

## Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) Audit Report Community Confinement Facilities

Interim       Final

Date of Report    7/10/2019

### Auditor Information

Name: William Willingham.	Email: william.willingham@nakamotogroup.com
Company Name: The Nakamoto Group, Inc.	
Mailing Address: 11820 Parklawn Dr., Suite 240	City, State, Zip: Rockville, MD 20852
Telephone: 301-468-6535	Date of Facility Visit: 06/24-25/2019

### Agency Information

Name of Agency: Volunteers of America-Texas		Governing Authority or Parent Agency (If Applicable):	
Physical Address: 300 E. Midway Drive		City, State, Zip: Euless, TX 76039	
Mailing Address: 300 E. Midway Drive		City, State, Zip: Euless, TX 76039	
Telephone: 817-529-7300		Is Agency accredited by any organization? X Yes    No	
The Agency Is:	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Private for Profit	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private not for Profit
<input type="checkbox"/> Municipal	<input type="checkbox"/> County	<input type="checkbox"/> State	<input type="checkbox"/> Federal
Agency mission: A faith based nonprofit organization dedicated to helping the vulnerable reach their full potential.			
Agency Website with PREA Information: www.voatx.org			

### Agency Chief Executive Officer

Name: Angela King	Title: Chief Executive Officer
Email: aking@voatx.org	Telephone: 817-529-7300

### Agency-Wide PREA Coordinator

Name: Jenean Bray	Title: Quality Compliance Specialist
Email: jenean.bray@voatx.org	Telephone: 817-529-7300

PREA Coordinator Reports to: Erica Smith	Number of Compliance Managers who report to the PREA Coordinator: 0
--	---

### Facility Information

**Name of Facility:** Riverside Treatment Center

**Physical Address:** 4700 S. Riverside Dr, Fort Worth, TX 76119

**Mailing Address (if different than above):**

**Telephone Number:** 817-534-3432

**The Facility Is:**       Military                       Private for Profit                       Private not for Profit

Municipal                       County                       State                       Federal

**Facility Type:**

<input type="checkbox"/> Community treatment center	<input type="checkbox"/> Halfway house	<input type="checkbox"/> Restitution center
<input type="checkbox"/> Mental health facility	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alcohol or drug rehabilitation center	
Other community correctional facility		

**Facility Mission:** A faith-based, nonprofit organization dedicated to helping the vulnerable reach their full potential.

**Facility Website with PREA Information:** www.voatx.org

**Have there been any internal or external audits of and/or accreditations by any other organization?**  
 Yes     No

### Director

**Name:** Sylvie Wagnon                      **Title:** Facility Director

**Email:** swagnon@voatx.org                      **Telephone:** 817-534-3432

### Facility PREA Compliance Manager

**Name:** Sylvie Wagnon                      **Title:** Facility Director

**Email:** swagnon@voatx.org                      **Telephone:** 817-534-3432

### Facility Health Service Administrator

**Name:** N/A                      **Title:** N/A

**Email:** N/A                      **Telephone:** N/A

### Facility Characteristics

**Designated Facility Capacity:** 100                      **Current Population of Facility:** 88

**Number of residents admitted to facility during the past 12 months**                      631

Number of residents admitted to facility during the past 12 months who were transferred from a different community confinement facility:		0
Number of residents admitted to facility during the past 12 months whose length of stay in the facility was for 30 days or more:		587
Number of residents admitted to facility during the past 12 months whose length of stay in the facility was for 72 hours or more:		629
Number of residents on date of audit who were admitted to facility prior to August 20, 2012:		0
Age Range of Population: 19-73	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adults	<input type="checkbox"/> Juveniles
		<input type="checkbox"/> Youthful residents
Average length of stay or time under supervision:		60 days
Facility Security Level:		Community
Resident Custody Levels:		Community
Number of staff currently employed by the facility who may have contact with residents:		24
Number of staff hired by the facility during the past 12 months who may have contact with residents:		12
Number of contracts in the past 12 months for services with contractors who may have contact with residents:		0
<b>Physical Plant</b>		
Number of Buildings: 1	Number of Single Cell Housing Units: 0	
Number of Multiple Occupancy Cell Housing Units:	0	
Number of Open Bay/Dorm Housing Units:	13	
Description of any video or electronic monitoring technology (including any relevant information about where cameras are placed, where the control room is, retention of video, etc.): The facility employs a video camera system for video surveillance. Cameras are placed strategically throughout the institution to ensure the safety and security of both clients and staff.		
<b>Medical</b>		
Type of Medical Facility: no services provided	N/A	
Forensic sexual assault medical exams are conducted at:	John Peter Smith Hospital	
<b>Other</b>		
Number of volunteers and individual contractors, who may have contact with residents, currently authorized to enter the facility:	0	
Number of investigators the agency currently employs to investigate allegations of sexual abuse:	0	

# Audit Findings

## Audit Narrative

*The auditor's description of the audit methodology should include a detailed description of the following processes during the pre-onsite audit, onsite audit, and post-audit phases: documents and files reviewed, discussions and types of interviews conducted, number of days spent on-site, observations made during the site-review, and a detailed description of any follow-up work conducted during the post-audit phase. The narrative should describe the techniques the auditor used to sample documentation and select interviewees, and the auditor's process for the site review.*

### PRE-AUDIT PREPARATION

Prior to the on-site visit, the Agency PREA Coordinator conducted an on-site "pre-audit" of the facility to assess and ensure PREA compliance. That representative had the facility forward to the auditor all policy and supporting documentation, including the completed Pre-Audit Questionnaire, for examination prior to the on-site visit. The policy and documentation was in the form of Volunteers of America-Texas (VOA) policy and other forms/memos, etc. All forwarded documentation and the results of the "pre-audit" were discussed with the auditor prior to the beginning of the audit.

### ENTRANCE BRIEFING AND TOUR-FIRST DAY

The on-site PREA (Prison Rape Elimination Act) audit of the Riverside Treatment Center (RTC), Ft. Worth, TX, was conducted from June 24-25, 2019. The audit was completed by The Nakamoto Group, Inc. certified auditor William Willingham. This is the second PREA audit for this facility. An entrance meeting was held the first day of the audit to discuss any concerns regarding the audit process and to finalize the facility tour and interview schedules. The following persons were in attendance: the Facility Director (also the PREA Compliance Manager) and the PREA Coordinator. The RTC is a community level security facility and is considered a drug treatment and work release program for adult males and females. Participants in this program are referred to as "clients". After the meeting, a comprehensive tour of the RTC was completed. The tour included the intake processing area, all housing units, Recreation, Food Service, facility support areas, the Visiting Room and programming areas. The auditor observed the facility configuration, location of cameras, staff supervision of clients, housing configurations, including shower/toilet areas, security monitoring, client entrance and search procedures and client program participation. During the tour, it was noted that there was sufficient staffing, security mirrors and surveillance cameras to ensure a safe environment for clients and staff. Clients were able to shower, dress and use the toilet facilities without exposing themselves to employees of the opposite gender. Informal and formal conversations with employees and clients regarding the PREA standards were conducted. Postings regarding PREA violation reporting and the Agency's zero tolerance policy for sexual abuse and sexual harassment were prominently displayed in all housing units, meeting areas and throughout the facility. Audit notice postings with the PREA auditors' contact information were also located in the same areas. These notices were posted on April

18, 2019. There were no letters mailed to the auditor as a result of the audit postings in the housing units.

#### STAFF-CLIENT INTERVIEWS-SECOND DAY

A total of six randomly selected correctional staff (referred to as security monitors) were interviewed. The RTC only employs a total of twelve full-time correctional staff (staff members available in this category were all interviewed, including those working the second and third shifts). All were aware of the agency's zero tolerance policy and of their responsibilities to protect clients from sexual abuse/sexual harassment. Additionally, they could explain their understanding of their new employee, annual PREA training, e-training and their duties as first responders as part of a coordinated response. The Agency Director (designee) and Agency PREA Coordinator were also interviewed. The VOA does not contract with another entity for the incarceration of VOA clients. All specialized staff members were also interviewed, to include the Facility Director, PREA Coordinator, the Vice President of Human Resources and intake staff. The facility has no medical staff, no investigators, no contractors or a protective custody unit. One volunteer, a Sexual Abuse Nurse Examiner (SANE) from a local hospital and a community victim advocate were also interviewed. All interviewed staff and volunteers demonstrated an understanding of the PREA and their responsibilities under this program, relative to their position in or with the organization and employment status. No staff or volunteers refused to be interviewed.

A total of twenty-three clients were selected to be interviewed. The interviewed clients were of various ages, nationalities and ethnic backgrounds. No clients self-identified as being transgender or intersex. One client claimed to be a victim of sexual abuse (at intake), one self-identified as being gay and one self-identified as being bisexual. The facility had no clients who were limited English proficient. Two disabled clients (one with cognitive disabilities and one with physical disabilities) were interviewed. No clients interviewed claimed prior sexual aggression during the intake screening process and none requested therapy. The rest of the interviewed clients were randomly selected. Overall, all clients interviewed demonstrated a good understanding of the PREA compliance program, the intake screening process, the prevention and protection process and reporting mechanisms (all education requirements under the PREA were met). The clients further stated that staff members were responsive to their needs, female and male staff announced their presence when entering the housing areas and that they felt safe at the facility. No clients refused to be interviewed.

#### INVESTIGATIONS

There were no PREA related allegations within the last year; therefore, no investigations. The facility does not conduct investigations. Criminal investigations would be conducted by the Ft. Worth Police Department and administrative investigations by the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, Wise County Probation or Federal Probation investigators.

## Facility Characteristics

*The auditor's description of the audited facility should include details about the facility type, demographics and size of the resident, resident or detainee population, numbers and type of staff positions, configuration and layout of the facility, numbers of housing units, description of housing units including any special housing units, a description of programs and services, including food service and recreation. The auditor should describe how these details are relevant to PREA implementation and compliance.*

The Riverside Treatment Center, operated by the VOA, is a single-level structure which began serving clients in 1995. Previously, the building was a church school. The facility is located in a residential area of Ft. Worth, Texas. The program provides housing and around-the-clock supervision for clients demonstrating an inability or unwillingness to function under less restrictive supervision. Clients can be placed in the RTC as a condition of probation (Wise County or Federal) or in transition from the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ). Clients are expected to secure employment in the local community. Clients participate in programming on-site to address substance abuse or mental health issues. Additional services include individual assessment programs, employment assistance and housing placement assistance. Clients receive these services at the facility or in the community. Meals are cooked at the facility. Male and female clients have very little contact with each other at the facility. Living areas include male and female separate wings with multiple occupancy dormitory-like rooms with shared showers and bathrooms. There are recreational activities at the facility and religious programs are only available in the community. The facility also has visiting and leisure activity areas.

## Summary of Audit Findings

*The summary should include the number of standards exceeded, number of standards met, and number of standards not met, **along with a list of each of the standards in each category**. If relevant, provide a summarized description of the corrective action plan, including deficiencies observed, recommendations made, actions taken by the agency, relevant timelines, and methods used by the auditor to reassess compliance.*

**Auditor Note:** No standard should be found to be "Not Applicable" or "NA". A compliance determination must be made for each standard.

When the on-site audit was completed, another meeting was held with the PREA Coordinator, and Facility Director to discuss the audit findings. The facility was found to be fully compliant to the PREA. Thirty-five standards were found to be compliant and four were determined to be not-applicable. The not-applicable standards were 115.212, 115.234, 115.235 and 115.271. The auditor had been provided with extensive and lengthy files prior to and during the audit for review to support a conclusion of compliance with the PREA. All interviews and observations also supported compliance. The facility employees were found to be extremely courteous, cooperative and professional. Staff morale appeared to be very good and the observed staff/client relationships were determined to be excellent. All areas of the facility were observed to be clean and reasonably, well maintained, especially considering the age of the RTC. At the conclusion of the audit, the auditor thanked the staff for their hard work and dedication to the PREA audit process.

**Number of Standards Exceeded:** 0

**Number of Standards Met:** 40

- §115.211; §115.212; §115.213; §115.215; §115.216; §115.217; §115.218
- §115.221; §115.222
- §115.231; §115.232; §115.233; §115.234; §115.235
- §115.241; §115.242
- §115.251; §115.252; §115.253
- §115.261; §115.262; §115.263; §115.264; §115.265; §115.266; §115.267
- §115.271; §115.272; §115.273; §115.276; §115.277; §115.278
- §115.281; §115.282; §115.283; §115.286; §115.287; §115.288; §115.289
- §115.401; §115.403

**Number of Standards Not Met:** 0

**Summary of Corrective Action (if any)**

None

**PREVENTION PLANNING**

**Standard 115.211: Zero tolerance of sexual abuse and sexual harassment; PREA coordinator**

**All Yes/No Questions Must Be Answered by The Auditor to Complete the Report**

**115.211 (a)**

- Does the agency have a written Policy mandating zero tolerance toward all forms of sexual abuse and sexual harassment?  Yes  No
- Does the written Policy outline the agency's approach to preventing, detecting, and responding to sexual abuse and sexual harassment?  Yes  No

**115.211 (b)**

- Has the agency employed or designated an agency-wide PREA Coordinator?  Yes  No
- Is the PREA Coordinator position in the upper-level of the agency hierarchy?  Yes  No
- Does the PREA Coordinator have sufficient time and authority to develop, implement, and

oversee agency efforts to comply with the PREA standards in all of its facilities?

Yes  No

### Auditor Overall Compliance Determination

- Exceeds Standard** (*Substantially exceeds requirement of standards*)
- Meets Standard** (*Substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period*)
- Does Not Meet Standard** (*Requires Corrective Action*)

### Instructions for Overall Compliance Determination Narrative

*The narrative below must include a comprehensive discussion of all 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 the standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.*

VOA policy 1200:23A addresses the requirements identified in this standard. The Agency has appointed a Quality Compliance Specialist as PREA Coordinator, who reports to the Chief Programs Officer. The Agency's zero tolerance against sexual abuse is clearly established and the policy also outlines the agency's approach to preventing, detecting and responding to sexual abuse and sexual harassment allegations. Zero tolerance posters are displayed throughout the facility. Both facility staff and clients are provided with a variety of opportunities to become aware of the PREA. A review of training records and staff interviews confirmed that personnel who have regular or frequent contact with clients receive PREA related training during new employee training, through e-learning programs and annually at on-site training. The PREA Coordinator and PREA Compliance Manager were interviewed and advised that they have sufficient time and authority to coordinate efforts to comply with PREA standards. Compliance to this standard was determined through staff and client interviews, the auditor's observation of posters and notifications and policy review. All written documents are available in English and Spanish. Interpretive services are available for clients who do not speak or read English, Spanish or other languages. All interviews with staff and clients confirmed that each was aware of the zero-tolerance policy towards all forms of sexual abuse/sexual harassment. The commitment to the enforcement and implementation of the PREA meets the required compliance with this standard.

## Standard 115.212: Contracting with other entities for the confinement of residents

### All Yes/No Questions Must Be Answered by the Auditor to Complete the Report

#### 115.212 (a)

- If this agency is public and it contracts for the confinement of its residents with private agencies

or other entities including other government agencies, has the agency included the entity's obligation to comply with the PREA standards in any new contract or contract renewal signed on or after August 20, 2012? (N/A if the agency does not contract with private agencies or other entities for the confinement of residents.)  Yes  No  NA

#### 115.212 (b)

- Does any new contract or contract renewal signed on or after August 20, 2012 provide for agency contract monitoring to ensure that the contractor is complying with the PREA standards? (N/A if the agency does not contract with private agencies or other entities for the confinement of residents OR the response to 115.212(a)-1 is "NO".)  Yes  No  NA

#### 115.212 (c)

- If the agency has entered into a contract with an entity that fails to comply with the PREA standards, did the agency do so only in emergency circumstances after making all reasonable attempts to find a PREA compliant private agency or other entity to confine residents? (N/A if the agency has not entered into a contract with an entity that fails to comply with the PREA standards.)  Yes  No  NA
- In such a case, does the agency document its unsuccessful attempts to find an entity in compliance with the standards? (N/A if the agency has not entered into a contract with an entity that fails to comply with the PREA standards.)  Yes  No  NA

#### Auditor Overall Compliance Determination

- Exceeds Standard** (*Substantially exceeds requirement of standards*)
- Meets Standard** (*Substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period*)
- Does Not Meet Standard** (*Requires Corrective Action*)

#### Instructions for Overall Compliance Determination Narrative

*The narrative below must include a comprehensive discussion of all 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 the standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.*

The Agency and facility do not contract for the confinement of clients to another entity.

#### Standard 115.213: Supervision and monitoring

#### All Yes/No Questions Must Be Answered by the Auditor to Complete the Report

### 115.213 (a)

- Does the agency develop for each facility a staffing plan that provides for adequate levels of staffing and, where applicable, video monitoring, to protect residents against sexual abuse?  
 Yes  No
- Does the agency document for each facility a staffing plan that provides for adequate levels of staffing and, where applicable, video monitoring, to protect residents against sexual abuse?  
 Yes  No
- Does the agency ensure that each facility's staffing plan takes into consideration the physical layout of each facility in calculating adequate staffing levels and determining the need for video monitoring?  Yes  No
- Does the agency ensure that each facility's staffing plan takes into consideration the composition of the resident population in calculating adequate staffing levels and determining the need for video monitoring?  Yes  No
- Does the agency ensure that each facility's staffing plan takes into consideration the prevalence of substantiated and unsubstantiated incidents of sexual abuse in calculating adequate staffing levels and determining the need for video monitoring?  Yes  No
- Does the agency ensure that each facility's staffing plan takes into consideration any other relevant factors in calculating adequate staffing levels and determining the need for video monitoring?  Yes  No

### 115.213 (b)

- In circumstances where the staffing plan is not complied with, does the facility document and justify all deviations from the plan? (N/A if no deviations from staffing plan.)  
 Yes  No  NA

### 115.213 (c)

- In the past 12 months, has the facility assessed, determined, and documented whether adjustments are needed to the staffing plan established pursuant to paragraph (a) of this section?  Yes  No
- In the past 12 months, has the facility assessed, determined, and documented whether adjustments are needed to prevailing staffing patterns?  Yes  No
- In the past 12 months, has the facility assessed, determined, and documented whether adjustments are needed to the facility's deployment of video monitoring systems and other monitoring technologies?  Yes  No

- In the past 12 months, has the facility assessed, determined, and documented whether adjustments are needed to the resources the facility has available to commit to ensure adequate staffing levels?  Yes  No

### Auditor Overall Compliance Determination

- Exceeds Standard** (*Substantially exceeds requirement of standards*)
- Meets Standard** (*Substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period*)
- Does Not Meet Standard** (*Requires Corrective Action*)

### Instructions for Overall Compliance Determination Narrative

*The narrative below must include a comprehensive discussion of all 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 the standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.*

VOA policy 100:16 addresses the requirements of the standard. The Agency's administration, including the PREA Coordinator, reviews the staffing plans on an annual basis and would make adjustments based on the requirements of this standard. Interviews with the Facility Director and the PREA Coordinator revealed compliance with the PREA is a top priority and other safety and security issues are always a primary focus when they consider and review the staffing plan. The auditor reviewed the facility staffing plan and it was determined to be acceptable. The facility has been provided with all necessary resources to support the programs and procedures to ensure compliance with PREA standards. The audit included an examination of all video monitoring systems, design of the facility, potential “blind spots”, client access to telephones, documentation (staffing rosters) and staff interviews. There was sufficient staffing deployment and observation cameras to ensure a safe environment for clients and staff. The review of supervisor unannounced PREA rounds documentation confirmed that intermediate-level or higher-level supervisors conduct and document such visits throughout the institution. Staff are prohibited from alerting other employees regarding unannounced rounds. Interviews with security monitors also confirmed that random, unannounced rounds are conducted by management staff.

## Standard 115.215: Limits to cross-gender viewing and searches

### All Yes/No Questions Must Be Answered by the Auditor to Complete the Report

#### 115.215 (a)

- Does the facility always refrain from conducting any cross-gender strip or cross-gender visual body cavity searches, except in exigent circumstances or by medical practitioners?  
 Yes  No

#### 115.215 (b)

- Does the facility always refrain from conducting cross-gender pat-down searches of female residents, except in exigent circumstances? (N/A if less than 50 residents)  
 Yes  No  NA
- Does the facility always refrain from restricting female residents' access to regularly available programming or other outside opportunities in order to comply with this provision? (N/A if less than 50 residents)  Yes  No  NA

#### 115.215 (c)

- Does the facility document all cross-gender strip searches and cross-gender visual body cavity searches?  Yes  No
- Does the facility document all cross-gender pat-down searches of female residents?  
 Yes  No

#### 115.215 (d)

- Does the facility implement policies and procedures that enable residents to shower, perform bodily functions, and change clothing without nonmedical staff of the opposite gender viewing their breasts, buttocks, or genitalia, except in exigent circumstances or when such viewing is incidental to routine cell checks?  Yes  No
- Does the facility require staff of the opposite gender to announce their presence when entering an area where residents are likely to be showering, performing bodily functions, or changing clothing?  Yes  No

#### 115.215 (e)

- Does the facility always refrain from searching or physically examining transgender or intersex residents for the sole purpose of determining the resident's genital status?  Yes  No
- If a resident's genital status is unknown, does the facility determine genital status during conversations with the resident, by reviewing medical records, or, if necessary, by learning that information as part of a broader medical examination conducted in private by a medical practitioner?  
 Yes  No

#### 115.215 (f)

- Does the facility/agency train security staff in how to conduct cross-gender pat down searches in a professional and respectful manner, and in the least intrusive manner possible, consistent with security needs?  Yes  No
- Does the facility/agency train security staff in how to conduct searches of transgender and intersex residents in a professional and respectful manner, and in the least intrusive manner possible, consistent with security needs?  Yes  No

### Auditor Overall Compliance Determination

- Exceeds Standard** (*Substantially exceeds requirement of standards*)
- Meets Standard** (*Substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period*)
- Does Not Meet Standard** (*Requires Corrective Action*)

### Instructions for Overall Compliance Determination Narrative

*The narrative below must include a comprehensive discussion of all 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 the standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.*

VOA policy 1200:23A addresses the requirements of the standard. The RTC has a rated capacity exceeding 50 clients. The institution does not permit cross-gender strip searches or cross-gender visual body cavity searches under any circumstances. Staff members are trained to conduct all searches in a professional manner, as confirmed by the auditor's observations of the search procedures and client interviews). Clients, security monitors and administrative staff stated clients are allowed to shower, dress and use the toilet privately without being viewed by the opposite gender. Clients and staff reported that staff of the opposite gender always knock on room doors and announce their presence before entering the housing areas. This was observed by the auditor during the facility tour. Staff members were aware of the policy prohibiting the search of transgender or intersex residents to only determine their genital status. Compliance with this standard was determined through staff and client interviews, policy review, auditor observations and a review of the staff training curriculum.

## Standard 115.216: Residents with disabilities and residents who are limited English proficient

### All Yes/No Questions Must Be Answered by the Auditor to Complete the Report

#### 115.216 (a)

- Does the agency take appropriate steps to ensure that residents 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, including: Residents who are deaf or hard of hearing?  Yes  No

- Does the agency take appropriate steps to ensure that residents 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, including: Residents who are blind or have low vision?  Yes  No
- Does the agency take appropriate steps to ensure that residents 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, including: Residents who have intellectual disabilities?  Yes  No
- Does the agency take appropriate steps to ensure that residents 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, including: Residents who have psychiatric disabilities?  Yes  No
- Does the agency take appropriate steps to ensure that residents 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, including: Residents who have speech disabilities?  Yes  No
- Does the agency take appropriate steps to ensure that residents 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, including: Other? (if "other," please explain in overall determination notes.)  Yes  No
- Do such steps include, when necessary, ensuring effective communication with residents who are deaf or hard of hearing?  Yes  No
- Do such steps include, when necessary, providing access to interpreters who can interpret effectively, accurately, and impartially, both receptively and expressively, using any necessary specialized vocabulary?  Yes  No
- Does the agency ensure that written materials are provided in formats or through methods that ensure effective communication with residents with disabilities including residents who: Have intellectual disabilities?  Yes  No
- Does the agency ensure that written materials are provided in formats or through methods that ensure effective communication with residents with disabilities including residents who: Have limited reading skills?  Yes  No
- Does the agency ensure that written materials are provided in formats or through methods that ensure effective communication with residents with disabilities including residents who: Are blind or have low vision?  Yes  No

### 115.216 (b)

- Does the agency take 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 residents who are limited English proficient?  Yes  No
- Do these steps include providing interpreters who can interpret effectively, accurately, and impartially, both receptively and expressively, using any necessary specialized vocabulary?  Yes  No

### 115.216 (c)

- Does the agency always refrain from relying on resident interpreters, resident readers, or other types of resident assistants except in limited circumstances where an extended delay in obtaining an effective interpreter could compromise the resident's safety, the performance of first-response duties under §115.264, or the investigation of the resident's allegations?  Yes  No

### Auditor Overall Compliance Determination

- Exceeds Standard** (*Substantially exceeds requirement of standards*)
- Meets Standard** (*Substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period*)
- Does Not Meet Standard** (*Requires Corrective Action*)

### Instructions for Overall Compliance Determination Narrative

*The narrative below must include a comprehensive discussion of all 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 the standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.*

VOA policy 1200:23A addresses the requirements of the standard. The facility would take appropriate steps to ensure clients with all types of disabilities and with limited English proficiency have an opportunity to participate in and benefit from the facility's efforts to prevent, detect and respond to sexual abuse and sexual harassment. PREA handouts and zero tolerance postings are in English and Spanish. The auditor reviewed all mentioned documents. Interviewed staff members were aware that, under no circumstances, is a client interpreter or assistant to be used in situations involving clients making allegations of sexual abuse or sexual harassment. There were no clients with limited English speaking proficiency housed at the facility during the audit. The interviewed disabled clients confirmed they were instructed as to all provisions of PREA compliance at the RTC. The facility has access to translation services

through a commercial language line, if needed. Compliance with this standard was determined through staff and client interviews, auditor observations and policy review.

## Standard 115.217: Hiring and promotion decisions

### All Yes/No Questions Must Be Answered by the Auditor to Complete the Report

#### 115.217 (a)

- Does the agency prohibit the hiring or promotion of anyone who may have contact with residents who: Has engaged in sexual abuse in a prison, jail, lockup, community confinement facility, juvenile facility, or other institution (as defined in 42 U.S.C. 1997)?  Yes  No
- Does the agency prohibit the hiring or promotion of anyone who may have contact with residents who: 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?  Yes  No
- Does the agency prohibit the hiring or promotion of anyone who may have contact with residents who: Has been civilly or administratively adjudicated to have engaged in the activity described in the question immediately above?  Yes  No
- Does the agency prohibit the enlistment of services of any contractor who may have contact with residents who: Has engaged in sexual abuse in a prison, jail, lockup, community confinement facility, juvenile facility, or other institution (as defined in 42 U.S.C. 1997)?  Yes  No
- Does the agency prohibit the enlistment of services of any contractor who may have contact with residents who: 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?  Yes  No
- Does the agency prohibit the enlistment of services of any contractor who may have contact with residents who: Has been civilly or administratively adjudicated to have engaged in the activity described in the question immediately above?  Yes  No

#### 115.217 (b)

- Does the agency consider 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 residents?  Yes  No

#### 115.217 (c)

- Before hiring new employees, who may have contact with residents, does the agency: Perform a criminal background records check?  Yes  No

- Before hiring new employees, who may have contact with residents, does the agency: Consistent with Federal, State, and local law, makes its best efforts to contact all prior institutional employers for information on substantiated allegations of sexual abuse or any resignation during a pending investigation of an allegation of sexual abuse?  Yes  No

#### 115.217 (d)

- Does the agency perform a criminal background records check before enlisting the services of any contractor who may have contact with residents?  Yes  No

#### 115.217 (e)

- Does the agency either conduct criminal background records checks at least every five years of current employees and contractors who may have contact with residents or have in place a system for otherwise capturing such information for current employees?  Yes  No

#### 115.217 (f)

- Does the agency ask all applicants and employees who may have contact with residents directly about previous misconduct described in paragraph (a) of this section in written applications or interviews for hiring or promotions?  Yes  No
- Does the agency ask all applicants and employees who may have contact with residents directly about previous misconduct described in paragraph (a) of this section in any interviews or written self-evaluations conducted as part of reviews of current employees?  Yes  No
- Does the agency impose upon employees a continuing affirmative duty to disclose any such misconduct?  Yes  No

#### 115.217 (g)

- Does the agency consider material omissions regarding such misconduct, or the provision of materially false information, grounds for termination?  Yes  No

#### 115.217 (h)

- Unless prohibited by law, does the agency provide information on substantiated allegations of sexual abuse or sexual harassment involving a former employee upon receiving a request from an institutional employer for whom such employee has applied to work? (N/A if providing information on substantiated allegations of sexual abuse or sexual harassment involving a former employee is prohibited by law.)  Yes  No  NA

#### Auditor Overall Compliance Determination

- Exceeds Standard** (*Substantially exceeds requirement of standards*)

- Meets Standard** (*Substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period*)
- Does Not Meet Standard** (*Requires Corrective Action*)

### Instructions for Overall Compliance Determination Narrative

*The narrative below must include a comprehensive discussion of all 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 the standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.*

The VOA Employee Handbook addresses the requirements of the standard. The Vice President of Human Resources was interviewed and stated that all components of this standard have been met (reviewed with the auditor during the interview). All employees have had their background checks completed through the National Crime Information Center. Staff promotions require a background check before the promotion is approved. A tracking system is in place to ensure that updated background checks are conducted annually during a performance review process. Policy clearly states the submission of false information by any applicant is grounds for termination. The Human Resource VP would contact all prior employers of prospective employees for information on substantiated allegations of sexual abuse or resignations which occurred during a pending or confirmed investigation of sexual abuse. The Agency also provides information on substantiated allegations of sexual abuse/sexual harassment on a former employee, when requested from an employer for whom such employee has applied to work, unless prohibited by law. Appropriate licensing and certifying agencies would be notified, when professional staff members are terminated for substantiated allegations of sexual abuse/sexual harassment. Documentation on file supports a finding that the facility is in compliance with this standard.

### Standard 115.218: Upgrades to facilities and technologies

#### All Yes/No Questions Must Be Answered by the Auditor to Complete the Report

##### 115.218 (a)

- If the agency designed or acquired any new facility or planned any substantial expansion or modification of existing facilities, did the agency consider the effect of the design, acquisition, expansion, or modification upon the agency's ability to protect residents from sexual abuse? (N/A if agency/facility has not acquired a new facility or made a substantial expansion to existing facilities since August 20, 2012, or since the last PREA audit, whichever is later.)  
 Yes  No  NA

##### 115.218 (b)

- If the agency installed or updated a video monitoring system, electronic surveillance system, or other monitoring technology, did the agency consider how such technology may enhance the

agency's ability to protect residents from sexual abuse? (N/A if agency/facility has not installed or updated a video monitoring system, electronic surveillance system, or other monitoring technology since August 20, 2012, or since the last PREA audit, whichever is later.)

Yes  No  NA

### Auditor Overall Compliance Determination

- Exceeds Standard** (*Substantially exceeds requirement of standards*)
- Meets Standard** (*Substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period*)
- Does Not Meet Standard** (*Requires Corrective Action*)

### Instructions for Overall Compliance Determination Narrative

*The narrative below must include a comprehensive discussion of all 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 the standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.*

When installing or updating the video monitoring system, the RTC personnel consider how such changes may enhance the facility's ability to protect clients from sexual abuse. The facility staff indicated that there have been some additional cameras added and changes to existing monitoring programs have also been completed. However, since August 20, 2012, there have been no substantial expansions/modifications to the facility.

## RESPONSIVE PLANNING

### Standard 115.221: Evidence protocol and forensic medical examinations

All Yes/No Questions Must Be Answered by the Auditor to Complete the Report

#### 115.221 (a)

- If the agency is responsible for investigating allegations of sexual abuse, does the agency follow a uniform evidence protocol that maximizes the potential for obtaining usable physical evidence for administrative proceedings and criminal prosecutions? (N/A if the agency/facility is not responsible for conducting any form of criminal OR administrative sexual abuse investigations.)  
 Yes  No  NA

#### 115.221 (b)

- Is this protocol developmentally appropriate for youth where applicable? (N/A if the agency/facility is not responsible for conducting any form of criminal OR administrative sexual abuse investigations.)  Yes  No  NA

- Is this protocol, as appropriate, adapted from or otherwise based on the most recent edition of the U.S. Department of Justice's Office on Violence Against Women publication, "A National Protocol for Sexual Assault Medical Forensic Examinations, Adults/Adolescents," or similarly comprehensive and authoritative protocols developed after 2011? (N/A if the agency/facility is not responsible for conducting any form of criminal OR administrative sexual abuse investigations.)  Yes  No  NA

#### 115.221 (c)

- Does the agency offer all residents who experience sexual abuse access to forensic medical examinations, whether on-site or at an outside facility, without financial cost, where evidentiarily or medically appropriate?  Yes  No
- Are such examinations performed by Sexual Assault Forensic Examiners (SAFEs) or Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANEs) where possible?  Yes  No
- If SAFEs or SANEs cannot be made available, is the examination performed by other qualified medical practitioners (they must have been specifically trained to conduct sexual assault forensic exams)?  Yes  No
- Has the agency documented its efforts to provide SAFEs or SANEs?  Yes  No

#### 115.221 (d)

- Does the agency attempt to make available to the victim a victim advocate from a rape crisis center?  Yes  No
- If a rape crisis center is not available to provide victim advocate services, does the agency make available to provide these services a qualified staff member from a community-based organization, or a qualified agency staff member?  Yes  No
- Has the agency documented its efforts to secure services from rape crisis centers?  Yes  No

#### 115.221 (e)

- As requested by the victim, does the victim advocate, qualified agency staff member, or qualified community-based organization staff member accompany and support the victim through the forensic medical examination process and investigatory interviews?  Yes  No
- As requested by the victim, does this person provide emotional support, crisis intervention, information, and referrals?  Yes  No

#### 115.221 (f)

- If the agency itself is not responsible for investigating allegations of sexual abuse, has the agency requested that the investigating entity follow the requirements of paragraphs (a) through (e) of this section? (N/A if the agency/facility is responsible for conducting criminal AND administrative sexual abuse investigations.)  Yes  No  NA

#### 115.221 (g)

- Auditor is not required to audit this provision.

#### 115.221 (h)

- If the agency uses a qualified agency staff member or a qualified community-based staff member for the purposes of this section, has the individual been screened for appropriateness to serve in this role and received education concerning sexual assault and forensic examination issues in general? (Check N/A if agency attempts to make a victim advocate from a rape crisis center available to victims per 115.221(d) above.)  Yes  No  NA

#### Auditor Overall Compliance Determination

- Exceeds Standard** (*Substantially exceeds requirement of standards*)
- Meets Standard** (*Substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period*)
- Does Not Meet Standard** (*Requires Corrective Action*)

#### Instructions for Overall Compliance Determination Narrative

*The narrative below must include a comprehensive discussion of all 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 the standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.*

VOA policy 1200:23A and a Memorandum of Understanding address the requirements of the standard. The facility has no medical staff that provides services. A staff nurse only screens new clients for medical issues. Facility staff members were interviewed concerning this standard and all were knowledgeable of procedures to secure and obtain usable physical evidence when sexual abuse is alleged. Staff members were aware of who was responsible for conducting PREA related investigations. The local police department may be involved, as well as TDCJ and probation staff, in conducting investigations. Clients are to be transported to a local hospital for forensic medical examinations and the facility has an agreement with the local hospital for the provision of these services). Policy requires that forensic medical examinations are to be performed without financial cost to the client. Policy also requires that a victim advocate be made available to client victims of sexual abuse to provide support through the forensic medical examination process, therapy and investigatory interviews. The facility has a Memorandum of Understanding with the victim advocacy program covering the RTC and the victim advocate was interviewed by the auditor. There were no forensic medical

examinations conducted during the previous 12 months. Compliance to this standard was determined through interviews with staff, a victim advocate, a hospital nursing supervisor and policy review.

## Standard 115.222: Policies to ensure referrals of allegations for investigations

### All Yes/No Questions Must Be Answered by the Auditor to Complete the Report

#### 115.222 (a)

- Does the agency ensure an administrative or criminal investigation is completed for all allegations of sexual abuse?  Yes  No
- Does the agency ensure an administrative or criminal investigation is completed for all allegations of sexual harassment?  Yes  No

#### 115.222 (b)

- Does the agency have a Policy and practice in place to ensure that allegations of sexual abuse or sexual harassment are referred for investigation to an agency with the legal authority to conduct criminal investigations, unless the allegation does not involve potentially criminal behavior?  Yes  No
- Has the agency published such Policy on its website or, if it does not have one, made the Policy available through other means?  Yes  No
- Does the agency document all such referrals?  Yes  No

#### 115.222 (c)

- If a separate entity is responsible for conducting criminal investigations, does such publication describe the responsibilities of both the agency and the investigating entity? [N/A if the agency/facility is responsible for conducting criminal investigations. See 115.221(a).]  
 Yes  No  NA

#### 115.222 (d)

- Auditor is not required to audit this provision.

#### 115.222 (e)

- Auditor is not required to audit this provision.

### Auditor Overall Compliance Determination

**Exceeds Standard** (*Substantially exceeds requirement of standards*)

- Meets Standard** (*Substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period*)
- Does Not Meet Standard** (*Requires Corrective Action*)

**Instructions for Overall Compliance Determination Narrative**

*The narrative below must include a comprehensive discussion of all 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 the standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.*

VOA policy 1200:23A addresses the requirements of the standard. Policy requires administrative or criminal investigations to be completed on all allegations of sexual abuse/sexual harassment. Administrative investigations would be assigned for completion to TDCJ or Wise County/Federal Probation staff. Representatives from these agencies were not available to be interviewed. The Ft. Worth Police Department would conduct criminal investigations for the facility. All investigators have been trained to conduct investigations in a residential correctional institution. There were no allegations of sexual abuse investigated during the previous 12 months. Compliance with this standard was determined through RTC staff interviews and policy review.

**TRAINING AND EDUCATION**

**Standard 115.231: Employee training**

**All Yes/No Questions Must Be Answered by the Auditor to Complete the Report**

**115.231 (a)**

- Does the agency train all employees who may have contact with residents on: Its zero-tolerance Policy for sexual abuse and sexual harassment?  Yes  No
- Does the agency train all employees who may have contact with residents on: How to fulfill their responsibilities under agency sexual abuse and sexual harassment prevention, detection, reporting, and response policies and procedures?  Yes  No
- Does the agency train all employees who may have contact with residents on: Residents’ right to be free from sexual abuse and sexual harassment  Yes  No
- Does the agency train all employees who may have contact with residents on: The right of residents and employees to be free from retaliation for reporting sexual abuse and sexual harassment?  Yes  No

- Does the agency train all employees who may have contact with residents on: The dynamics of sexual abuse and sexual harassment in juvenile facilities?  Yes  No
- Does the agency train all employees who may have contact with residents on: The common reactions of juvenile victims of sexual abuse and sexual harassment?  Yes  No
- Does the agency train all employees who may have contact with residents on: How to detect and respond to signs of threatened and actual sexual abuse?  Yes  No
- Does the agency train all employees who may have contact with residents on: How to avoid inappropriate relationships with residents?  Yes  No
- Does the agency train all employees who may have contact with residents on: How to communicate effectively and professionally with residents, including lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex, or gender nonconforming residents?  Yes  No
- Does the agency train all employees who may have contact with residents on: How to comply with relevant laws related to mandatory reporting of sexual abuse to outside authorities?  
 Yes  No

#### 115.231 (b)

- Is such training tailored to the gender of the residents at the employee's facility?  Yes  No
- Have employees received additional training if reassigned from a facility that houses only male residents to a facility that houses only female residents, or vice versa?  Yes  No

#### 115.231 (c)

- Have all current employees who may have contact with residents received such training?  
 Yes  No
- Does the agency provide each employee with refresher training every two years to ensure that all employees know the agency's current sexual abuse and sexual harassment policies and procedures?  Yes  No
- In years in which an employee does not receive refresher training, does the agency provide refresher information on current sexual abuse and sexual harassment policies?  Yes  No

#### 115.231 (d)

- Does the agency document, through employee signature or electronic verification, that employees understand the training they have received?  Yes  No

### Auditor Overall Compliance Determination

- Exceeds Standard** (*Substantially exceeds requirement of standards*)
- Meets Standard** (*Substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period*)
- Does Not Meet Standard** (*Requires Corrective Action*)

### Instructions for Overall Compliance Determination Narrative

*The narrative below must include a comprehensive discussion of all 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 the standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.*

VOA policy 300:09 and an e-learning program address the requirements of the standard. All employees are initially provided training on the PREA during new hire orientation. The VOA also provides extensive web-based e-learning of PREA standards training, which all staff are required to successfully complete initially and annually. Policy requires refresher training to ensure that all employees know the agency's current sexual abuse and sexual harassment policies and procedures. In practice, annual refresher training, including PREA topics, has been provided to all employees. Staff acknowledge in writing their understanding of the PREA. All staff interviewed stated they had received PREA training and have a PREA first responder checklist to use, if needed. The review of training files (four) and the facility training curriculum, as well as staff interviews, support compliance with this standard.

### Standard 115.232: Volunteer and contractor training

#### All Yes/No Questions Must Be Answered by the Auditor to Complete the Report

#### 115.232 (a)

- Has the agency ensured that all volunteers and contractors who have contact with residents have been trained on their responsibilities under the agency's sexual abuse and sexual harassment prevention, detection, and response policies and procedures?  Yes  No

#### 115.232 (b)

- Have all volunteers and contractors who have contact with residents been notified of the agency's zero-tolerance Policy regarding sexual abuse and sexual harassment and informed how to report such incidents (the level and type of training provided to volunteers and contractors shall be based on the services they provide and level of contact they have with residents)?  Yes  No

#### 115.232 (c)

- Does the agency maintain documentation confirming that volunteers and contractors understand the training they have received?  Yes  No

### Auditor Overall Compliance Determination

- Exceeds Standard** (*Substantially exceeds requirement of standards*)
- Meets Standard** (*Substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period*)
- Does Not Meet Standard** (*Requires Corrective Action*)

### Instructions for Overall Compliance Determination Narrative

*The narrative below must include a comprehensive discussion of all 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 the standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.*

VOA policy 300:09 meets the mandates of this standard. There was one volunteer (no contractors are employed by the facility) who had received PREA training, to include the agency's zero-tolerance policy, reporting and responding requirements. The volunteer was interviewed by the auditor. The training is documented and copies of training sign-in sheets and other related documents were reviewed by the auditor. The Facility Director was interviewed and confirmed the presentation of the required training. Interviews with staff and a volunteer, as well as the review of the training file documentation and the facility training curriculum, support compliance with this standard.

## Standard 115.233: Resident education

### All Yes/No Questions Must Be Answered by the Auditor to Complete the Report

#### 115.233 (a)

- During intake, do residents receive information explaining: The agency's zero-tolerance Policy regarding sexual abuse and sexual harassment?  Yes  No
- During intake, do residents receive information explaining: How to report incidents or suspicions of sexual abuse or sexual harassment?  Yes  No
- During intake, do residents receive information explaining: Their rights to be free from sexual abuse and sexual harassment?  Yes  No
- During intake, do residents receive information explaining: Their rights to be free from retaliation for reporting such incidents?  Yes  No

- During intake, do residents receive information regarding agency policies and procedures for responding to such incidents?  Yes  No

#### 115.233 (b)

- Does the agency provide refresher information whenever a resident is transferred to a different facility?  Yes  No

#### 115.233 (c)

- Does the agency provide resident education in formats accessible to all residents, including those who: Are limited English proficient?  Yes  No
- Does the agency provide resident education in formats accessible to all residents, including those who: Are deaf?  Yes  No
- Does the agency provide resident education in formats accessible to all residents, including those who: Are visually impaired?  Yes  No
- Does the agency provide resident education in formats accessible to all residents, including those who: Are otherwise disabled?  Yes  No
- Does the agency provide resident education in formats accessible to all residents, including those who: Have limited reading skills?  Yes  No

#### 115.233 (d)

- Does the agency maintain documentation of resident participation in these education sessions?  Yes  No

#### 115.233 (e)

- In addition to providing such education, does the agency ensure that key information is continuously and readily available or visible to residents through posters, resident handbooks, or other written formats?  Yes  No

#### Auditor Overall Compliance Determination

- Exceeds Standard** (*Substantially exceeds requirement of standards*)
- Meets Standard** (*Substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period*)
- Does Not Meet Standard** (*Requires Corrective Action*)

## Instructions for Overall Compliance Determination Narrative

*The narrative below must include a comprehensive discussion of all 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 the standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.*

VOA policy 1200:23A and a PREA intake handbook address the requirements of the standard. Clients receive information during the intake process that explains the agency's zero-tolerance policy regarding sexual abuse and sexual harassment, how to report incidents or suspicions of sexual abuse or sexual harassment and their right to be free from sexual abuse, sexual harassment and retaliation for reporting such incidents. Clients are also provided contact information for advocacy services and other reporting venues in the handbook. Services are available at the local advocacy center, as confirmed through an interview with the community victim advocate. Facility staff may meet periodically with clients concerning PREA standards, giving the clients an opportunity to ask questions and present any concerns. There are zero tolerance posters throughout the facility and a "hot line" telephone number to call to report sexual abuse or sexual harassment. Interviews with staff and clients, as well as documentation review, support the facility meeting the requirements of this standard.

### Standard 115.234: Specialized training: Investigations

#### All Yes/No Questions Must Be Answered by the Auditor to Complete the Report

##### 115.234 (a)

- In addition to the general training provided to all employees pursuant to §115.231, does the agency ensure that, to the extent the agency itself conducts sexual abuse investigations, its investigators have received training in conducting such investigations in confinement settings? [N/A if the agency does not conduct any form of administrative or criminal sexual abuse investigations. See 115.221(a).]  Yes  No  NA

##### 115.234 (b)

- Does this specialized training include: Techniques for interviewing sexual abuse victims? [N/A if the agency does not conduct any form of administrative or criminal sexual abuse investigations. See 115.221(a).]  Yes  No  NA
- Does this specialized training include: Proper use of Miranda and Garrity warnings? [N/A if the agency does not conduct any form of administrative or criminal sexual abuse investigations. See 115.221(a).]  Yes  No  NA
- Does this specialized training include: Sexual abuse evidence collection in confinement settings? [N/A if the agency does not conduct any form of administrative or criminal sexual abuse investigations. See 115.221(a).]  Yes  No  NA

- Does this specialized training include: The criteria and evidence required to substantiate a case for administrative action or prosecution referral? [N/A if the agency does not conduct any form of administrative or criminal sexual abuse investigations. See 115.221(a).]  
 Yes  No  NA

#### 115.234 (c)

- Does the agency maintain documentation that agency investigators have completed the required specialized training in conducting sexual abuse investigations? [N/A if the agency does not conduct any form of administrative or criminal sexual abuse investigations. See 115.221(a).]  
 Yes  No  NA

#### 115.234 (d)

- Auditor is not required to audit this provision.

#### Auditor Overall Compliance Determination

- Exceeds Standard** (*Substantially exceeds requirement of standards*)
- Meets Standard** (*Substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period*)
- Does Not Meet Standard** (*Requires Corrective Action*)

#### Instructions for Overall Compliance Determination Narrative

*The narrative below must include a comprehensive discussion of all 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 the standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.*

Agency and the RTC personnel do not conduct any type of investigation.

#### Standard 115.235: Specialized training: Medical and mental health care

#### All Yes/No Questions Must Be Answered by the Auditor to Complete the Report

#### 115.235 (a)

- Does the agency ensure that all full- and part-time medical and mental health care practitioners who work regularly in its facilities have been trained in: How to detect and assess signs of sexual abuse and sexual harassment?  Yes  No

- Does the agency ensure that all full- and part-time medical and mental health care practitioners who work regularly in its facilities have been trained in: How to preserve physical evidence of sexual abuse?  Yes  No
- Does the agency ensure that all full- and part-time medical and mental health care practitioners who work regularly in its facilities have been trained in: How to respond effectively and professionally to victims of sexual abuse and sexual harassment?  Yes  No
- Does the agency ensure that all full- and part-time medical and mental health care practitioners who work regularly in its facilities have been trained in: How and to whom to report allegations or suspicions of sexual abuse and sexual harassment?  Yes  No

#### 115.235 (b)

- If medical staff employed by the agency conduct forensic examinations, do such medical staff receive appropriate training to conduct such examinations? (N/A if agency medical staff at the facility do not conduct forensic exams.)  Yes  No  NA

#### 115.235 (c)

- Does the agency maintain documentation that medical and mental health practitioners have received the training referenced in this standard either from the agency or elsewhere?  Yes  No

#### 115.235 (d)

- Do medical and mental health care practitioners employed by the agency also receive training mandated for employees by §115.231?  Yes  No
- Do medical and mental health care practitioners contracted by and volunteering for the agency also receive training mandated for contractors and volunteers by §115.232? [N/A for circumstances in which a particular status (employee or contractor/volunteer) does not apply.]  Yes  No  NA

#### Auditor Overall Compliance Determination

- Exceeds Standard** (*Substantially exceeds requirement of standards*)
- Meets Standard** (*Substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period*)
- Does Not Meet Standard** (*Requires Corrective Action*)

#### Instructions for Overall Compliance Determination Narrative

*The narrative below must include a comprehensive discussion of all 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 the standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.

The facility does not provide any on-site medical services. All staff members are trained as first responders and are able to refer victims to a local hospital for medical treatment and the collection of forensic evidence. Medical personnel trained to conduct forensic examinations are on-site at the hospital at all times (confirmed through contact with the local hospital). The local rape crisis center is willing and able to provide victim advocacy services (confirmed by contact with the victim advocate). Staff members are also trained to preserve on-site evidence for investigative purposes. Staff also receive refresher training annually and documentation in support of their participation and understanding is on file. The auditor reviewed the training lesson plan and training sign-in sheets. Staff interviewed also confirmed compliance with this standard.

## SCREENING FOR RISK OF SEXUAL VICTIMIZATION AND ABUSIVENESS

### Standard 115.241: Screening for risk of victimization and abusiveness

All Yes/No Questions Must Be Answered by the Auditor to Complete the Report

#### 115.241 (a)

- Are all residents assessed during an intake screening for their risk of being sexually abused by other residents or sexually abusive toward other residents?  Yes  No
- Are all residents assessed upon transfer to another facility for their risk of being sexually abused by other residents or sexually abusive toward other residents?  Yes  No

#### 115.241 (b)

- Do intake screenings ordinarily take place within 72 hours of arrival at the facility?  
 Yes  No

#### 115.241 (c)

- Are all PREA screening assessments conducted using an objective screening instrument?  
 Yes  No

#### 115.241 (d)

- Does the intake screening consider, at a minimum, the following criteria to assess residents for risk of sexual victimization: Whether the resident has a mental, physical, or developmental disability?  Yes  No

- Does the intake screening consider, at a minimum, the following criteria to assess residents for risk of sexual victimization: The age of the resident?  Yes  No
- Does the intake screening consider, at a minimum, the following criteria to assess residents for risk of sexual victimization: The physical build of the resident?  Yes  No
- Does the intake screening consider, at a minimum, the following criteria to assess residents for risk of sexual victimization: Whether the resident has previously been incarcerated?  Yes  No
- Does the intake screening consider, at a minimum, the following criteria to assess residents for risk of sexual victimization: Whether the resident's criminal history is exclusively nonviolent?  Yes  No
- Does the intake screening consider, at a minimum, the following criteria to assess residents for risk of sexual victimization: Whether the resident has prior convictions for sex offenses against an adult or child?  Yes  No
- Does the intake screening consider, at a minimum, the following criteria to assess residents for risk of sexual victimization: Whether the resident is or is perceived to be gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, intersex, or gender nonconforming (the facility affirmatively asks the resident about his/her sexual orientation and gender identity AND makes a subjective determination based on the screener's perception whether the resident is gender non-conforming or otherwise may be perceived to be LGBTI)?  Yes  No
- Does the intake screening consider, at a minimum, the following criteria to assess residents for risk of sexual victimization: Whether the resident has previously experienced sexual victimization?  Yes  No
- Does the intake screening consider, at a minimum, the following criteria to assess residents for risk of sexual victimization: The resident's own perception of vulnerability?  Yes  No

#### 115.241 (e)

- In assessing residents for risk of being sexually abusive, does the initial PREA risk screening consider, when known to the agency: prior acts of sexual abuse?  Yes  No
- In assessing residents for risk of being sexually abusive, does the initial PREA risk screening consider, when known to the agency: prior convictions for violent offenses?  Yes  No
- In assessing residents for risk of being sexually abusive, does the initial PREA risk screening consider, when known to the agency: history of prior institutional violence or sexual abuse?  Yes  No

#### 115.241 (f)

- Within a set time period not more than 30 days from the resident's arrival at the facility, does the facility reassess the resident's risk of victimization or abusiveness based upon any additional, relevant information received by the facility since the intake screening?  Yes  No

#### 115.241 (g)

- Does the facility reassess a resident's risk level when warranted due to a: Referral?  
 Yes  No
- Does the facility reassess a resident's risk level when warranted due to a: Request?  
 Yes  No
- Does the facility reassess a resident's risk level when warranted due to a: Incident of sexual abuse?  Yes  No
- Does the facility reassess a resident's risk level when warranted due to a: Receipt of additional information that bears on the resident's risk of sexual victimization or abusiveness?  
 Yes  No

#### 115.241 (h)

- Is it the case that residents are not ever disciplined for refusing to answer, or for not disclosing complete information in response to, questions asked pursuant to paragraphs (d)(1), (d)(7), (d)(8), or (d)(9) of this section?  Yes  No

#### 115.241 (i)

- Has the agency implemented appropriate controls on the dissemination within the facility of responses to questions asked pursuant to this standard in order to ensure that sensitive information is not exploited to the resident's detriment by staff or other residents?  Yes  No

#### Auditor Overall Compliance Determination

- Exceeds Standard** (*Substantially exceeds requirement of standards*)
- Meets Standard** (*Substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period*)
- Does Not Meet Standard** (*Requires Corrective Action*)

#### Instructions for Overall Compliance Determination Narrative

*The narrative below must include a comprehensive discussion of all 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 the standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.*

VOA policies 100:16, 1200:23A and a VOA screening document (this document covers all requirements of 115.241d) address the requirements of the standard. All clients are assessed at intake immediately upon arrival at the facility for their risk of being sexually abused or harassed by other clients or being sexually abusive towards other clients. A trained security monitor initially screens all new arrivals, when the client arrives at the facility. Within twenty-four hours of arrival, a social services employee completes a more thorough intake assessment. The staff members review all relevant information from other facilities and continue to reassess when additional information is received. Clients are also reassessed within two weeks of arrival. Staff and client interviews and a review of policy and screening documentation confirmed compliance with this standard. Screening information is only released to staff that have a need- to-know.

## **Standard 115.242: Use of screening information**

**All Yes/No Questions Must Be Answered by the Auditor to Complete the Report**

### **115.242 (a)**

- Does the agency use information from the risk screening required by § 115.241, with the goal of keeping separate those residents at high risk of being sexually victimized from those at high risk of being sexually abusive, to inform: Housing Assignments?  Yes  No
- Does the agency use information from the risk screening required by § 115.241, with the goal of keeping separate those residents at high risk of being sexually victimized from those at high risk of being sexually abusive, to inform: Bed assignments?  Yes  No
- Does the agency use information from the risk screening required by § 115.241, with the goal of keeping separate those residents at high risk of being sexually victimized from those at high risk of being sexually abusive, to inform: Work Assignments?  Yes  No
- Does the agency use information from the risk screening required by § 115.241, with the goal of keeping separate those residents at high risk of being sexually victimized from those at high risk of being sexually abusive, to inform: Education Assignments?  Yes  No
- Does the agency use information from the risk screening required by § 115.241, with the goal of keeping separate those residents at high risk of being sexually victimized from those at high risk of being sexually abusive, to inform: Program Assignments?  Yes  No

### **115.242 (b)**

- Does the agency make individualized determinations about how to ensure the safety of each resident?  Yes  No

#### 115.242 (c)

- When deciding whether to assign a transgender or intersex resident to a facility for male or female residents, does the agency consider on a case-by-case basis whether a placement would ensure the resident's health and safety, and whether a placement would present management or security problems (NOTE: if an agency by Policy or practice assigns residents to a male or female facility on the basis of anatomy alone, that agency is not in compliance with this standard)?  Yes  No
- When making housing or other program assignments for transgender or intersex residents, does the agency consider on a case-by-case basis whether a placement would ensure the resident's health and safety, and whether a placement would present management or security problems?  Yes  No

#### 115.242 (d)

- Are each transgender or intersex resident's own views with respect to his or her own safety given serious consideration when making facility and housing placement decisions and programming assignments?  Yes  No

#### 115.242 (e)

- Are transgender and intersex residents given the opportunity to shower separately from other residents?  Yes  No

#### 115.242 (f)

- Unless placement is in a dedicated facility, unit, or wing established in connection with a consent decree, legal settlement, or legal judgment for the purpose of protecting lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or intersex residents, does the agency always refrain from placing: lesbian, gay, and bisexual residents in dedicated facilities, units, or wings solely on the basis of such identification or status?  Yes  No
- Unless placement is in a dedicated facility, unit, or wing established in connection with a consent decree, legal settlement, or legal judgment for the purpose of protecting lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or intersex residents, does the agency always refrain from placing: transgender residents in dedicated facilities, units, or wings solely on the basis of such identification or status?  Yes  No
- Unless placement is in a dedicated facility, unit, or wing established in connection with a consent decree, legal settlement, or legal judgment for the purpose of protecting lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or intersex residents, does the agency always refrain from placing: intersex residents in dedicated facilities, units, or wings solely on the basis of such identification or status?  Yes  No

#### Auditor Overall Compliance Determination

**Exceeds Standard** (*Substantially exceeds requirement of standards*)

- Meets Standard** (*Substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period*)
- Does Not Meet Standard** (*Requires Corrective Action*)

### Instructions for Overall Compliance Determination Narrative

*The narrative below must include a comprehensive discussion of all 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 the standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.*

VOA policy 100:16 meets the mandates of this standard. Housing and program assignments are made on a case-by-case basis for all clients, with continued monitoring and follow up, as necessary. The facility does not have dedicated housing for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or intersex clients. Youthful clients are not housed at the facility. Agency and facility policy require the use of a screening instrument (reviewed by auditor) to determine proper housing, bed assignment, work assignment, education and other program assignments. The goal is to keep clients at high risk of being sexually abused/sexually harassed separate from those clients who are at a high risk of being sexually abusive. Clients are not placed in housing units based solely on their sexual identification or status. There were no clients who self-identified as being transgender or intersex housed at the RTC. During the audit, management staff indicated transgender and intersex clients would be reassessed biannually and their own views regarding his/her own safety would be given serious consideration. They would also be given the opportunity to shower separately from other clients. Interviews with staff and clients, auditor observations of the facility and an examination of support documentation confirm compliance to this standard

## REPORTING

### Standard 115.251: Resident reporting

**All Yes/No Questions Must Be Answered by the Auditor to Complete the Report**

#### 115.251 (a)

- Does the agency provide multiple internal ways for residents to privately report: Sexual abuse and sexual harassment?  Yes  No
- Does the agency provide multiple internal ways for residents to privately report: Retaliation by other residents or staff for reporting sexual abuse and sexual harassment?  Yes  No
- Does the agency provide multiple internal ways for residents to privately report: Staff neglect or violation of responsibilities that may have contributed to such incidents?  Yes  No

### 115.251 (b)

- Does the agency also provide at least one way for residents to report sexual abuse or sexual harassment to a public or private entity or office that is not part of the agency?  Yes  No
- Is that private entity or office able to receive and immediately forward resident reports of sexual abuse and sexual harassment to agency officials?  Yes  No
- Does that private entity or office allow the resident to remain anonymous upon request?  Yes  No

### 115.251 (c)

- Do staff members accept reports of sexual abuse and sexual harassment made verbally, in writing, anonymously, and from third parties?  Yes  No
- Do staff members promptly document any verbal reports of sexual abuse and sexual harassment?  Yes  No

### 115.251 (d)

- Does the agency provide a method for staff to privately report sexual abuse and sexual harassment of residents?  Yes  No

### Auditor Overall Compliance Determination

- Exceeds Standard** (*Substantially exceeds requirement of standards*)
- Meets Standard** (*Substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period*)
- Does Not Meet Standard** (*Requires Corrective Action*)

### Instructions for Overall Compliance Determination Narrative

*The narrative below must include a comprehensive discussion of all 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 the standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.*

VOA policy 100:16 meets the mandates of this standard. The policy requires the use of a screening instrument to determine proper housing, bed, work, education and program assignments. A review of documentation and interviews with staff and clients confirmed that there are multiple ways (including verbally, in writing, anonymously, privately, "hot line" telephone calls and contact with an advocacy center) for clients to report sexual abuse or

sexual harassment. Staff document all allegations reported from all sources. There are posters and other documents, on display throughout the facility, observed by the auditor, that explain reporting methods. Additionally, the PREA intake handbook, available to clients in English or Spanish (and possibly other languages through a language line) upon intake, lists multiple venues for clients to report sexual abuse or sexual harassment. The facility does have a MOU with a local advocacy center to provide support services relevant to this standard. Documentation review, observed postings and interviews with clients and staff confirmed that the facility is in compliance with this standard.

## Standard 115.252: Exhaustion of administrative remedies

### All Yes/No Questions Must Be Answered by the Auditor to Complete the Report

#### 115.252 (a)

- Is the agency exempt from this standard? NOTE: The agency is exempt ONLY if it does not have administrative procedures to address resident grievances regarding sexual abuse. This does not mean the agency is exempt simply because a resident does not have to or is not ordinarily expected to submit a grievance to report sexual abuse. This means that as a matter of explicit Policy, the agency does not have an administrative remedies process to address sexual abuse.  Yes  No  NA

#### 115.252 (b)

- Does the agency permit residents to submit a grievance regarding an allegation of sexual abuse without any type of time limits? (The agency may apply otherwise-applicable time limits to any portion of a grievance that does not allege an incident of sexual abuse.) (N/A if agency is exempt from this standard.)  Yes  No  NA
- Does the agency always refrain from requiring a resident to use any informal grievance process, or to otherwise attempt to resolve with staff, an alleged incident of sexual abuse? (N/A if agency is exempt from this standard.)  Yes  No  NA

#### 115.252 (c)

- Does the agency ensure that: A resident who alleges sexual abuse may submit a grievance without submitting it to a staff member who is the subject of the complaint? (N/A if agency is exempt from this standard.)  Yes  No  NA
- Does the agency ensure that: Such grievance is not referred to a staff member who is the subject of the complaint? (N/A if agency is exempt from this standard.)  Yes  No  NA

#### 115.252 (d)

- Does the agency issue a final agency decision on the merits of any portion of a grievance alleging sexual abuse within 90 days of the initial filing of the grievance? (Computation of the

90-day time period does not include time consumed by residents in preparing any administrative appeal.) (N/A if agency is exempt from this standard.)  Yes  No  NA

- If the agency determines that the 90-day timeframe is insufficient to make an appropriate decision and claims an extension of time [the maximum allowable extension of time to respond is 70 days per 115.252(d)(3)] , does the agency notify the resident in writing of any such extension and provide a date by which a decision will be made? (N/A if agency is exempt from this standard.)  Yes  No  NA
- At any level of the administrative process, including the final level, if the resident does not receive a response within the time allotted for reply, including any properly noticed extension, may a resident consider the absence of a response to be a denial at that level? (N/A if agency is exempt from this standard.)  Yes  No  NA

#### 115.252 (e)

- Are third parties, including fellow residents, staff members, family members, attorneys, and outside advocates, permitted to assist residents in filing requests for administrative remedies relating to allegations of sexual abuse? (N/A if agency is exempt from this standard.)  
 Yes  No  NA
- Are those third parties also permitted to file such requests on behalf of residents? (If a third-party files such a request on behalf of a resident, the facility may require as a condition of processing the request that the alleged victim agree to have the request filed on his or her behalf, and may also require the alleged victim to personally pursue any subsequent steps in the administrative remedy process.) (N/A if agency is exempt from this standard.)  
 Yes  No  NA
- If the resident declines to have the request processed on his or her behalf, does the agency document the resident's decision? (N/A if agency is exempt from this standard.)  
 Yes  No  NA

#### 115.252 (f)

- Has the agency established procedures for the filing of an emergency grievance alleging that a resident is subject to a substantial risk of imminent sexual abuse? (N/A if agency is exempt from this standard.)  Yes  No  NA
- After receiving an emergency grievance alleging a resident is subject to a substantial risk of imminent sexual abuse, does the agency immediately forward the grievance (or any portion thereof that alleges the substantial risk of imminent sexual abuse) to a level of review at which immediate corrective action may be taken? (N/A if agency is exempt from this standard.)  
 Yes  No  NA
- After receiving an emergency grievance described above, does the agency provide an initial response within 48 hours? (N/A if agency is exempt from this standard.)  Yes  No  NA

- After receiving an emergency grievance described above, does the agency issue a final agency decision within 5 calendar days? (N/A if agency is exempt from this standard.)  
 Yes    No    NA
  
- Does the initial response and final agency decision document the agency's determination whether the resident is in substantial risk of imminent sexual abuse? (N/A if agency is exempt from this standard.)  Yes    No    NA
  
- Does the initial response document the agency's action(s) taken in response to the emergency grievance? (N/A if agency is exempt from this standard.)  Yes    No    NA
  
- Does the agency's final decision document the agency's action(s) taken in response to the emergency grievance? (N/A if agency is exempt from this standard.)  Yes    No    NA

### 115.252 (g)

- If the agency disciplines a resident for filing a grievance related to alleged sexual abuse, does it do so ONLY where the agency demonstrates that the resident filed the grievance in bad faith? (N/A if agency is exempt from this standard.)  Yes    No    NA

### Auditor Overall Compliance Determination

- Exceeds Standard** (*Substantially exceeds requirement of standards*)
  
- Meets Standard** (*Substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period*)
  
- Does Not Meet Standard** (*Requires Corrective Action*)

### Instructions for Overall Compliance Determination Narrative

*The narrative below must include a comprehensive discussion of all 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 the standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.*

VOA policy 1200:01 addresses the mandates of this standard. Clients may file a grievance, however, all allegations of sexual abuse or sexual harassment, when received by staff members, would immediately result in an administrative or criminal investigation. There is no time limit when a client may submit a grievance regarding an allegation of sexual abuse. Policy states that a client who alleges sexual abuse may submit a grievance without submitting it to the staff member who is the subject of the complaint and that such grievance is not referred to a staff member who is the subject of the complaint. Third parties, including fellow clients, staff members, family members, attorneys and outside advocates, shall be permitted to assist in filing requests for administrative remedies relating to allegations of sexual abuse. The policy allows for an emergency grievance to be filed by clients who feel they are at imminent risk of

sexual abuse. There were no grievances filed concerning sexual abuse or sexual harassment during the previous 12 months. Documentation review and interviews with clients and staff confirmed that the facility is in compliance with this standard.

## Standard 115.253: Resident access to outside confidential support services

### All Yes/No Questions Must Be Answered by the Auditor to Complete the Report

#### 115.253 (a)

- Does the facility provide residents with access to outside victim advocates for emotional support services related to sexual abuse by giving residents mailing addresses and telephone numbers, including toll-free hotline numbers where available, of local, State, or national victim advocacy or rape crisis organizations?  Yes  No
- Does the facility enable reasonable communication between residents and these organizations and agencies, in as confidential a manner as possible?  Yes  No

#### 115.253 (b)

- Does the facility inform residents, prior to giving them access, of the extent to which such communications will be monitored and the extent to which reports of abuse will be forwarded to authorities in accordance with mandatory reporting laws?  Yes  No

#### 115.253 (c)

- Does the agency maintain or attempt to enter into memoranda of understanding or other agreements with community service providers that are able to provide residents with confidential emotional support services related to sexual abuse?  Yes  No
- Does the agency maintain copies of agreements or documentation showing attempts to enter into such agreements?  Yes  No

### Auditor Overall Compliance Determination

- Exceeds Standard** (*Substantially exceeds requirement of standards*)
- Meets Standard** (*Substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period*)
- Does Not Meet Standard** (*Requires Corrective Action*)

### Instructions for Overall Compliance Determination Narrative

*The narrative below must include a comprehensive discussion of all 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 the standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.*

VOA policy 1200:23A and a Memorandum of Understanding with an area rape crisis center address this standard. The auditor interviewed the local victim advocate of the organization contracted with to provide services to the RTC. Clients are allowed to contact the rape crisis center telephonically or by mail. The victim advocate stated that their organization would provide all services required under this standard, in a confidential manner. Documentation reviewed by the auditor also supports compliance with this standard. The auditor observed posters, pamphlets and other relevant information displayed and available in common areas of the facility. Interviews with staff and clients confirmed they were aware of the access to the outside victim advocacy group and where the telephone number and address were located.

## **Standard 115.254: Third-party reporting**

**All Yes/No Questions Must Be Answered by the Auditor to Complete the Report**

### **115.254 (a)**

- Has the agency established a method to receive third-party reports of sexual abuse and sexual harassment?  Yes  No
  
- Has the agency distributed publicly information on how to report sexual abuse and sexual harassment on behalf of a resident?  Yes  No

### **Auditor Overall Compliance Determination**

- Exceeds Standard** (*Substantially exceeds requirement of standards*)
- Meets Standard** (*Substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period*)
- Does Not Meet Standard** (*Requires Corrective Action*)

### **Instructions for Overall Compliance Determination Narrative**

*The narrative below must include a comprehensive discussion of all 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 the standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.*

The VOA website, a phone number (to the VOA) and PREA posters throughout the facility address the requirements of the standard. The website, phone number and posted notices (inside the facility and in the visiting areas-observed by the auditor) assist third party reporters

on how to report allegations of sexual abuse/sexual harassment. Interviews with staff and clients also confirmed they were aware that anonymous and third-party reporting procedures were available as an option for the reporting of PREA violations. The reporting mechanism is also available to the public. PREA notifications relevant to this standard are posted in the visitation areas and are easily accessible to family members and visitors.

## OFFICIAL RESPONSE FOLLOWING A RESIDENT REPORT

### Standard 115.261: Staff and agency reporting duties

All Yes/No Questions Must Be Answered by the Auditor to Complete the Report

#### 115.261 (a)

- Does the agency require all staff to report immediately and according to agency Policy any knowledge, suspicion, or information regarding an incident of sexual abuse or sexual harassment that occurred in a facility, whether or not it is part of the agency?  Yes  No
- Does the agency require all staff to report immediately and according to agency Policy any knowledge, suspicion, or information regarding retaliation against residents or staff who reported an incident of sexual abuse or sexual harassment?  Yes  No
- Does the agency require all staff to report immediately and according to agency Policy any knowledge, suspicion, or information regarding any staff neglect or violation of responsibilities that may have contributed to an incident of sexual abuse or sexual harassment or retaliation?  Yes  No

#### 115.261 (b)

- Apart from reporting to designated supervisors or officials, do staff always refrain from revealing any information related to a sexual abuse report to anyone other than to the extent necessary, as specified in agency Policy, to make treatment, investigation, and other security and management decisions?  Yes  No

#### 115.261 (c)

- Unless otherwise precluded by Federal, State, or local law, are medical and mental health practitioners required to report sexual abuse pursuant to paragraph (a) of this section?  Yes  No
- Are medical and mental health practitioners required to inform residents of the practitioner's duty to report, and the limitations of confidentiality, at the initiation of services?  Yes  No

#### 115.261 (d)

- If the alleged victim is under the age of 18 or considered a vulnerable adult under a State or local vulnerable persons statute, does the agency report the allegation to the designated State or local services agency under applicable mandatory reporting laws?  Yes  No

### 115.261 (e)

- Does the facility report all allegations of sexual abuse and sexual harassment, including third-party and anonymous reports, to the facility's designated investigators?  Yes  No

### Auditor Overall Compliance Determination

- Exceeds Standard** (*Substantially exceeds requirement of standards*)
- Meets Standard** (*Substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period*)
- Does Not Meet Standard** (*Requires Corrective Action*)

### Instructions for Overall Compliance Determination Narrative

*The narrative below must include a comprehensive discussion of all 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 the standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.*

VOA policies 100:16 and 1200:23A address the requirements of the standard. All staff and volunteers are required to report any information regarding sexual abuse or sexual harassment or any staff neglect or violation that may contribute to an incident or an act of retaliation. The reporting is ordinarily made to the Facility Director. Policy requires the information concerning the identity of the alleged client victim and the specific facts of the case to be limited to staff who need-to-know, because of their involvement with the victim's welfare and the investigation of the incident. Interviews with employees and a volunteer confirmed they were aware of their reporting duties. Additional compliance with all aspects of the standard was verified through document and policy review. The facility does not house clients under the age of 18.

### Standard 115.262: Agency protection duties

#### All Yes/No Questions Must Be Answered by the Auditor to Complete the Report

### 115.262 (a)

- When the agency learns that a resident is subject to a substantial risk of imminent sexual abuse, does it take immediate action to protect the resident?  Yes  No

### Auditor Overall Compliance Determination

- Exceeds Standard** (*Substantially exceeds requirement of standards*)
- Meets Standard** (*Substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period*)
- Does Not Meet Standard** (*Requires Corrective Action*)

### Instructions for Overall Compliance Determination Narrative

*The narrative below must include a comprehensive discussion of all 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 the standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.*

VOA policy 1200:23A addresses the requirements of the standard. All staff interviewed described their duties and responsibilities if they were aware of a client being sexually abused or sexually harassed and said they would act immediately to protect the client. The staff interviewed stated they would separate clients, secure the scene, protect possible evidence, not allow clients to destroy possible evidence and contact the Facility Director. During the auditing period, there were no clients determined to be subject to a substantial risk of imminent sexual abuse. Compliance with this standard was confirmed through staff interviews and policy review.

## Standard 115.263: Reporting to other confinement facilities

### All Yes/No Questions Must Be Answered by the Auditor to Complete the Report

#### 115.263 (a)

- Upon receiving an allegation that a resident was sexually abused while confined at another facility, does the head of the facility that received the allegation notify the head of the facility or appropriate office of the agency where the alleged abuse occurred?  Yes  No

#### 115.263 (b)

- Is such notification provided as soon as possible, but no later than 72 hours after receiving the allegation?  Yes  No

#### 115.263 (c)

- Does the agency document that it has provided such notification?  Yes  No

#### 115.263 (d)

- Does the facility head or agency office that receives such notification ensure that the allegation is investigated in accordance with these standards?  Yes  No

### Auditor Overall Compliance Determination

- Exceeds Standard** (*Substantially exceeds requirement of standards*)
- Meets Standard** (*Substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period*)
- Does Not Meet Standard** (*Requires Corrective Action*)

### Instructions for Overall Compliance Determination Narrative

*The narrative below must include a comprehensive discussion of all 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 the standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.*

VOA policy 1200:23A addresses the requirements of the standard. Policy requires the reporting of any PREA related allegation by a client that occurred at another facility, to the Warden (or equivalent person) of where the alleged act occurred, within 72 hours of the current Warden (or equivalent person) being notified of the allegation. There were no allegations received during the auditing period which claimed sexual abuse occurred at another facility or the RTC. The policy requires an investigation be immediately initiated upon notification. Compliance with this standard was confirmed by reviewing policy and interviews with the Facility Director and the Agency PREA Coordinator.

## Standard 115.264: Staff first responder duties

### All Yes/No Questions Must Be Answered by the Auditor to Complete the Report

#### 115.264 (a)

- Upon learning of an allegation that a resident was sexually abused, is the first security staff member to respond to the report required to: Separate the alleged victim and abuser?  Yes  No
- Upon learning of an allegation that a resident was sexually abused, is the first security staff member to respond to the report required to: Preserve and protect any crime scene until appropriate steps can be taken to collect any evidence?  Yes  No
- Upon learning of an allegation that a resident was sexually abused, is the first security staff member to respond to the report required to: 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, if the abuse occurred within a time period that still allows for the collection of physical evidence?  Yes  No

- Upon learning of an allegation that a resident was sexually abused, is the first security staff member to respond to the report required to: 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 abuse occurred within a time period that still allows for the collection of physical evidence?  Yes  No

#### 115.264 (b)

- If the first staff responder is not a security staff member, is the responder required to request that the alleged victim not take any actions that could destroy physical evidence, and then notify security staff?  Yes  No

#### Auditor Overall Compliance Determination

- Exceeds Standard** (*Substantially exceeds requirement of standards*)
- Meets Standard** (*Substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period*)
- Does Not Meet Standard** (*Requires Corrective Action*)

#### Instructions for Overall Compliance Determination Narrative

*The narrative below must include a comprehensive discussion of all 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 the standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.*

VOA policy 1200:23A addresses the requirements of the standard. All interviewed staff members were very knowledgeable concerning their first responder duties and responsibilities upon learning of a sexual abuse or sexual harassment allegation by a client. The staff stated they would separate the clients, protect any crime scene, would not allow clients to destroy any evidence and immediately notify the Facility Director. The incident would also be documented. There were no allegations of sexual abuse/sexual harassment made by any clients during the previous 12 months. Interviews with staff, as well as an examination of policy, confirm compliance with this standard.

#### Standard 115.265: Coordinated response

#### All Yes/No Questions Must Be Answered by the Auditor to Complete the Report

#### 115.265 (a)

- Has the facility developed a written institutional plan to coordinate actions among staff first responders, medical and mental health practitioners, investigators, and facility leadership taken in response to an incident of sexual abuse?  Yes  No

### Auditor Overall Compliance Determination

- Exceeds Standard** (*Substantially exceeds requirement of standards*)
- Meets Standard** (*Substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period*)
- Does Not Meet Standard** (*Requires Corrective Action*)

### Instructions for Overall Compliance Determination Narrative

*The narrative below must include a comprehensive discussion of all 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 the standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.*

VOA policy 1200:23A addresses the requirements of the standard. The policy was reviewed by the auditor. This policy provides specific directions and duties to first responders, investigators, facility administration, advocacy center staff and medical facilities in the coordination of efforts to respond to sexual abuse and sexual harassment incidents. There were no incidents requiring a coordinated response within the last 12 months. Staff interviews and a review of policy confirmed compliance with this standard.

### Standard 115.266: Preservation of ability to protect residents from contact with abusers

#### All Yes/No Questions Must Be Answered by the Auditor to Complete the Report

#### 115.266 (a)

- Are both the agency and any other governmental entities responsible for collective bargaining on the agency's behalf prohibited from entering into or renewing any collective bargaining agreement or other agreement that limits the agency's ability to remove alleged staff sexual abusers from contact with any residents pending the outcome of an investigation or of a determination of whether and to what extent discipline is warranted?  Yes  No

#### 115.266 (b)

- Auditor is not required to audit this provision.

### Auditor Overall Compliance Determination

- Exceeds Standard** (*Substantially exceeds requirement of standards*)
- Meets Standard** (*Substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period*)
- Does Not Meet Standard** (*Requires Corrective Action*)

### Instructions for Overall Compliance Determination Narrative

*The narrative below must include a comprehensive discussion of all 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 the standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.*

The VOA has no Collective Bargaining Agreements with staff. Facility administrative staff members are free to make staffing, termination, or staff re-assignment decisions for the purpose of protecting clients from contact with abusers, to ensure compliance with this standard.

## Standard 115.267: Agency protection against retaliation

### All Yes/No Questions Must Be Answered by the Auditor to Complete the Report

#### 115.267 (a)

- Has the agency established a Policy to protect all residents and staff who report sexual abuse or sexual harassment or cooperate with sexual abuse or sexual harassment investigations from retaliation by other residents or staff?  Yes  No
- Has the agency designated which staff members or departments are charged with monitoring retaliation?  Yes  No

#### 115.267 (b)

- Does the agency employ multiple protection measures, such as housing changes or transfers for resident victims or abusers, removal of alleged staff or resident abusers from contact with victims, and emotional support services for residents or staff who fear retaliation for reporting sexual abuse or sexual harassment or for cooperating with investigations?  Yes  No

#### 115.267 (c)

- Except in instances where the agency determines that a report of sexual abuse is unfounded, for at least 90 days following a report of sexual abuse, does the agency: Monitor the conduct and treatment of residents or staff who reported the sexual abuse to see if there are changes that may suggest possible retaliation by residents or staff?  Yes  No

- Except in instances where the agency determines that a report of sexual abuse is unfounded, for at least 90 days following a report of sexual abuse, does the agency: Monitor the conduct and treatment of residents who were reported to have suffered sexual abuse to see if there are changes that may suggest possible retaliation by residents or staff?  Yes  No
- Except in instances where the agency determines that a report of sexual abuse is unfounded, for at least 90 days following a report of sexual abuse, does the agency: Act promptly to remedy any such retaliation?  Yes  No
- Except in instances where the agency determines that a report of sexual abuse is unfounded, for at least 90 days following a report of sexual abuse, does the agency: Monitor any resident disciplinary reports?  Yes  No
- Except in instances where the agency determines that a report of sexual abuse is unfounded, for at least 90 days following a report of sexual abuse, does the agency: Monitor resident housing changes?  Yes  No
- Except in instances where the agency determines that a report of sexual abuse is unfounded, for at least 90 days following a report of sexual abuse, does the agency: Monitor resident program changes?  Yes  No
- Except in instances where the agency determines that a report of sexual abuse is unfounded, for at least 90 days following a report of sexual abuse, does the agency: Monitor negative performance reviews of staff?  Yes  No
- Except in instances where the agency determines that a report of sexual abuse is unfounded, for at least 90 days following a report of sexual abuse, does the agency: Monitor reassignments of staff?  Yes  No
- Does the agency continue such monitoring beyond 90 days if the initial monitoring indicates a continuing need?  Yes  No

#### 115.267 (d)

- In the case of residents, does such monitoring also include periodic status checks?  
 Yes  No

#### 115.267 (e)

- If any other individual who cooperates with an investigation expresses a fear of retaliation, does the agency take appropriate measures to protect that individual against retaliation?  
 Yes  No

#### 115.267 (f)

- Auditor is not required to audit this provision.

### Auditor Overall Compliance Determination

- Exceeds Standard** (*Substantially exceeds requirement of standards*)
- Meets Standard** (*Substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period*)
- Does Not Meet Standard** (*Requires Corrective Action*)

### Instructions for Overall Compliance Determination Narrative

*The narrative below must include a comprehensive discussion of all 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 the standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.*

VOA policy 1200:23A addresses the requirements of this standard. The policy prohibits any type of retaliation to any staff or client who has reported sexual abuse or sexual harassment or who cooperated in any PREA allegation investigation. The Facility Director is designated the Retaliation Monitor. She was interviewed and stated she would conduct checks with a client or staff member on a regular basis for at least 90 days or beyond, if needed, to ensure they are safe from retaliation. There have been no cases of actual or suspected retaliation during the previous 12 months. An interview with the Retaliation Monitor and a review of policy confirmed compliance with this standard.

## INVESTIGATIONS

### Standard 115.271: Criminal and administrative agency investigations

**All Yes/No Questions Must Be Answered by the Auditor to Complete the Report**

#### 115.271 (a)

- When the agency conducts its own investigations into allegations of sexual abuse and sexual harassment, does it do so promptly, thoroughly, and objectively? [N/A if the agency/facility is not responsible for conducting any form of criminal OR administrative sexual abuse investigations. See 115.221(a).]  Yes  No  NA
- Does the agency conduct such investigations for all allegations, including third party and anonymous reports? [N/A if the agency/facility is not responsible for conducting any form of criminal OR administrative sexual abuse investigations. See 115.221(a).]  Yes  No  NA

#### 115.271 (b)

- Where sexual abuse is alleged, does the agency use investigators who have received specialized training in sexual abuse investigations as required by 115.234?  Yes  No

**115.271 (c)**

- Do investigators gather and preserve direct and circumstantial evidence, including any available physical and DNA evidence and any available electronic monitoring data?  Yes  No
- Do investigators interview alleged victims, suspected perpetrators, and witnesses?  Yes  No
- Do investigators review prior reports and complaints of sexual abuse involving the suspected perpetrator?  Yes  No

**115.271 (d)**

- When the quality of evidence appears to support criminal prosecution, does the agency conduct compelled interviews only after consulting with prosecutors as to whether compelled interviews may be an obstacle for subsequent criminal prosecution?  Yes  No

**115.271 (e)**

- Do agency investigators assess the credibility of an alleged victim, suspect, or witness on an individual basis and not on the basis of that individual's status as resident or staff?  Yes  No
- Does the agency investigate allegations of sexual abuse without requiring a resident who alleges sexual abuse to submit to a polygraph examination or other truth-telling device as a condition for proceeding?  Yes  No

**115.271 (f)**

- Do administrative investigations include an effort to determine whether staff actions or failures to act contributed to the abuse?  Yes  No
- Are administrative investigations documented in written reports that include a description of the physical evidence and testimonial evidence, the reasoning behind credibility assessments, and investigative facts and findings?  Yes  No

**115.271 (g)**

- Are criminal investigations documented in a written report that contains a thorough description of the physical, testimonial, and documentary evidence and attaches copies of all documentary evidence where feasible?  Yes  No

**115.271 (h)**

- Are all substantiated allegations of conduct that appears to be criminal referred for prosecution?  Yes  No

### 115.271 (i)

- Does the agency retain all written reports referenced in 115.271(f) and (g) for as long as the alleged abuser is incarcerated or employed by the agency, plus five years?  Yes  No

### 115.271 (j)

- Does the agency ensure that the departure of an alleged abuser or victim from the employment or control of the agency does not provide a basis for terminating an investigation?  
 Yes  No

### 115.271 (k)

- Auditor is not required to audit this provision.

### 115.271 (l)

- When an outside entity investigates sexual abuse, does the facility cooperate with outside investigators and endeavor to remain informed about the progress of the investigation? [N/A if an outside agency does not conduct administrative or criminal sexual abuse investigations. See 115.221(a).]  Yes  No  NA

### Auditor Overall Compliance Determination

- Exceeds Standard** (*Substantially exceeds requirement of standards*)
- Meets Standard** (*Substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period*)
- Does Not Meet Standard** (*Requires Corrective Action*)

### Instructions for Overall Compliance Determination Narrative

*The narrative below must include a comprehensive discussion of all 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 the standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.*

The Agency and facility do not conduct any investigations. Criminal investigations would be conducted by the Ft. Worth Police Department and administrative investigations by the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, Wise County Probation or Federal Probation investigators.

### Standard 115.272: Evidentiary standard for administrative investigations

#### All Yes/No Questions Must Be Answered by the Auditor to Complete the Report

### 115.272 (a)

- Is it true that the agency does not impose a standard higher than a preponderance of the evidence in determining whether allegations of sexual abuse or sexual harassment are substantiated?  Yes  No

### Auditor Overall Compliance Determination

- Exceeds Standard** (*Substantially exceeds requirement of standards*)
- Meets Standard** (*Substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period*)
- Does Not Meet Standard** (*Requires Corrective Action*)

### Instructions for Overall Compliance Determination Narrative

*The narrative below must include a comprehensive discussion of all 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 the standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.*

VOA policy 1200:23A addresses this standard. The evidence standard is a "preponderance of the evidence" in determining whether allegations of sexual abuse or sexual harassment are substantiated.

### Standard 115.273: Reporting to residents

#### All Yes/No Questions Must Be Answered by the Auditor to Complete the Report

### 115.273 (a)

- Following an investigation into a resident's allegation that he or she suffered sexual abuse in an agency facility, does the agency inform the resident as to whether the allegation has been determined to be substantiated, unsubstantiated, or unfounded?  Yes  No

### 115.273 (b)

- If the agency did not conduct the investigation into a resident's allegation of sexual abuse in an agency facility, does the agency request the relevant information from the investigative agency in order to inform the resident? (N/A if the agency/facility is responsible for conducting administrative and criminal investigations.)  Yes  No  NA

### 115.273 (c)

- Following a resident's allegation that a staff member has committed sexual abuse against the resident, unless the agency has determined that the allegation is unfounded, or unless the

resident has been released from custody, does the agency subsequently inform the resident whenever: The staff member is no longer posted within the resident's unit?  Yes  No

- Following a resident's allegation that a staff member has committed sexual abuse against the resident, unless the agency has determined that the allegation is unfounded, or unless the resident has been released from custody, does the agency subsequently inform the resident whenever: The staff member is no longer employed at the facility?  Yes  No
- Following a resident's allegation that a staff member has committed sexual abuse against the resident, unless the agency has determined that the allegation is unfounded, or unless the resident has been released from custody, does the agency subsequently inform the resident whenever: The agency learns that the staff member has been indicted on a charge related to sexual abuse in the facility?  Yes  No
- Following a resident's allegation that a staff member has committed sexual abuse against the resident, unless the agency has determined that the allegation is unfounded, or unless the resident has been released from custody, does the agency subsequently inform the resident whenever: The agency learns that the staff member has been convicted on a charge related to sexual abuse within the facility?  Yes  No

#### 115.273 (d)

- Following a resident's allegation that he or she has been sexually abused by another resident, does the agency subsequently inform the alleged victim whenever: The agency learns that the alleged abuser has been indicted on a charge related to sexual abuse within the facility?  
 Yes  No
- Following a resident's allegation that he or she has been sexually abused by another resident, does the agency subsequently inform the alleged victim whenever: The agency learns that the alleged abuser has been convicted on a charge related to sexual abuse within the facility?  
 Yes  No

#### 115.273 (e)

- Does the agency document all such notifications or attempted notifications?  Yes  No

#### 115.273 (f)

- Auditor is not required to audit this provision.

#### Auditor Overall Compliance Determination

- Exceeds Standard** (*Substantially exceeds requirement of standards*)
- Meets Standard** (*Substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period*)
- Does Not Meet Standard** (*Requires Corrective Action*)

## Instructions for Overall Compliance Determination Narrative

*The narrative below must include a comprehensive discussion of all 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 the standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.*

VOA policy 1200:23A addresses the requirements of the standard. Policy requires that a client victim be informed of the determination of an investigation into an allegation of sexual abuse or sexual harassment. If the allegation and investigation involves staff, the facility is to inform the victim whenever the staff member is no longer in the client's facility, if the staff member is no longer employed at the facility, when the staff member has been indicted on a charge related to sexual abuse of the client within the facility or when the staff member has been convicted on a charge related to sexual abuse of the client within the facility. There were no administrative or criminal investigations completed during the audit period, therefore no notifications. Compliance to this standard was determined through interviews with the Facility Director and PREA Coordinator and policy review.

## DISCIPLINE

### Standard 115.276: Disciplinary sanctions for staff

#### All Yes/No Questions Must Be Answered by the Auditor to Complete the Report

#### 115.276 (a)

- Are staff subject to disciplinary sanctions up to and including termination for violating agency sexual abuse or sexual harassment policies?  Yes  No

#### 115.276 (b)

- Is termination the presumptive disciplinary sanction for staff who have engaged in sexual abuse?  Yes  No

#### 115.276 (c)

- Are disciplinary sanctions for violations of agency policies relating to sexual abuse or sexual harassment (other than actually engaging in sexual abuse) 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?  Yes  No

#### 115.276 (d)

- Are 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, reported to: Law enforcement agencies unless the activity was clearly not criminal?  Yes  No

- Are 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, reported to: Relevant licensing bodies?  Yes  No

### Auditor Overall Compliance Determination

- Exceeds Standard** (*Substantially exceeds requirement of standards*)
- Meets Standard** (*Substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period*)
- Does Not Meet Standard** (*Requires Corrective Action*)

### Instructions for Overall Compliance Determination Narrative

*The narrative below must include a comprehensive discussion of all 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 the standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.*

VOA policies 100:16 and 300:18 address the requirements of the standard. Staff members are subject to disciplinary sanctions for violating agency sexual abuse or sexual harassment policies. The facility has not issued any disciplinary sanctions to staff as a result of sexual conduct with clients during the previous 12 months. There have not been any reported cases of staff engaging in sex with clients during the previous 12 months. Policy states that employees are subject to disciplinary sanctions up to and including discharge for violating agency sexual abuse or sexual harassment policies. Policy also states 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. There is no Collective Bargaining Agreement between the RTC and the staff. Policy allows for disciplinary sanctions against staff including termination for sexual abuse or sexual harassment of a client. An interview with the Facility Director and the Human Resource VP and a review of documentation confirm that the facility is in compliance with this standard.

## Standard 115.277: Corrective action for contractors and volunteers

### All Yes/No Questions Must Be Answered by the Auditor to Complete the Report

#### 115.277 (a)

- Is any contractor or volunteer who engages in sexual abuse prohibited from contact with residents?  Yes  No
- Is any contractor or volunteer who engages in sexual abuse reported to: Law enforcement agencies unless the activity was clearly not criminal?  Yes  No

- Is any contractor or volunteer who engages in sexual abuse reported to: Relevant licensing bodies?  Yes  No

#### 115.277 (b)

- In the case of any other violation of agency sexual abuse or sexual harassment policies by a contractor or volunteer, does the facility take appropriate remedial measures, and consider whether to prohibit further contact with residents?  Yes  No

#### Auditor Overall Compliance Determination

- Exceeds Standard** (*Substantially exceeds requirement of standards*)
- Meets Standard** (*Substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period*)
- Does Not Meet Standard** (*Requires Corrective Action*)

#### Instructions for Overall Compliance Determination Narrative

*The narrative below must include a comprehensive discussion of all 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 the standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.*

VOA policy 1200:23A addresses the mandates of this standard. Any contractor (there are currently none employed) or volunteer who engages in sexual abuse/sexual harassment is prohibited from contact with clients and will be reported to law enforcement agencies and to relevant licensing bodies, unless the activity was clearly not criminal. In the past 12 months, there were no volunteers reported to have engaged in any act of sexual abuse with a client. The facility would take appropriate remedial measures, and consider prohibiting further contact with clients, in the event of any violation of agency sexual abuse or sexual harassment policies by a contractor or volunteer. Interviews with staff and a volunteer and an examination of documentation confirm compliance with this standard.

#### Standard 115.278: Interventions and disciplinary sanctions for residents

#### All Yes/No Questions Must Be Answered by the Auditor to Complete the Report

#### 115.278 (a)

- Following an administrative finding that a resident engaged in resident-on-resident sexual abuse, or following a criminal finding of guilt for resident-on-resident sexual abuse, are residents subject to disciplinary sanctions pursuant to a formal disciplinary process?  Yes  No

#### 115.278 (b)

- Are sanctions commensurate with the nature and circumstances of the abuse committed, the resident's disciplinary history, and the sanctions imposed for comparable offenses by other residents with similar histories?  Yes  No

#### 115.278 (c)

- When determining what types of sanction, if any, should be imposed, does the disciplinary process consider whether a resident's mental disabilities or mental illness contributed to his or her behavior?  Yes  No

#### 115.278 (d)

- If the facility offers therapy, counseling, or other interventions designed to address and correct underlying reasons or motivations for the abuse, does the facility consider whether to require the offending resident to participate in such interventions as a condition of access to programming and other benefits?  Yes  No

#### 115.278 (e)

- Does the agency discipline a resident for sexual contact with staff only upon a finding that the staff member did not consent to such contact?  Yes  No

#### 115.278 (f)

- For the purpose of disciplinary action does a report of sexual abuse made in good faith based upon a reasonable belief that the alleged conduct occurred NOT constitute falsely reporting an incident or lying, even if an investigation does not establish evidence sufficient to substantiate the allegation?  Yes  No

#### 115.278 (g)

- Does the agency always refrain from considering non-coercive sexual activity between residents to be sexual abuse? (N/A if the agency does not prohibit all sexual activity between residents.)  
 Yes  No  NA

#### Auditor Overall Compliance Determination

- Exceeds Standard** (*Substantially exceeds requirement of standards*)
- Meets Standard** (*Substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period*)
- Does Not Meet Standard** (*Requires Corrective Action*)

#### Instructions for Overall Compliance Determination Narrative

The narrative below must include a comprehensive discussion of all 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 the standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.

VOA policy 1200:23A addresses the requirements of the standard. Policy states that clients shall be subject to disciplinary sanctions pursuant to a formal disciplinary process following an administrative finding that the client engaged in client-on-client sexual abuse or following a criminal finding of guilt for the same sexual abuse. Sanctions shall be commensurate with the nature and circumstances of the abuse committed, the client's disciplinary history and the sanctions imposed for comparable offenses by other clients with similar histories. The disciplinary process shall consider whether a client's mental disabilities or mental illness contributed to his behavior when determining what type of sanction, if any, should be imposed. The facility may offer therapy, counseling or other interventions designed to address and correct underlying reasons or motivations for the abuse (only available at community-based programs). Also, the aggressor may be transferred to another facility or removed entirely from the VOA. The facility does not discipline clients who make allegations in good faith, even if the investigation does not establish evidence sufficient to substantiate the allegation. An interview with the Facility Director and PREA Coordinator and a review of policy confirmed compliance to this standard.

## MEDICAL AND MENTAL CARE

### Standard 115.282: Access to emergency medical and mental health services

All Yes/No Questions Must Be Answered by the Auditor to Complete the Report

#### 115.282 (a)

- Do resident 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?  
 Yes  No

#### 115.282 (b)

- If no qualified medical or mental health practitioners are on duty at the time a report of recent sexual abuse is made, do security staff first responders take preliminary steps to protect the victim pursuant to § 115.262?  Yes  No
- Do security staff first responders immediately notify the appropriate medical and mental health practitioners?  Yes  No

#### 115.282 (c)

- Are resident victims of sexual abuse 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?  Yes  No

#### 115.282 (d)

- Are treatment services 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?  Yes  No

#### Auditor Overall Compliance Determination

- Exceeds Standard** (*Substantially exceeds requirement of standards*)
- Meets Standard** (*Substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period*)
- Does Not Meet Standard** (*Requires Corrective Action*)

#### Instructions for Overall Compliance Determination Narrative

*The narrative below must include a comprehensive discussion of all 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 the standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.*

VOA policy 1200:23A addresses the mandates of this standard. Since the RTC has no medical staff, all cases pursuant to this standard would be taken to the local hospital for evaluation. Policy states that client victims of sexual abuse shall 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. Client victims of sexual abuse, while incarcerated, shall be 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 will be 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. Interviews with administrative staff and a review of policy confirmed compliance with this standard. Emergency medical treatment, a forensic exam and crisis intervention services are offered off-site at a local hospital. There were no incidents warranting such services this past reporting period. An interview with the Facility Director and PREA Coordinator and a review of policy confirmed compliance with this standard.

#### Standard 115.283: Ongoing medical and mental health care for sexual abuse victims and abusers

#### All Yes/No Questions Must Be Answered by the Auditor to Complete the Report

**115.283 (a)**

- Does the facility offer medical and mental health evaluation and, as appropriate, treatment to all residents who have been victimized by sexual abuse in any prison, jail, lockup, or juvenile facility?  Yes  No

**115.283 (b)**

- Does 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?  Yes  No

**115.283 (c)**

- Does the facility provide such victims with medical and mental health services consistent with the community level of care?  Yes  No

**115.283 (d)**

- Are resident victims of sexually abusive vaginal penetration while incarcerated offered pregnancy tests? (N/A if all-male facility.)  Yes  No  NA

**115.283 (e)**

- If pregnancy results from the conduct described in paragraph § 115.283(d), do such victims receive timely and comprehensive information about and timely access to all lawful pregnancy-related medical services? (N/A if all-male facility.)  Yes  No  NA

**115.283 (f)**

- Are resident victims of sexual abuse while incarcerated offered tests for sexually transmitted infections as medically appropriate?  Yes  No

**115.283 (g)**

- Are treatment services 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?  Yes  No

**115.283 (h)**

- Does the facility attempt to conduct a mental health evaluation of all known resident-on-resident abusers within 60 days of learning of such abuse history and offer treatment when deemed appropriate by mental health practitioners?  Yes  No

**Auditor Overall Compliance Determination**

**Exceeds Standard** (*Substantially exceeds requirement of standards*)

**Meets Standard** (*Substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period*)

**Does Not Meet Standard** (*Requires Corrective Action*)

### Instructions for Overall Compliance Determination Narrative

*The narrative below must include a comprehensive discussion of all 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 the standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.*

VOA policy 1200:23A addresses the mandates of this standard. Policy states that the RTC shall offer medical and mental health evaluation and, as appropriate, treatment to all clients who have been victimized by sexual abuse in the facility. The evaluation and treatment of such victims shall include 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. These services are only provided in the local community hospital or a community-based program. Client victims of sexual abuse, while incarcerated, shall be offered tests for sexually transmitted infections as medically appropriate. Services are without financial cost to the client. The facility has a Memorandum of Understanding with the victim advocacy organization that covers the Ft. Worth area. Compliance with this standard was determined by policy review and interviews with hospital staff, the local victim advocate and facility administrative staff.

## DATA COLLECTION AND REVIEW

### Standard 115.286: Sexual abuse incident reviews

**All Yes/No Questions Must Be Answered by the Auditor to Complete the Report**

#### 115.286 (a)

- Does the facility conduct a sexual abuse incident review at the conclusion of every sexual abuse investigation, including where the allegation has not been substantiated, unless the allegation has been determined to be unfounded?  Yes  No

#### 115.286 (b)

- Does such review ordinarily occur within 30 days of the conclusion of the investigation?  Yes  No

#### 115.286 (c)

- Does the review team include upper-level management officials, with input from line supervisors, investigators, and medical or mental health practitioners?  Yes  No

#### 115.286 (d)

- Does the review team: Consider whether the allegation or investigation indicates a need to change Policy or practice to better prevent, detect, or respond to sexual abuse?  Yes  No
- Does the review team: Consider whether the incident or allegation was motivated by race; ethnicity; gender identity; lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or intersex identification, status, or perceived status; gang affiliation; or other group dynamics at the facility?  Yes  No
- Does the review team: Examine the area in the facility where the incident allegedly occurred to assess whether physical barriers in the area may enable abuse?  Yes  No
- Does the review team: Assess the adequacy of staffing levels in that area during different shifts?  Yes  No
- Does the review team: Assess whether monitoring technology should be deployed or augmented to supplement supervision by staff?  Yes  No
- Does the review team: Prepare a report of its findings, including but not necessarily limited to determinations made pursuant to §§ 115.286(d)(1) - (d)(5), and any recommendations for improvement and submit such report to the facility head and PREA compliance manager?  Yes  No

#### 115.286 (e)

- Does the facility implement the recommendations for improvement, or document its reasons for not doing so?  Yes  No

#### Auditor Overall Compliance Determination

- Exceeds Standard** (*Substantially exceeds requirement of standards*)
- Meets Standard** (*Substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period*)
- Does Not Meet Standard** (*Requires Corrective Action*)

#### Instructions for Overall Compliance Determination Narrative

*The narrative below must include a comprehensive discussion of all 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 the standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.*

VOA policy 1200:23A and the PREA Incident Review Form address the requirements of the standard. Administrative and/or criminal investigations are completed on all allegations of sexual abuse and sexual harassment (none completed within the last year). The sexual abuse Incident Review Team would consist of the Facility Director, PREA Coordinator and, possibly, other staff. All cases would be reviewed by the Incident Review Team within 30 days of the conclusion of the investigation as required by policy. The auditor reviewed the form utilized for sexual abuse incident reviews. Compliance of this standard was determined by interviews with administrative staff, policy review and a review of the PREA Incident Review Form.

## Standard 115.287: Data collection

### All Yes/No Questions Must Be Answered by the Auditor to Complete the Report

#### 115.287 (a)

- Does the agency collect accurate, uniform data for every allegation of sexual abuse at facilities under its direct control using a standardized instrument and set of definitions?  Yes  No

#### 115.287 (b)

- Does the agency aggregate the incident-based sexual abuse data at least annually?  Yes  No

#### 115.287 (c)

- Does the incident-based data 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?  Yes  No

#### 115.287 (d)

- Does the agency maintain, review, and collect data as needed from all available incident-based documents, including reports, investigation files, and sexual abuse incident reviews?  Yes  No

#### 115.287 (e)

- Does the agency also obtain incident-based and aggregated data from every private facility with which it contracts for the confinement of its residents? (N/A if agency does not contract for the confinement of its residents.)  Yes  No  NA

#### 115.287 (f)

- Does the agency, upon request, provide all such data from the previous calendar year to the Department of Justice no later than June 30? (N/A if DOJ has not requested agency data.)  Yes  No  NA

### Auditor Overall Compliance Determination

**Exceeds Standard** (*Substantially exceeds requirement of standards*)

**Meets Standard** (*Substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period*)

**Does Not Meet Standard** (*Requires Corrective Action*)

### Instructions for Overall Compliance Determination Narrative

*The narrative below must include a comprehensive discussion of all 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 the standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.*

VOA policy 1200:23A addresses this standard. The policy is in place to ensure 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 and collects data as needed from all available incident-based documents, including reports, investigation files and sexual abuse incident reviews. This process includes, at a minimum, the data necessary to answer all questions from the most recent version of the Survey of Sexual Violence conducted by the U.S. Department of Justice. The Agency aggregates all data annually and posts it on their website for public review. Based on an interview with the PREA Coordinator and a review of the Annual Reports, the RTC and Agency are considered compliant with this standard.

### Standard 115.288: Data review for corrective action

#### All Yes/No Questions Must Be Answered by the Auditor to Complete the Report

#### 115.288 (a)

- Does the agency review data collected and aggregated pursuant to § 115.287 in order to assess and improve the effectiveness of its sexual abuse prevention, detection, and response policies, practices, and training, including by: Identifying problem areas?  Yes  No
- Does the agency review data collected and aggregated pursuant to § 115.287 in order to assess and improve the effectiveness of its sexual abuse prevention, detection, and response policies, practices, and training, including by: Taking corrective action on an ongoing basis?  Yes  No
- Does the agency review data collected and aggregated pursuant to § 115.287 in order to assess and improve the effectiveness of its sexual abuse prevention, detection, and response policies, practices, and training, including by: Preparing an annual report of its findings and corrective actions for each facility, as well as the agency as a whole?  Yes  No

#### 115.288 (b)

- Does the agency's annual report include a comparison of the current year's data and corrective actions with those from prior years and provide an assessment of the agency's progress in addressing sexual abuse  Yes  No

#### 115.288 (c)

- Is the agency's annual report approved by the agency head and made readily available to the public through its website or, if it does not have one, through other means?  Yes  No

#### 115.288 (d)

- Does the agency indicate the nature of the material redacted where it redacts specific material from the reports when publication would present a clear and specific threat to the safety and security of a facility?  Yes  No

### Auditor Overall Compliance Determination

- Exceeds Standard** (*Substantially exceeds requirement of standards*)
- Meets Standard** (*Substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period*)
- Does Not Meet Standard** (*Requires Corrective Action*)

### Instructions for Overall Compliance Determination Narrative

*The narrative below must include a comprehensive discussion of all 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 the standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.*

VOA policy 1200:23A addresses the requirements of the standard. The VOA and the institution reviews and assesses all sexual abuse/sexual harassment data at least annually to improve the effectiveness of its sexual abuse prevention, detection and response policies, to identify any trends, issues or problematic areas and to take corrective action, if needed. The PCM forwards data to the PREA Coordinator. An Annual Report is prepared and placed on the VOA website. The Annual Report was reviewed by the auditor. The report can be found at the following website address: [www.voatx.org](http://www.voatx.org). Compliance with this standard was determined by a review of policy/documentation and staff interviews.

### Standard 115.289: Data storage, publication, and destruction

#### All Yes/No Questions Must Be Answered by the Auditor to Complete the Report

#### 115.289 (a)

- Does the agency ensure that data collected pursuant to § 115.287 are securely retained?  
 Yes  No

#### 115.289 (b)

- Does the agency make all aggregated sexual abuse data, from facilities under its direct control and private facilities with which it contracts, readily available to the public at least annually through its website or, if it does not have one, through other means?  Yes  No

#### 115.289 (c)

- Does the agency remove all personal identifiers before making aggregated sexual abuse data publicly available?  Yes  No

#### 115.289 (d)

- Does the agency maintain sexual abuse data collected pursuant to § 115.287 for at least 10 years after the date of the initial collection, unless Federal, State, or local law requires otherwise?  Yes  No

#### Auditor Overall Compliance Determination

- Exceeds Standard** (*Substantially exceeds requirement of standards*)
- Meets Standard** (*Substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period*)
- Does Not Meet Standard** (*Requires Corrective Action*)

#### Instructions for Overall Compliance Determination Narrative

*The narrative below must include a comprehensive discussion of all 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 the standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.*

VOA policy 1200:23A was reviewed and addresses this standard. Per Policy, the Agency will compile, review and assess all sexual abuse/sexual harassment cases at least annually to improve the effectiveness of its sexual abuse prevention, detection and response policies. The data is used to determine appropriate interventions, enhancements to staff and offender training, assessment of appropriate housing for victims/predators and policy updates and revisions to enhance operational aspects designed to provide safer facilities. Annual staffing plan reviews, assessment of current use of monitoring/surveillance equipment and facility infrastructure modifications are data that may assist the VOA in making determinations. The RTC PCM forwards data to the VOA PREA Coordinator. An annual report is prepared and placed on the VOA website. The 2018 Annual Report published on the VOA website, as well

as an interview with the PREA Coordinator, confirm the Agency and RTC are considered compliant with this standard.

## AUDITING AND CORRECTIVE ACTION

### Standard 115.401: Frequency and scope of audits

**All Yes/No Questions Must Be Answered by the Auditor to Complete the Report**

#### 115.401 (a)

- During the three-year period starting on August 20, 2013, and during each three-year period thereafter, did the agency ensure that each facility operated by the agency, or by a private organization on behalf of the agency, was audited at least once.? (N/A before August 20, 2016.)  
 Yes    No    NA

#### 115.401 (b)

- During each one-year period starting on August 20, 2013, did the agency ensure that at least one-third of each facility type operated by the agency, or by a private organization on behalf of the agency, was audited?  Yes    No

#### 115.401 (h)

- Did the auditor have access to, and the ability to observe, all areas of the audited facility?  
 Yes    No

#### 115.401 (i)

- Was the auditor permitted to request and receive copies of any relevant documents (including electronically stored information)?  Yes    No

#### 115.401 (m)

- Was the auditor permitted to conduct private interviews with residents, residents, and detainees?    Yes    No

#### 115.401 (n)

- Were residents permitted to send confidential information or correspondence to the auditor in the same manner as if they were communicating with legal counsel?  Yes    No

#### Auditor Overall Compliance Determination

- Exceeds Standard** (*Substantially exceeds requirement of standards*)

- Meets Standard** (*Substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period*)
- Does Not Meet Standard** (*Requires Corrective Action*)

**Instructions for Overall Compliance Determination Narrative**

*The narrative below must include a comprehensive discussion of all 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 the standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.*

The VOA is in compliance with the 3-year period for completing PREA audits based on a review of its website and an interview with the PREA Coordinator. The auditor had access to and was able to observe all areas of the facility. The auditor was able to request, review and receive all relevant documents including electronically stored documents. The auditor was permitted to conduct private interviews of staff and clients. Notices of the PREA audit were posted on April 18, 2019. Interviews with random clients indicated they were aware of the postings. No letters were sent to the auditor.

**Standard 115.403: Audit contents and findings**

**All Yes/No Questions Must Be Answered by the Auditor to Complete the Report**

**115.403 (f)**

- The agency has published on its agency website, if it has one, or has otherwise made publicly available, all Final Audit Reports within 90 days of issuance by auditor. The review period is for prior audits completed during the past three years PRECEDING THIS AGENCY AUDIT. In the case of single facility agencies, the auditor shall ensure that the facility’s last audit report was published. The pendency of any agency appeal pursuant to 28 C.F.R. § 115.405 does not excuse noncompliance with this provision. (N/A if there have been no Final Audit Reports issued in the past three years, or in the case of single facility agencies that there has never been a Final Audit Report issued.)  Yes  No  NA

**Auditor Overall Compliance Determination**

- Exceeds Standard** (*Substantially exceeds requirement of standards*)
- Meets Standard** (*Substantial compliance; complies in all material ways with the standard for the relevant review period*)
- Does Not Meet Standard** (*Requires Corrective Action*)

**Instructions for Overall Compliance Determination Narrative**

*The narrative below must include a comprehensive discussion of all 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 the standard. These recommendations must be included in the Final Report, accompanied by information on specific corrective actions taken by the facility.*

The VOA has all PREA final reports published on the Agency's website within 90 days after the final report is issued by the auditor. The Agency has continuously provided these documents on their website since 2014. A review of the Agency's website indicated compliance with this standard.

## 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 resident or staff member, except where the names of administrative personnel are specifically requested in the report template.

### **Auditor Instructions:**

Type your full name in the text box below for Auditor Signature. This will function as your official electronic signature. Auditors must deliver their final report to the PREA Resource Center as a searchable PDF format to ensure accessibility to people with disabilities. Save this report document into a PDF format prior to submission.<sup>1</sup> Auditors are not permitted to submit audit reports that have been scanned.<sup>2</sup> See the PREA Auditor Handbook for a full discussion of audit report formatting requirements.

William Willingham  
**Auditor Signature**

July 10, 2019  
**Date**

---

<sup>1</sup> See additional instructions here: <https://support.office.com/en-us/article/Save-or-convert-to-PDF-d85416c5-7d77-4fd6-a216-6f4bf7c7c110>.

<sup>2</sup> See *PREA Auditor Handbook*, Version 1.0, August 2017; Pages 68-69.