Legacy Health Violence in the Workplace Statistics of Legacy Medical Centers Located in Oregon 2014

There were a total of 360 Violence in the Workplace (VIW) security reports originating from Oregon campuses in 2014. Of the 360 total VIW reports, 19 originated from inpatient psychiatric facilities and were excluded from further analysis for this report. An additional 34 reports involved only property damage, or pertained to visitor to visitor conflicts, or involved incidents clearly documenting a lack of intent on the part of the aggressor such as incidents involving unresponsive patients or patients waking from anesthesia. These reports were also excluded from analysis for this report.

Of the remaining reports, 157 included actual physical violent contact directed towards a Legacy employee. These incidents included employees that were struck, kicked, pushed, pinched and spat upon.

In the vast majority of these cases the employee/victim denied actual physical injury and they declined criminal prosecution. Only a few of the 157 security reports clearly documented evident employee injuries as a result of workplace violence. At least 4 incidents of violence appear to contain the elements necessary to support a criminal charge of assault. These include 3 incidents of employees being punched in the face, which resulted in lacerations and/or significant bruising/swelling. A 4th incident involved fractures of the arm and other injuries.

Most of the VIW incidents are not reported to law enforcement as the employee/victim declines to prosecute. The incidents that are reported to law enforcement do not always result in the aggressor being charged with assault. Instead, the aggressor may be issued a trespass warning and escorted from the property without a criminal charge or a charge of trespass.