ATASCOSA COUNTY JUVENILE JUSTICE CENTER Zero Tolerance of Sexual Abuse and Sexual Harassment

PREA Standard: §115.311(a-c); §115.361(e)(1-3)

Policy Number

18.0

Effective Date: 08/01/2015 **Revised Date:** 12/07/2018

Policy

ZERO TOLERANCE of SEXUAL ABUSE AND SEXUAL HARASSMENT:

The Atascosa County Juvenile Justice Center (ACJJC) mandates a zero tolerance for any and all forms of sexual abuse or sexual harassment of any ACJJC youth or retaliation against any staff or youth for reporting incidents of sexual abuse or sexual harassment. This zero-tolerance rule applies to ACJJC and to all confinement facilities under contract with ACJJC. Any form of sexual activity between youth or between youth and staff (to include volunteers and contract employees), regardless of consensual status, is strictly prohibited (definitions of prohibited behaviors are found in Policy 18.1). This policy prohibits staff from revealing any information related to a sexual abuse report to anyone other than to the extent necessary to make treatment, investigation, and other security and management decisions. All staff are required to report immediately any knowledge, suspicion, or information they receive regarding an incident of sexual abuse or sexual harassment that occurred in a facility whether or not it is part of this agency and any staff neglect or violation of responsibilities that may have contributed to an incident of retaliation. All staff are required to comply with any applicable mandatory child abuse reporting laws. Medical and mental health practitioners shall be required to report sexual abuse to designated supervisors and officials as well as the designated state and local services agencies where required by mandatory reporting laws.

Youth under ACJJC jurisdiction either in placement at a contracted confinement facility or at the ACJJC <u>cannot give consent</u> to engage in behavior defined as sexual abuse under this policy, regardless of the youth's age.