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REFERENCE: PREA – Prison Rape Elimination Act	SUBJECT: PREA – Medical Treatment	
ISSUED BY: Chief Frank J. Apisa	APPROVED BY: Warden Paul Kaminsky	

Purpose: The purpose of this policy is to establish the Somerset County Jail as a “zero tolerance” facility that prohibits harassment and sexual abuse in an effort to provide staff with key definitions, prohibited acts and general information regarding the prevention, detection and investigation of sexual harassment and sexual abuse in the facility.

Policy: The Somerset County Jail is a correctional facility with a “zero tolerance” for harassment and sexual abuse in accordance with the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) of 2003 and the final PREA Standards adopted by the U.S. Attorney General in 2012. It is the policy of the Somerset County Sheriff's Office – Correction Division to safeguard inmates within the institution.

Procedure:

I. Medical Treatment LGBTQ+

- A. Law enforcement officers shall treat prescription hormones like any other prescription medication necessary for an individual's health and wellbeing. Law enforcement officers shall document the circumstances of any medical treatment pursuant to applicable policies and procedures.
- B. Medical/mental health treatment of transgender, intersex, and non-binary inmates, including but not limited to medically appropriate gender-affirming care, will be provided as medically necessary in accordance with procedures determined by the Department's health care provider.
- C. Officers should also be aware that transgender individuals may possess needles related to their prescribed hormone treatment and/or therapy and that such possession is not necessarily indicative of illegal possession of drugs or drug paraphernalia.
- D. Staff shall not handle an inmate's request for medical attention with any less urgency or respect because of that inmate's actual or perceived gender identity or gender expression.

II. Medical and Mental Health Screening; History of Sexual Abuse

- A. If the screening pursuant to **PREA standard 115.41** in this policy indicates that an inmate experienced prior sexual victimization, regardless of where it occurred, the inmate shall be offered a follow-up meeting with medical or mental health providers within fourteen (14) days of the intake screening. **(115.81)**
- B. If the screening pursuant to **PREA Standard 115.41** indicates that the inmate has previously perpetuated sexual abuse, regardless of where it occurred, the inmate shall be offered a follow-up meeting with a mental health provider within fourteen (14) days of the intake screening. **(115.81)**
- C. Any information related to sexual victimization or abusiveness that occurred in an institutional setting shall be strictly limited to medical and mental health practitioners and other staff, as necessary, to inform treatment plans and security and management decisions. Including housing and program assignments, or as otherwise required by Federal, State, or local law. **(115.81)**
- D. Medical and mental health providers shall obtain informed consent from inmates prior to reporting information about prior sexual victimization that does not occur in an institutional setting unless the inmate is under the age of 18. **(115.81)**