



THE MOSS GROUP, INC. Experienced Practitioners Committed to Excellence in Correctional Practice

Module 3: Investigations and Agency Culture

Time: 12:45 p.m. – 1:45 p.m. (1 hour)

Training Objectives:

- 1. Explain how agency and facility culture impacts inmate/resident reporting and sexual safety.
- 2. Describe how agency and facility culture impacts investigations *and* is impacted by investigations.
- 3. Provide strategies for enhancing a culture of safety.

Materials Needed:

- 1. Easel pad and markers
- 2. PowerPoint[®] player/machine (lap top computer and LCD projector)
- 3. Screen or monitor

Teaching Tips:

- This module is intended to help investigators understand the link between successful investigations and the overall culture of the agency. The PREA Standards do not directly address culture. However, the <u>Preamble to the United States Department of Justice</u> <u>National Standards to Prevent, Detect, and Respond to Prison Rape</u> offers an important discussion of the critical role of leadership is creating a healthy culture. The Standards contain specific requirements for investigations that are best met when the agency's culture is supportive of the investigative process.
- This module is primarily targeted to facility investigators. If training law enforcement, we recommend highlighting characteristics of correctional culture. Examples of cultural issues impacting investigations by outside law enforcement may include:
 - The potential for a high degree of contamination of evidence through multiple interviews.
 - Challenges in protecting crime scenes.
 - \circ The high level of mistrust within the inmate/resident population.
 - $\circ\,$ The multiple and complicated relationships among staff and among inmates/residents.
 - The unique nature of sexual abuse in corrections. Victims of sexual abuse in corrections may experience repetitive assaults by multiple assailants over a period of time, and they are confined to the location of the abuse. They cannot escape the environment of people that caused them harm. This level of trauma is more debilitating and can lead to severe and chronic Post

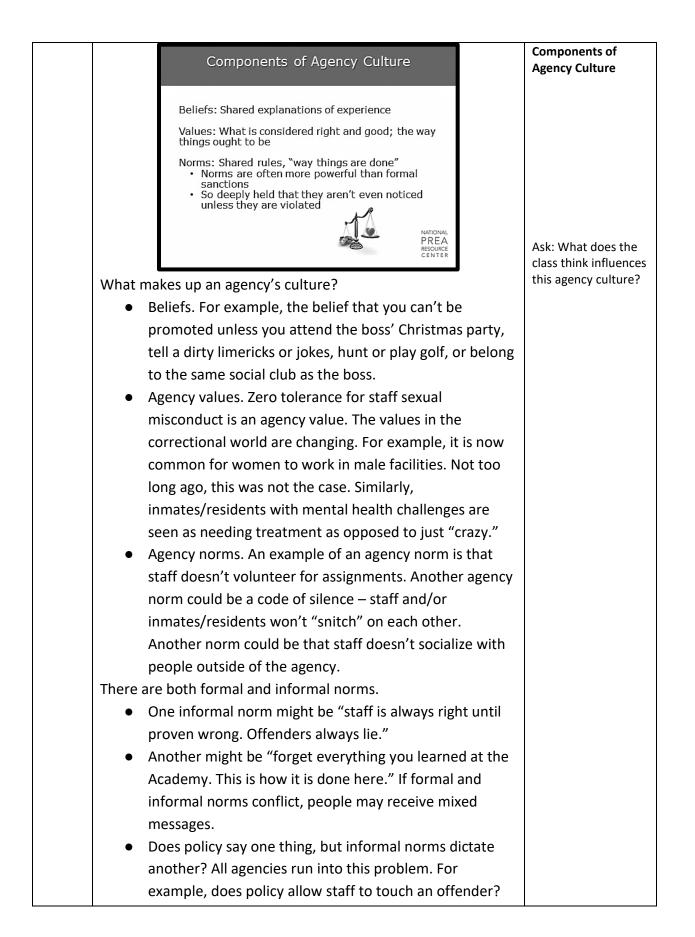
Traumatic Stress Disorder. The sexual abuse can also impact the victim's social status and safety within the facility and may impact the victim's trust in the system as a whole, which may delay or inhibit reporting.

- It is important to continually emphasize how culture can influence the investigative process and how the PREA Standards support creating and maintaining a healthy culture.
- This module includes a number of points where the trainer is instructed to discuss a question or statement with the audience. Emphasize throughout the training that participants should discuss what they believe most staff or offenders in the agency think. As a trainer, make use of the following exercises throughout this module to keep the class engaged:
 - Class-wide discussion: Ask the class as a whole and invite individuals to speak up.
 - Paired discussion: Ask the class to split into pairs and have the pairs discuss the question briefly before sharing with the class.
 - Group discussion: Ask the class to split into groups of four or five and discuss the question for five or ten minutes. Have the groups present their conclusions.

In the agenda provided, this module is one hour long. However, a trainer could extend the module to one hour and 30 minutes if he or she decided to further emphasize the discussions within the module.

- Be advised that this module may contain material that utilizes concepts and language that may be upsetting or difficult for some participants. This may include statements referring to genitalia, sexual harassment, sexual abuse, trauma, and suicide. Videos used may also contain profanity. Please review all materials prior to using to ensure they are appropriate for use in your agency and make substitutions where needed. You should also consider providing a general notice to participants at the beginning of each training session.
- Please note that this module was developed specifically for facilities that use the Adult Prisons and Jail or Juvenile PREA Standards. Facilities using the Community Confinement or Lockup standards should review all standard references to ensure that the content and language is appropriate for their facility type and inmate/resident population and adjust the material as needed to their specific circumstance.

Time	Lecture Notes	Teaching Tips
	Agency Culture	
		Agency Culture
1 min	Module 3: Objectives	
	Module 3: Objectives	Objectives
	 Explain how agency and facility culture impacts inmate/resident reporting and sexual safety. Describe how agency and facility culture impacts investigations and is impacted by investigations. Provide strategies for enhancing a culture of safety. 	
2 min	Definition of Agency Culture	
	Definition of Agency Culture	Definition of Agency Culture
	NATIONAL PREA RESOURCE CENTER	
	What is culture? The National Institute of Corrections defines	
	culture as the informal beliefs, attitudes, and norms of the	
	people within an organization. Although an agency or facility's	
	culture is not something that is easily identified, it has an	
	enormous impact on the success of initiatives. Agency and	
	facility leadership determine policy and official procedures, but	
	it is the culture of a workplace that determines whether staff	
	buys into the philosophy and follows the spirit and the letter of	
4 min	the policies in place.	
4 11111	Components of Agency Culture	

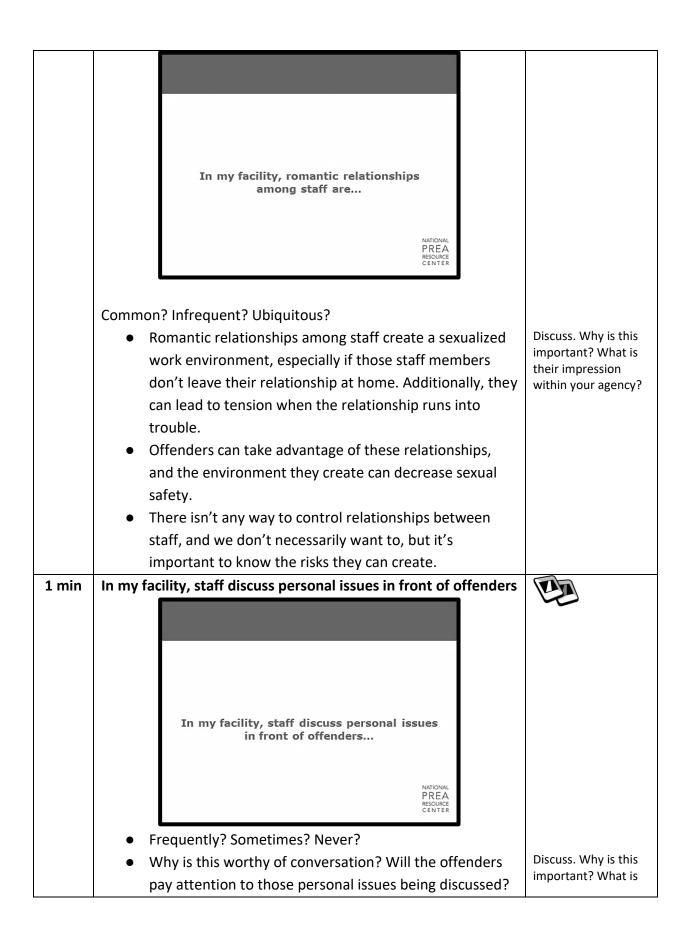


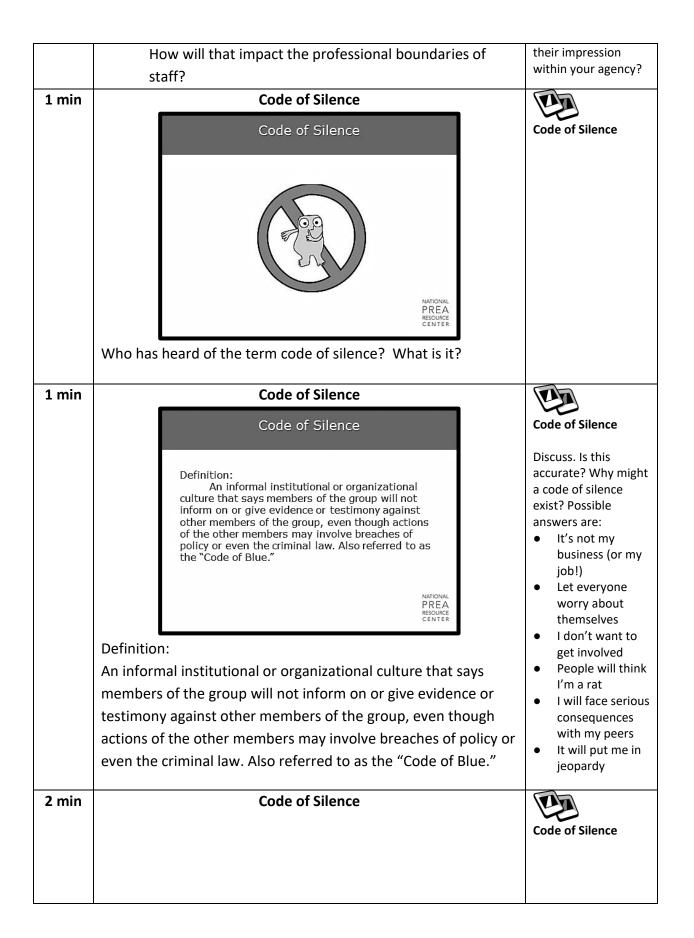
	Policy is often quite rigid, but informal norms may allow	
	for more flexibility – for example, what if an offender's	
	mother just died or the offender just graduated from a	
	program?	
	 Would informal norms sometimes grant permission for 	
	staff to give an offender/resident a handshake, pat on	
	the back or even a hug in these situations?	
		Ask: What is your
		agency "touch" policy?
1 min	Objective investigations support the administration's value of	
	zero tolerance while having a positive impact on culture	
		Discuss with the
		class. Why is this
		important? What are
		the ways the investigative process
		improves or damages
	Objective investigations support the	a positive culture?
	administration's value of zero tolerance while having a positive impact on culture.	
	NATIONAL PREA resource	
	CENTER	
	What does culture depend on? Cultures adapt from the top – so	
	the top needs to model the behavior they want to have in their	
	staff. If the top doesn't communicate, the lack of transparency	
	leads to distrust. If staff does not trust administration, staff will	
	not cooperate with investigations and will often not support	
	official policy.	
4 min	Influences on Agency Culture	
	Influences on Agency Culture	Influences on Agency Culture
		Agency culture
	History: critical events History process: qualities caught backgrounds	
	 Hiring process: qualities sought, backgrounds considered, questions asked. 	
	Promotional process	
	How is it determined?	
	How is it perceived?Leadership and agency ethics	
	Are rules enforced for everyone?	
	NATIONAL PREA resource	
	CENTER	

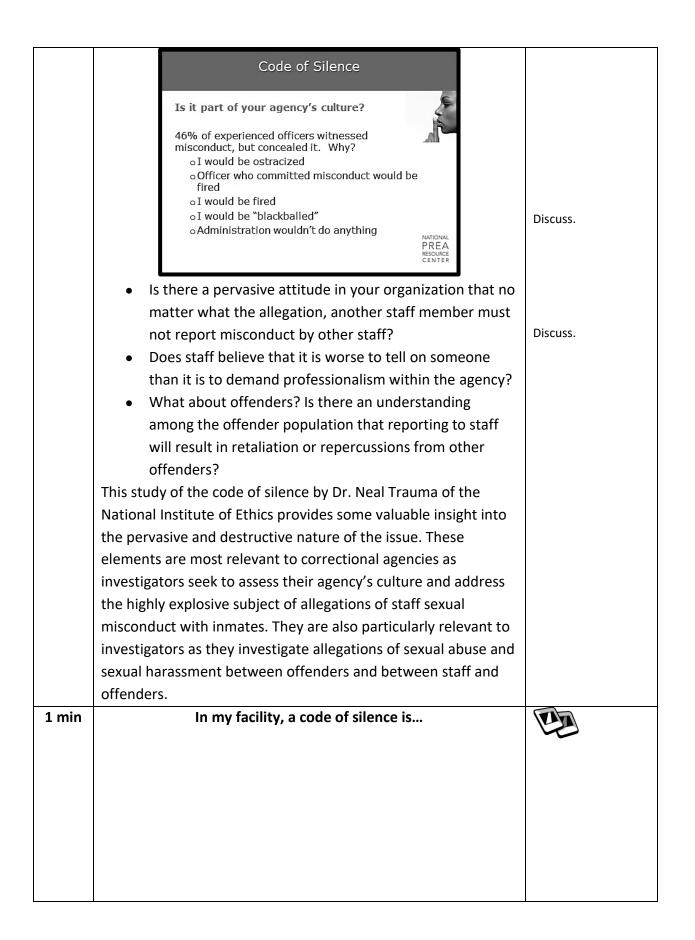
	 Culture is influenced by major events in the history of the agency. Our agency's culture is particularly influenced by Culture is influenced by staff perception of the hiring process. Is staff promoted based on experience and qualifications? Is it based on who you know? Does staff believe that more recent hires were hired based on different qualifications than hires from years ago? Do staff talk about who gets certain jobs based on their relationship with someone? Are relationships (marriages, immediate family relationships, friendships) common among staff in your agency's facilities? Are these relationships seen as influential to the hiring or promotional process? Do staff perceive there to be favoritism or inequality in rules enforcement? 	Insert historical event significant to your agency, e.g. major lawsuit, leadership change, etc. Ask participants what other events they believe have influenced the agency's culture.
1 min	Influences on Agency Culture Influences on Agency Culture Characteristics and behaviors of staff members • What kind of behavior is each toward the other? Staff-staff interactions • Does line staff trust administration? Staff-offender dynamics • Are interactions professional? • Are offenders talking about staff business? • Are staff relations respectful and honest? Are they team focused?	Influences on Agency Culture
	 Are they gossipy? Back biting? Sexual? Is there dating in the workplace? How does this impact investigations? 	Discuss. Some possible answers are: Culture can impact staff's perception of whether they can trust agency processes, and whether the agency,

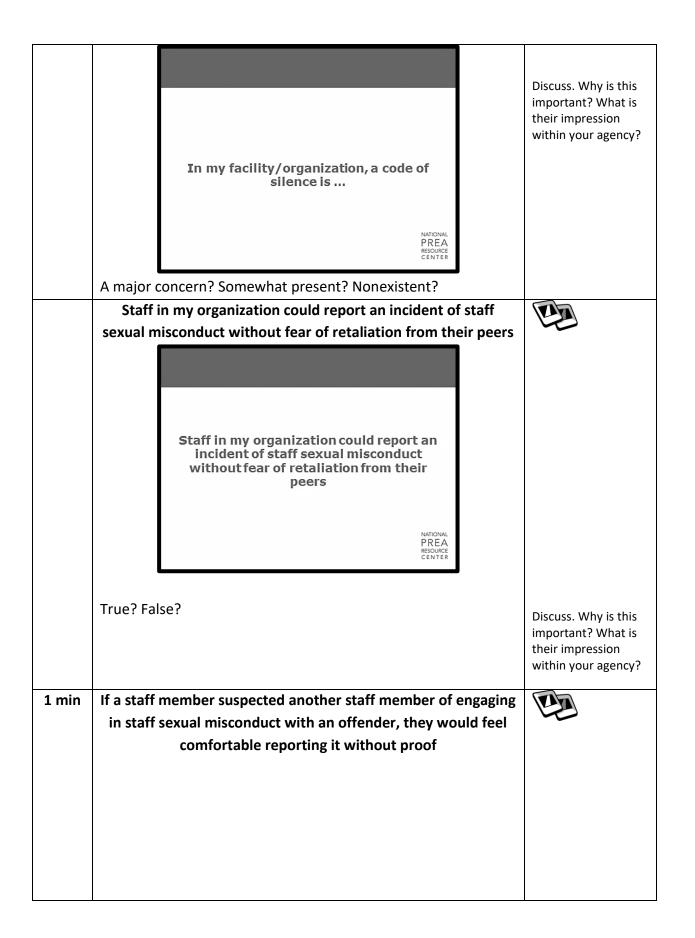
		their fellow staff, and leadership have their
		best interests in
		mind. Investigators
		should be aware, to
		the extent possible, of the cultural
		undercurrents in a
		facility so as to
		better understand
		the information they
		gather and the context within which
		the alleged incident
		occurred.
1 min	Staff believe that administration practice follows policy	
		Discuss M/by is this
		Discuss. Why is this important? What is
		their impression
		within your agency?
	Staff believe that administration practice	
	follows policy.	
	PREA resource center	
2	Staff members' decisions on whether or not to follow policy or	
1	how to follow policy depends a lot on whether they perceive	
1	their facility or agency administration to be following policy.	
1 min	Influences on Agency Culture	
	Influences on Agency Culture	Influences on
		Agency Culture
	Agency policy and procedures	
	-Does practice match policy?	
	–Does staff care about policy or is it ignored?	
	Language	
	– Is there a sexualized work environment?	
	Disciplinary process – Is discipline considered fair?	
	-Do staff trust the process?	
	NATIONAL PREA RESOURCE	
	CENTER	

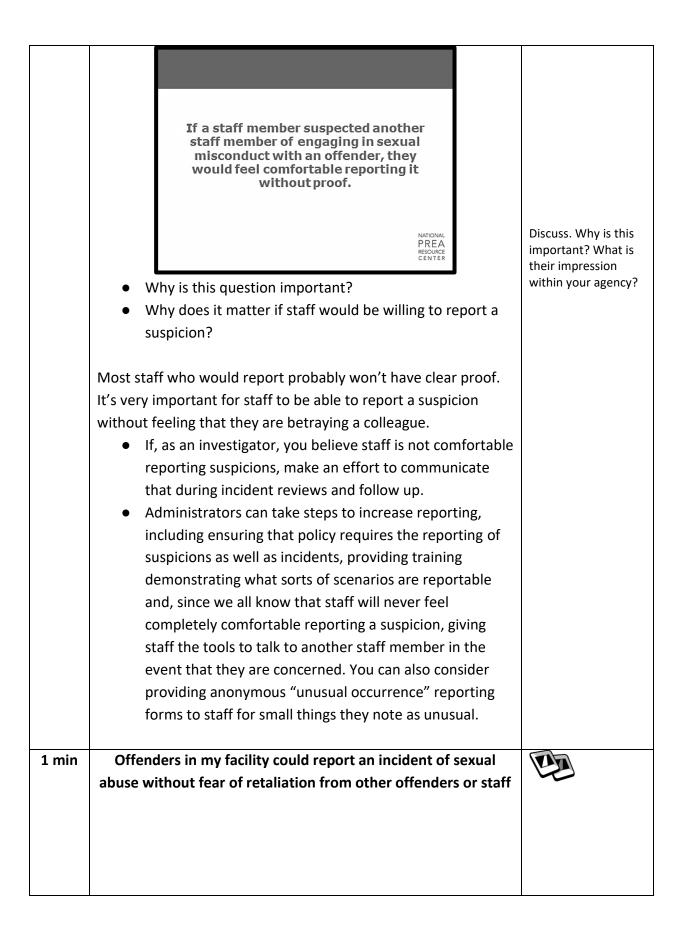
	What is a sexualized work environment? It's an environment	
	where sex permeates everything – jokes, appearances,	
	relationships between staff.	
1 min	Sexualized Work Environment	
	 Sexualized Work Environment Undue or over-familiarity between staff/offenders Staff/staff relationships unprofessional Staff/offender relationships cross boundaries Staff off-duty conduct impacts work Everything comes back to "sex" 	Sexualized Work Environment
	 Does this agency have a sexualized work environment? Do certain facilities? When a work environment is sexualized – such as between staff and staff – it implicitly gives offenders permission to act similarly. When there are problems among the staff in any form, it can ripple down to the offenders. Offenders watch 	
	 everything we do. This sexualization of an environment can shift the cultural norms. If sexual harassment is perceived as socially acceptable, the risk of sexual abuse will increase. As an investigator, keep an eye out for signs of a sexualized work environment and be prepared to bring that information to the appropriate person if you think the environment could 	Discuss. Why is this important?
	decrease sexual safety.	
1 min	In my facility, romantic relationships among staff are	



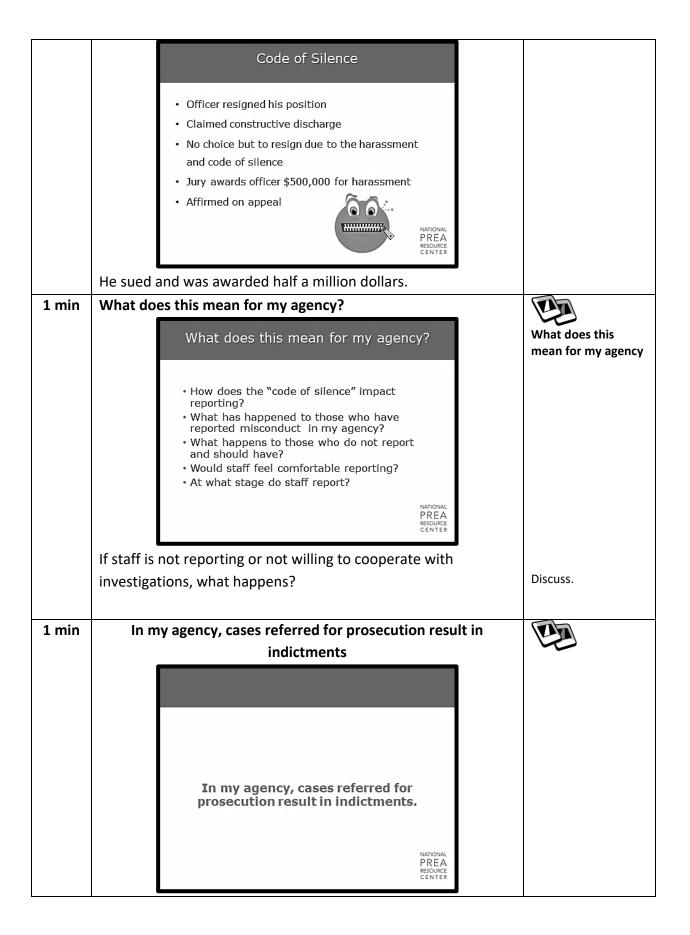








	Offenders in my facility could report an incident of sexual abuse without fear of retaliation from other offenders or staff	Discuss. Why is this important? What is their impression within your agency?
	reporting?	
1 min	Code of Silence – Many Costs	
	Code of Silence – Many Costs Baron v. Hickey, 242 F. Supp.2d 66 (2003) • County Corrections officer reported supervisor playing cards with inmates – violation of policy • Harassed by co-workers (referring to him as a rat; throwing cheese at him; derogatory posters on locker; feces on car; slashing tires) • Complained on 30 separate occasions • No discipline for officers • Claimed that he was forced to resign	Code of Silence
	Here's an example of a lawsuit that took place due to a very	
	active code of silence culture in an agency. In this case, an	
	officer who reported a policy violation by a supervisor	
1	experienced retaliation and was eventually forced to resign.	
1 min	Code of Silence	Code of Silence



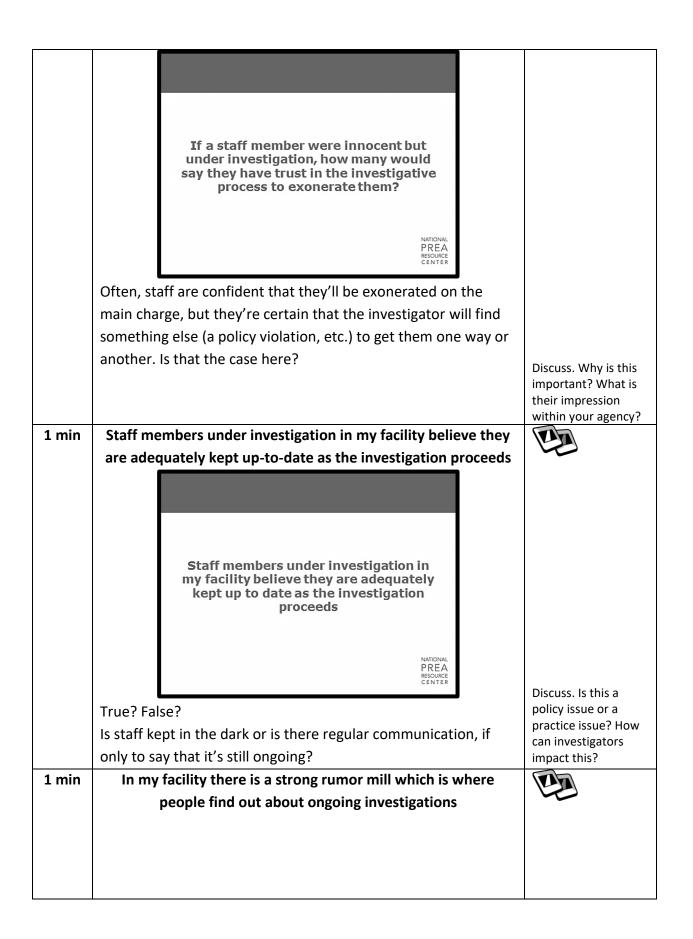
	All the time? Sometimes? Never? Do you know?	Discuss. If participants don't know, this is equally worthy of discussion. Why don't they know? How does the answer to this question impact investigation strategies and perceptions of investigations within the agency?
1 min	Impact of Prosecutions on Agency Culture	
	Impact of Prosecutions on	Impact of
	Agency Culture	Prosecutions on
	Get's everyone's attention	Agency Culture
	Defines the issue as serious	
	 Prosecutors have unique tools Subpoena powers 	
	o Grand jury	
	 Successful prosecution can be a defining moment 	
	 Makes things serious 	
	NATIONAL PREA resource	
	CENIER	
	Prosecutions, or lack thereof, can have a substantial impact on	
	the culture of an agency, including staff and offenders'	
	perceptions of the seriousness of sexual abuse.	
	 Prosecutions define the issue as serious and bring nearly's attention to the problem 	
	 people's attention to the problem. A lack of prosecutions can do the exact opposite. 	
	 A lack of prosecutions can do the exact opposite. We will discuss prosecutions and how investigators can 	
	• we will discuss prosecutions and now investigators can enhance the likelihood that cases will be successfully	
	prosecuted later in the training.	
1 min	Challenges for Leadership	
		Challenges for Leadership

	 Challenges for Leadership Discover the root of the problem Understand that the problem may be a symptom of the culture Addressing the problem in a systematic way is about making cultural change Cultural change is the challenge for leadership Must shift deeply ignored norms and attitudes Key positions must institute the change 	
	NATIONAL PREA resource center	
	Of course, this isn't always an easy problem to solve. Culture	
	change is slow and requires intentional steps over a long period	
	of time.	
1 min	Strategies for Changing Culture	
	Strategies for Changing Culture	Strategies for Changing Culture
	Employee screening (115.17/317) It starts with staff at the beginning of their service	
	 Training (115.31/331) What do they hear at the academy? How are they initially trained at the institution? Supervisor training vs. line staff 	
	Zero tolerance (115.11/311) Make staff aware and impose consequences. Zero tolerance must mean zero tolerance. Something has to happen to make it real. NATIONAL PREA RESOURCE CENTER	
	Strategies for changing culture impact an organization at all	
	levels.	
	• They start with who is hired, how they are trained and,	
	of course, agency mission statements and values. The	
	PREA Standards support this through requiring agencies	
	to take a zero-tolerance approach and through requiring	
	specific training.	
	 Strategies must address what staff hears at the Academy and how initial facility training is sequenced 	
	with that. Consistency of training at this point is also	
	important; trainees should not learn one thing at the	
	Academy and then be taken under the wing by a	
	seasoned staff at the facility and told that things are	

	dana differently on the ground Supervisory training con	
	done differently on-the-ground. Supervisory training can	
	also be adjusted to ensure appropriate oversight is	
	provided. Finally, training can impact staff perception of	
	zero tolerance as either a meaningless phrase or as a	
	core value of the agency.	
2 min	Strategies for Changing Culture	
	 Strategies for Changing Culture Policies. Practice must match policy. Policies must be communicated and update. More than just something in writing. Role Model. Model ethical behavior for other staff and offenders. The culture will not tolerate hypocrisy. 	Strategies for Changing Culture
	Assistance. Employees who need help are not afraid and get it. NATIONAL PREA RESOURCE CENTER	
	Strategies include policy writing, ensuring practice matches	
	policy, and providing assistance to employees in need.	
	• What kind of assistance is provided to employees within	Discuss.
	the facilities? What if they start to have problems with	Discuss.
	 boundaries? Would they feel comfortable seeking help? The second bullet is particularly relevant to investigators: Are you role modeling ethical behavior? Does staff trust investigators in your agency to be impartial and do your job in an ethical manner? 	Discuss. If yes, why? If no, why not? How can you improve?
	Role modeling also extends into the reporting area as the PREA	
	Standards require all employees to immediately report	
	knowledge, suspicion, or information regarding sexual abuse	
	and harassment. If staff is not actually meeting this	
	requirement, then investigators are not receiving the	
	information they need to follow up.	
2 min	Strategies for Changing Culture	Strategies for Changing Culture

	 Strategies for Changing Culture <u>Mandated Reporting (115.61/361)</u>- Are staff disciplined for failure to report? <u>Multiple Reporting Mechanisms</u> 115.51/351)-Is there a way for both staff and offenders to report anonymously? Is there a way to report outside the agency itself? <u>Discipline and Prosecution</u> (115.71/371 and 115.76/376)- Are staff or offenders involved in these actions treated fairly but prosecuted or 	
	If staff aren't disciplined for failing to report, many staff won't	
	feel that the benefits of reporting (which are ambiguous and far	
	in the future) will outweigh the potential risks (which include	
	isolation, alienation from peers, loss of job opportunities, etc.).	
	Providing anonymous reporting mechanisms can help	
	encourage both staff and offenders to report.	
	More importantly, investigations must lead to some sort of consequence for those who are found to have violated policy or broken the law. If offenders and staff don't see appropriate discipline or prosecution, they will see little incentive in	
	reporting. In some cases, they may also see little incentive in not perpetrating sexual abuse themselves.	
1 min	Impact of Culture on Investigations	
	Impact of Culture on Investigations	Impact of Culture on Investigations
	 Culture can either support or obstruct an investigation 	
	 Need to understand culture to know how to facilitate investigation process 	
	Outcomes of investigations can influence culture	
	 Understanding issues related to close communities 	
	PREA resource CENTER	
	Culture has an enormous impact on investigations and their	
	success or failure. Understanding the culture in which you are	

	investigating can help an investigator ask the right questions to	
	increase cooperation.	
1 min	Staff in my facility trust the investigative process	
	Staff in my facility trust the investigative process.	
	True? False?	Discuss. What does trust mean in this context? Why is this important? What is their impression within your agency?
1 min	If asked, how many staff would be able to describe what	
	would happen to them if they were under some kind of	
	investigation?	
	If asked, how many staff would be able to describe what would happen to them if they were under some kind of investigation?	
	How many staff members receive pre-service training on the investigative process? Do you do a mapping exercise with them?	Discuss. Why is this important? What is their impression within your agency?
1 min	If a staff member is innocent but under investigation, how	
	many would say they have trust in the investigative process to exonerate them?	



mill whi about	lity there is a strong rumor ich is where people find out ongoing investigations	Discuss. Why is this important? What is their impression within your agency?
True? False?		
1 min Staff in my agency b	elieve investigations are handle	ed in a
	timely manner	
		Discuss. What does
Staff investigat	in my agency believe ions are handled in a timely manner	timely mean? How can investigators impact this?
True? False?	NATIONAL PREA resource center	
1 min Staff under investigat	tion receive a written notice of	results
-	investigation is concluded	
Staff und written not	ler investigation receive a tice when an investigation is led providing the results	Discuss. Why is this important? What is their impression within your agency? Insert questions specific to agency policy, if appropriate.
	PREA resource center	
	CENTER	
True? False?		

1 min	Offenders in my agency trust the investigative process	
	Offenders in my agency trust the investigative process	Discuss. How does this impact reporting? How can the agency impact this? How can investigators impact this?
	True? False?	
1 min	Investigative Process	
	Investigative Process Benefits of a Clear Investigative Process • Staff appreciate that the process protects them • Dispels anger and hostility • Changes attitude that the process is arbitrary, unfair, etc. • Prevents anxiety and fear • Confirms employee rights and obligations • Demonstrates value to security and operational improvements that can be achieved • Informs staff of penalties • Encourages staff to cooperate	Investigative Process
	A clear investigative process can be extremely beneficial to the cooperation levels received by investigators and the eventual	
	success of the investigation.	
1 min	Strategies for Changing Culture – Demystifying the	
	Investigative Process	Strategies for Changing Culture

	 Strategies for Changing Culture – Demystifying the Investigative Process Educate. Staff need to know what is involved before they will trust. When do they learn about the process? Iraining. For investigators and staff. Regular training on policy. Consistent and Timely Practices. All staff treated fairly and timely results. Too long and the rumor mill takes over. Report Results. To those accused and others when possible. Written results. Consistency in investigations with regards to the process, the timing, and the information staff receive can enhance staff and offenders' trust in the process and make an investigator's job a lot easier. 	
10 min	Activity Activity List 1. Five positive things about your agency culture 2. Five negative things about your agency culture 3. One action step for your agency to improve culture 4. One recommendation for improving culture, to share with the class	Activity
	 List: 1. Five positive things about your agency culture 2. Five negative things about your agency culture 3. One action step for your agency to improve culture 4. One recommendation for improving culture, to share with the class 	
1 min	A Word About Changing Culture	A Word About Changing Culture

	 A Word About Changing Culture Attempts to change = both positive and negative effects Staff need time to make adjustments and even longer to see the benefits of them. Staff accustomed to certain behaviors may be very resistant and demonstrate greater dissatisfaction with "administration." 	
	 Those who have been involved with change agree that developing a plan and establishing a vision with input from the management team and line staff begins the process of changing culture. Staff and managers do not work together effectively when they are unclear about the agency's vision, so the first step is always clarifying the vision from the top. Lessons learned in the field show that, after the direction has been established, leadership needs to listen and then talk to staff, inmates/residents, volunteers, contractors, the unions, and the community. Everyone needs to understand the plan and how the institution/organization hopes to achieve its goals. Participation from staff is key, as is finding ways to get staff invested in the mission. 	
1 min	Questions?	