

**Lake County Sheriff's Office
Mark C. Curran Jr., Sheriff**

MEDIA RELEASE

Lake County Sheriff's Office • 25 South Martin Luther King, Jr., Avenue • Waukegan, Illinois 60085

For Immediate Release

Date: October 29, 2018
Contact: Sgt. Christopher Covelli
Office: (847) 377-4180
Fax: (847) 984-5738
E-Mail: ccovelli@lakecountyil.gov

Lake County Jail Passes Prison Rape Elimination Act Audit

Sheriff Mark Curran is pleased to announce the Lake County Jail passed its second Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) audit this month. The audit consists of an outside auditor inspecting the Lake County Jail, meeting with inmates, interviewing correctional officers, and interviewing Sheriff's Administration. Over 40 standards are evaluated, and the Lake County Jail met all of the PREA standards.

PREA is a federal law that prohibits and seeks to eliminate sexual abuse and sexual harassment in correctional institutions and community corrections settings. The Lake County Sheriff's Office Adult Corrections Facility is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for staff and offenders.

- The Lake County Sheriff's Office Adult Corrections Facility has zero tolerance for sexual abuse or sexual harassment of any person or sexual relationships between staff and offenders
- Offenders who have consensual sexual contact with another offender will be disciplined
- Offenders who initiate non-consensual sexual contact with another offender will be disciplined and referred to law enforcement
- Employees, contract staff, and volunteers who engage in sexual contact or sexual misconduct with offenders will be terminated and referred for criminal prosecution

Sheriff Mark Curran said, "We have zero tolerance for sexual abuse or sexual harassment at the Lake County Sheriff's Office. Passing the PREA audit along with achieving multiple national accreditations shows we are committed to excellence and to the service of the people of Lake County."

End of Release