juvenile Justice Department (TJJD) at 1-877-(STOP ANE) 786-7263.

- III. Make available information brochures, created by TJJD, outlining reporting methods.
- IV. Educate residents during the intake and orientation process consisting of their right to be free from sexual abuse and sexual harassment, strategies to avoid victimization, and methods for reporting abuse, neglect, and exploitation to include sexual abuse and sexual harassment.
- V. Adhere to mandated staffing ratios to ensure proper supervision.
- VI. Ensure adequate staff coverage based on population needs and review the Department Staffing Plan annually.
- VII. Conduct unannounced supervisory rounds throughout the facility.
- VIII. Require staff to announce their presence when entering housing units of the opposite gender, promoting resident privacy.
- IX. Provide annual staff training on:
  - a) Zero-tolerance policy for sexual abuse and sexual harassment;
  - b) Role in prevention, detection, responding, and reporting sexual abuse and sexual harassment;
  - c) Residents' rights and protections against retaliation;
  - d) The dynamics of sexual abuse and sexual harassment in juvenile facilities;
  - e) Dynamics of sexual abuse in juvenile settings;
  - f) Identifying and responding to signs of abuse; and
  - g) Compliance with mandatory reporting laws.
- X. Conduct criminal history and background checks on employees, volunteers, interns, and contractors.
- XI. The Department will report and investigate all allegations of abuse, neglect, and exploitation—including sexual abuse and sexual harassment. The Department will report all criminal allegations to the appropriate law enforcement agency for investigation, referring all allegations to the Texas Juvenile Justice Department (TJJD) as required, and ensure thorough administrative investigations are conducted for every allegation.

This report reflects the department's unwavering commitment to the safety and dignity of every youth entrusted to its care and aligns with federal standards under the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA).

JANUARY 1, 2025 – DECEMBER 31, 2025

(DS-1)

<b>Allegations of Sexual Abuse and Sexual Harassment Gardner-Betts Juvenile Justice Center (Detention)</b>								
<b>Substantiated Allegations/Confirmed</b>								
<b>Allegation Type</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>
Youth-on-Youth Sexual Abuse	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Youth-on-Youth Sexual Harassment	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Staff-on-Youth Sexual Abuse	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Staff-on-Youth Sexual Harassment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Unsubstantiated Allegations/Unable to Determine</b>								
<b>Allegation Type</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>
Youth-on-Youth Sexual Abuse	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Youth-on-Youth Sexual Harassment	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Staff-on-Youth Sexual Abuse	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Staff-on-Youth Sexual Harassment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Unfounded Allegations</b>								
<b>Allegation Type</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>
Youth-on-Youth Sexual Abuse	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Youth-on-Youth Sexual Harassment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Staff-on-Youth Sexual Abuse	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0
Staff-on-Youth Sexual Harassment	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0

JANUARY 1, 2025 – DECEMBER 31, 2025

(RS-1)

<b>Allegations of Sexual Abuse and Sexual Harassment Jeanne Meurer Intermediate Sanctions Center (ISC)</b>								
<b>Substantiated Allegations/Confirmed</b>								
<b>Allegation Type</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>
Youth-on-Youth Sexual Abuse	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Youth-on-Youth Sexual Harassment	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Staff-on-Youth Sexual Abuse	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Staff-on-Youth Sexual Harassment	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
<b>Unsubstantiated Allegations/Unable to Determine</b>								
<b>Allegation Type</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>
Youth-on-Youth Sexual Abuse	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Youth-on-Youth Sexual Harassment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Staff-on-Youth Sexual Abuse	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Staff-on-Youth Sexual Harassment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Unfounded Allegations</b>								
<b>Allegation Type</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>
Youth-on-Youth Sexual Abuse	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Youth-on-Youth Sexual Harassment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Staff-on-Youth Sexual Abuse	0	0	3	2	0	2	2	0
Staff-on-Youth Sexual Harassment	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	3

## Definitions

**Calendar Year:** January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup> (The report consists of the previous year’s data.)


1. **Substantiated/Confirmed Allegations:** The administrative investigation had sufficient evidence to prove the allegation(s) using the preponderance of evidence standard.
2. **Unsubstantiated Allegations/Unable to Determine:** The investigation revealed insufficient evidence to either prove or disprove the allegation(s).
3. **Unfounded:** The investigation had sufficient evidence to prove the allegations were false or not factual.
4. **Youth-on-Youth Sexual Abuse:** Any sexual contact or act of a sexual nature directed toward a youth by another youth. Sexual acts include intentional touching, either directly or through the clothing, of the genitalia, anus, groin, breast, inner thigh, or buttocks with intent to abuse, arouse, or gratify sexual desire.
5. **Youth-on-Youth Sexual Harassment:** Repeated and unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or verbal comments, gestures, or actions of a derogatory or offensive sexual nature by one youth directed toward another.
6. **Staff-on-Youth Sexual Abuse:** Any behavior or act of a sexual nature directed toward a youth by an employee, volunteer, contractor, official visitor, or other agency representative (excluding family, friends, or other visitors). Sexual relationships of a romantic nature between staff and youth are included in this definition. Consensual or nonconsensual sexual acts include intentional touching, either directly or through the clothing, of the genitalia, anus, groin, breast, inner thigh, or buttocks that is unrelated to official duties or with intent to abuse, arouse, or gratify sexual desire; or completed, attempted, threatened, or requested sexual acts; or occurrences of indecent exposure, invasion of privacy, or staff voyeurism for reasons unrelated to official duties or for sexual gratification.
7. **Staff-on-Youth Staff Sexual Harassment:** Repeated verbal comments or gestures of a sexual nature to a youth by an employee, volunteer, contractor, official visitor, or other agency representative (excludes family, friends, or other visitors). Include demeaning references to gender; sexually suggestive or derogatory comments about body or clothing; or repeated profane or obscene language or gestures.

Signed by:  
  
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4/30/2026

**Kris Johnson, PREA Coordinator**

**Date**

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5/1/2026

**Cory J. Burgess, Chief Juvenile Probation Officer**

**Date**