



MCO FIGHTS DEPARTMENT ON HOLIDAY COMP-TIME POLICY CHANGE!

After many years of past practice, the Department has changed its policy of allowing officers to comp holidays.

MCO has filed an "et al" grievance, which means it covers the entire bargaining unit, and we

have consulted outside attorneys on the matter. MCO is requesting an expedited arbitration on this issue.

Officers who wish to choose comp-time, in lieu of pay, should continue requesting it through

whatever method used by your facility. ***If the institution refuses your request you do NOT need to file a grievance.*** MCO's "et al" grievance covers everyone.

NEED COLLEGE CREDITS TO REACH STATUS?



Former FSA? New Officer? Or just interested in taking a class in Corrections?

Many schools now offer online courses. This makes getting those credits out of the way even easier, especially when trying to coordinate conflicting work and school schedules.

Check out our website (www.mco-seiu.org) for a comprehensive list of Community Colleges in Michigan who have been approved by the Training

Council to offer the Corrections Vocational Certificate.

Or, you can take classes from these and other accredited institutions in the areas of psychology, corrections, criminal justice, law enforcement, sociology and pastoral counseling.

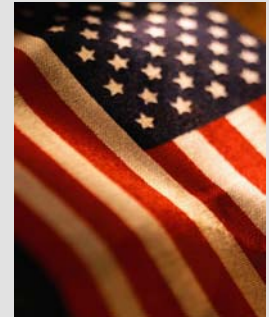
But you have to hurry! Many of these schools are registering now for the winter semester. And, there is often a limit to the number of online students allowed per class per semester!

IN MEMORIAM

Officer Todd James, 31, from the SAI Bootcamp was killed in a motorcycle accident on October 14, 2005.

In addition to being a drill instructor he was a member of the Honor Guard, Facility Officer of the Year for 2004, and received the MDOC Life Saving Award in 2002.

He leaves behind his wife, Kim and a daughter, Ashley James.



OFFICER STRUCK AT PARNALL

On December 26th, an officer at Parnall received several stitches when his tooth broke through his lip after a prisoner struck him in the face.

When an officer instructed the prisoner to submit to a shakedown, he turned and ran from the food service area. The officer involved followed. A second officer arrived on scene to find the prisoner with his fists raised ready to combat the pursuing officer. After refusing to comply and be restrained on several occasions, the two officers approached to forcibly restrain the prisoner. One was then struck in the face and knocked to the ground.

This inmate had threatened other staff and had exhibited violent behavior in the previous 24 hours yet he remained in general population.



GAS MASK LETTER OF AGREEMENT SIGNED

In December, MCO and the MDOC signed a Letter of Agreement on Gas Masks.

While there were a number of changes in the agreement, you should take note of three major revisions that were made.

1. Approved medical exemptions still displace seniority based exemptions. However, under the new agreement, a more senior approved medical exemption can displace a less senior medical exemption from the list on their shift.

2. Rather than polling employees, sign up sheets for all three shifts are to be posted on June 1 of each year. Employees

may sign the sheet for their shift if interested in being on the exemption list. On July

1, the sign up period is closed and the lists for that year will be created. The lists are to be completed and sent concurrently to MCO Central Office and to DOC Central Office Human Resources no later than July 15th.

3. MCO represented employees in transportation or alert response/security perimeter vehicle assignments cannot be placed on the exemption list.



RASH OF SHANKS FOUND AT KCF

Within a 16-hour period around January 9th, four shanks and a slashing weapon were found by officers on a floor in a housing unit at KCF.

One inmate was placed in Seg as a result, however the other weapons were found in common areas and are believed to have been in place to use on staff.

On the 11th the yard was closed and officers were pulled to

shake down the entire floor of the housing unit where these shanks were found. No further weapons were confiscated, however an inmate on a different floor of the same unit was sent to segregation for threatening an officer during the shakedown.

The Seg unit continues to be near capacity resulting in some inmates being released early to open a spot for incoming inmates.

MINIMUM STAFFING KEY TOPIC IN MEETING

Today, President Tom Tylutki and Executive Director Mel Grieshaber attended a Departmental Labor Management Meeting between the DCH and MCO.

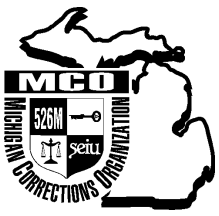
While many issues were addressed, minimum staffing levels were the main topic of concern. *Stay tuned...*

Senator Schauer introduced the two Corrections Bills we mentioned in the 12.16.05 KYI.

Check out the full text of the bills at www.legislature.mi.gov.

They are SB 948 -Private Youth Prisons, and SB 949 - Private Prisons.

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MCO MOVES HOLIDAY/ COMP-TIME GRIEVANCE

The "et al" grievance on the holiday/comp-time issue is moving forward. MCO and MDOC labor relations have already met at third step and the MDOC has agreed to expedite their answer.

MAX PAY ARBITRATION

The Arbitration on CTO Max Pay has been scheduled for Friday, January 27, 2006, at MCO Central.

CTO COMMITTEE MEETS

The first meeting of the CTO Committee occurred at MCO Central yesterday, Jan. 19th.

COY FINALIST SELECTION TODAY

The MDOC and MCO met jointly today along with last year's MCOY Kenneth Hatfield to narrow down the list and select the five finalists to be interviewed for the 2006 Michigan Corrections Officer of the Year. Deliberations were ongoing at time of print.

CRITICAL AT CHIPPEWA INJURES FOUR OFFICERS

On Saturday, January 14th, a prisoner, whose room was being shook down, disobeyed orders to wait in the day room and ran down the hall to his cell. Officers radioed ahead to the officer conducting the shakedown to warn him but as he stepped out of the cell the prisoner began to punch him.

When officers responded four additional prisoners who, had been waiting in the hallway after chow, assaulted them. A fourth officer from the unit was also attacked.

Responding staff were quick and successful in restraining

the inmates involved.

Four officers required hospital treatment and three were hospitalized. Three of the four officers sustained injuries requiring stitches. The fourth is undergoing further examination for a knee injury. One officer needed 7 stitches on his face, 4 staples in the head, and suffered a broken nose.

MCO appreciates R.P.A. MacMeekin's response to this incident, taking Tom's call on a Sunday afternoon, and immediately making sure that the appropriate actions were being taken, including a shakedown.



CRITICAL AT STANDISH

A critical occurred in the Transition Unit while it was breaking for chow on Monday, January 16, 2006 at Standish Max.

As the prisoners were being released, one inmate exited his cell and attacked another inmate knocking him unconscious.

Unit staff responded, restrained the assaultive inmate, and escorted him to Seg. while remaining staff provided first aid.

Kudos go out to the Officers at Chippewa and Standish for doing a great job.

The prisoner who was attacked was transported to the local hospital where he required 24 stitches to close his wounds.

One staff member was also injured in the assault and was treated at the hospital and released.

Prisoners eat in this unit which is why staffing levels are a critical issue. Last year an inmate was murdered in this unit.



KYI

KEEPING YOU INFORMED

JANUARY 27, 2006

OFFICERS CONFISCATE CELL PHONE AT CAMP BRANCH



On December 28, 2005, an officer was making rounds with a RUO when the officer noticed suspicious activity by a prisoner in the bathroom. He opened the curtains and found a prisoner sitting on a toilet with his hands in his sweat pants attempting to conceal a cell phone.

When the officer gave the order to hand over the cell phone the prisoner failed to comply, leaving the cell phone in his pants. Then, when ordered to submit to a strip search, he refused and shoved the officer and the RUO back with his shoulders and dropped the phone into the toilet and flushed it.

The RUO was able to restrain the prisoner around the torso while the officer retrieved the phone before it went down the drain.

Two Assault Misconducts and Possession of Dangerous Contraband were issued and the prisoner was transferred to segregation at Florence Crane.

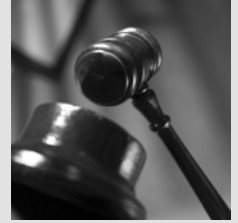
Hats off to a great job by these two officers!

CTO MAX PAY ARBITRATION HEARING TODAY

The CTO Max Pay Arbitration Hearing occurred today at MCO Central in front of Arbitrator Dave Grissom.

Briefs are due March 6th and we should have an answer by the end of April.

President Tylutki, who attended the hearing, had this to say, "We will have to see how this all shakes out, but this was an act of bad faith on the part of the Department and I am disappointed that it has come to this."



PRISONERS AT PARNALL GAIN ACCESS TO KEYS

On January 25th, several handcuff keys were found in the yard at Parnall. After closing the yard and conducting a more intensive search using metal detectors, approximately 10 more handcuff keys were found.

Later that day it was determined that three 5-gallon buckets full of various institutional keys, handcuffs and handcuff keys (which the facility had considered out of service or inoperable) had been put in an unsecured trash dumpster outside the secured area of the facility.

It is believed that a work detail had been working in the area of the dumpster on the morning of the 25th and likely smuggled the keys inside the facility later in the day. At this time they are still attempting to reconcile the number of keys found vs. those disposed and it is not yet known if all can be accounted for.

ANNUAL LEAVE DONATIONS

The window period for making donations to the Central Annual Leave Bank is open from January 23, 2006 - February 23, 2006.

To make a donation, simply complete the DMB-16-OSE "Central Annual Leave Donation Bank-Donation Form" which can be found on the OSE's website at www.michigan.gov/ose under the "Forms" button in the left panel.


You can find the provisions for making a donation in the MCO contract under Article 28, Section L.



BULLETIN

FEBRUARY 9, 2006

GOVERNOR GRANHOLM PROPOSES FY06-07 BUDGET TODAY



The Governor's budget recommendation for FY06-07 was introduced today before the joint Senate/House Appropriations Committee.

The proposed Corrections Budget of \$1.95 billion is a 4.8% general fund increase over the current DOC budget.

The recommendations propose an overall general fund increase of 1.7% for the DCH budget.

Highlights of the Corrections budget include transferring Camp Brighton's female inmates to the Huron Valley Complex in Ypsilanti and funds for training up to 714 new corrections officers.

Although not apparent in the budget overview, the Department has indicated to MCO that the TRV center in Ypsilanti will close.

Budget Hearings will take several months and will start next week.

The FY06-07 Budget goes into effect eight months from now. Details regarding the effect on MCO members at both Camp Brighton and the TRV will be worked out over the next several months.

MCO's goal, to the fullest extent possible, will be to minimize the disruption to the officers affected by this change.



PRISONER HOARDS SHANKS AT KINROSS

On January 25th, 2006, a unit rover doing rounds found an inmate in his cell making shanks. A shakedown of the inmate's cell was immediately initiated and in the end a total of 80 shanks were found, ranging in size from 6 to 13 inches in length.

The shanks appeared to be manufactured from various materials obtained from Hobby Craft and Maintenance, both of which are located on the opposite end of the KCF compound.

Once again, short staffing

may have been a factor in the ability of this prisoner to gather such a significant quantity of materials. Kinross currently houses approximately 1500 inmates, 600 of whom are serving life sentences.

President Tom Tylutki and Labor Representative Karen Mazzolini are in Kinross today for a Labor Management meeting. RPA MacMeekin is expected to attend as well to address the rash of incidents that have plagued KCF in recent weeks.

OFFICER STRUCK WITH LOCK-IN-A-SOCK

While the inmates in 5 block at Bellamy Creek were breaking for chow on January 24th, one prisoner came up on an officer and struck him in the back of the head with a lock-in-a-sock.



The officer was able to pin the inmate to the wall until responding officers arrived and took over.

The officer sustained a concussion from the incident and was off of work for several days.

YOUTH OFFENDERS BRAWL AT THE THUMB

On January 23rd, two youth offenders began to fight each other in the dayroom. They then turned on officers.

One officer was struck in the head with a metal trashcan and another was punched in the head and took two blows to the throat. Both officers were treated at a local hospital for their injuries and one still remains off of work.

Tickets for fighting and assault on staff were written. The offenders were placed in segregation for the fighting, but were not charged until later for the assault on staff.

NEW DOC GRIEVANCE FORM

MCO has been working with the MDOC to make some modifications to the Grievance form.



The key change to the form is the removal of the employee's Social Security Number and the use of their Employee ID instead.

The new form is finished and awaiting final approval by the MDOC. Once approved it will be available for download from MCO's website at www.mco-seiu.org under the "On the Job" section. The web version will allow direct entry into the form on the web. Then just print and submit to your union official.

We are currently in the process of developing a new DCH Grievance form as well. We'll keep you posted when it too becomes approved for use.

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2006 MICHIGAN CORRECTIONS OFFICER OF THE YEAR NAMED



Congratulations to Corrections Officer Eric Jones of the Deerfield Correctional Facility for being named the 2006 Michigan Corrections Officer of the Year!

Jones was chosen after a round of personal interviews of the top five finalists by the State Standards Committee of the Michigan Correctional Officers' Training Council. Nominees came from every state prison and Field Operations Administration supervision region in the state.

Candidates are judged on the basis of their work ethic, MDOC policy compliance, communication skills, professionalism and service to the Department. Nominees are expected to act as positive role models and demonstrate sound judgment in emergency situations.

Jones, along with the Facility COY's, will be honored at the annual Michigan Correctional Officer of the Year Banquet, Wednesday, May 10, 2006, at the Kellogg Center in Lansing. The other finalists include:

C/O Paul Raymond
Huron Valley Womens

C/O Tammy Trejo-Woodley
Saginaw



C/O Brady Hull
Pine River

RUO Neil Koenigsnecht
Carson City

OFFICER FINDS 20' ROPE

On February 7, 2006, an officer at the Cotton Correctional Facility doing a cell shakedown in a Level IV unit noticed some loose screws in the door.

Further investigation revealed a 20' rope made from woven trash bags and hobby craft leather.

A major misconduct was written and he was placed in Segregation. It is believed that the prisoner may be involved in an escape attempt or have information about one.

MORE INCIDENTS AT KINROSS

The Kinross Correctional Facility continues to see fights and weapons on a regular basis.

February 9, 2006 - officers find four metal shanks, ranging from 8-12" long in one housing unit.

February 12, 2006 - two inmates fight in a housing unit. Luckily, this time there was room in Segregation for the fighters and other inmates did not need to be released early.

February 14, 2006 - again two inmates fight in a housing unit.

February 14, 2006 - officer finds an 8" shank made of metal that was so well crafted it appeared on first glance to be a regular hunting knife.

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WARDEN AT STANDISH MAX SUPPORTS POSSESSION OF WEAPON CHARGE ON INMATE



On February 13, 2006, an officer doing a cell shakedown found some homemade weapons with very sharp points (dart-like), a loose razor blade, a hypodermic needle, some hollow cardboard, and what appeared to be a blowgun manufactured from two Seg pens.

A Major Misconduct was written for Possession of a Weapon. However, the Hearings Investigator, after viewing the evidence and attempting (and failing) to assemble it into a blowgun, dropped the ticket down to Contraband. The prisoner claimed the “tools” were used to spread glue and untie small knots in hobby craft. The Hearings Investigator cites the fact that the prisoner admitted to possession of the items, which was against his best interests, as a reason to believe him.

Warden Birkett, however, after reviewing the situation and evidence, appropriately appealed the Hearing Investigator’s decision in favor of the charge of Possession of a Weapon.

Kudo’s to Warden Birkett for standing up for officer safety!

HOLIDAY COMP TIME GRIEVANCE UPDATE

The grievance on the Holiday Comp-time issue is moving forward and MCO continues to gather surveys. MCO is in receipt of the Employer’s Step3/Pre-Arb Answer and the grievance is on the fast track to an Arbitration Hearing.



PRISONERS FIGHT AT SOUTHERN MICHIGAN

On February 9, 2006, a fight broke out in one of the Level II housing units. Luckily there were no staff injuries while breaking up the fight and the unit was quickly locked down.

In all, six prisoners were identified and sent to segregation as a result.

OFFICERS INJURED BREAKING UP BRAWL

A fight broke out in the Franklin Unit at the Thumb Correctional Facility on February 14th, 2006, while locking down after chow.

Multiple youth offenders were fighting and when officers intervened to break up the fight one RUO was struck in the head and another injured his knee.

Five prisoners were taken to Segregation, where one was found to have a weapon in his possession.

Both officers were treated and released from a local hospital. This makes four officers injured in less than a month at the Thumb.

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CORRECTION

The February 24, 2006, issue of the KYI, inadvertently used “Hearings Investigator,” who is an MCO member, instead of “Hearings Officer” who is not, in an article about Standish Max.

The article concerned the lowering of a ticket against a prisoner from “Possession of a Weapon” to “Contraband” by the Hearings Officer, which was subsequently appealed by Warden Birkett.

Hearings Officers, as administrative law judges, are the only ones who have the ability to reduce a ticket.

MCO regrets the mistake.

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ESCAPE ATTEMPT AT BROOKS

On February 24, 2006, a Level IV inmate at the Brooks Correctional Facility attempted to escape from the yard by hitting the fence. Due to reduced staffing in that unit, (one Sgt. was removed leaving two officers and one roaming Sgt.) there was no officer covering the yard and thus it was inmates who alerted officers to the escape in progress.

The prisoner made it to the top of the fence, but became entangled in the constantine wire.

While in health care he assaulted a nurse and another staff member and was eventually taken to the hospital for treatment of severe lacerations. He later returned and was placed in Segregation.

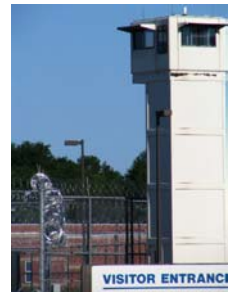
POST, DESIGNATED FOR CLOSURE, COMES TO OFFICER'S AID

At the Alger Max Correctional Facility, several posts are scheduled to be closed and replaced with cameras.

On February 28, 2006, an officer was working in the yard behind the Seg Unit with 9 yard workers shoveling out the Seg yard modules. A fight broke out between three of the yard workers and the officer signaled duress over his radio.

The post officer was able to observe the situation and immediately radioed to alert responding officers that it was in fact a multi-prisoner fight and not just a duress call.

This raises the issue of whether someone watching the video feed from multiple cameras would have been able to locate the disturbance, ascertain the real situation, and alert the responding officers to what they were walking into, as quickly.



2ND ANNUAL CRISIS FUND GUN RAFFLE KICKS OFF...

Tickets sell for only \$2 each from your Chapter leaders!

The Drawing will be held at May Central and tickets will sell fast so get them today!

See below for complete drawing details or contact Mike Taylor at: mdtay@charter.net if you have any questions

- 1st. Prize: 270 Remington BDL w/scope
- 2nd. Prize: 1100 Remington 12 Gauge Semi-Auto
- 3rd. Prize: 30.06 Remington Semi-Auto
- 4th. Prize: Over & Under 20 Gauge - Spartan
- 5th. Prize: 40mm Springfield Pistol
- 6th. Prize: Mossberg 20 Gauge Youth Shotgun
- 7th. Prize: Binoculars - Bushnell Legend 10x42
- 8th. Prize: 22 Remington Rifle
- 9th. Prize: 22 Caliber Browning Pistol
- 10th. Prize: 50 Caliber Black Powder Rifle

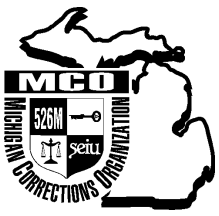
Drawing will be held May 11, 2006 - 2 p.m. at MCO Central Conference, Holiday Inn Conference Center, Lansing, Michigan. All prizes will be picked up at any Gander Mountain store or the Winners may take the cash equivalent. All proceeds will go to the MCO Crisis Fund. Must be 18 years old to Enter. Need not be present to win. State of MI Raffle License No. R85260

ET AL. GRIEVANCE FILED

On Wednesday, March 1, 2006, MCO filed an et al. grievance (covering all DOC MCO members) on the recent order to complete CAJ-555 Employee Medication Request Form.

This will protect all members while the issue is being researched by our attorneys. There is no need to file any additional grievances on this topic.





ESCAPE ATTEMPT AT THE VALLEY

On March 8, 2006, an inmate at Huron Valley Mens hit the fence in an escape attempt.

Yard and Unit officers responded and were able to prevent the escape, but not before he reached the top of the fence.

This is the second escape attempt in the last two weeks statewide.

As the MDOC continues to close towers, (Alger this weekend and Standish in 2-3 weeks) we must stay vigilant and watch each other's backs.

MONROE/LENAWEE COUNTY SCHOLARSHIPS

Once again, the Monroe/Lenawee County AFL-CIO Central Labor Council will be awarding two \$500 scholarships (one each to a 2006 graduate from a Monroe County high school and a Lenawee County high school.)

Students who have chosen a two or four year college or advanced technical and/or vocational training program who carry at least a 3.0 GPA are eligible.

The Application deadline is **APRIL 14, 2006**, so if you are interested in applying, contact Sacha at MCO Central and we'll get the forms out to you either in snail or e-mail ASAP!

MCO SCHOLARSHIPS NOW OPEN

MCO is proud to offer the MCO Scholarship Program.



This program offers 20 - \$500 scholarships to children of MCO members entering (or in) college.

Eligible students are a child, stepchild, or adopted child of an MCO member in good continuous standing for three years as of January 1, 2006.

Applications are available now through our website at www.mco-seiu.org. Simply follow the link on the main page! You can fill out the form online. Then just print, attach your essay, and mail to:

**2006 MCO SCHOLARSHIP
421 W. KALAMAZOO ST.
LANSING, MI 48933**

Applications are also included in your March MCO Report, which should be arriving in the mail shortly.

Completed forms must be postmarked by June 1, 2006.



VS.

COLORADO CRUSH
(defending champions)



Saturday, April 8, 2006 7:30 p.m.
Union Family Night - Only \$15!

(includes a ticket to the game, \$3 food voucher and a \$3 donation to the Labor Heritage Society)

Contact Ruth Lobbestael at (616) 559-1871 Ext. 3047 for more information and to purchase tickets.

Purchase deadline is Tuesday, March 14th so you need to hurry! Check them out on the web at: www.rampagefootball.com.

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MARCH 17, 2006

SHOTS FIRED AT MARQUETTE TWICE IN ONE DAY



Monday, March 13, 2006, went from bad to worse at the Marquette Branch Prison. In the morning, a fight broke out in the yard among 12-15 inmates. Prisoners didn't respond to the first shot fired by the post and it took two more shots from another gun tower to gain control of one of the largest fights in years at the facility.

Due to the large number of individuals involved, they did not have enough room in Seg so the inmates were locked in their cells and the yard was shut down.

Later, while other inmates were returning from lunch, another fight broke out in a housing unit among three inmates necessitating another shot to be fired within the unit.

The facility was finally placed on lock-down Monday afternoon and remained so through at least Tuesday.

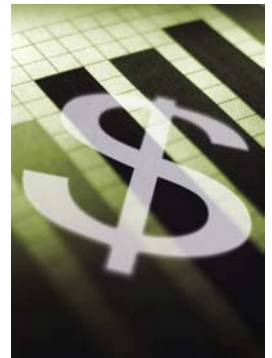
Luckily no staff were injured and only one inmate required hospital treatment for their injuries. The fights are believed to be gang related.

CORRECTIONS BUDGET GOES TO FULL APPROPRIATIONS

On Tuesday, March 14, 2006, the Senate Appropriations Sub-Committee on Corrections reported out its recommendations for the FY '06-'07 Corrections Budget. It now awaits review by the full Senate Appropriations Committee, which is expected within the week. After passage by the full Senate, the bill will go to the House of Representatives for its consideration.

The Sub-Committee recommendations for the most part mirror the proposals in Governor Granholm's budget. Highlights of the Sub-Committee recommendations include:

- ▶ funding to train 695 new corrections officers
- ▶ closure of Camp Brighton and the transfer of those inmates to the Huron Valley Complex
- ▶ continued reporting of correctional facility staffing ratios and critical incidents
- ▶ and complete funding of wage and benefit cost increases.



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FROM THE OFFICE OF MCO PRESIDENT TOM TYLUTKI, SEIU LOCAL 526M

sc:opeiu459aflcio



DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ALERT

If you are a third shift employee, your supervisor will be asking you if you wish to use an hour of annual leave on the evening of the shift to Eastern Daylight Time in order to receive a full 80 hours of pay.

This transfer from Eastern Standard Time is scheduled to occur at 2:00am on Sunday, April 2, 2006. If you elect not to utilize an hour of annual leave, you will still receive your accruals and the employer's contribution for insurances, as if you had worked a full 80 hours. However, **please be aware** that if you choose not to use an hour of annual leave, the state's Retirement Bureau will credit you with



.9995 of a year's service credit, instead of 1.0, which represents a full year.

Those who are enrolled in the state's defined benefit retirement plan receive a member statement on a yearly basis, and this fractional difference will be reflected on that statement if you elect not to use the hour of leave.

MCO has pursued this issue on multiple fronts, without an acceptable resolution. It is currently being discussed with the Office of the State Employer in the Labor/Mgt. Health Care Group Benefits Committee. MCO will keep you informed.

IN REMEMBRANCE



JOSEPHINE MCCALLUM
MARCH 24, 1987

Corrections Officer Josephine McCallum, a new employee, was found murdered at the bottom of a stairwell in the activities building of Jackson Central nineteen years ago today. She was the only officer in the building when she was brutally attacked, raped, and left to die.

Officer McCallum left behind one son and a husband. Inmate Edward Hill was charged with her murder and received a life imprisonment sentence in 1990.

One of the delays in the trial was the blood enzyme test (from blood found on Hill's clothing) the prosecutor wanted to use as evidence. The courts decided that the test was inadmissible evidence because of the uncertainty of its accuracy. The Jackson County Prosecutor challenged the decision and was successful in bringing Hill to trial.

Not Forgotten...



RESORTS IN OHIO OFFER MCO DISCOUNTS



The Kalahari Resort in the Wisconsin Dells and the Great Wolf Lodge in Traverse City have long been offering special discounted rates for MCO members. In recent weeks, both organizations have added their Sandusky, Ohio resorts to the participation list...offering great rates exclusively for MCO members!

For more information, you can check them out on our website at www.mco-seiu.org. Simply click on the "family" icon on the right side to find locations, rates and amenities. Castaway Bay in Sandusky is also an MCO partner!





WEAPONS CONFISCATED AT KINROSS

An inmate was found in possession of an 8" shank and a lock on a coat string in the yard "hunting" down another prisoner at the Kinross Correctional Facility on March 22, 2006.

These are just a few of the weapons that have been found lately; including a homemade syringe.



OFFICER ASSAULTED IN STAFF BATHROOM AT OJIBWAY

At 5 a.m. on March 23, 2006, an officer entered the staff restroom to use the facilities; securing both Unit G and Unit F doors, as well as the stall door. Shortly thereafter, someone entered the bathroom through the G Unit door and failed to respond when the officer indicated that she was present. The lack of response and a view of state shoes alarmed the officer, who then looked through the crack in the stall door. An inmate was standing there, with his prison issue shorts around his ankles, masturbating and pushing against the stall door.

The officer immediately called

OFFICER ATTACKED AT STANDISH MAX

As the transition unit inmates were released for yard on March 25, 2006, one of the trailing inmates struck a yard officer in the face and took him to the ground.

Housing Unit officers responded in excellent time and were successful in restraining the inmate and escorting him to segregation. The assaulted officer, a responding officer, and a responding Sergeant were all taken to the hospital for treatment. The officer received a neck injury in addition to the blow to his face.

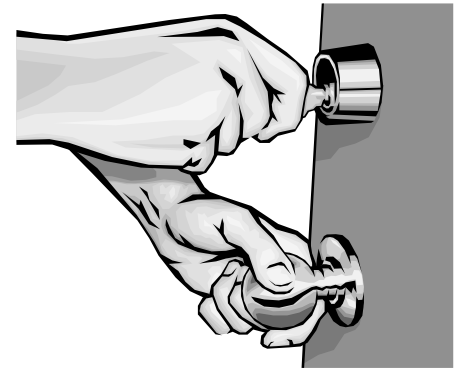
This is the same unit where prisoner Trinidad was killed. Thankfully it was fully staffed at this time and the response was immediate.

for help over her radio. The responding officer observed the inmate leaving the bathroom while pulling up his shorts. The prisoner was ordered to stay put at the officers' podium and when the assaulted officer emerged he was positively identified.

The handle to a pair of nail clippers was found in the garbage by the podium where the prisoner was standing. The handle was tested and proved to be a successful pick to the bathroom lock.

The inmate was charged with major misconducts for threatening behavior, sexual misconduct, out-of-place and felony assault.

This assault occurred in a



Level I/II unit where there is only one officer per unit on midnights with one rover. This means only 3 officers for 280 inmates. And in this case, it was a yard officer who was the **only one able to respond**.

We are lucky that this officer wasn't more seriously injured.

This is just another instance that proves you must watch your back at all times.



BULLETIN

APRIL 5, 2006

MCO WINS CTO MAX PAY ARBITRATION!



CTO's will retain Max Pay and receive full back pay and benefits.

More detailed information will be forthcoming.

MICHIGAN CORRECTIONS ORGANIZATION
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MCO DEFENDS CHAPTER OFFICIAL - FILES ULP

MCO has filed a ULP against the Michigan Department of Corrections in response to actions taken at the I-Max Correctional Facility against a union official.

Specifically, MCO is fighting for a union official at I-Max who was disciplined for actions he took while wearing his "union hat." Traditional labor law dictates that when officers are acting in a union capacity - addressing contract and labor management issues - they are considered to be on equal footing with administration.

I-Max refused to recognize this as the situation and proceeded to discipline this officer who has 21 years of service with no prior discipline. According to President Tylutki, "This is a blatant violation of the labor/management relationship, and will *not* happen on my watch."

INMATES TURN ON EACH OTHER AT CAMP BRANCH 60 REFUSE TO LOCK-UP AT BROOKS

On 2nd shift, Sunday, April 2nd, one inmate approached another and asked him if he stole his tape player. When the other inmate stated he had, he was stabbed with a rod believed to be from an ironing board.

The stabbed inmate then sought retribution by scalding the accusing inmate with a glass of hot water.

Camp Branch has gone from 480 to 720 prisoners in recent weeks.

MCO has raised many concerns at the Camp, mostly pertaining to 3rd shift. There is an immediate need for increased safety lighting and additional staff. On the midnight shift there is only one officer to a 3-floor building. And only two officers per building on 1st and 2nd shifts.

On March 31st, 60 inmates refused to lock-up, refused to leave base unit, and demanded to speak to shift command. The inmates cited concerns about excessive ticket writing by one officer in the unit.

This officer had apparently been assigned to the unit to "tighten things up," a policy which often tends to lessen safety rather than increase it.

The inmates did eventually disperse. One inmate was sent to Seg for "inciting a riot" and another was sent for "threatening behavior on staff" after stating that he was going to round up additional prisoners and "take care of the officer."

The next morning, on 1st shift, the Supervisors did not share this incident with staff at pre-shift, later stating that they didn't feel it was pertinent. One or two officers were eventually told what had occurred.

Communication between shifts in situations like this has been a problem before and the supervisors have indicated that they don't always have the information. This was not the case in this instance. Officers on 1st shift felt they should have been notified so they could watch for warning signs...this easily could have carried over into another incident on the next shift.

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“DISTURBANCE” AT OJIBWAY - REALLY A RIOT

On Sunday, April 9, a riot ensued at the Ojibway Correctional Facility resulting in 14 injured officers and a stabbed Lieutenant.

The riot apparently started as a protest when a white inmate stabbed a black inmate earlier in the day.

Inmates gathered in the day room throughout the evening and staff recognized something was going to happen.

By about 8:25 p.m., an additional 4-5 officers, who had been called in, joined the unit and the ERT gathered to assess the situation.

It was at this point that approximately 50 inmates began to exit the day room. An inmate raised his hand to signal and a riot broke out.

The prisoners pushed over the officers, throwing punches and knocking many to the ground, and continued kicking them in an attempt to keep them down. One officer was attacked from behind and hit over the head with a sign while he was attempting to pull an inmate off of another officer.

The Ojibway ERT came in with batons and a pepperball gun and pushed back the inmates so

officers on the ground had more room to handle the situation.

In all, 14 officers were sent to the hospital for treatment of injuries including lacerations, contusions and a broken nose among others. One officer was hospitalized for heart problems, and another was airlifted to Duluth, MN for treatment of a suspected crushed vertebrae in his neck.

The Emergency Response Teams from Alger, Marquette and Baraga arrived later and stayed for several days to cuff up and ship out approximately 50 prisoners who were involved.

Russ Marlan, spokesperson for the MDOC has been characterizing the incident as minor in articles that have appeared in news this week...

“...and about 15 prisoners became involved in fighting, using their fists and swinging at officers for only about 6 seconds, Marlan said videotape of the incident showed...the remaining prisoners stood off to the side and didn't get involved.”
-Marquette Mining Journal

“Marlan said no weapons appeared to have been used by the prisoners and injuries were largely limited to cuts and bruises.” -Detroit Free Press

“The clash was quickly broken up, and the prisoners fled to their cells...act of protest...disturbance”
-Associated Press

“it was quickly broken up, but not before 14 officers were slightly hurt, officials say.”
-Lansing State Journal

“None of the officers who received medical attention had serious injuries.”
-Detroit News

President Tylutki arrived at Ojibway on Tuesday and talked to the officers, met with the warden, and viewed the video tape of the incident.

“The officers and staff handled the riot professionally, efficiently and courageously and that is the message that should have been put out by the MDOC.”

“I'll grant you it only lasted 20 seconds...but if this incident had jumped five minutes earlier it would have been a lot different and somebody would have gotten killed.”

Recent news articles have revealed a more accurate portrayal of the event. One has been added to the front page of the website and attached for your information.



MCO NEGOTIATES UNIFORM SETTLEMENT

MCO was successful in negotiating a settlement for ex-MCO members who were shortchanged on the uniform allowance they received last November.

The DOC only pro-rated ex-MCO members' uniform allowance at \$250 as opposed to the \$575 we received. MCO grieved the payment should have been pro-rated at \$575.

The employer granted our

Grievance with a notification deadline of June 1, 2006.

Please inform any ex-MCO members you know, who were only pro-rated at \$250, that they must notify their personnel office by May 1st to collect the difference.

If you have any further questions, contact your Labor Relations Representative at MCO Central.

INFORMATIONAL PICKET

Wednesday, April 26th

9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

in front of the Forensic Center



-A March 2006 Study by the Forensic Center shows the **largest contributing factor to the increased assaults is the reduction in Security staff.**

JOIN TOGETHER AND ASK STATE LEGISLATORS TO PROTECT THE SAFETY OF OUR OFFICERS, AND OUR COMMUNITIES... SPEND OUR MONEY WISELY!

BRAWL AT THE THUMB

On April 14th, 20+ prisoners fought in the yard at the Thumb Correctional Facility. Fights continued over the weekend as well, but luckily no officers were injured.

HOLIDAY COMP UPDATE

The Arbitration Hearing on the Holiday Comp time issue starts next week. It is scheduled for Monday, April 24th and Thursday, April 27th, 2006.

NOMINEES FOR MAY ELECTIONS

PRESIDENT

Tom Tylutki, CFP

VICE PRESIDENT

Andy Potter, MTU
Scott Fischer, MRF

TREASURER

Bill Henderson, SRF

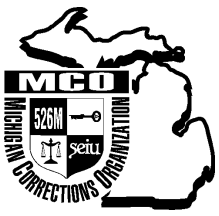
SECRETARY

Jim Johnson, KCF

TRUSTEE

Scott Fischer, MRF
Phillip Fleury, HVM
Mary Ann Hocking, MCF
Ray Sholtz, SLF
Adam Douglas, NRF
Larry Henley, LMF
Cary Johnson, JCF
John Ost, BFS
Merlin Parlett, SMN
Bob Sikkenga, MTF
Randy Burrow, ATF/ARF

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SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT REACHED ON ULP

A settlement agreement was reached on Tuesday, April 25th, between MCO and the MDOC on the ULP charges MCO recently filed over an incident at I-Max.

The issue related to a MCO member being reprimanded for actions taken while acting in the capacity of a union official. Traditional labor law dictates that when officers are acting in a union capacity - addressing contract and labor management issues - they are considered to be on equal footing with administration. In this instance, however,

I-Max disciplined the officer.

The Settlement Agreement stipulates the following:

1. The parties shall treat each other with mutual respect.
2. All discussions pertaining to Union business shall be conducted in a manner of decorum that will not have an impact on other employees and/or departmental productivity.
3. The written reprimand issued to the officer shall be withdrawn and all references to that reprimand shall be removed from the personnel file.

HOLIDAY COMP UPDATE

The Arbitration Hearing on the Holiday Comp time issue started this week. There was a full day of testimony on Monday, and additional sessions are scheduled for Thursday and potentially Friday if necessary. A decision is expected by May 27, 2006.

FORENSIC PICKET A SUCCESS

A special thanks goes out to all of those who made the picket at the Forensic Center a success, especially Chapter President John Fetters, Chief Steward Jennifer Gilkison, Recording Secretary Shirlee Ward, and many more who were instrumental in setting this up.

We had a strong and steady showing throughout the day and some members from Huron Valley Mens and Womens joined in. The Ann Arbor News and Michigan Public Radio covered the event.



Governor Granholm has created an online petition to send to President Bush demanding lower gas prices. The petition can be found at:

<http://www6.dleg.state.mi.us/parsers/govparser.shtm>

Over 40,000 people signed the petition in the first 72 hours alone!

INMATE ATTACKS OFFICERS AT STATION DESK

On Friday, April 21st, at approximately 2100 hrs., an inmate in the acute unit at Huron Valley Womens jumped over the officers station desk and assaulted two officers.

One sustained injuries to her left eye and the other was punched in her right eye. Both officers were off of work for several days due to their injuries.

Thanks to the staff that responded, the prisoner was restrained and secluded before further injuries could occur.



PRISONER FOUND GUILTY IN ATTACK ON OFFICERS



In a court room in Ionia on Thursday, inmate Joseph Freeman was found guilty after only 44 minutes of deliberation by a jury on the charges of assault with intent to commit murder and two counts of assault with intent to do great bodily harm.

The incident occurred in October of 2004 when inmate Quincy Bland attacked Officer Jeffries because after Jeffries had written a ticket on him earlier in the day. Freeman, a bystander, then joined in the fight, using a lock-in-a-sock to beat Officer Jeffries and two other officers. Jeffries ended up needing over 50 staples to close lacerations to his head and face.

This brings to a close a long battle fought by MCO and the Prosecutor to get this inmate charged.

Originally Judge Miel had dismissed the case against Freeman without prejudice over frustration in obtaining officer personnel files from the MDOC.

At one point, MCO planned a picket in front of the courthouse to protest the legal wrangling that threatened to let Freeman avoid charges.

Ionia Prosecutor Ron Schafer

re-issued charges, however, and believes that the quick return of a guilty verdict by the jury shows this was the right thing to do.

Bland, the other inmate involved, was convicted and sentenced in 2005 and is serving several additional years in prison for his role in the incident.

MCO Vice President Andy Potter was in the courtroom for the trial and then shared the news of a guilty verdict with the officers at MTU.

Officer Jeffries continues to recover, and will not return to the MDOC.

TWO OFFICERS ATTACKED AT GUS HARRISON

A prisoner at the Gus Harrison facility came around the officers podium in Housing Unit 3 and attacked an officer last week. When a fellow officer stepped in to help, the inmate turned on him, punched him in the head, and kneed him in the stomach and face.

It is believed that the inmate had been selling his meds on the yard for the last week and a half... and he is part of the MPRI program.

One officer required medical treatment for injuries.

OFFICER RECOGNIZED FOR ACTIONS

Officer Troy Groesbeck, of the Parr Highway Correctional Facility, was recently recognized as Officer of the Month for his actions, which saved a choking prisoner's life.

As the dining hall officer, he noticed an inmate who was choking and after applying the Heimlich maneuver at least six times, he was able to clear his airway.

"Officer Groesbeck deserves recognition as one of the finer officers in the MDOC," states Howard Punskey, a MCO union official.

DISCOUNTS ON SUMMER ACTIVITIES HEAT UP!

Now that summer is nearly upon us, we're getting some great discounts for MCO members at Cedar Point, with the new ride "Skyhawk," Geauga Lake and Wildwater Kingdom, and Mt. Olympus Water and Theme Park.

Check out the details on our website... just click on the graphic of a family on the right side of the page. And check back often as we're heading into that time of year when new deals come online weekly!



CENTRAL ELECTS!

PRESIDENT

Tom Tylutki, *CFP - unopposed*

VICE PRESIDENT

Andy Potter, *MTU - 120 votes*

Scott Fischer, *MRF - 14 votes*

TREASURER

Bill Henderson, *SRF - unopposed*

SECRETARY

Jim Johnson, *KCF - unopposed*

TRUSTEE

John Ost, *BFS - 110 votes*

Ray Sholtz, *SLF - 109 votes*

Cary Johnson, *JCF - 108 votes*

Adam Douglas, *NRF - 106 votes*

Larry Henley, *LMF - 89 votes*

Mary Ann Hocking, *MCF - 76 votes*

Phillip Fleury, *HVM - 65 votes*

Scott Fischer, *MRF - 56 votes*

Randy Burrow, *ATF/ARF - 55 votes*

Merlin Parlett, *SMN - 33 votes*

(elected officials in
bold type)



GUN RAFFLE WINNERS CHOSEN!

1st. Prize

270 Remington BDL w/scope

Johnny A. Mitchell
New Era, MI

2nd. Prize

1100 Remington 12 Gauge
Semi-Auto

Deb Piche
KTF

3rd. Prize

30.06 Remington Semi-Auto

James Guass
Sterling Heights, MI

4th. Prize

Over & Under 20 Gauge -
Spartan

Quintin Smith
Muskegon, MI

5th. Prize

40 Caliber Springfield Pistol

Jim Flanders
Sears, MI

6th. Prize

Mossberg 20 Gauge Youth
Shotgun

Paul Killips
Soo, MI

7th. Prize

Binoculars - Bushnell Legend
10x42

Dick Wicinski
Manistee, MI

8th. Prize

22 Remington Rifle

Capt. M. Kraft
MRF

9th. Prize

22 Caliber Browning Pistol

Carlos Molina
Rudyard, MI

10th. Prize

50 Caliber Black Powder Rifle

Josh Rivard
Caspian, MI

OFFICER KNOCKED OUT BY INMATE

An officer at the Bellamy Creek Correctional Facility was attacked and remained unconscious for nearly 15 minutes on May 10th. He was transported to the local hospital by ambulance where he was treated for a severe concussion and bruises to the head and face. The officer has no memory of the incident or approximately 5 hours afterwards and is still off of work at this time.

At first it was believed that he had just collapsed. Preliminary review of the video camera footage showed an inmate standing in front of the camera blocking the incident from view.

When the inspector reviewed video taken from a different camera several days later, it revealed that one inmate had stood in front of the officer while another came up from the side and struck him in the head.

From the video footage one inmate involved has been positively identified. Another, suspected to be the attacker, had had a ddo written on him earlier in the day by the injured officer. Both were placed in segregation.



TWO ASSAULTS... ONE WEEK

Last Thursday, the 18th, a scheduled count round was taken at 1600 hrs. in the Franklin unit at the Thumb.

Approximately 10 minutes later an officer was doing another round to pass out mail when he found a prisoner being assaulted by his bunkmate.

The inmate required hospital treatment for lacerations, fractured ribs, and fractured bones in his face. His cell was covered in blood -- including the call button where the prisoner had tried to call for help.

At the time of the incident there was no Pod officer and thus no way to tell the prisoner was calling for help because the call button only rings into the Pod.

Then yesterday, the 25th, a fight broke out between two prisoners, believed to be for religious reasons, and one was struck in the back of the head with a lock-in-a-sock.

One inmate is unconscious and hospitalized with a fractured skull. He will be undergoing brain surgery and it is unknown at this time if he will survive.

Luckily, in both instances, there were no staff injuries.

PRISONER DIES AT HURON VALLEY TRV

At noon yesterday an officer doing rounds found an inmate hanging in his cell. The officer and a Sergeant cut the inmate down and began CPR to get a heartbeat. The inmate, however, subsequently died.

The TRV was locked down and the State Police called. The Warden called in extra staff, held over staff, and called in all work crews.

When they broke one wing for chow a fight immediately broke out between two inmates. One stabbed the other with a ballpoint pen.

There were no officer injuries and they did a great job in handling both situations.

Kudos go out to the Supervisor and Administration for helping out and bringing in the additional staff.

CTO MAX PAY UPDATE

As you know, we won the CTO Max Pay Arbitration. The Civil Service, a constitutional entity with the authority to override Arbitration decisions, has been reviewing the case.

MCO and the Administration are working to ultimately resolve this situation.

Stay tuned...

GOVERNOR CONTINUES TO FIGHT PRIVATIZATION

The Corrections Budget, passed by the House and Senate, came before Governor Granholm yesterday for her signature.

The bill presented included a placeholder with language that would have forced the state to utilize the former Michigan Youth Correctional Facility in Baldwin if prison capacity needs increased before expanding into closed units or facilities elsewhere in the state.

This attempt to re-open the private prison was vetoed by Granholm who felt it would hinder the MDOC's ability to make the most cost-effective decisions in prison operations.

BRAWL AT CAMP KITWEN

On Wednesday, the 24th, Baraga's ERT Team was activated and sent to Camp Kitwen when a fight broke out between a group of prisoners.

Two inmates were sent to the hospital for treatment of injuries sustained from a lock-in-a-sock. Seven prisoners were sent to the hole, and two gave the ERT a hard time by refusing to submit to a strip search.

In all, nine inmates were sent out to Baraga Max.



EARLY RETIREMENT BILL NOT LIKELY TO MOVE

A bill (HB 6117) has been introduced by State Representative Rick Jones that would offer early retirement to all state employees - including corrections officers. Employees would apply for and designate a retirement date starting January 1, 2007, but no later than September 1, 2007.



The bill, which Rep. Jones says was designed to save the state money, was referred to the House Senior Health, Security, and Retirement Committee.

Leadership on both sides of the aisle, however, indicate they will not support the legislation and

it seems unlikely that this early retirement bill will be written into law any time soon. Rep. Barb Vander Veen, the chair of the committee, says she has no plan to take it up.

A spokesperson for Governor Granholm has said the state may save money in the short term with the early retirement plan, but,

ultimately, would compromise the quality and efficiency of state services. Granholm pointed to the 8,000 employees that took advantage of the previous early retirement plan, which left many critical staffing positions unfilled.

MOST OFFICERS NOT AFFECTED BY HOLIDAY CHANGES



Last year, the Civil Service Commission approved changes for the observance of the 2006 Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve holidays.

The 12-24-06 holiday will be observed on 12-26-06 (a Tuesday) and the 12-31-06 holiday will be observed on 1-2-07 (also a Tuesday). This rearrangement allows for two four-day weekends (Saturday through Tuesday) for many state employees.

However, these changes will apply **ONLY** to workers who regularly work a Monday through Friday schedule. For most of the Security Unit who work a rotating schedule, the holidays will be celebrated on the actual, recognized dates as identified in the contract.

Please see Article 18, Section A for supportive information.



HOLIDAY ARB UPDATE

Due to an unanticipated four days of hearings, and a request by the Department for more time in filing their brief, the date a decision was expected in this case has been pushed back to the first of September.

MCO Members are to continue to request compensatory time as normal. If you are denied comp time, please forward that information on to Tangee Laza at MCO Central.

CLARIFICATION

The language involving the private youth prison that Governor Granholm vetoed last week was contained in SB 242, a supplemental budget bill for the current fiscal year and not part of the current budget negotiations for FY '06-'07.



GOVERNOR TAKES FLACK FOR HONORING SOLDIERS



As we pass Flag Day (June 14), and enter Flag Month (June 14-July 14), Governor Granholm has again been the target of criticism for ordering U.S. flags to half staff when a member of the Michigan National Guard, Michigan Air National Guard, or Michigan resident serving as a member of the United States Armed Forces is killed in the line of duty.

Granholm started this practice in December 2003 and continues to this day despite objections by some that the flag should only be lowered for heads of state and other prominent leaders.

In recent weeks there has been a rash of public outcry defending her actions to recognize Michigan's losses in this manner and some critics are starting to change their minds.

Please call Granholm's office, thank her for honoring our military and veterans in this way, and encourage her to continue this tribute.

(517) 335-7858

3 OFFICERS INJURED BY INMATE AT CHIPPEWA

An inmate on top lock used the drinking fountain without staff authorization and when ordered back to his cell he turned on officers.

After a brief altercation the prisoner was restrained, however, three officers were treated and released from the hospital.

The Level III inmate has a history of three assaults on staff (now six), four threatening behavior tickets and nine fighting tickets.

Once again, this appears to be an example where the system inappropriately pushed an inmate to a lower security level.

BILLS AIM TO INCREASE PRISON SAFETY

Senator Mark Schauer introduced legislation on Wednesday that would prohibit cell phones and other wireless communication devices from use by prisoners.

This bill (SB1311), in conjunction with Senator Switalski's bill (SB1312), would make it a felony to furnish a cell phone or other wireless communication device to a prisoner.

LEVEL IV UNIT SEES 2 INCIDENTS IN 1 WEEK

A level IV inmate set his cell on fire using toilet paper wrapped with ripped mattress and blanket materials.

The incident happened on May 19, 2006, at the Brooks Correctional Facility, during a scheduled door break. The prisoner reported to the officers' station and informed them of his actions just as the fire alarm sounded.



Officers evacuated the unit and were able to extinguish the blaze; containing the damage to one cell.

Three days later, in the same unit, a prisoner assaulted a RUO while being escorted back from meeting with a hearings officer. The inmate was able to get in multiple blows to the officer's head before staff restrained him. The officer was treated and released from the hospital.

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SHANK PULLED ON OFFICER AT THE VALLEY

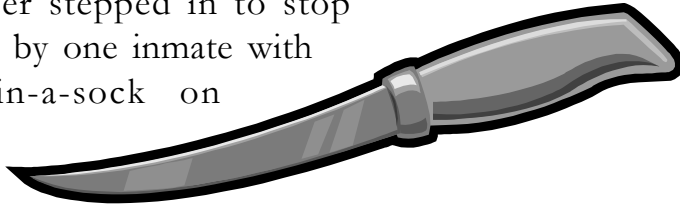
During chow lines a call went out over the radio, "I have a shank in my face, food service."

Staff immediately responded and were able to prevent injury to the officer.

The altercation started when the officer stepped in to stop an attack by one inmate with a lock-in-a-sock on another.

One inmate sustained injuries and was treated and released from the hospital.

The incident between inmates appears to have been racially motivated.



OFFICERS FIRST RESPONDERS AT CYCLE ACCIDENT

On Tuesday, June 13, 2006, Jerry McLean, a 9 year officer with the MDOC, was on his way home from work on his motorcycle when he was hit head on by a drunk driver.

The driver that hit him was driving on a suspended license, did not have insurance, and was intoxicated to the point they indicated they didn't know what they hit...but stopped because their tire blew out.

Only three people stopped to help Jerry, and of those, all three were MDOC employees. They



not only made sure that Jerry was okay, but also drug his mangled bike off the road in the dark with oncoming cars, so it would not cause another accident. The officers stayed until Jerry was in route to the hospital and assisted an EMT who lived nearby in loading his bike onto a trailer. The EMT then delivered the bike to the McLean's house the next morning.

McLean was very lucky and only sustained a broken left foot and several very bad lacerations.

UPCOMING TOUR/ MEETING DATES

President Tylutki has plans to visit several facilities over the next week so don't be surprised to see him making the rounds!

Cooper St. and SAI today

Ryan on 2nd and 3rd Monday, June 26

Brooks - afternoons Tuesday, June 27

Muskegon meeting/tour Wednesday, June 28

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CRISIS FUND TEXAS HOLD'EM TOURNAMENT SEEKS VOLUNTEERS

Officers in Ionia are planning a Texas Hold'em and Euchre Tournament to raise money for the MCO Crisis Fund.

The tournament is tentatively scheduled for Sunday, October 8, 2006, at the Ionia County Fairgrounds.

While it may seem a long way off, it is a big undertaking and the organizers need volunteers to help with the event planning, and to deal, sell chips, and help with food the day of the event.

A meeting will be held on July 11th, at 4 p.m. to sign up volunteers, discuss tournament rules, and event planning issues.

Those attending should meet in the parking lot of the Credit Union across the street from the Fairgrounds.

If you wish to volunteer but cannot make it to the meeting, simply e-mail the committee at gto@centurytel.net.



NEW DISCOUNTS AND EVENTS FOR MCO

As the summer heats up... so do the deals!



MCO has recently added Mt. Olympus Water and Theme Park in the Wisconsin Dells and Six Flags Great America Theme Park in Gurnee, IL, to our list of Family Entertainment Discounts only for MCO members.

Concert Tickets are added daily and include:

- July 2- Chicago/Huey Lewis & the News
- July 5 - ABBA The Music
- July 6 - 1964 The Tribute
- July 7 - Steve Miller Band
- July 8 - Bo Bice
- July 9 - The Music of Led Zeppelin: A Rock Symphony
- July 12 - Bonnie Rait/Keb Mo
- July 13 - CCR
- July 17 - Heart
- July 18 - REO Speedwagon
- July 22 - Anita Baker

OFFICER BEAT BY INMATE AT ALGER MAX

As a prisoner in the transition unit was walking back to his cell from showering he began to argue with an officer about paperwork that had been confiscated on the wing.

The officer gave the inmate a direct order to lock up, which he promptly refused. After ignoring a second order to lock up, the officer activated his PPD to get assistance on the wing.

The inmate then took several swings at the officer, striking him in the face and taking him to the ground where he kicked the officer repeatedly in the ribs before responding officers arrived.

The officer was taken to the hospital where he received 8 stitches in his lower lip, sustained a deep laceration to his nose, and suffered bruised ribs. The officer is still off of work as of this printing.

CTO MAX PAY AFFIRMED!

MCO is pleased to announce the OSE informed the union that the Civil Service Chairwoman has given preliminary approval of the CTO Letter of Understanding recently negotiated by MCO.

The Department will now work on calculating back pay, which could take a few weeks.



UNION FAMILY FAIR DAY TICKETS AVAILABLE FOR INGHAM COUNTY FAIR

From now through July 31, 2006, MCO members can purchase discounted tickets and ride bands for Union Family Fair Day on Thursday, August 3, 2006, at the Ingham County Fair.

Entry Donation: \$2 per person if purchased in advance, \$4 at the gate

Ride bands (good all day): \$8 per person if purchased in advance, \$16 at the fair.

Contact Cindy Kogut at (517) 485-3310 or cindyk@mco-seiu.org to get your tickets today!



CORRECTIONS BUDGET IN FINAL STAGES

The Governor and the legislative leaders have come to an overall budget agreement for fiscal year 2006-2007 which starts October 1. The agreement sets targeted funding levels for each department.

Legislative Conference Committees will now work out the details of individual budgets within the agreed upon targets.

The Corrections Conference Committee is expected to meet next Wednesday, July 12, 2006.

We anticipate that the Conference Committee and the legislature will approve a budget that is something less than what Governor Granholm originally recommended for Corrections.

ESCAPE ATTEMPT AT HVM



An inmate at the Valley hit the fence near the Administration Building at Huron Valley last Monday, June 26, 2006.

Quick actions by the officer escorting him brought him down from the interior fence, avoiding any injuries in the

process.

At the time of the attempt, the prisoner was being escorted without restraints per his mental health management plan. He was, however, escorted back with restraints.

Stay tuned...

IN MEMORIAM ROBERT "BOBBY" HILL

OFFICER HILL PASSED AWAY ON TUESDAY, JULY 4, 2006 FROM MULTIPLE HEALTH ISSUES. HILL HIRED INTO THE MDOC IN 1990 AND SERVED AS CHAPTER PRESIDENT AT THE CHIPPEWA CORRECTIONAL FACILITY AND ON THE MCO STATE EXECUTIVE BOARD FOR SEVERAL TERMS IN THE MID 1990's.

BOBBY WAS KNOWN AS SOMEONE WHO ALWAYS HAD THE BACKS OF HIS UNION BROTHERS AND SISTERS AND WILL BE MISSED.





OFFICER BREAKS WRIST SUBDUING INMATE

Last week an inmate at Huron Valley Mens started acting up and tried to go after a mental health person.

An officer bear-hugged the prisoner and began moving him toward the showers to calm him down. The inmate continued to act up- fighting the restraint- and both of them fell to the ground landing on the officer's hands and wrists that were still locked in a bear hug position.

The officer sustained several floating bone chips and a crack to his right wrist as a result of the incident.

SUMMER DEALS FOR FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT

MCO has negotiated some great deals for entertainment this summer. You can save money on everything from concert tickets, and discounted entry to places such as Cedar Point and Geauga Lake, to special rates on lodging and waterpark tickets in Michigan, Ohio and Wisconsin.

Check out our website at www.mco-seiu.org and click on the icon for Family Entertainment to find out all the details for your next trip.

Participating locations include Cedar Point, Geauga Lake, Mt. Olympus Water & Theme Park, Six Flags Great America, Great Wolf Lodge in Sandusky and Traverse City, Wilderness Lodge, Kalahari Resort in Sandusky and Wisconsin Dells, the Bavarian Inn Lodge and coming soon is Zehnder's Hotel with Splash Village and The Fortress Golf Course!

We have discounted tickets and ride bands to the Ingham County Fair available until July 31st.

C.O.P.S. day at the Ionia Free Fair is Wednesday, July 26th. The Hospitality Center will be open to Corrections Employees with a valid ID from 11 a.m. - 8 p.m. and if you purchase your wristband at the Hospitality Center you can ride all day for \$11!

Upcoming concerts include Heart on July 17, REO Speedwagon on July 18, Anita Baker on July 22 and the Beach Boys on July 30th!

CORRECTIONS BUDGET MOVES FORWARD!

The Conference Committee for the Corrections budget met on Wednesday and reported out a budget which, despite showing a \$7M reduction from the Governor's original recommendation, represents a 4.3% increase over the current fiscal year.

Of key note:

⇒ Placeholder funding for the private Baldwin facility was removed.

⇒ Language that would have forced the state to utilize space at Baldwin before they could expand capacity in any existing or previously closed state facilities was removed.

⇒ Language that would have imposed a 35% surcharge on all goods sold in prisoner stores with the revenue directed to the Michigan State Police was also removed.

Most of the budgets were completed on Wednesday and it appears that the legislature may be able to finish up on Wednesday, July 26th.

Once a budget comes out of Conference Committee there can no longer be any amendments - it is simply an up or down vote in both the House and the Senate.

Stay tuned...



SIGNING CEREMONY FOR BILL THAT ALLOWS OFFICERS TO AID IN DISASTER RELIEF

This morning a signing ceremony was held by the Governor for HB 5061 at which MCO and several other state employee unions were guests.

HB5061 amends the Emergency Relief Act to enable a state employee who is skilled in emergency relief assistance and certified as a disaster services volunteer by the American Red Cross to take a disaster relief leave of absence in some circumstances.

The bill specifies that non-civil service state employees could be granted an unpaid leave of absence whereas a classified state civil service employee may be granted a leave of absence as authorized by the civil service commission.

Further, an employee of an agency in any branch of state government could be granted leave from work *with pay* for not more than 10 days in any 12-month period if all of the following criteria were met:

1. The Governor or the President of the United States has declared the disaster.
2. The American Red Cross has requested the services of the employee.
3. The employee's department head has approved the leave.
4. If the service is rendered outside the state, the Governor has approved the leave.
5. If the employee is in the state classified civil service, the Civil Service Commission has approved the leave.



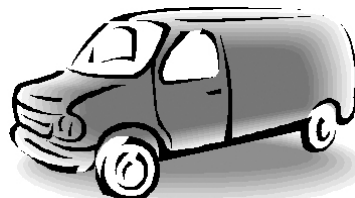
INMATE FIGHTS TRANSFER

An inmate who was being transferred from Marquette to Huron Valley Mens via RGC, apparently did not want to go to the Valley on Wednesday.

Two officers from HVM who went to RGC to pick up the inmate were assaulted by him when he attempted to leave the van. The prisoner grabbed the wrist of one officer and

attempted to take him out the door. The other officer intervened but was knocked out the door, taking the inmate with him.

The inmate was secured and taken to the Valley without further incident.



IONIA PARADE TO HONOR CORRECTIONS OFFICERS

This Saturday, July 22nd, there will be an "Officer of the Year" parade starting on Main St. in Ionia. The parade will honor the Corrections Officers of the Year from the Ionia Area facilities and will conclude at the grounds of the Ionia Free Fair.

Saturday is "Hero's Day" and a ceremony will be held in the grandstands at 1 p.m. commemorating all veterans. There will also be a reading of fallen soldiers.

Children whose parents are in the military and have served in the current conflicts can ride free all day too!

FIRE AT BELLAMY CREEK



On July 13, inmates in the Level IV housing unit at Bellamy Creek set a fire which MDOC fire extinguishers could not put out. The Ionia Fire Department was eventually called in to contain the blaze.

Second shift was held over on nights as a result.



ARBITRATOR DECIDES HOLIDAY/COMP-TIME ISSUE



On July 21st, an arbitrator decided in favor of the MDOC in the Holiday/Comp-time case. His analysis of Articles 17 and 18 agreed with the Employer's position, and he concluded that compensatory time can only be earned for overtime hours actually worked.

MCO hired an outside attorney to assist in the case and spent many thousands of dollars to fight for this issue. Unfortunately, in the end, it wasn't in the cards.

LEGISLATURE MOVES ON BUDGETS

The Legislature met on Wednesday and passed both the MDOC and MDCH Budgets.

The MDOC Budget passed with 37 Yeas, 0 Nays, and 1 Excused. The MDCH Budget passed with 28 Yeas, 9 Nays (Basham, Clark-Coleman, Clarke, Emerson, Leland, Patterson, Scott, Thomas and Toy), and 1 Excused.

In addition, HB 5800 was passed with 36 Yeas, 1 Nays (Brater) and 1 Excused. HB 5800 is a bill that allows the GEO Group to house prisoners from other states or federal agencies at the former youth prison in Baldwin.

At MCO's request, Senator Schauer offered two amendments to the bill. The first amendment would have inserted language that would have limited the facility to a "maximum capacity of 500 beds" thus preventing the GEO Group from double bunking and bringing in more prisoners than could safely be managed. This amendment was defeated with 16 Democrats voting "yes," and 21 Republicans voting "no."

Schauer's second amendment would have changed the language to prevent the facility from housing prisoners above a Level III. The goal behind this amendment was to prevent the GEO Group from filling their facility with the worst inmates from other states, thus posing an increased security threat to both officers who work in the facility and the surrounding community. This amendment was also defeated with all Democrats supporting and all Republicans opposing.



TWO OFFICERS FROM MOUND INJURED IN SEPARATE INCIDENTS

The early morning hours of Monday, July 24th, proved to be dangerous for two officers from the 2-10 shift at the Mound Correctional Facility.

Around 1:30 a.m., an officer was shot in the abdomen as he exited a lounge during a robbery attempt.

About an hour and a half later another officer was shot several times in the leg in an attempted carjacking at a gas station just a mile from the earlier incident. The officer drove himself to Sinai-Grace Hospital in Detroit where he underwent surgery and is listed in serious condition.

The officer shot in the abdomen also underwent surgery and is listed in serious condition as well.

50-75 FOR ATTEMPTED MURDER OF CO

Prisoner Joseph Freeman was sentenced this week to an additional 50-75 years for the attack on Officer Jeffries at MTU in October of 2004.

Freeman is now serving his time at I-Max.



UPCOMING CONCERTS

Free Tickets Available Now!

- Aug. 5 - Boyz II Men wsg/ En Vogue
- Aug. 6 - The Temptations and The Four Tops
- Aug. 11 - Chris Isaak



- Aug. 11 - Michael W. Smith Third Day w/Jars of Clay
- Aug. 12 - Get Back! Cast of Beatlemania
- Aug. 17 & 18 - Ted Nugent
- Aug. 19 - David Lee Roth
- Aug. 19 - Comedian Richard Jeni
- Aug. 26 - Comedian Gilbert Gottfried

INMATE ASSAULTS OFFICER AT HVM

When an officer asked an inmate to submit to a shakedown last week at HVM the inmate refused and walked away. When the officer asked a second time the prisoner turned and punched the officer in the face.

Staff responded quickly and took the inmate down, however one was injured slightly in the process. He received medical treatment for an injury to his elbow and returned to work the rest of the shift.

BRAWLS AT BELLAMY CREEK

On July 20th there were incidents in both housing unit 5 (which holds Level IV prisoners) and housing unit 2 (which holds Level II prisoners) resulting in 7 inmates being sent to segregation.

Three officers were also sent to the hospital for treatment of injuries sustained while breaking up prisoner on prisoner fights.

In the days surrounding this incident, officers discovered six shanks in the dormitory and Horticulture areas.

AGREEMENT REACHED BEFORE ARBITRATION

MCO and the MDOC reached an agreement and signed a Letter of Understanding just days before a scheduled Arbitration.

The L O U , facilitated by MCO L a b o r Relations Rep John



Bowers, deals with an officer's availability for overtime while on approved paid annual leave for periods of less than four (4) consecutive scheduled work days.

It states in part that "an employee shall be entitled to be called for overtime while on approved paid annual leave for a shift that is outside of their normal work schedule as allowed in this agreement. Normally referred to as B-List overtime."

As a condition of the LOU, the union agreed to withdraw current grievances on this issue.

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THE VOTES ARE IN...MIXED RESULTS FOR LABOR ENDORSED CANDIDATES

While there were many important races in the primary this week, the labor movement - and corrections officers in particular - had a vested interest in a select few.

In spite of winning Luce County, Mike Taylor, former MCO State Executive Board Member, failed to win the party's nomination to run in November for State Representative for the 109th District. Mike campaigned hard and although second in the race, he received more votes than the third and fourth place finishers combined. All of MCO can be proud of Mike's efforts.

Downstate, CO Ron McComb came out on top of the Democratic ticket and will run against Republican Paul Opsommer in the November elections.

Freshman Congressman Joe Schwarz (R) from the Battle Creek area was narrowly defeated by Tim Walberg, who served 16 years in the state House in the 80's and 90's.

In the Saginaw area, Carl Williams pulled ahead of Aaron Dodak to win the Democratic primary and will face off against Roger Kahn in November in what looks to be a very close race.



SBT TO BE REPEALED IN 2007...NO PLANS YET TO REPLACE REVENUE



On Wednesday, the Senate voted 22-16 along party lines to repeal the Single Business Tax two years earlier (2007) than it now is schedule to end. Similarly, the House voted 64-36 to repeal.

MCO, other labor organizations, service groups, the Michigan Chamber of Commerce, Governor Granholm and Dick DeVos all support repealing or revamping the SBT, however doing so before finding a solution to replace the \$1.9 billion it brings into the Michigan budget each year is not the way to go.

Critical services such as education, health care and public safety, which have already seen significant cuts in recent years, will now face an even greater budget shortfall unless legislators can find a way to increase revenues to compensate for this loss.

Unlike legislation brought before Governor Granholm earlier this year, she cannot veto this as it was brought to the legislature through a petition drive. If the Legislature had failed to act on it however, it would have appeared on the November ballot to be decided by the citizens of Michigan.

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OPEN ENROLLMENT 2006 GOING ON NOW

This year, the open enrollment period for insurance plans will be conducted from August 14 through August 31. Information was mailed to all active employees during the first week of August and contained an Open Enrollment brochure, a zip code listing and a COBRA informational letter. Insurance rates were also included. The State Health Plan PPO and the State Dental Plan rates will increase by 8.5% and 10% respectively. All selections will be effective as of 10-08-06. Please note that MCO is no longer prohibiting new enrollment into Physicians Health Plan of South Michigan, a Jackson based HMO.

If you wish to make NO changes, NO response is neces-

sary. Please review your current dependent enrollment information, as enrolled dependents MUST meet eligibility criteria, which are outlined in the brochure.

If you wish to make ANY changes, they may be accomplished on-line. Simply log in to your MI HR Self-Service account at www.michigan.gov/selfserv and click the "Open Enrollment" button. If you have any questions about Open Enrollment, do not have access to the Internet or need any assistance call the MI HR Service Center toll free at (877) 766-6447. Customer Service Representatives are available from 7am until 6pm, Monday through Friday.



FATAL PLANE CRASH BREAKS OUTER FENCE AT URF

On Monday, a plane carrying three employees of the Wisconsin based Spancrete company - on a business trip to Canada - crashed into the outer fence at the Chippewa Correctional Facility, killing all four onboard.

At the time of the crash there were no prisoners in the area and there were no injuries on the ground. According to chapter officials, the Administration handled the incident very well and they were able to contain the inmates and secure the perimeter, and the scene of the accident without further incident.

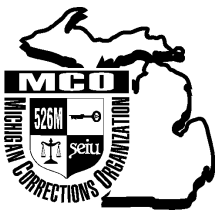
The crash continues to be investigated by the National Transportation Safety Board and the Michigan State Police. The cause of the crash is unknown at this time however weather conditions, which were overcast, may have played a role.

FORENSIC STILL UNDERSTAFFED

Last week a fight broke out on the 2nd floor between two inmates at the Forensic Center. The officer on duty in the area jumped in and restrained one individual, however the other inmate continued to fight the officer and the inmate he was restraining.

Due to the staffing shortages at the Forensic Center and how sparsely the officers are assigned, it ended up that it was **another inmate** who stepped in to restrain the second fighter and ultimately bring the situation under control.

This highlights the complaints made by MCO and the officers of the Forensic Center in recent months regarding the extreme shortages and how little has been done to fix this problem.



ESCAPE ATTEMPT FAILED AT MUSKEGON

Details are still coming in at the time of print but two inmates attempted to escape this morning from the Muskegon Correctional Facility.

An outside vendor garbage truck was inside the perimeter early this morning when it was taken over by two inmates - one serving life and the other 20-30 years for murder - who attacked the driver and an officer.

The prisoners were successful in crashing the truck through the 1st fence, but the truck stalled before they could go any further. They exited the truck on foot and one tried to climb the outside fence but got tangled up in the wire. Both inmates were apprehended before they could get any further.

Sources indicate that the female officer attacked was beaten badly and is currently hospitalized; however the degree and type of injuries are unknown at this time.



DEPARTMENT EXPLORES GUN QUALIFICATIONS

The MDOC is exploring making it mandatory that all officers qualify with a shotgun on a yearly basis.

At one point it was believed that they were also going to include handgun qualification, however the Department has clarified MCO's misunderstanding on that point. Currently, the handgun qualification requirement for all officers is not part of the plan.

MCO LABOR RELATIONS REPRESENTATIVE

The MCO State Executive Board approved the hiring of a Labor Relations Representative for the Lansing Office at its meeting last week.

MCO will be posting the job in several major newspapers and will provide job responsibilities and application procedures on our website in coming weeks.



DEFEND MICHIGAN

NO ON PROPOSAL 6

RALLY AT THE CAPITOL

SEPTEMBER 12, 2006

12 NOON - 1 P.M.

Join fellow corrections officers, police officers, sheriffs, state troopers, fire fighters and prosecutors from all 83 Michigan counties to rally against the Stop OverSpending (SOS) Proposal 6!

For more event details, visit the Events Calendar on our website or call MCO Central at (517) 485-3310 or (800) 451-4878



STOP OVERSPENDING PULLED FROM BALLOT!

In a unanimous vote today, the State Board of Canvassers removed the S.O.S. initiative from November's ballot. As you know, MCO opposed this initiative for the devastating effects it would have had on public safety and prisons in particular.

The two-hour meeting included damaging testimony from those who reviewed the signatures citing duplicate signatures, signatures from people who are not registered to vote in Michigan, and other errors. It was reported that, in one instance, a man signed the petition 19 times.

The Michigan S.O.S. Committee submitted over 500,000 signatures back in July, however state elections officials and an outside audit estimate that just over 300,000 are valid; well below the 317,757 necessary to go before voters in November.

S.O.S. Michigan hired an outside company, NVO (National Voter Outreach), to collect signatures for the ballot initiative - paying workers \$2 for each signature collected. Missouri and Oklahoma, who used the same company, recently had their S.O.S. initiatives removed from the ballot as well for the same reasons.

Supporters of S.O.S. filed an emergency appeal to the Michigan Supreme Court shortly after the vote. Similar measures were taken in Missouri and Oklahoma however the courts upheld the decision to keep S.O.S off of the ballot.

S.O.S. was a proposal that would limit state spending to a formula of inflation plus population growth. A similar law was passed in Colorado in 1992 but was put on hold ten years later because of the effect it had on public services including prisons, roads, and schools.

INMATE SENTENCED IN ATTACK ON OFFICER

Last May we were happy to report that inmate Joseph Freeman was found guilty in the attack on Officer Jeffries at MTU in October of 2004.

Freeman was sentenced recently where he received 50-75 years for assault with intent to commit a murder, plus two additional sentences of 6-10 years for assault

with intent to do great bodily harm less than murder.

Freeman is currently serving out his time in Level V at the Marquette Branch Prison. His earliest release date is May 29, 2065, at which time he will be 85 years old.



This concludes what was a long fought battle by MCO and Prosecutor Ron Schafer to get

this inmate charged.

Another inmate involved in the fight, Bland, was convicted and is currently serving additional years in prison for his role.

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INMATES STABBED AT NEWBERRY



On Monday, September 11, an inmate upset over some of his things being stolen stabbed three inmates with an improvised shank.

Two of the inmates were treated at the local hospital for non life-threatening puncture wounds and released.

Newberry, a Level II facility, has seen an increase in incidents, and thievery between prisoners has become a key instigator.

Two officers were treated for blood exposure in this incident, and another two the following day as the result of another prisoner fight.

COMMITTEE CONTACTS

MCO's website has long had listings of the various Committees and their members.

Now, however there is at least one link to an e-mail address per Committee so that you can easily submit questions, comments, etc.!

To find the list of Committees, simply visit the site and click on the "Our Local" button on the left side of the page. You'll then see a link at the top of the page to the Committees.

CRITICAL AT MARQUETTE INJURES TWO

A fight broke out between four inmates in the yard at the Marquette Branch Prison on Tuesday, September 12, 2006.

Two officers sustained injuries while breaking up the fight.

One officer injured his shoulder - tearing his rotator cuff - and required hospital treatment.

An inmate bit the other officer. After receiving treatment, he returned to work on Wednesday.

COURTS SAY NO TO SOS

On Wednesday, September 13th, the Michigan Court of Appeals ruled that it would uphold the State Board of Canvassers' decision that the Stop OverSpending proposal does not qualify for the November ballot.

Supporters of SOS filed an appeal to the Michigan Supreme Court, however it ruled on Thursday, September 14th, that the SOS proposal failed to obtain a sufficient number of valid signatures. Thus, the court upheld the decision made earlier in the week by the State Board of Canvassers.

SOS would have limited state government spending.

CRISIS FUND OUTING EXCEEDS EXPECTATIONS

The MCO Crisis Fund Golf Outing was a big success in reining in money for our officers in need. This year we crammed in three extra teams and still had a waiting list! It is because of this level of participation and turnout of the membership that we were able to do so well.

Together we can make a difference in an officer's time of difficulty and need. I am always proud when we come together collectively to help out our own.

The MCO Crisis Fund has helped officers at every facility and can make a big difference for an officer and their family when they are in the middle of a life crisis.

A special thanks to Andy Potter who worked tirelessly to organize this event and to all the facilities and members who played, sponsored a hole or cart, or donated raffle items.

Your support does not go unnoticed!

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INMATE ACTS OUT ON TRANSPORTATION RUN

An inmate who was being transported from Newberry to the Chippewa Correctional Facility on Sunday, Sept. 17, 2006, broke a cuff and got one hand free from the black box. The prisoner then maneuvered himself in the van so that he was able to put both feet up and kick the Plexiglas separation between him and the officers.

After notifying both the sending and receiving facilities of the situation the officers pulled the van to the side of the road to get the situation under control. The officers got authorization to use a chemical agent (necessary because it involved opening the side door of the van) that calmed the prisoner down enough to finish the trip.

The inmate, however, continued to act out by self-mutilation for the duration of the trip. He was being transferred as a result of disruptive behavior.



ESCAPEE CAUGHT

A work group from Camp Lehman was working outside the Standish Max facility around 4 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 20, when one of the inmates, Gary Renaud, escaped.

State Police and Corrections officials used search dogs and helicopters throughout the night. A homeowner in Arenac County found the prisoner sleeping in a camper the next morning and alerted authorities.

Renaud, who was serving time for unarmed robbery and assault, had cleared out his cell that morning - which indicates he



planned the escape in advance.

NEW ACADEMIES SCHEDULED

Four new Academies are scheduled to kick off the new fiscal year.

**Oct. 9 - MSP Academy
(125 officers)**

**Oct. 23 - Camp Grayling
(110 officers)**

**Nov. 8 - Alpena
(135 officers)**

**Nov. 20 - MSP Academy
(124 officers)**

Together, these classes should add approximately 500 new officers to our ranks.

NOW HIRING LABOR RELATIONS REP

MCO is now accepting applications for the position of Labor Relations Representative at the MCO Central office in Lansing.

Responsibilities include grievance handling, arbitration, labor/management meetings, contract administration, member education, training, and activities. Knowledge and experience in member or community services, labor relations, collective bargaining, civil service, state government, and politics is desired. Job related experience and/or a degree in labor relations or a related field is required. Job requires in-state travel and includes an excellent salary and benefits package.

If you or anyone you know is interested in applying, please send resume and cover letter to Michigan Corrections Organization, Attn: Sacha Crowley, 421 W. Kalamazoo St., Lansing, MI 48933. Applications will be accepted until October 1, 2006

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CLOSER-TO-HOME WINDOW TO OPEN

October 1-31st is the open window period for Closer-to-Home Transfers for year 2007. If you are interested in placing your name on the list, you must submit a letter indicating your name, address, telephone, classification, current facility and desired facility.

In order to be eligible, you must meet the following requirements:

- You cannot have any current discipline.
- You cannot be a probationary employee.

➤ Your desired facility must be within a 40-mile radius of your home.

➤ You cannot have transferred voluntarily in the 12 months prior to your application date.

Please send or fax a letter to:

**Michigan Corrections
Organization**
Attn: Cherelyn Dunlap
Labor Relations Representative
421 W. Kalamazoo St.
Lansing, MI 48933
Fax# (517) 485-3319

MCO will not accept anyst letters received before October 1

or after October 31st.

Please keep in mind that if you have placed your name on the list during prior enrollment windows, you will need to re-apply. The list clears at the end of each year.

For more information on the Closer-to-Home procedure and requirements, go to Article 15, Part D, Section A, #5, on pages 79-80 of your contract.

Additional information will be included in the October MCO Report and future KYI's.

LAST DAY TO REGISTER TO VOTE!

OCTOBER 10!

To find out more information, simply visit:
www.michigan.gov/sos

Then click on the "Elections in Michigan" button on the left side, and then again on the "Information for Voters" button on the top of the left side. There, you will find information and forms on how to register, eligibility for absentee voting, and more!

In addition, you can call **1-877-SEIU VOTE** starting October 1st, 2006. Here you will be able to find a polling location anywhere in the 50 states and you can report any problems in the voting process on Election Day. If you register a complaint about a polling location, you will be directly transferred to your local board of elections so that they can resolve the problem.



STABBING AT LEVEL I

On September 17, two inmates attacked another prisoner in the yard at the West Shoreline Correctional Facility, stabbing him multiple times. The victim remains hospitalized with possible permanent paralysis.

While a weapon has yet to be located, three inmates in all were locked up. Their records indicate a history of prior possession of weapons charges.

The victim's record reveals twelve felony counts, many for assaultive behavior.



ESCAPE ATTEMPT AT SAGINAW

On Monday, October 2, a Level IV prisoner at the Saginaw Correctional Facility left the chow hall and hit the fence in an attempted escape.

Responding staff successfully brought down the inmate; however he refused to be cuffed and shift command allowed him to walk to the "hole". When they reached Segregation, the inmate fought and staff had to take him to the floor.

One officer suffered a knee injury in the process and will be off of work for at least 2 weeks.

Administration claims they did not want to escalate the situation by cuffing the inmate. They continued to run chow lines and did not blow the siren or take a formal count until nearly 45 minutes later. The union has requested a post incident critique.



CIVIL SERVICE APPROVES CTO LOU

As expected, the Civil Service Commission approved the CTO Letter of Understanding between MCO and the Michigan Department of Corrections at its meeting on Tuesday, October 3, 2006.



LAST DAY TO REGISTER TO VOTE! OCTOBER 10!

To find out more information, simply visit:
www.michigan.gov/sos

WEEKEND EVENTS

MCO CRISIS FUND TEXAS HOLD'EM & EUCHRE TOURNAMENT
OCTOBER 8TH, 1500 AND 2230 HRS.

Floral Building, Ionia County Fairgrounds

Come on out and support the MCO Crisis Fund while having a great time and a chance at a potential \$4200 purse/session!

KELLER WILLIAMS LAKESIDE - 4TH ANNUAL SCARECROW FESTIVAL
Presenting Mr. Joe "The Magic Man" (CO Bryzelak- HVM)
October 7th 11 - 3 p.m.

45609 Village Blvd. Shelby Twp., MI 48315 (586) 532-0500

Come join in the fun and build your own scarecrow, paint a pumpkin, ride a pony, ride a train, and more! All monies raised will be donated to Macomb County Habitat for Humanity.

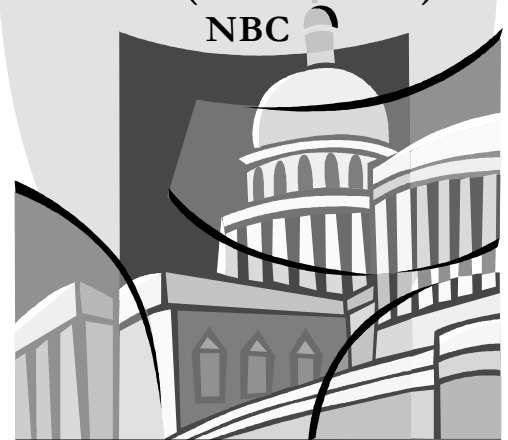
11TH ANNUAL MEMORIAL MDOC/CIVILIAN CHALLENGE TRAP MATCH
October 7th, 10 - 5 p.m.

The Gun Shop, Coarendon Rd., Quincy, MI (517) 639-4537

2ND GUBERNATORIAL DEBATE

TUESDAY, OCT. 10
8 P.M.

WOOD TV (GRAND RAPIDS)
WDIV (DETROIT)
WOTV (BATTLE CREEK)
NBC



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ATTEMPTED SUICIDE AT SAGINAW

On September 17th, a prisoner at the Saginaw Correctional Facility was found hanging by a bed sheet from the air vent in the ceiling.

Responding staff successfully brought down the inmate and determined that he had a pulse and was still breathing. An ambulance was called and the inmate was transferred to the hospital and admitted.

Officers noted that the prisoner had received a notice for

sexual predator two days earlier and that he had been complaining about this earlier in the day.

A suicide note was found in his cell.

Staff handled the situation well and responded appropriately. Three officers and a Sergeant were treated for blood exposure at a local hospital and released.



MCO ENDORSES MIKE COX FOR AG

MCO leaders met with Attorney General Mike Cox (R) on October 5th and afterwards agreed to support his re-election as Attorney General for Michigan.

For more information about candidates and proposals visit our website!

FINAL GUBERNATORIAL DEBATE

MONDAY, OCT. 16
8 P.M.

WXYZ (SOUTHFIELD)
AND AVAILABLE TO ABC AND
CBS STATIONS STATEWIDE

PRISONER THREATENS OFFICERS WITH LOCK

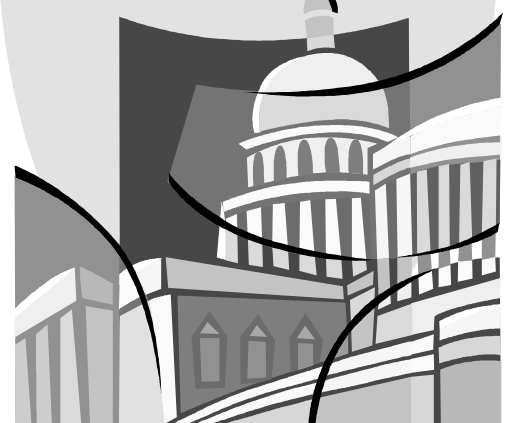


On October 2nd, a prisoner at the Handlon Michigan Training Unit was summoned to the officers' station to review a major misconduct ticket. Upon arrival, he appeared nervous and started to walk away. When ordered to return to the station he turned and dropped a lock attached to a belt from his shirtsleeve, wrapped it around his hand, and began threatening staff.

Officers succeeded in taking him down after he ignored commands to drop the weapon. One officer was struck in the eye by the back of the prisoner's head and another suffered injuries to their hand.

UP STEWARD TRAINING

Steward Training for MCO officials who are relatively new and/or have not been through training before will be held in Newberry on November 1st. Those who are interested in attending need to contact Karen Mazzolini at the MCO Central office at (800) 451-4878 or karen@mco-seiu.org as soon as possible because the appropriate arrangements, including administrative leave, need to be made.



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UNIFORM COMMITTEE GOES TO TASK

The Uniform Committee held a special meeting at MCO Central on October 17th to address the concerns being heard around the state regarding the flag patch, sizing, and fabric quality to name just a few.

Ed Mize, Classification and Emergency Services Director for the MDOC, is the new Co-Chair of



the Uniform Committee along with John Ost from MCO. Under the direction of Director Caruso they will be increasing the frequency of committee meetings and holding MSI accountable to fixing these problems.

Director Caruso spoke openly to the Committee stating that the

uniform plays a key role in the job officers do and she wants DOC employees to take pride in their appearance, look professional, and have uniforms that are functional and durable.

The Committee made a recommendation to Director Caruso to adopt the reverse flag patch; which she approved. The Uniform Committee will be meeting again next week and an implementation plan will be forthcoming.

OFFICER INJURED IN FIGHT AT THE VALLEY

A fight broke out between two prisoners while they were returning from the breakfast lines at Huron Valley Mens. One inmate was armed with a pen and was trying to stab the other in the face. Officers responded immediately - taking them to the ground.

Two officers were treated for injuries sustained while breaking up the fight. One officer suffered a swollen elbow but returned to work later that day. The other officer's shoulder was separated when he ended up on the bottom of the pile.

CLOSER-TO-HOME WINDOW CLOSING

The Closer-to-Home Transfer window for year 2007 will close October 31st. If you are interested in placing your name on the list, you must submit a letter indicating your name, address, telephone, classification, current facility and desired facility.

the list during prior enrollment windows, you will need to re-apply. The list clears at the end of each year.

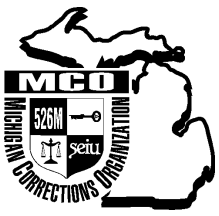
For more information on the Closer-to-Home procedure and requirements, go to Article 15, Part D, Section A, #5, on pages 79-80 of your contract.

MCO will not accept any Closer-to-Home Transfer Request letters after October 31, 2006.

Please send or fax a letter to:
**Michigan Corrections
Organization**
Attn: Chereilyn Dunlap
Labor Relations Representative
421 W. Kalamazoo St.
Lansing, MI 48933
Fax# (517) 485-3319

Please keep in mind that if you have placed your name on

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ORDER YOUR MCO MERCHANDISE NOW!

To take advantage of bulk pricing, order your MCO Merchandise now and receive your items in time for the holidays.

Order forms were included in the October MCO Report and can also be found online at www.mco-seiu.org under MCO Online Tools.

Or, you can call toll-free (877) 981-4332, Ext. 208, to place your order by phone!

Hooded Sweatshirts start at \$30, Hats for \$15, and Microfibre Sports Jackets for the cooler weather start at just \$65.00.

To take advantage of this deal you must place your order no later than **November 15th!**



IT'S UNIFORM AND LONGEVITY ALLOWANCE TIME!

It's that time of year again...a little extra in your checks!

By now you should have already received your Uniform Allowance and Longevity Pay should be included on the pay date following the first full pay period in October.



MCO CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETS...

MCO held its semi-annual Central Committee Meeting at the Holiday Inn South in Lansing on October 24, 2006.

Central Committee delegates customarily include the Chapter President, Vice President and Chief Steward of each facility and the MCO Executive Board. Reports from the Executive Director, President, Treasurer, and

the various Committees are given and approved by the body along with addressing new and old business.

In addition to the general business of the union, Governor Jennifer Granholm and Attorney General Mike Cox were in attendance and addressed the delegates.

WARNING SHOT FIRED AT MACOMB

A fight broke out in the Level IV yard between multiple inmates at the Macomb Correctional Facility this week. Officers intervened to break up the fight however the tower officer noticed other prisoners in the yard closing in and fired a warning shot to disperse the inmates.



JUST A REMINDER!

The Closer-to-Home Transfer window for year 2007 will close October 31st!

IN MEMORIAM

Gary Niemi of the Marquette Branch Prison and long-time MCO official passed away unexpectedly from a heart attack on the evening of Thursday, October 26, 2006.

Officer Niemi hired into the Department in 1979 and was a long time chapter official - currently as a Steward on the Day Activity Shift. He also served on the state Executive Board in the 1980's.

At the time of print funeral arrangements are unknown.

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2007 FLEXIBLE SPENDING ACCOUNT OPEN ENROLLMENT GOING ON NOW

The FLEXIBLE SPENDING ACCOUNTS (FSA) Open Enrollment period will begin November 1, 2006, and run through November 28, 2006. Anyone who wishes to participate in 2007 must enroll, even if you are enrolled this year.

Flexible Spending Accounts allow you to pay for essential health care expenses that are not covered, or are partially covered, by your medical, dental and vision insurance plans and to pay for dependent care expenses, such as day care in a child care center or for a babysitter, with a special tax advantage.

By contributing a portion of your payroll dollars into your account on a pre-tax basis, you can save 20% to 40% on the cost of eligible expenses. Your savings will be based on your individual tax rate. FSA contributions are exempt from Federal income tax, Social Security taxes (FICA) and Michigan state income tax. The tax-exempt status for FSA contributions is the mechanism that allows you to save money.

As an example of the value of using pre-tax dollars to pay for dependent care, consider this scenario: The Johnson's have two young children who are placed in

regular day care. The annual fee for the day care is \$5,000. Assuming the Johnson's have a tax rate of 30 percent, they will save \$1,500 by using a Dependent Care FSA to pay for their dependent care expenses!

As an example of the savings you can realize with a Health Care FSA, consider the following family scenario: The Murphy's have an annual family deductible for their health insurance plan of \$400 and Mr. Murphy wears glasses which cost him \$200 per year. Assuming the Murphy's have a tax rate of 30 percent, they will save \$180 by using their Health Care FSA to pay for these expenses!

CHANGE! The 2007 Flexible Spending Accounts will be administered by Automatic Data Processing, Inc. (ADP). ADP has extensive experience administering flexible spending accounts, and is known for their data processing accuracy and focus on customer service.

NEW! All Health Care Spending Account participants will receive a debit card from ADP in late December. It is your choice to activate and use the card or not. The great news is that there will be no charge to you to

activate and use the debit card *and* you can use it for all your mail order prescriptions!

You can find additional information and details about these changes in the brochure you received in the mail from the State of Michigan or go to:

www.michigan.gov/mdcs.

Click 'Employee Benefits' from the left menu, then select 'Flexible Spending'.

Please Note: Non-career and SPS employees are not eligible for this benefit.

INMATE DETERMINED TO HARM SELF

An inmate, formerly of the Gus Harrison Facility, was admitted to the Acute Care unit at Huron Valley Mens on October 10, 2006, after two incidents of self-mutilation.

After being put in Observation for making three attempts at gouging out his right eye but only managing to smash it, he bit off his middle finger up to the second knuckle on both hands. The inmate then proceeded to swallow one finger; giving the other to an officer for safe keeping.



ATTEMPTED SUICIDE AT MTU

A Level II prisoner in the D-unit at the Handlon Correctional Facility was found hanging from the bars with a sheet tied around his neck.

An officer immediately lifted him up by the legs to relieve tension until responding officers could assist in getting him down.

The inmate was treated at the hospital and released.



CELL PHONES AT CAMP BRANCH

On November 6th, 2006, officers on the 2-10 shift at Camp Branch were tipped off to the location of two cell phones.

Officers did a shakedown and located the two cell phones just as indicated. One inmate fought back in the process, injuring an officer who required hospital treatment for minor injuries.

ATTENTION!

It has come to our attention that due to a miscommunication between the printer and the mailhouse, many members are receiving the paper version of the November MCO Report AFTER Election Day. This issue contained a re-cap of election issues, proposal recommendations, and endorsements that had been printed in previous issues of the MCO Report since June.

We are trying to track the number of members and geographic areas affected so that we can take this back to the parties involved.

If you received your MCO Report after the election, please drop a quick e-mail to sacha@mco-seiu.org or call at (517) 485-3310 with your name and where you live.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter as we strive to provide timely and helpful information to our members.

STEWARD TRAINING

Steward Training for MCO officials in the Lower Peninsula who are relatively new and have not been through training before will be held at MCO Central in Lansing on December 14th.

Those who are interested in attending need to contact their Labor Rep at the MCO Central office at (800) 451-4878 or by e-mailing their name and facility to mail@mco-seiu.org as soon as possible because the appropriate arrangements, including administrative leave, need to be made.



Saluting Our Veterans.

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YARD FIGHT AT URF

A fight broke out in the big yard at the Chippewa Correctional Facility between three inmates on November 10th.

One weapon was found initially, another discovered in the yard later and a key was also used during the fight. One of the weapons is believed to have been manufactured from a piece taken from a foot locker.

One inmate was sent out for medical attention and possible stitches for gashes he sustained to his head during the altercation.

NOTES OF INTEREST

▣ **Holiday Comp Time** - As you know, we lost the Arbitration on this matter over the summer. If questions arise as we near the holidays on how your facility is handling the situation please contact your Labor Relations Representative.

CARSON SEES MULTIPLE CRITICALS

Carson City experienced two prisoner-on-prisoner criticals in a week and both involved the stabbing of an inmate's eye.

On Oct. 24th, an inmate came up to the panel with a swollen and bloody eye. The prisoner required treatment at the local hospital for his injuries.

Further investigation revealed that another inmate had stabbed him with a pencil. The offending prisoner was issued a misconduct for Assault Resulting in Serious Physical Injury.

On Oct. 29, an inmate came to the lobby with a piece of metal in his hand telling officers that he just stabbed his bunkie in the eye. The inmate claimed he stabbed his bunkie with an ink pen, but took the metal from his bunkie's locker in fear that it would be used in retaliation against him. After investigating, it was learned that his bunkie had attacked and beat him with his fists earlier, precipitating this event. This inmate was treated at the hospital for his wounds from the beating, while the other inmate suffered a small scratch to his eye.

Both inmates were placed in segregation; one issued tickets for Assault and Battery and Possession of a Weapon, and the other a Fighting misconduct.

▣ Camp Tuscola is now up and running with 20 officers (nearly the full compliment) and currently houses about 40 TRV prisoners. They are in a transitional phase and additional incoming inmates will be re-entry program participants.

▣ A new Academy starts at the Michigan State Police training facility on Monday. This class, with 135 officers, brings the total of new hires to approximately 500 since the beginning of October.

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YARD FIGHT AT MID-MICHIGAN

Two inmates were caught fighting in the yard at Mid-Michigan on November 28th. One prisoner used a 6" makeshift shank to stab the other three times before officers could break things up and restrain the individuals. The assaulter was placed in segregation while the "victim" required hospital treatment for his injuries. Officers escaped harm.

Chapter officials have been involved in unsuccessful negotiations with the facility in recent weeks over staffing. When a seventh bun was added, the compliment was increased. However, they did not add any additional yard staff, which the union has argued, should be increased as well.

STABBING AT CARSON CITY

Two Level IV prisoners broke into a fight in the gym of the Carson City Correctional Facility on November 18, 2006. The fight was broken up and the inmates sent to Segregation.

However, investigation of the event revealed that a third inmate had taken the opportunity to stab one of the fighting inmates during the melee. This inmate was placed in Seg. as well for Assault Resulting in Serious Physical Injury. The weapon was not located.

CELL FIGHT AT THUMB MINUTES ONLINE



Officers at the Thumb Correctional Facility broke up a fight between two inmates in a cell on November 27, 2006. One prisoner used a lock-in-a-sock to attack the other.

No officers were injured, however one inmate required hospital treatment before being placed in Segregation.

While MCO has had the meeting minutes of the Executive Board and Central Committee online for over a year, we have now added the Health and Safety Committee Meeting minutes as well!

Simply visit the website at www.mco-seiu.org and click on the "Meeting Minutes" icon in the right side bar.

INMATE TAKES NURSE HOSTAGE AT HOSPITAL



An inmate undergoing a MRI at St. Mary's Hospital in Saginaw on October 27,

2006, leapt off of the table and grabbed a St. Mary's nurse taking her hostage. The prisoner then used a sharpened toothbrush he had hidden in a body cavity to threaten to cut her neck.

Officers immediately gave orders to drop the weapon, drew their own weapons, and approached the prisoner and hostage.

The prisoner, holding the nurse, tripped, thus allowing the officers the chance to free the nurse, use chemical agents, and gain control of the situation.

The training and instinctual actions taken by these officers quickly resolved this situation and prevented possible harm to the hostage and others.

Way to go guys!

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EXCHANGE TRANSFER LIST TO CLEAR

This is just a friendly reminder that the Exchange Transfer list that appears in the back of the MCO Report every month will clear January 1.

If you wish to have your name remain on the list please contact Sacha at MCO central at sacha@mco-seiu.org or by phone no later than the first of the year!

OJT FOR WITHROW CLASS

MCO will be holding an OJT Reception for the Pam Withrow Class at MCO Central on January 17, 2007, at 5 p.m.

Receptions are also being planned for the Alpena and Grayling classes - more information will be forthcoming.

OJT's are a great time to come and meet your Union representatives and officials, ask questions, and get some free food too!

OFFICER STRUCK AT HVM

An inmate in the RTS unit with a history of assaults on prisoners and staff swung at two officers but missed and struck a third, breaking his nose.



2007-2008 SCHOLARSHIPS

There are several different scholarship opportunities available to MCO members and their children, all of which can be found by visiting the MCO website.

The scholarship with the earliest deadline is one offered by Union Plus. Forms are available for download now and the deadline is January 31, 2007.

SEIU, our parent union, also offers several different scholarship programs. Detailed information and the various application forms just became available last week and have a deadline of March 1, 2007.

And finally there are scholarships awarded directly by MCO. An application form will be included in your March MCO Report (and will be available for download from our website at that time too!) and will have a deadline of June 1, 2007.

Don't pass up these great opportunities to help defray the costs of a college education. If you don't have access to our website or have further questions, just call Sacha at MCO Central and we'll get the forms mailed out to you ASAP!

NEW LABOR REP JOINS MCO!

After extensive interviews of over 35 candidates, MCO has chosen Jeff Foldie as the new Labor Relations Representative to join the staff at MCO Central.

Jeff, a CO who started out at Carson City, also worked at Boyer Road and Standish before coming to Saginaw. Jeff started with the department on April Fools Day (of all things!) in 1989 and has served in various elected union positions for the last 16 years. Foldie recently obtained a law degree from Cooley Law School in Lansing.

MCO welcomes Jeff to his new position, which he will assume January 8th. More details, including which facilities Jeff will handle, will be forthcoming as we settle into the New Year.

Welcome aboard Jeff!

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SECURE LEVEL I HAS TWO CRITICALS IN ONE DAY

A prisoner at the Pine River Correctional Facility, upset that contraband had been confiscated from his cell by an officer, fought back, pushing the officer and grabbing the bag of contraband. When another officer intervened he too was pushed aside as the prisoner entered the lobby area and grabbed a broom, wielding it like a baseball bat and challenging staff to "come and get it."

Staff, responding to the PPD call, successfully subdued the inmate and secured the broom. The prisoner continued to resist while being escorted and kicked an officer in the knee, however luckily no staff were seriously injured in the incident.

Later that day, a fight broke out between two prisoners who continued to fight once officers stepped in to restrain them. One officer was struck in the head and face and sustained other injuries while struggling - taking the prisoner to the floor.

Two officers were treated and released for their injuries.

HOLIDAY PACKAGES IN THE MAIL...

MCO's Holiday packages were mailed out the first of December to all but about 500 new MCO Members. It can often take several weeks to receive your package but most of you should have them by now.

If you haven't received your package, or received one with missing pieces, simply call MCO Central and we'll get a replacement out in the mail to you ASAP.

HOWEVER! If you are newly hired since October, your packages just went out in the mail last week. Thus, don't panic just yet. Give them another week or two and then give us a call if they still haven't arrived.

WORK CREW MAKES DISCOVERY

On Tuesday, December 19, a work crew out of the Kinross Correctional facility discovered human remains along M-129 and Eight Mile Rd. near Sault Ste. Marie.

The MSP today identified the remains as that of Matthew Scott Wendt of Pickford who was 20 when he was reported missing in February 1996.

*Have a
Happy
Holiday.*

*the
KYI
will return in
January.*