

**New York City Department of Correction  
Semi-Annual Staff on Visitor Sexual Abuse & Harassment Report  
January 1, 2021 – June 30, 2021**

*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, (01/01/2021 – 06/30/2021), 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, certain 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 and they did not resume until June 25, 2021. 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.<sup>1</sup>**

<i><b>Time of Alleged Incident</b></i>	<i><b>Number of Staff on Visitor Allegations</b></i>	<i><b>Percent of Staff on Visitor Allegations</b></i>
0700x1500	0	0%
1500x2300	0	0%
Unknown	0	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>100%</b>

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<sup>1</sup> The date in which the incident occurred cannot be reported in the aggregate.

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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.

<i>Rikers or Borough</i>	<i>Facility</i>	<i>Number of Allegations</i>	<i>Percent of Allegations</i>
Rikers	AMKC	0	0%
	EMTC	0	0%
	GRVC	0	0%
	OBCC	0	0%
	RMSC	0	0%
	SOD	0	0%
Borough	MDC	0	0%
	VCBC	0	0%
<b>Total</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>100%</b>

3. The method by which the alleged incident was reported and the date of reporting.<sup>2</sup>

<i>Method of Reporting</i>	<i>Staff on Visitor Allegation</i>	
	<i>Number of Allegations</i>	<i>Percent of Allegations</i>
311	0	100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>100%</b>

4. Whether the alleged perpetrator completed staff training pursuant to subdivision f, and the last date such training was received.<sup>3</sup>

No allegations made during this reporting period. Visits closed on 4/18/20.

5. The gender of the alleged victim.

<i>Alleged Victim's Gender</i>	<i>Staff on Visitor Allegations</i>	
	<i>Number of Alleged Incidents</i>	<i>Percent of Alleged Incidents</i>
Male	0	0%
Female	0	0%

<sup>2</sup> The date of the alleged incident cannot be reported in the aggregate.

<sup>3</sup> The last date that the training was received cannot be reported in the aggregate.

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<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>100%</b>
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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.

<i>Alleged Victim's Age Range</i>	<i>Staff on Visitor Allegation</i>	
	<i>Number of Alleged Incidents</i>	<i>Percent of Alleged Incidents</i>
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%
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>100%</b>

7. Whether the alleged victim claimed that the perpetrator of the sexual abuse, sexual harassment or intervention intentionally selected them in whole or in part because of a belief or perception regarding the alleged victim's gender or sexual orientation, regardless of whether such belief or perception was correct;

During this period there were no visit allegations reported.

8. Whether the alleged victim claimed that the perpetrator of the sexual abuse, sexual harassment or intervention intentionally committed the act in whole or in part because of a belief regarding the victim's gender or sexual orientation, regardless of whether such belief or perception was correct;

During this period there were no visit allegations reported.

9. For interventions, whether emergency medical services was called;

During this period there were no visit allegations reported.

10. The gender of the staff alleged to have engaged in sexual abuse, sexual harassment or an intervention against a visitor;

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During this period there were no visit allegations reported.

**11. Whether the incident occurred in a restroom, a visitor’s waiting area, or another location;**

During this period there were no visit allegations reported.

**12. Whether the alleged victim is known to identify as transgender or intersex;**

During this period there were no visit allegations reported.

**13. Whether the alleged victim is known to identify as lesbian, gay or bi-sexual;**

During this period there were no visit allegations reported.

**14. The type of acts of sexual abuse or harassment as defined in subdivision a of this section;**

During this period there were no visit allegations reported.

**15. For allegations of sexual abuse and harassment, whether such allegation consists of conduct consistent with the definition of sexual abuse or harassment under section 115.6 of title 28 of the code of federal regulations and any successor regulation:**

During this period there were no visit allegations reported.

**16. Whether the incident occurred during the course of an otherwise authorized search of the visitor.**

During this period there were no visit allegations reported.

**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 (01/01/2021 – 06/30/2021), 32 allegations of staff-on-visitor incident investigations were concluded.

**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.<sup>4</sup>**

<i>Time of Alleged Incident</i>	<i>Number of Staff on Visitor Allegations</i>	<i>Percent of Staff on Visitor Allegations</i>
0700x1500	13	40.63%

<sup>4</sup> The date in which the incident occurred cannot be reported in the aggregate.

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1500x2300	7	21.88%
Unknown	12	37.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>100%</b>

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

<i>Rikers or Borough</i>	<i>Facility</i>	<i>Number of Allegations</i>	<i>Percent of Allegations</i>
Rikers	AMKC	<6	N/A
	EMTC	8	25%
	GRVC	7	21.88%
	OBCC	<6	N/A
	RMSC	<6	N/A
	SOD	<6	N/A
	WF	<6	N/A
Borough	BKDC	<6	N/A
	MDC	<6	N/A
	VCBC	<6	N/A
<b>Total</b>		<b>32</b>	<b>100%</b>

3. The method by which the alleged incident was reported and the date of reporting.<sup>5</sup>

<i>Method of Reporting</i>	<i>Staff on Visitor Allegation</i>	
	<i>Number of Allegations</i>	<i>Percent of Allegations</i>
311	0	100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>100%</b>

4. Whether the alleged perpetrator completed staff training pursuant to subdivision f, and the last date such training was received.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>5</sup> The date of the alleged incident cannot be reported in the aggregate.

<sup>6</sup> The last date that the training was received cannot be reported in the aggregate.

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One of the cases in this category had staff sent for retraining.

**5. The gender of the alleged victim.**

<i>Alleged Victim's Gender</i>	<i>Staff on Visitor Allegations</i>	
	<i>Number of Alleged Incidents</i>	<i>Percent of Alleged Incidents</i>
Male	<6	N/A
Female	30	N/A
<b>Total</b>	N/A	<b>100%</b>

**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.**

<i>Alleged Victim's Age Range</i>	<i>Staff on Visitor Allegation</i>	
	<i>Number of Alleged Incidents</i>	<i>Percent of Alleged Incidents</i>
18<	0	0%
18-25	<6	N/A
26-35	<6	N/A
36-40	<6	N/A
41-60	<6	N/A
60>	0	0%
Unknown	19	59.38%
<b>Total</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>100%</b>

**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 a weapon or drug contraband into the facility, or an assault on a staff member. For the purposes of this section, perpetrators

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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.<sup>7</sup>

<i>Time of Intervention</i>	<i>Number of Interventions</i>	<i>Percent of Interventions</i>
0700x1500	<6	100%
1500x2300	0	0
2300x0700	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>&lt;6</b>	<b>100%</b>

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

<i>Borough or Rikers</i>	<i>Facility</i>	<i>Number of Interventions</i>	<i>Percent of Interventions</i>
Rikers	AMKC	<6	100%
	EMTC	0	0
	GRVC	0	0
	NIC	0	0
	OBCC	0	0
	RMSC	0	0
	RNDC	0	0
	SOD (Central Visits)	0	0
Borough	BHPW	0	0
	BKDC	0	0

<sup>7</sup>The date on which the arrest occurred cannot be reported in the aggregate.

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	MDC	0	0
	VCBC	0	0
<b>Total</b>		<b>&lt;6</b>	<b>100%</b>

**3. The method by which the intervention was reported and the date of reporting<sup>8</sup>.**

<i>Method of Reporting</i>	<i>Number of Reports</i>	<i>Percent of Reports</i>
Arrest	<6	100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>&lt;6</b>	<b>100%</b>

**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.

The Department also 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.

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<sup>8</sup> The date on which the intervention was reported cannot be reported in the aggregate.

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As of July 2021, all staff members identified as having frequent interactions with visitors have completed both courses, except for those individuals identified on leave or medically-monitored. Of the 207 staff members assigned to the Central Visit House, facility Visits, the Central Intelligence Bureau, and the Departmental Canine Unit, 174 staff members completed Visitor Pat-Frisk training and 196 staff members completed the Facilitating Successful Visits course. Moving forward, these trainings will be provided on an annual basis as refresher courses, and to all newly assigned staff.

<i>Training</i>	<i>Staff Involved in Intervention</i>	
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
<i>Trained</i>	1	100%
<i>Not Trained<sup>9</sup></i>	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>100%</b>

**5. The gender of the individual subject to arrest.**

<i>Visitor's Gender</i>	<i>Number of Interventions</i>	<i>Percent of Interventions</i>
Male	0	0
Female	<6	100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>&lt;6</b>	<b>100%</b>

**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.**

<i>Visitor's Age Range</i>	<i>Number of Interventions</i>	<i>Percent of Interventions</i>
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<sup>9</sup> While Correctional Intelligence Bureau (CIB) Officers conduct the arrest of the visitor, CIB staff members were not included in the initial training group. 12 of the 71 officers not trained were CIB Officers. The Department is in the process of developing a repurposed curriculum in order to provide annual refresher trainings to all staff who work with visitors.

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>18	0	0
18-25	0	0
26-35	<6	100%
36-40	0	0
41-60	0	0
>60	0	0
Unknown	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>&lt;6</b>	<b>100%</b>