

New York City Department of Correction
 Staff on Visitor Sexual Abuse & Harassment Report
 July 1, 2020 – December 31, 2020

Pursuant to Local Law 23 of 2019, the Department is required to report on allegations of sexual abuse, sexual harassment, and interventions on visitors to Departmental facilities for cases that lasted longer than 90 days within the preceding six-month period, (07/01/2020 – 12/31/2020), and for cases that were concluded within the preceding six months. The following report outlines the number and percentage of the information required by subdivisions c and d of the law. Data that cannot be aggregated has been provided to the Council and BOC but has not been included in this report. Data on interventions has been separated and is included in the last section of this report (pg. 3) to clarify the difference between an alleged incident and interventions. To avoid identifying unique instances of incidents which may risk re-identification, the Department does not report certain information that is less than six, this data is reported as “<6”.

During this reporting period, in-person personal visitation was suspended as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Department suspended in-person visits on March 18, 2020. Beginning on April 1, 2020, the Department launched a televisiting program to provide a socially distanced opportunity for individuals in custody and their family and friends to maintain connections during the pandemic. Pursuant to definitions outlined in Local Law 23 of 2019, the Department did not have any allegations of sexual abuse or sexual harassment that took place during in-person professional visits or televisits during the reporting period.

Subdivision c – Data related to staff on visitor incident investigations that lasted longer than 90 days within the preceding six-month period:

- 1. The date on which the alleged incident occurred and whether the incident took place between the times 7:00 AM and 3:00 PM, 3:00 PM and 11:00 PM, and 11:00 PM and 7:00 AM.**

Time of Alleged Incident	Number of Staff on Visitor Allegations	Percent of Staff on Visitor Allegations
0700 x1500	0	0%
1500x2300	0	0%
2300x0700	0	0%
Unknown	0	0%
Total	0	0%

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2. Whether the alleged incident occurred at Rikers Island or at a borough facility, and at which facility the incident occurred.

Rikers or Borough	Facility	Number of Allegations	Percent of Allegations
Rikers	AMKC	0	0%
Rikers	EMTC	0	0%
Rikers	GRVC	0	0%
Borough	MDC	0	0%
Rikers	OBCC	0	0%
Rikers	RMSC	0	0%
Rikers	SOD	0	0%
Borough	VCBC	0	0%
Total		0	0%

3. The method by which the alleged incident was reported and the date of reporting.

Method of Reporting	Staff on Visitor Allegation	
	Number of Allegations	Percent of Allegations
311	0	0%
Total	0	0%

4. Whether the alleged perpetrator completed staff training pursuant to subdivision f, and the last date such training was received.

There is no applicable incident or data for this reporting period.

5. The gender of the alleged victim.

Alleged Victim's Gender	Staff on Visitor Allegations	
	Number of Alleged Incidents	Percent of Alleged Incidents
Male	0	0%
Female	0	0%
Unknown	0	0%
Total	0	0%

6. Whether the alleged victim at the time of the incident was between the ages of 18-25, 26-35, 36-40, 41-60, over 60, or under 18.

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Alleged Victim's Age Range	Staff on Visitor Allegation	
	Number of Alleged Incidents	Percent of Alleged Incidents
<18	0	0%
18-25	0	0%
26-35	0	0%
36-40	0	0%
41-60	0	0%
>60	0	0%
Unknown	0	0%
Total	0	0%

Subdivision d - Data related to allegations of staff on visitor incident investigations that concluded within the preceding six-month period.

During the preceding six-month period (07/1/2020 – 12/31/2020), there were no new allegations of staff-on-visitor allegations made and there were also no staff-on-visitor allegations concluded.

Subdivision c (Interventions)

For the purposes of this report, the Department understands incidents of “interventions” to mean verified instance in which staff use their hands, other parts of their body, or other physical method to restrain, subdue, or compel a visitor to act or stop acting in a particular manner. The only verified information that speaks to this provision are interventions that occur over the course of an arrest of a visitor.

Arrests are authorized as a result of visitor behavior that violates city, state, or federal law. Arrests may occur as a result of a visitor’s attempt to introduce weapon or drug contraband into the facility or an assault on a staff member. For the purposes of this section, perpetrators are instead referred to as “members of service” and victims are referred to as “individuals subject to arrest”.

- 1. The date on which the intervention occurred and whether the intervention took place between the times 7:00 AM and 3:00 PM, 3:00 PM and 11:00 PM, and 11:00 PM and 7:00 AM.**

Time of Intervention	Number of Interventions	Percent of Interventions
0700x1500	0	0%
1500x2300	0	0%
2300x0700	0	0%
Total	0	0%

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2. Whether the intervention occurred at Rikers Island or at a borough facility, and at which facility the intervention occurred.

Facility	Borough or Rikers	Number of Interventions	Percent of Interventions
AMKC	RIKERS	0	0%
BHPW	BOROUGH	0	0%
GRVC	RIKERS	0	0%
MDC	BOROUGH	0	0%
NIC	RIKERS	0	0%
OBCC	RIKERS	0	0%
RNDC	RIKERS	0	0%
SOD (Central Visits)	RIKERS	0	0%
VCBC	BOROUGH	0	0%
Total		0	0%

3. The method by which the intervention was reported and the date of reporting.

Method of Reporting	Number of Reports	Percent of Reports
Arrest	0	0%
Total	0	0%

4. Whether the involved members of service completed staff training pursuant to subdivision f, and the last date such training was received.

The Department has worked with the Osborne Association to develop a follow-up refresher course based on trainings conducted in May and June of 2019 that focused on customer service, de-escalation strategies, implicit bias, and stress management. In the fall of 2020, the Department finalized a half-day refresher training that was rolled out for the same staff members who participated in the initial Osborne Association training.

The in-house refresher module is entitled “Facilitating Successful Visits,” and covers the importance of visits to people in custody and the central role visits play in the Department’s rehabilitation-centered correctional mission. The refresher includes activities for participants which highlight the perspective of friends and family members who visit people in custody. In October 2020, the Training Division formally rolled out the in-person “Facilitating Successful Visits” training for related personnel. As of January 2021, 154 of the approximately 240 staff members identified for this training have been trained and the remaining staff will be trained in the upcoming months.

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The Department created a new pat-frisk training for Visits staff that addresses appropriate search practices and clearly identifies improper conduct. The training is a 2-hour course in which staff reviews the policy and then engages in a hands-on practice with full-body mannequins. The Department developed the lesson plan in February of 2020 and began training staff in March of 2020. After three training sessions, the Department had to pause due to the suspension of in-person trainings for COVID-19 mitigation. In October 2020, the Department resumed this training for a short time, then paused it again for COVID-19 mitigation. In February 2021, the Department resumed this training in preparation of the eventual return of in-person visits. The Department looks forward to resuming in-person visits with all visit staff trained on customer service and pat-frisk.

Training	Staff Involved in Intervention	
	Number of Staff	Percentage of Staff
Trained	0	0%
Not Trained	0	0%
Total	0	0%

5. The gender of the individual subject to arrest.

Visitor's Gender	Number of Interventions	Percent of Interventions
Male	0	0%
Female	0	0%
Total	0	0%

6. Whether the individual subject to arrest was between the ages of 18-25, 26-35, 36-40, 41-60, over 60, or under 18.

Visitor's Age Range	Number of Interventions	Percent of Interventions
<18	0	0%
18-25	0	0%
26-35	0	0%
36-40	0	0%
41-60	0	0%
>60	0	0%
Unknown	0	0%
Total	0	0%