

## Things to Remember:

**Unwanted sex with another resident or any sex with a staff member is sexual abuse.**

- Do not believe another resident who says he or she will protect you or take care of you in exchange for sexual favors.
- Do not take gifts or favors from others. Sexual abuse is one way people are sometimes forced to pay off a debt.
- Pay attention to uncomfortable feelings about others. If you think something is dangerous, it probably is. If you think you are not safe, tell staff.
- Do not flirt or talk to other residents or staff about having sex. If someone asks you to do something sexual, you have the right to say “no.”
- Tell a staff member if you are being harassed or threatened for sex.
- **If you are sexually abused by another resident or staff, report it.** DOCCS will protect you from the abuser and help will be provided whether or not you name your abuser.

## Report Sexual Abuse

**Office of Special Investigations  
Department of Corrections and  
Community Supervision  
The Harriman State Campus, Building 2  
1220 Washington Avenue  
Albany, New York 12226-2050**

**If you wish to report to an outside agency:**

**The New York State  
Commission of Correction  
Alfred E. Smith State Office Building  
80 South Swan Street, 12th Floor  
Albany, New York 12210**

**Sexual  
Abuse  
Prevention &  
Education  
Office**

PREVENTION  
EDUCATION  
VICTIM SUPPORT

**Andrew M. Cuomo  
Governor**

**Anthony J. Annucci  
Acting Commissioner**

2014

## The Prevention of Sexual Abuse

### Community Supervision Residential Program Information



**Corrections and  
Community Supervision**

THE NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT  
OF CORRECTIONS AND COMMUNITY  
SUPERVISION HAS  
**ZERO TOLERANCE**  
FOR SEXUAL ABUSE  
AND SEXUAL HARASSMENT

## Report Sexual Abuse

## Policy

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

Sexual abuse is unwanted sexual contact with another resident or any sexual contact with a staff member. Sexual harassment includes repeated sexual comments or gestures.

### The Department does not tolerate sexual abuse or sexual harassment.

All reports of sexual abuse, sexual harassment or retaliation because of such a report will be investigated. Anyone who sexually abuses or harasses someone will be disciplined and prosecuted if the conduct is a crime.

## About Your Safety

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

- No one has the right to make you do a sexual act.
- You do not have to put up with sexual harassment, sexual abuse or being forced to have unwanted sexual contact with anyone.
- If you are being pushed, threatened or blackmailed into a sex act by another resident or by staff, you should report it.
- You should also report if anyone tries to get back at you because you reported such an incident or spoke to an investigator.

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

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

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

## Reporting

### How do you report sexual abuse?

It is important to tell staff if you have been sexually abused or sexually harassed. **You can tell your program's PREA Compliance Manager, any program staff, your Parole Officer, or your Senior Parole Officer.**

You may also report by writing to the Area Supervisor, Central Office, the PREA Coordinator or the Department's Office of Special Investigations (OSI). If you want to report to an outside agency, you may contact the New York State Commission of Correction.

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

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

**What happens with reports of sexual abuse?** All reports of sexual abuse, sexual harassment, or retaliation for reporting or being part of an investigation will be thoroughly investigated. Cases may also be reported to law enforcement officials by the Department's Office of Special Investigations (OSI).

**Retaliation is not allowed.** A resident will not be punished for good faith reporting of sexual abuse or sexual harassment.

In accordance with the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA), this pamphlet provides a brief overview of the Department's Zero Tolerance Policy regarding sexual abuse and sexual harassment for residents living within NYSDOCCS contract programs. Reporting procedures are also discussed, with contact information included. All residents have the right to be free from sexual abuse and sexual harassment and to be free from retaliation for reporting such incidents.