SGM Consulting Post Office Box 561 King George, VA 22485 Certified Auditor Prison Rape Elimination Act

(PREA) Final Report PREA Audit Western Tidewater Regional Jail

The audit of your facility was conducted by me on September 9, 10, and 11, 2015. I reviewed your policies and procedures concerning all aspects of the PREA Standards. Your PREA Coordinator, Lieutenant Ezzell, completed the pre-audit questionnaire completely and professionally.

My onsite review consisted of touring your facility, observing your staff, and interviews with a random sample of your officers and inmates. Your staff was professional in every aspect of my review.

I viewed the notices of the pending audit that were posted for staff and inmates to report any issues them deemed necessary. I did not receive any correspondence from any staff member or inmate concerning PREA.

The interviews I conducted were scheduled with both male and female officers as well as male and female inmates.

I was able to interview officers from two different shifts in order to get the perspective of your overall operation within the secure area.

In addition I interviewed medical and maintenance personnel to insure that every staff member is aware of and practice the PREA Standards.

During my interviews of male inmates it became known that some female officers were not clearly announcing their presence when entering a male holding area. Only one female officer was identified as always making her presence known when entering the male inmate pods. This issue was brought to Lieutenant Ezzell's attention and he immediately addressed the issue. Failure to announce the presence of a female officer when entering a male pod does not comply with PREA Standard 115.15 *Limits to cross-gender viewing and searches*. Lieutenant Ezzell's message to your shift commanders should remedy this and bring your female staff in compliance with Standard 115.15.

I request to visit your facility within the 180 days review period and conduct additional interviews with a sampling of male inmates to assure you the standard is being followed. This follow up will be conducted in 2016 if you approve. No additional payment will be requested for this follow up.

A second concern under the same Standard 115.15 was the pod cameras. While viewing those cameras it was evident that female officers working the control cameras could view toilets in the male pods. In consultation with Lieutenant Ezzell and Superintendent Smith and his command staff it was determined that the remedy to this would take some modification to either the cameras or the toilet areas. At the conclusion of my on-site review the remedy to this issue was not yet determined.

On October 5, 2015, Lieutenant Ezzell presented the remedy to cross gender viewing by female officers of the male pod toilets. He provided a photograph of curtains that now conceal from camera view the toilet area while allowing continued security. Based on the photographs and the explanation of how the curtains are attached I determine that the curtains now prevent cross-gender viewing and is in compliance of PREA Standard 115.15.

I find that the Western Tidewater Regional Jail is in compliance with National PREA Standards for Prisons and Jails as published by United States Department of Justice.

I have compiled a three ring binder with all field notes and other documents which I will maintain for anyone requesting a review of this audit.

This report is respectfully submitted to Superintendent William C. Smith, Western Tidewater Regional Jail for his record.

Daniel P. Grimes dba SGM Consulting

October 20, 2015