



KYI

KEEPING YOU INFORMED

JANUARY 7, 2011



LEGISLATURE STARTS NEW SESSION

STATE EMPLOYEES KEY TOPIC

Governor Rick Snyder was officially sworn into office on the steps of the Capitol on January 1, 2011. The new legislative term has begun as well.

Snyder and the top four legislative leaders have all indicated that state employee pay and benefits are a target for balancing the nearly \$1.9B deficit

the state currently faces for the 2011-2012 fiscal year.

Every day there are multiple articles in the news about state employee pay. We are in the cross hairs and it will be up to us to fight back. We need to do this by educating the public on what it is we do, the concessions and cuts we've already suffered, and the personal risks we take just going to work each day.

MCO is actively spreading this message but we need you to do it too. Comment on those articles, send letters to the editor, speak up!

OFFICERS ASSAULTED AT SLF

An inmate upset over shower times assaulted several officers at the St. Louis Facility on December 1, 2010. The inmate punched an officer in the face and then turned on another officer throwing him to the ground and choking him.

Staff responded and were able to secure the inmate. In the process, however, multiple injuries to officers including a concussion, cuts, ripped cartilage between ribs, and injured knees among others occurred. The inmate involved is serving a life sentence and has past assaults on staff on his record.

ALGER FIGHTS AGAIN



On December 23rd a fight broke out on the big yard between three inmates. Weapons were used and one inmate sustained injuries.

A few days later, in a related incident, a fight broke out between prisoners on B-wing of Maple Unit. Two officers were injured while breaking up the fight - one was struck in the head and another was cut while trying to secure a weapon from an inmate. Both officers were treated for their injuries and blood exposure.

WARNING SHOT FIRED AT OAKS

On December 22nd a call came over the radios that a fight broke out between at least 12 inmates in the GP Yard. Staff responded and issued orders to cease and disperse. While some inmates did as ordered at least 5 continued until a warning shot was fired. At that point the fighting stopped and eight prisoners were placed in Seg. with fighting misconducts. The incident appears to have been gang related.

IN MEMORIAM

Officer Kevin Sanders, 59, of the Huron Valley Complex, passed away on December 28, 2010, after a battle with cancer.

Kevin worked for the DOC for 18 years and served as Chapter President before retiring in 2009.



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BULLETIN

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CLASS ACTION GRIEVANCE SETTLEMENT REACHED

TIME SENSITIVE INFORMATION!

In the early part of 2010, MCO filed a state-wide grievance contesting the employer's decision to change member's RDOs while on a vacation containing a holiday. MCO's contention was that it was being done so the employer could avoid paying holiday premium and overtime rates of pay.

The matter was set to be litigated on January 13, 2011. The employer and MCO continued to work diligently together in an attempt to resolve the issue prior to the arbitration. On December 28, 2010, the parties reached a resolution to resolve the matter and entered into a settlement agreement. If you meet the below requirements, you may be entitled to compensation.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

1. You had a vacation block sometime during January 10, 2010 through December 25, 2010.
2. There must have been a holiday(s) that fell within your vacation block.
3. The employer must have reduced the amount of your annual leave usage by the number of holidays within the vacation block (For example, if during the week you were on vacation there were two holidays, the employer only charged 24 hours of Annual Leave to your bank, rather than 40 hours).

If you do not meet EACH of the three (3) eligibility requirements listed above, you do not fall under the settlement. If you DO meet the eligibility requirements above you must contact Jeff Foldie at MCO Central ((517) 485-3310 Ext. 27 or jeff@mco-seiu.org) by February 22, 2011, so that your claim can be verified and processed.

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS REQUIRED:

1. Member's name;
2. ID number;
3. Facility name;
4. Holiday(s) in question;
5. Dates of pertinent approved vacation;
6. The member's RDO Group assigned by the facility;
7. The date in which the member's RDOs would have normally fallen on during the vacation; and
8. The RDOs that the Human Resource Department assigned to the member during the vacation period.

Please forward this information to Jeff (e-mail is the preferred means). In conclusion, during these trying times, MCO is continually fighting to protect your rights and benefits afforded under the contract. Unfortunately, these are often long-term battles and the results are not achieved quickly. This, however, is a product of collective bargaining. And, in the end, when the employer and the Union can sit down and mutually resolve the issue prior to putting it in the hands of an arbitrator, both sides can declare victory.

In brotherhood, Tom Tylutki, President

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

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COMMITTEES CHOSEN, AGENDAS BEGUN

As the 96th Legislature got underway this week, the members of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Corrections were identified. Serving for the 2011-2012 year are: Chair, Haveman (R-Holland), Vice Chair MacMaster (R-Kewadin), Lori (R-Constantine), Rogers (R-Brighton), Lindberg (D-Marquette) and Durhal (D-Detroit).

Speaker of the House, Representative Jase Bolger, led off by saying that a labor law review would be undertaken immediately to see if making Michigan a Right to Work state would help create jobs and strengthen economic growth. The Mackinac Center and others are saying that public employee unions are too strong.

Governor Snyder will issue his State of the State next Wednesday which should layout his path moving forward. A new state revenue estimate will be released later today which many are expecting will direct the balancing of a state budget nearly \$1.85B in the hole.

OFFICER SUCKER

PUNCHED

An officer at the Marquette Branch Prison was sucker punched by an inmate during evening chow lines on December 27th. The officer fell to the ground where the prisoner jumped on him and continued to beat him about the head and face.

The inmate froze, however, when two tower officers simultaneously fired warning shots. When responding officers arrived the inmate continued to fight against them as they successfully moved him to Seg.

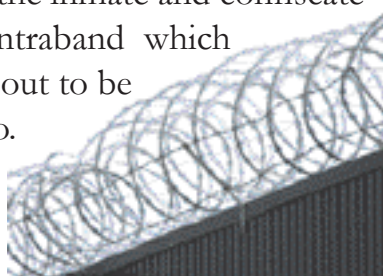
The officer was treated and released from a local hospital for his injuries, thankfully none serious. The inmate involved is a lifer with 14 felonies including first and second degree murder.

CONTRABAND DROP AT

MOUND

During the December 29, 2010, morning yard at the Mound Correctional Facility, an unknown intruder approached the outer perimeter and threw several packages (wrapped up in white to camouflage with the snow) of contraband over the fence.

The alert yard tower officer radioed yard staff all while keeping an eye on the contraband and which prisoner moved to retrieve the packages. Thanks to his quick actions, yard officers were able to secure the inmate and confiscate the contraband which turned out to be tobacco.



IN MEMORIAM

Officer Ralph Hewitt, 51, of the Pugsley Correctional Facility, passed away on December 29, 2010, at home after suffering a heart attack.

Ralph was a Navy veteran and had worked for the DOC since 2000. He leaves behind his wife Brenda and son Michael.

BELLAMY CREEK ACTIVITY

11.22.10 - Two inmates jump another and stab him 5 times.

12.3.10 - Two Level II inmates found with blood on them and stab wounds. Weapon recovered. Two more inmates fighting in the Level I dorm - one had a toothbrush/razor weapon on his person.

12.27.10 - Inmate comes out at chow trying to stab and slash officers with broken glass from a TV.

12.30.10 - An inmate is cut on the neck when returning from chow. Weapon recovered.

12.31.10 - Two inmates fight. One is stabbed multiple times.

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YARD FIGHT, SHOTS FIRED, AND OFFICERS SERIOUSLY ASSAULTED AT MR...

JUST ANOTHER DAY ON THE JOB!!!

During the evening yard a fight broke out between 8 to 11 inmates and a warning shot had to be fired to gain control. Less than 30 minutes later two inmates returning from med lines assaulted their escorting officers near the 2nd floor housing unit. When a third officer responded they assaulted him too and then proceeded up to the 3rd floor. On the 3rd floor they were approached by a fourth officer who ordered them to stand down. One inmate complied and took to the ground. The other inmate, however, took a stance and attacked the officer at which point the prisoner on the ground jumped back up and joined in the attack.

All four officers were treated for serious injuries at the hospital. One of the officers was taken out by ambulance and remains hospitalized with head trauma and severe bruising and swelling from the beating. His condition is stable and at this time it is hoped that he will be released in a few days.

The two inmates are a 25 year old serving 25-30 for attempted murder and a 19 year old serving 3-15 years for armed robbery.

President Tylutki spent time on Thursday visiting with the hospitalized officer (at the time of print MCO has not yet received permission to release his name) and passed along the hundreds of thoughts and prayers that have been flowing in from officers statewide. Tom then went to meet with the Warden and the officers at MR to address the situation and spoke with many media outlets as more details became available.

On a similar note: A warning shot was also fired at I-Max on Tuesday when a fight broke out in the Unit 4 small yard between two inmates. One inmate got the advantage and was pummeling the other and ignored orders to cease and desist.

OFFICER ASSAULTED AT SAGINAW

On Thursday, January 20th, a Level II inmate serving 24-62 years for CSC3, assaulted an officer at the Saginaw Correctional Facility. Seven officers responded immediately and their quick actions and training ensured that the situation was brought under control quickly and the officer protected from further harm.

The officer sustained lacerations to the face requiring 9 stitches to close the wound and suffered a fractured orbital bone which may require surgery.

STATE OF THE STATE LACKS STATE EMPLOYEE OR CORRECTIONS DETAILS

Governor Snyder delivered his first State of the State address on Wednesday, January 19, 2011. While many expected him to reveal his plans to trim the budget and some specifics on how to address the deficit, his message primarily just "primed the pump" so to speak for later announcements.

Snyder indicated that he will present a State Government Report in mid-February and an Education Report in March which will detail how he intends to make cuts. ***Stay tuned.***

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I-MAX BRAWL

On Saturday, Jan. 22nd a call went out for staff assistance in Unit 5. An inmate was cuffed to ride out at which point two other inmates jumped off and started to fight.

Six officers were sent to the hospital for treatment. Four were released with minor injuries, one officer sustained cracked ribs and a concussion and the sixth has a dislocated shoulder.

MR OFFICER UPDATE

MCO has stayed in touch with Officer Sprague, who was critically injured in an incident at MR last week, and talked with him just this morning.

He continues to be in a lot of pain however he is improving. A decision will be made in the coming weeks if surgery will be necessary depending on his continued progress.

Officer Sprague wishes to pass along his thanks and appreciation for all of the cards, good wishes and support he has received from officers all across the state. It has gone a long way in helping his recovery.

Stay Strong Officer Sprague!

MAJOR INCIDENTS AT SAGINAW AGAIN THIS WEEK

Two officers who escorted an inmate to St. Mary's Hospital got more than they expected when he became combative, refused treatment, and threatened to "kill you all."

On Tuesday, January 25th, the inmate claimed he had taken over a dozen Tylenol so he was rode out to the hospital for blood work and treatment. Once there, however, he refused to have his blood drawn.

Officers were waiting for backup to restrain him for the blood draw when he began to cut himself with his fingernails, tried to jump up off the bed and more. The officers and a nurse were able to pin him to the ground but the inmate reached for one officer's holstered weapon and tried to pull it out. The officer used a free hand to quickly hit the prisoner's radial nerve at which point he immediately released his grip on the weapon.

Two security officers entered the room to help restrain the inmate because he continued to fight and began to spit on the officers and bite the nurse. A second nurse arrived and administered two sedative shots while the other 5 continued to hold the prisoner down. CO's who were watching other inmates in the hospital arrived and with their help the inmate was returned to the bed and properly restrained. The inmate's blood work came back with normal levels of Tylenol in his system and he was returned to the facility and placed in segregation.

Kudos go out for a great job in handling this incident. Split second decisions and quick actions by these officers averted what could have been a very serious threat - an armed inmate loose in the hospital. The incident continues to show that transporting prisoners is not simply moving an inmate from point A to point B.

Also this week there was a fight in the chow hall with 3 inmates on one officer. The officer was stabbed in the wrist while breaking up the fight.

CORRECTION

Last week we reported that Snyder will present a State Government Report in mid-February and an Education Report in March. Snyder will release his Budget Recommendation on Feb. 17th, and will present a special message to the legislature on State Government in March and on Education in April.

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WASHINGTON STATE OFFICER MURDERED... CORRECTIONS IN MOURNING



THE BALANCE OF SAFETY AND BUDGET CUTS IS RISKY

On Saturday evening, January 29, 2011, Corrections Officer Jayme Biendl, 34, was found dead in the chapel at Monroe Correctional Complex in Washington State. Officer Biendl was a member of Teamsters Local 117 and had worked as a CO since 2002.

Alarms were raised when Jayme failed to turn in her equipment at the end of her shift. Officers found her in the chapel unresponsive and strangled with a microphone cord. Despite CPR and other efforts she was pronounced dead at 10:49 p.m. Officer Biendl was unarmed, much like us, and instead carried a two-way radio equipped with a silent alarm. There is no indication she triggered it. According to her local union officials, Biendl had recently raised concerns over being the only officer in the chapel without anyone checking on her.

An inmate, serving life without parole for 1st degree rape and kidnapping, was missing at the 9:15 p.m. count but found three minutes later in the chapel lobby saying he intended to escape. He is the primary suspect at this time.

A public memorial for Officer Biendl is scheduled for Tuesday, February 8, in Everett, Washington. MCO is handling appropriate condolences on behalf of all state correctional and forensic officers. A memorial fund has been established to help pay for her funeral and to benefit her family. Funds can be sent to the Jayme Biendl Benevolent Fund, 14675 Interurban Ave. S., Suite 307, Tukwila, WA 98168.

We face dangers every day when we go to work and it is a sad day in corrections when the mere act of doing your job can get you murdered. Further, the concern everywhere in corrections about budget cuts and safety risks make this all the more hard to swallow.

SAFETY AND BUDGETS IN MICHIGAN

As we face budget challenges here in Michigan year after year and Corrections serves as the bulls-eye for cuts... our own concern for safety grows exponentially. While we have worked hard to fight for safe corrections staffing and policies, the battle is getting harder and harder with every new declaration of a state deficit. We must work together, all 8000+ voices, to support safe Corrections here in Michigan.

In the coming weeks we have several meetings scheduled with lawmakers in our continued program to educate them on Corrections, on the dangers we face, on the service we provide, and on the changes that can be made safely. If you're in the area... come on out! If not, then watch as there will likely be one in your area soon.

Feb. 4, 2011 - Ionia Area 2:10 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.

Oliveras Pizzeria 119 S. Dexter St., Ionia, MI

Feb. 18, 2011 - Kinross - Township Hall (times TBD)

OFFICER ASSAULTED

On Wednesday, Feb. 2, the call came down to a.m. chow to cuff up an inmate who had threatened the 7 block bubble officers on his way out.

When the officer ordered him to cuff up the inmate punched him in the face instead. The officer sustained a laceration above his right eye requiring 11 stitches.

The prisoner involved had 8 pending charges and his record showed 3 previous assaults on staff.



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FEBRUARY 17, 2011

BUDGET PROPOSAL LEAVES FEW UNTOUCHED

Gov. Rick Snyder released his budget proposal this morning to a joint House and Senate Committee Session. As the news media foretold, the cuts are many and hit the young and the old, state workers and retirees, municipalities, police, and more. Some of the highlights that relate specifically to Corrections and State Employees are detailed below:

- State employees will be asked for \$180M in cuts during contract negotiations which would customarily begin this summer. Budget Director Nixon has stated that he expects unions will agree to increase the share of health care premiums workers pay and make other changes rather than cutting wages.
- Closes one prison to be named later this year (8,000 inmates currently eligible for parole. Expects paroles over the next few months will allow a closure by late FY '11. **\$18.9M**)
- Proposes privatizing food service and prison store operations in Michigan prisons. **(\$9.5M)**
- Elimination of Public Works programs and other consolidations and contract savings **(\$3.6M)**
- Reduction in Lieutenant positions statewide **(\$8.5M)**
- Drops the individual income tax rate from 4.35% to 4.25% on Oct. 1 where it will remain instead of the scheduled drop to 3.9% in future years.
- Eliminates the state income tax exemption for pensions. Social Security benefits continue to be exempt.

It is our understanding at this time that the Department of Corrections has yet to identify which facility will be closing.

Also of concern is a veiled statement made by Governor Snyder in his discussion on state employees that *“a number of work rules or negotiated issues that present unique challenges and add substantial costs for the operation of 24-hour institutions must be further examined.”* This could refer to overtime and administrative leave, among others.

Check back to the MCO website and facebook, and watch for KYI's and Bulletins with updates as more details are revealed and the budget begins to move through the legislature.

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FEBRUARY 18, 2011

PENNSYLVANIA GOING HOME

MCO was notified this afternoon that the State of Pennsylvania is cancelling their contract with Michigan to house inmates at the Muskegon Correctional Facility.

Details are few, but we understand they expect to move out within the next six months. Coming on the heels of yesterday's budget release which calls for another prison closure, this spells even more bad news for Corrections.

We don't expect to have many details on this for a couple of weeks but we will keep members informed as soon as we have any updates.

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FEBRUARY 23, 2011

STAND OF SOLIDARITY

A call to action has been put out to all 50 states to “Stand in Solidarity” with the citizens of Wisconsin who are facing the ultimate attack on the middle class. Nationwide this Saturday, February 26th, union members and workers will stand together at their respective state capitol buildings from 12-1 p.m.

While this is not a labor sponsored event, MCO understands that we have many members who want to show their solidarity and play a role in this show of support. If you are interested in participating in the rally MCO members will be gathering at the MCO Central office at 11 a.m. on Saturday. Refreshments will be provided and then we will all walk over to the Capitol together.

There will be many different groups of people at the rally, including the originator of the event, the progressive interest group MoveOn.org. We all have our own interests and agendas which may not always align... however in this we share a united goal of protecting workers rights, safety, and fair wages that built the middle class.

Legislation has been introduced in Michigan, as well as many other mid-west states, that threatens public employees, union members, and tax payers alike. By standing up on Saturday we show that we are paying attention to the national dialog and that we are ready should we face the same situation here in Michigan.

We expect that there will be many more actions over the next few weeks by many different groups, including labor. While we cannot participate in all of them, we will try to keep members informed about the events as soon as we have details through the website, facebook, and e-mails. Keep in mind many of these are being thrown together quickly so we may not always have as much advance notice as we'd prefer. ***Stay tuned...***

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FEBRUARY 24, 2011

MCO MEMBERS WIN 1ST ROUND!

3% Levy Unconstitutional

Circuit Court Judge William Collette ruled today that the legislative grab of 3% of state employee wages built into the Early Retirement Bill was a violation of the Michigan Constitution and done outside of the established process.

“The legislature has attempted to circumvent constitutional requirements by doing something indirectly it could not get the votes for directly. In other words, the legislature could not get two thirds of each house to disapprove of Plaintiff’s 3% wage increase so it decided that it would wait and pass a bill by simple majority that, in effect, eliminated the wage increase. If this were allowed it would basically read the two thirds voting requirement out of the constitution. MCL 38.35 is clearly unconstitutional and may not be enforced.”

MCO, along with other state employee unions, filed the lawsuits last November. A preliminary injunction was won in December which placed the funds into an escrow account while the lawsuit moved through the courts.

We expect the decision to be appealed by the state which will inevitably drag out this process and perhaps the ultimate return of member funds. We will keep you apprised as things progress.

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MARCH 9, 2011

JUDGE ORDERS 3% DEDUCTION TO STOP

Judge Collette issued his order today on implementing his February 24th decision that the State's grab of 3% towards retiree health care was/is unconstitutional.

In the order, the State must stop deducting the 3% effective April 1, 2011. However, Judge Collette also ruled the state can hold on to the monies already collected until that date as well.

It is expected that the state will file for an emergency appeal and ask the Court of Appeals to "stay" this order while they appeal this case. If the Court were to honor their request for a stay, then the funds would remain held until the appeal of the case is finished. If the Court of Appeals denies their request for a stay, then it would be expected that all monies would be released on April 1 back to employees.

Stay tuned...

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THE PEOPLE'S PROTEST MARCH 16, 2011 12 NOON - 6 P.M.

We need your help to shake things up in Lansing! MCO along with our partners in labor and at Working Michigan have organized a protest to raise our voices and stop the anti union politicians from exploiting Michigan's budget crisis to attack the middle class--- seniors, workers' rights and ordinary families across our state.

This is a clear case of political over-reach... to undermine the rights of Michigan citizens and attack political enemies. A protest has been planned from Noon - 6:00 p.m. on March 16th, 2011, to fight back against the anti-middle class, anti-working families agenda of lawmakers and serve notice that we will be heard - that we will call out any politician who doesn't have the best interest of Michigan's middle and working class at heart.

Over the past few months we have seen the Michigan legislature debate cutting our pay and benefits, propose bills to hurt union employees and never once stop to listen to those it would affect most.

This is planned to be the largest event to date and it is critical that MCO members produce a good showing. We need a steady number over the course of 6 hours, so no matter what time you can make it be it before or after shift, for several hours or just 30 minutes, your presence is needed! Lets educate our elected leaders on what it means to do Michigan's Toughest Job.



We plan to have members meet at MCO at 11:00 a.m. and head over to join other coalition partners at Noon. We are aware that geographical constraints may prevent certain members from attending but we want everyone to have the opportunity to attend therefore talk to your co-workers and post sign up sheets and perhaps some of you can car pool or ride together.

STATEWIDE TIDBITS

1.18.11 Alger - fight between 8 prisoners. Another inmate to Seg. for threatening behavior/incite to riot.

3.2.11 Alger - fight between two inmates. One stabbed in neck 2-4" deep.

"Staff were truly at their best tonight. The professionalism and calmness was a sight to see. They handled this incident at mass movement in the Unit with movement in other areas without incident"

2.17.11 Parnall - two on one prisoner fight with lock-in-a-sock with serious injuries.

1.12.11 Woodland - CMUO severely bitten while trying to place inmate back in cell for disruptive behavior.

3.7.11 I-Max - multiple weapons found in window ledges and outside windows attached with magnets.

3.2.11 Central MI - inmate pushes and slams door on officer, injuring his arm.

January - Carson City - five officers injured in incidents with inmates during the month.

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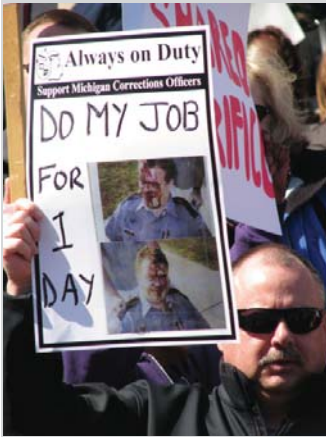
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MARCH 18, 2011



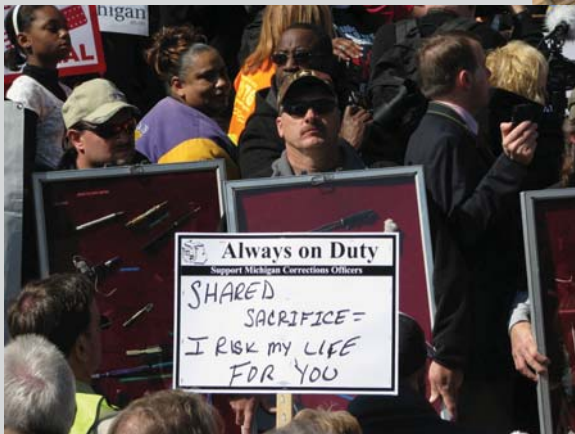
THE PEOPLE WERE HEARD!

MCO members from Baraga, Saginaw, Mound, Bellamy Creek, Central Michigan, Marquette, Cooper St., Carson City, Huron Valley, Macomb, Forensic Center, Florence Crane, Cotton, Handlon MTU, Oaks, Parnall, Pine River, Pugsley, Ryan, St. Louis, Thumb, West Shoreline, MI Reformatory, and Egeler converged on the Capitol on March 16th to fight for working families, the middle class, collective bargaining and a state budget that allows for safe working conditions for state employees.

Over 5,000 people flooded the capitol lawn and steps, and eventually filled the Capitol Rotunda with chants of "Who's House? Our House!", "We are Michigan!", and "This is what democracy looks like!"

Senator Gretchen Whitmer (Senate Minority Leader), and Rep. Richard Hammel (House Democratic Leader) announced at the protest that they were proposing an amendment to the state constitution that would codify the right of people to join a labor union and protect collective bargaining rights.

It was great to see MCO represented at this event, and for those of you who could not make the trip you can find photos and videos on MCO's website and facebook page. *There will be more events in the coming weeks and months so be sure to watch for details.*



OLIVO BACK TO WORK!

We are proud to announce that Officer Sam Olivo, who was brutally assaulted by a Level I inmate on his work crew and left for dead in December 2009, has returned to work on a transitional basis.

The fact that Sam wants to work is a testament to his dedication to his fellow officers and to his job and to the state. It is a miracle that he survived, and further that he wishes to continue serving after all that he has been through this past 15 months.

Welcome back Sam

12 HOUR SHIFTS?

The DOC approached MCO and invited us to join a committee to explore the positives and negatives of moving to 12 hr. shifts.

MCO declined to join the committee and further stated our concern about the grueling job of a CO and how a move to a 12 hour day would significantly increase the stress of the job, placing everyone at risk. COs are "on" from the minute they walk in the door and to increase their work day by 50% is an extreme measure that risks the lives of many.



ROCK RUNNERS AT IT AGAIN!

This Saturday, March 26th, is the annual "Run for the House." Participation in the Run For The House 5K Run/Walk helps the Ronald McDonald House of Mid-Michigan provide a home-away-from-home for those families who have a child being hospitalized or receiving treatment at Lansing-area hospitals and clinics. The House offers a comfortable, inexpensive and private place for families to sleep, eat and relax. Here families find a caring atmosphere where they can receive strength and encouragement from others who are also going through difficult times.

The I-Max "Rock Runners" team is at it again this year and you can help support our guys in this event by going to:

<http://www.rmhmm.org/run-forthehouse/>



MACOMB OFFICER ASSAULTED

An inmate with a history of assault on staff assaulted a RUO at Macomb on March 17th. Two officers were injured in restraining the inmate and all three were treated and released for their injuries.

CENTRAL MI BUSY

On second shift March 12th, inmates in J unit broke a hole in the wall to the RUM's office and stole store goods being kept there.



Also on March 12th a sticker weapon was found in R Unit.



At 2145 hours on March 13th, officers in M unit called for assistance. When responders arrived they found three piles of inmates, at least 10 in each, fighting.

And on March 16th an inmate was put on non-bond top lock for threatening behavior on staff.

LIGHTNING STRIKES AT COOPER STREET

On February 27, 2011, an officer at the Cooper St. Correctional Facility was doing zone checks and received an electrical shock from the fence when lightning struck. He was sent out for medical treatment and spent the better part of 10 days hospitalized. The officer is still off of work and undergoing physical therapy.

MCO SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS ARE HERE!

MCO is proud to offer the MCO Scholarship Program. This program offers 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 the January of the year for the scholarship.

The application can be found on MCO's website where you can fill it out, print, and then mail in with the supporting documentation.

Winners will be announced in July.

If you have any questions or need to request a hard copy of the application call MCO at 517.485.3310 and ask for Sacha.

Submission deadline is
June 1, 2011



BULLETIN

MARCH 29, 2011

BUMPING REGIONS

ESTABLISHED

MCO has met with the Department and mutually agreed to the following bump regions:

Florence Crane will bump to Lakeland Correctional

Muskegon Correctional will bump to Brooks and West Shoreline

There will be three steps to these closures.

1. In order to keep the most senior officers closest to “home” the bump will occur first, filling vacancies that currently exist within the bump region. Following that, all remaining officers will receive a pink slip and a “Transfer in Lieu of Layoff” Preference sheet.

2. Officers who receive a pink slip will have the option to fill out the “Transfer in Lieu of Layoff” preference sheet (indicating which facilities they would be willing to transfer to instead of taking the layoff) and will fill vacancies according to seniority. **ONLY PUT DOWN FACILITIES YOU ARE WILLING TO GO TO. IF YOU ARE CONTACTED FOR AN OPENING AT A FACILITY YOU HAVE LISTED, AND YOU REFUSE, YOU ARE IMMEDIATELY REMOVED FROM THE STATEWIDE RECALL LIST.**

3. After the bump has occurred and the “Transfer in Lieu of Layoff” requests have been processed, officers will also have the option to do an Exchange Transfer.

For example: If you are a senior officer who is bumping into Lakeland but would prefer to go to Jackson, you could find an officer who is taking a “Transfer in Lieu of Layoff” to Jackson and do an Exchange Transfer. This will only be allowed between officers within the same class.

“Transfer in Lieu of Layoff” Preference Forms will be distributed by the Administration directly to all officers receiving a pink slip. All forms (both Preference Sheets and Exchange Transfer requests) are to be turned in to your facility human resources office...not MCO.

In the past few closures some officers have taken a Voluntary Transfer out of the region who ultimately would not have had to leave. This process avoids that pitfall. We know this is a stressful time, hang in there. We will do our best to keep you updated with the timeline as it develops.



COURT GRANTS STAY, 3% DEDUCTION TO CONTINUE

The Court of Appeals issued a decision yesterday to grant the stay requested by the State of Michigan. This means that the order by Judge Collette in February that the state stop deducting the 3% effective April 1st has been overturned while the case continues to make its way through the legal system. As before, the monies will continue to be set aside in an escrow account.



CLOSURE UPDATES

Membership meetings have been held this week in Muskegon and in Coldwater to talk with affected members and help answer questions about the closure process. In light of some questions MCO has been receiving, one issue from the March 29th Bulletin needs to be clarified. Some members were interpreting that the bump from Florence Crane to Lakeland would only involve filling vacancies. While vacancies are filled first, the bump then moves on to the least senior employee. Please refer to Article 14, Section E, pg. 66 of your contract for the specific language.

In addition to the closures, the Department is doing a Reduction in Force (RIF) at the Baldwin TRV and the Tuscola Re-entry Center. Each facility will see a RIF of 5 officers, with those from Tuscola going to the Thumb, and those from Baldwin going to the Oaks.

UNIONS MEET WITH SNYDER

The State Employee Union Coalition, made up of union leaders from MCO-SEIU, AFSCME, MSEA, UAW and more met with Governor Rick Snyder, Budget Director John Nixon, and Director of the Office of the State Employer Jan Winters on Wednesday, March 30th.

The State Union Coalition reached out to the Administration late last year asking to meet with and educate the new Governor on the roles and services state employees provide to Michigan citizens, and to the sacrifices we've already made.

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 4th - "We Are One" Events

A national day of action honoring the anniversary of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. who was standing with sanitation workers in Memphis for the right to collectively bargain at the time of his death. Events are being held in cities across the state. A full listing of times and locations can be found in the Events Calendar on MCO's website and facebook.

April 13th - "We are the People"

This is going to be the biggest rally at the Capitol yet, and we need you there! This event will bring together labor, community groups, retirees, students and voters to fight for the middle class. Politicians have continued to launch attacks on public workers - blaming them as the cause of the economic crisis rather than extensive tax cuts and loopholes for corporations.

There will be speaking programs at 1, 3 and 5 p.m. Watch for more information and MCO specific details in communications next week.



Participants are asked to bring a canned good to donate to the Greater Lansing Area Food Bank.



KYI

KEEPING YOU INFORMED

APRIL 8, 2011



APRIL 13TH - WE STAND AS ONE TO DEFEND THE MIDDLE CLASS

This event will bring together labor, community groups, retirees, students and voters to fight for the middle class in what we expect to be the **biggest demonstration yet!**

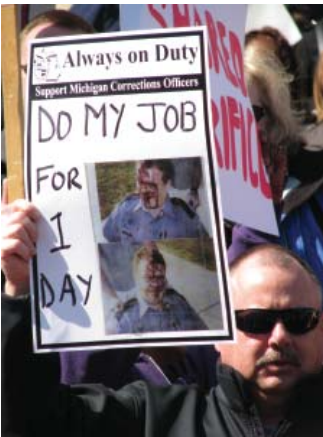
There will be Protest and Legislative Actions from 1-6 p.m. with speaking programs at 2 and 5:30 p.m..

Planning to come and willing to volunteer?

“We are the People” coordinators are in need of

volunteers to serve as HOSTS (take people to their legislator’s office during the day, assist with sign-in, help rally goers to take action against bad legislation, explain some of the legislative process) or MARSHALS (keep an eye out and make sure rally goers respect the Capitol, keep it fun and safe for all, watch for and report potential problems and troublemakers). Contact Luke Canfora at lukecanfora@gmail.com or call 517.482.3886 to sign up today! Training will be provided.

Members should go directly to the Capitol. MCO will have a table under the tent where you can sign in and get your rally signs. Due to limited parking at MCO, members should plan to make other arrangements. Participants are asked to bring a canned good to donate to the Greater Lansing Area Food Bank.



SICK LEAVE PILOT PROGRAM UPDATE

With the passage of the April 2nd end date of the Sick Leave Pilot Program MCO has been getting a lot of calls. MCO has put in an official request to the Director of the Office of the State Employer for a determination if the pilot was a success, however, at this point we do not have an answer. If successful, then time could be cashed in and payments received between now and October 1st. If unsuccessful, we revert back to the current contract language regarding Sick Leave Usage and Physical Fitness Bonus and payments due will be made accordingly as soon as administratively possible.

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

sc:opeiu459aficio



BULLETIN

APRIL 14, 2011

COMMITTEES COME AFTER CORRECTIONS

Today the House and Senate Appropriations Sub-Committees each met and reported out the Corrections Budget for FY '11-'12.

Both budgets include privatization of food service and stores, as called for in Governor Snyder's budget recommendation, as well as unspecified "Prison Operation Efficiencies."

Startlingly, both bills call for the privatization of the SAI bootcamp. Further, the House budget calls for the closure of the Mound Correctional Facility. Neither the Democratic Minority Leader on the Committee nor the Department of Corrections were informed of this prior to the meeting. MCO confronted several committee members about the unusual proceedings and objected to any more prison closures.

The Sub-Committee actions are the first step in the passage of the Corrections budget. The budgets will now move on to be heard by the full Appropriations Committees of each chamber, and then reported out to the full House and full Senate respectively.

At this time there are differences between the two versions which could still change along the way. If the final versions passed by the House and Senate remain different, a Conference Committee will be established (made up of both House and Senate members) to reconcile the differences. The Conference Committee reconciled budget would then go back to the House and Senate for a straight up or down vote (no additional amendments allowed.)

While this is still early in the process, it is apparent they intend to take a "no holds barred" approach. ***Hang On and Stick Together...we'll keep you informed of new updates and actions you can take to get our voices heard.***



CRITICALS AROUND THE STATE

Carson City 3.17.11 - inmate threatened an RUO. When staff responded and attempted to place wrist restraints the inmate lunged at staff attempting to bite an officer in the chest. Two staff were sent to the hospital for blood exposure.

Central MI 3.27.11 - A fight in C Unit on 1st shift between inmates sent two officers to the hospital. One sustained a shoulder injury.

Chippewa 4.8.11 - Two officers took quick actions and saved the life of an officer who was choking and not breathing by performing the Heimlich maneuver.

Egeler 4.5.11 - A warning shot was fired when two inmates were fighting on the 3rd gallery after they ignored officer orders to stop.

Ryan 4.10.11 - A visitor was stopped by an officer who upon pat down found four .22 rounds on his person. MSP found an AR-15 and loaded 357 in his van and several hundred rounds of ammo.

APRIL 13TH - WE STOOD AS ONE TO DEFEND THE MIDDLE CLASS

Thousands of state employees, retirees, union members, students and voters gathered on the steps of the Capitol on Wednesday, April 13, 2011, to stand as one and defend the middle

class. In addition to the speaking programs and waves of chants filling up the capitol dome, attendees could check in with a host and be escorted to their legislator's office so they could personally share their story.

MCO President Tom Tylutki gave a great speech about safe corrections policy and the dangers we face inside the walls. You can find it on MCO's website at www.mco-seiu.org, facebook, and YouTube page.

Thanks to all the MCO members who came out to represent. While we suspect some people missed the sign-in booth, we know we had members from RGC, DRF, MRF, IBC, JCS, ICF, SRF, SLF, ACF, NRF, AMF, JCF, SMT, MTU, MTF, CMCF, RMI, LRF, MBP, and many retirees as well.



IN MEMORIAM

Margaret DeMarse, wife of Officer Earl DeMarse who was murdered at the Marquette Branch Prison in 1973, passed away on April 8, 2011, at the age of 90.

DeMarse was the first CO killed in the line of duty in Michigan.

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BULLETIN

APRIL 21, 2011

CORRECTIONS IN THE CROSS HAIRS

While no one expected good news from today's Michigan Economic and Budget Outlook Presentation by the Office of the State Employer, *the situation is grim and the numbers stunning.*

It is quickly becoming obvious that the general approach by this Administration and the legislature is to simply look at the bottom line and follow the money. With apparent disregard for the nature of the job we do, Corrections is getting hit with a larger than proportional share of the \$180M in State Employee Concessions called for in Governor Snyder's budget recommendation.

Of the concessions sought by the OSE, MCO was shocked to learn the Security Unit got hit with an ***additional \$40M*** on top of the proportional split between bargaining units. Proposed cuts to our bargaining unit total nearly \$95M!

MCO officials plan to meet with the Department as soon as possible to receive more information. As reported last week, the House and Senate are also working on a budget and both have made additional cuts to Corrections beyond what was called for by Snyder. Those budgets are not yet passed however they are moving quickly through both houses of the legislature.

As you know, our contract is set to expire this year which means we would customarily enter bargaining this fall. It is yet to be determined how that will be handled in light of possible concessionary bargaining as a result of Governor Snyder's proposal.



BUDGET UPDATES

Last week we reported that the House and Senate Appropriations Sub-Committees on Corrections passed out their budgets to the full Appropriations Committees.

On Wednesday of this week, the Senate Appropriations Committee moved the DOC budget out and it now sits before the full Senate.

The House version, which calls for the closure of Mound, still awaits action by the House Appropriations Committee. They are expected to take it up next Thursday, April 28th.

Both House and Senate budgets include cuts of at least \$75M more than the cuts already proposed by Governor Snyder in his budget recommendation.



INMATE ATTEMPTS TO KILL OFFICER AT I-MAX

A Level V inmate at the I-Max Correctional Facility came up behind an officer in the Unit 3 chow hall on April 18th and struck him with a food tray knocking him unconscious. The inmate then began to beat him with closed fists about the head and put him in a choke hold trying to choke him out.

Officers responded quickly and were able to get the officer to safety and secure the inmate. The officer sustained serious injuries to the head, neck and shoulder as well as a concussion. Several of the responding staff members were also injured in the struggle.

This inmate had a history of being assaultive and disruptive, and stated clearly that his intent was to kill the officer.

Kudos go out to all I-Max staff who did a great job and likely saved the life of this officer.



DESPITE CONSTANT ASSAULTS WITH LOCKS, SOME REMAIN IN THE DOC

On April 14th three officers responded when they heard prisoners yelling at each other. What they found was one inmate with a lock secured to the buckle of a belt striking another inmate on the top of the head. Officers gave commands to stop and drop the weapon however the inmate did not comply.

Officers followed the fight into a room where they were able to use a chair to pin the inmate to the wall and secure the lock weapon. In the process, however, the inmate continued to kick back at the chair and swing the belt at the officers causing traumatic shoulder injuries.

Locks have continued to be an issue as the easiest weapon any prisoner has access to. While some are secured to their lockers, many are not and continue to pose a threat to officers and inmates alike.

REMINDER!

MCO Scholarship Applications are now available. You can download them from the website or give MCO Central a call and we'll mail out a hard copy. **Deadline is June 1st so get busy!**



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SICK LEAVE PILOT PROGRAM UNSUCCESSFUL

The Department and the OSE have now determined that the sick leave bonus pilot program was a failure. At this point they've informed MCO that they are targeting the May 26th payday for payment of the bonus to those that are due under the contract language.

12 HOUR SHIFTS?

As you well know, the Department has several 12 hour shift models under review as it prepares to implement this schedule for Supervisors. We are hearing officers talk of rumors that the department is going to implement this for officers soon. **TO BE CLEAR...ACCORDING TO THE CURRENT CONTRACT THIS CANNOT BE DONE WITHOUT MUTUAL CONSENT WITH MCO CENTRAL.**

Even though MCO did not participate on the committee you should give any input you have to your chapter leaders. The State Executive board and chapter leaders are in the initial stages of preparing for bargaining and your input (on every issue) is vital.



On another note: MCO continues to protest to the Department the closing of any positions. Further, that in this climate all acting positions should be brought back into the bargaining unit.

OPT PRISONER ASSAULTS OFFICERS

An inmate, upset over notification that his psychologist was changing, refused to lock up and became combative with officers on April 27th at the Oaks.

A duress was called over the radio when the inmate struck one officer repeatedly in the face with a closed fist. Responding staff struggled with the inmate to place handcuffs and leg irons. Two officers were treated at a hospital for injuries from the take-down.

MASS OF SHANKS AT CENTRAL MI

Two alert officers discovered 10 sharpened shanks stashed in the low side bathroom trash can in G Unit. The shanks were ready to distribute and use.

GREAT CATCH GUYS!



THIS WEEK AT THE CAPITOL

This week the House Appropriations Committee reported out its version of the Corrections Budget and it now awaits passage by the full House.

The Senate passed the DOC budget 23-15, with all Dems and 3 Republicans (Casperon, Nofs and Caswell) voting against.

While both budgets call for privatization of SAI, prison stores and food service, the House calls for the closure of Mound. Differences between the two budgets will be worked out in Conference Committee once the full House votes.

CONTRACT NEWS

The Office of the State Employer has formally requested to enter into bargaining since the current contract will end December 31, 2011. The OSE has also indicated a desire to discuss concessionary bargaining to seek savings for next fiscal year.

As usual, MCO will be sending out a bargaining survey to all members. We encourage you to fill this out and send it back so that member concerns can be reviewed prior to talks. As a reminder, agency fee payers will not receive a survey nor will they be able to vote on any contract.



THIS WEEK AT THE CAPITOL

The House passed the Corrections budget (lumped into omnibus HB 4526 with all other budgets except education) on Wednesday. All Democrats and 1 Republican (Ken Kurtz from Coldwater) voted no. The fact that all budgets were lumped together, however, means that the legislators could have voted yes or no based on any number of issues in a particular budget, not necessarily related to Corrections.

Last week the Senate passed the DOC budget 23-15, with all Dems and 3 Republicans (Casperon, Nofs and Caswell) voting against.

While both budgets call for privatization of SAI, prison stores and food service, the House also calls for the closure of the Mound Correctional Facility. Differences between the two budgets would customarily be worked out in a Conference Committee made up of members from both chambers. This process is complicated this year by the fact that the Senate voted out each budget individually while the House lumped them together under only 2 budget bills - "Education" and "Everything Else." There is talk from Senate Majority Leader Randy Richardville that they may abandon the Conference Committee process. It is unknown how they will proceed to rectify the differences under that scenario.

Governor Snyder had asked for a balanced budget by July 1. The legislature appears to be moving quickly to try to meet that deadline.

TOWN HALL MEETING IN DETROIT

MCO has scheduled a town hall meeting to educate legislators on Corrections, what it is like to work behind the walls and how we view the current budget cuts and assault on Corrections. ***Representatives John Olumba and Fred Durhal, Jr., and Senators Bert Johnson, Glenn Anderson and Coleman Young have been invited to attend.***



Time: 2-4 p.m.

Location: James Europe VFW Post
18651 Mound Rd.
Detroit, MI 48234

Questions? Contact Jeremy Tripp at jeremy@mco-seiu.org or by phone at 517.485.3310.

The meeting is intended for MCO members (friends and families) to give a face and a voice to our concerns about safety for ourselves, the prisoners, and our communities.

CHANGES TO MCO ONLINE

MCO has redesigned our website to run on a new platform. The transition to the new site is scheduled to occur over the weekend, thus there may be times when the site fails to load or is not functional as a result. **The website address will not change.**

The new site has all the good things you liked and used from the old one, in a much cleaner format with added functionality to take advantage of social media.

So, take a minute to look around the new site and let us know if there is anything else that would help you on the job or that you'd like to see!



THIS WEEK AT THE CAPITOL

The Legislature has come to an agreement on how to handle the multiple budget bills passed out of the Senate and the two omnibus bills passed by the House. Conference Committees (made up of representatives from each house) will meet and hammer out the differences for the individual departmental budgets. Once the Committees have a conference report all budgets will be dumped back into the two House omnibus bills for a straight up or down vote. What this means is that while legislators will debate the particulars of each budget, when the actual voting takes place it will be on HB 4325 (Education) and HB 4526 (everything else).

The Conference Committees are expected to start work on the budgets after the Revenue Estimating Conference on Monday which should confirm the amount of money available for the FY '11-12 fiscal year.

Related News:

The Senate voted 20-19 on Thursday with Lt. Governor Cally casting the tie-breaker to pass Governor Snyder's Tax Overhaul Bill. The bill then went back to the House where they passed it 56-52 and ordered it enrolled. This gives corporations a \$1.8B tax break by repealing the Michigan Business Tax and instead implementing a straight 6% business tax. The tax breaks are paid for in part (\$1.5B) by taxing public pensions through a three tier scale, holding the state income tax rate at 4.35% for the next two years, cutting the Earned Income Tax Credit for low-income working families by two thirds and limiting the Homestead Property Tax credit to those with household incomes below \$50k.

REMINDER!

DETROIT TOWN HALL MEETING

Date: May 16, 2011

Time: 2-4 p.m.

Location: James Europe VFW Post, 18651 Mound Rd., Detroit, MI 48234

Questions? Contact Jeremy Tripp at jeremy@mco-seiu.org or by phone at 517.485.3310.

RYAN OFFICER INJURED

An officer working the dialysis unit alone (due to the closure of a position) had to step in and break up a fight when one inmate began beating another who was in full restraints and couldn't defend himself. The officer sustained a back injury and was treated for exposure.

IN MEMORIAM

Officer Ted Smock, 26, of the Macomb Correctional Facility, passed away as the result of a motorcycle accident on May 7, 2011.

Officer Smock hired into the department in 2006 as a part of the Fred Parks class.

Smock leaves behind his parents, many brothers and sisters, and his girlfriend Kimberly.

Mass was held on Thursday, May 12th, and internment was at Cadillac Memorial Gardens East in Clinton Twp.

SHOTS FIRED AT MR

Multiple fights broke out Tuesday morning, May 10th, and warning shots were fired at the Michigan Reformatory. Several weapons including lock-in-a-sock and knives were used with multiple prisoner injuries including one who had 5-6 stab wounds.

Twelve inmates were taken to I-MAX and MR was put on lockdown.

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THIS WEEK AT THE CAPITOL

Yesterday Governor Snyder alongside Republican Majority Leaders and the Lt. Governor announced a budget agreement had been reached with target budget amounts identified for each Department. The DOC target figure is \$1.875B, which is \$55M less than Snyder's original budget recommendation. Due to higher than expected revenues, the state has a surplus which it will be distributing to various sources. Some of the money will be stuck in a rainy day fund, while some is being used to lessen cuts to School Aid and others. The budget agreement reached lessens the amount sought from state employee concessions from \$180M to \$145M. How the difference will be distributed between the bargaining units is not yet known and MCO continues to fight the non-proportional hit we are being asked to take.

As you know, MCO has been working hard to educate legislators and Corrections Budget Committee members in recent weeks and held a Town Hall meeting in Detroit on Monday. **It is our understanding at this point that the agreement does not include any prison closures - which implies the proposed closure of the Mound Correctional Facility has been removed from discussion.** MCO has been lobbying hard to remove the privatization language regarding the SAI bootcamp, however it is still unknown how that fared with this agreement as the specific language of the agreement has not been published.

Conference Committees (made up of representatives from each house) will meet early next week and are expected to kick out the final bills by Monday or Tuesday. Department of Corrections Conference Committee members have been announced and are the following: Representatives Chuck Moss, Joe Have-man and Richard LeBlanc and Senators Roger Kahn, John Moolenaar and Glenn Anderson. Once the Committees have a conference report all budgets will be dumped back into the two House omnibus bills for a straight up or down vote on HB 4325 (Education) and HB 4526 (everything else).

Related News:

Senate Bill 0007 passed the Senate this week on a 25-13 vote (with Senator Casperson (R-Escanaba) crossing over to vote with the 12 Democrats against) which would mean a minimum 20% health insurance premium co-pay for all public employees. It has now been referred to the House Oversight, Reform and Ethics Committee. An amendment to add a \$13,000 hard cap failed.

REMINDERS!

- MCO Scholarship Deadline is approaching on June 1, 2011. Applications can be downloaded from our web site or you can call to request a hard copy by mail.
- May is the window period for Seniority Based Transfers, which are available to employees who meet the conditions as laid out in Article 15, Part D, Section A, #2, of your contract. The window period to apply is May 1 - May 31st, for a transfer that will occur between July 1st and December 31st. The list expires after each window period, thus you need to sign up again if you didn't get a transfer last time around. Contact your personnel office to complete the necessary paper work.

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PRIVATIZATION REARS ITS UGLY HEAD!

The legislature this week passed the state budget (mostly along party lines with all Dems voting against) and it is now on its way to the Governor for his signature in time to meet his self imposed deadline of May 31st.

In addition to cutting taxes on corporations and shifting the burden to the middle class (taxing pensions, cutting Homestead Property tax credits and child tax credits, and more) the budget calls for private companies to bid to take over the SAI boot camp.

While Mound was saved from closure in the final bill, the budget removes funds from the Inmate Housing Fund, and places them into the "Cost-Effective Housing Initiative" which is intended to be spent housing approximately 1750 inmates in a public-private partnership, or through privately owned facilities and or the use of recently closed facilities.

OFFICERS HURT AT MTU

On Monday two officers were treated for injuries sustained while taking down an inmate who was stabbing a counselor. One suffered a hand injury while the other was treated for blood exposure.

BELLAMY CREEK ACTIVE

From 4.23.11 to 5.12.11 there were over 50 inmates sent to Ad-Seg. There have been multiple fights with inmates sustaining stab or slash wounds and at least five officers have been assaulted by inmates.

Two officers were treated at the hospital; one for getting bit by an inmate which drew blood. Most of the inmates causing problems are coming from units where positions are being closed.

LAST REMINDER!



MCO Scholarships are starting to come in from applicants around the state as we near the deadline. Don't wait for the last minute or you may be left out!

The deadline is next Wednesday, so get yours in the mail today.

Applications can be downloaded from our web site or you can call to request a hard copy by mail.

STILL WONDERING ABOUT THAT 3%?

The court case regarding the state's grab of 3% towards retiree health care is still sitting at the Court of Appeals.

As reported in early March, Judge Collette ruled in our favor stating that it was a violation of the state constitution. The State immediately appealed and that is where it still sits. The court of Appeals allowed the state to continue taking the 3% while the case moves through the legal system.

So while we understand you are anxious for more information, there is really no new news to report! All members will be notified immediately once there is movement on the case.

UP FACILITY TOURS SCHEDULED

- June 6** - Ojibway (1st shift)
Baraga Max (2nd shift)
- June 7** - Baraga Max
(Labor Management Mtg.)
Marquette (2nd shift)
- June 8** - Alger (1st shift)
Newberry (2nd shift)
- June 9** - Chippewa (1st or 2nd shift)
- June 10** - Kinross (1st shift)



WITH BUDGET DONE, LEGISLATURE CONTINUES ATTACK ON EMPLOYEES

Throughout 2010, many politicians campaigned on an agenda of reigning in the cost of state government. Up next in their cost cutting ledger? State Employee Health Insurance and Retirement!

Under several bills recently introduced in the House and Senate, it appears as though the Governor and his legislative colleagues will have their pick when it comes to major increases in public employee health care. Under SJR C and SB 7 all public entities would be limited to paying no more than 80 percent of an employee's health insurance premiums, while HB 4572 sets up a three tiered system where the total number insured determines how much the employer actually pays. Under that bill, employers would pay no more than \$5,000 for singles, \$10,000 for two-person plans and \$13,000 for family plans.

Adding injury to insult, Representatives Bill Rogers and Chuck Moss used this week to introduce HB4701 and HB4702 that call for a complete change to the State Employee Retirement System. Initial analysis yields nothing but bad news for both Defined Benefit and Defined Contribution and MCO will be coming out strong against the proposals being presented. Nevertheless, keep in mind that retirement benefits are not a bargainable item and are completely in the hands of the Governor and Legislature.

As MCO's tracking and analysis of all these bills continues, we urge all members to call their legislator and discuss the dangers of correctional work and explain why our health care and retirement benefits are important to maintaining qualified staff within the prison walls.

LETR KICK'S OFF SUMMER GAMES WITH TORCH LIGHTING

Officers and Special Olympians gathered on the steps of the Capitol on Thursday to mark the official start of the State 2011 Summer Games. The torch was lit and a relay run delivered the torch to the Opening Ceremonies in Mt. Pleasant last night.



Corrections Officers, MCO and the MDOC have played a significant role in sponsoring the athletes and the games for many years. The Michigan events are one of the world's largest and over 2500 athletes will compete this week.

MCO was proudly represented by many officers and we thank you for volunteering your time and your heart to this program throughout the year!

BARGAINING PREP CONTINUES

MCO is putting the final touches on a bargaining survey that will be mailed out to all voting members by next week.

We head into bargaining facing a budget that continues to be cut and a threat of privatization, closures and layoffs.

Please take a moment to fill out the survey - ***your input is important.***

UP TOUR SCHEDULE

MCO President Tylutki and Labor Rep. Karen Mazzolini

June 6 - Ojibway (1st) Baraga Max (2nd)

June 7 - Baraga Max (Lbr. Mgt. Mtg.) / Marquette (2nd)

June 8 - Alger (1st)/Newberry (2nd)

June 9 - Chippewa (1st)

June 10 - Kinross (1st)



RETIREMENT BILL DETAILS TRICKLE OUT

As the week has gone on, there have been several analyses of HB 4701 & 4702 regarding state employee retirement and health care and as of this morning a new one by the House Fiscal Agency. **It has become clear that there are questions/situations that are not addressed and these will have to get flushed out at the Committee Meeting scheduled for next week.**

NOTE: Covered Retirement was not addressed in HB 4701/4702 thus it is unclear how this language would apply.

In the meantime, however, here are the main stipulations of the bills:
RETIREMENT:

1. Would eliminate the 3% deduction for retiree health care started last year and currently being held in escrow pending outcome of the court case. Funds would be returned to employees with interest either by check or into 401(k).
2. Those in the Defined Benefit (DB) retirement plan (hired before 3.31.97) would have to choose to either stay in the DB plan and start contributing 4% of compensation towards the retirement plan, or to freeze current pension benefits and transfer to the Defined Contribution (DC) plan for all future service. For those who transfer to the DC plan, a limit of 240 hours of accrued sick leave would be paid at separation at the rate of pay as of September 30, 2011. Vesting in the DC retirement would be according to the current schedule using years of service. This means that most employees coming from the DB plan into the DC plan would already meet the 100% vested threshold which sits at 4 years of service.
3. Exclude overtime pay from the calculation of compensation for the purpose of determining an employee's pension or in calculating the employee's contributions into the pension plan as of October 1, 2011.

RETIREMENT HEALTH CARE: (Defined Contribution)

1. Retiree Health Insurance for those hired after 3.31.97 would be eliminated and instead a Health Reimbursement Account (HRA) would be established. A snapshot would be taken as of September 30, 2011, and an actuarial determination made of the present day value of the accrued benefit. This amount would then be deposited into the employee's Health Reimbursement Account and available upon retirement according to the following schedule:
 - 10+ years of service: 55 yrs. old with 30 yrs. service or 60 yrs. old with 10 yrs. service.
 - More than 4 but less than 10: 55 yrs. old with 30 yrs. service, or 60 yrs. old with 10 yrs. service.
 - Less than 4 years of service: 65 yrs. old with 10 yrs. of service (a straight \$2,000, no snapshot value.)
2. Employees would have to retire from the state to receive the earned benefit in their HRA. Those who choose to leave state service, or have a break in service of more than 60 months forfeit any earned HRA benefits.
3. These changes in Retiree Health Care for DC's would NOT apply to those already retired under the Defined Contribution plan and receiving health care benefits, or those who transfer to the Defined Contribution plan from the Defined Benefits Plan either when it opened in 1997 or through the provisions provided above in HB 4701.

Stay Tuned for Updates after the Committee Meeting next week. Links to bills and analysis can be found at www.mco-seiu.org.

THUMB INCIDENT

On June 6, 2011, a youthful offender at the Thumb Correctional facility was observed attacking a teacher in her class room by a passing officer. The officer quickly entered the room and pulled the inmate off of the teacher had been taken to the floor.

The responding officer would not normally have been in that area because that position is one that the facility has been closing. However, due to shot gun training, it happened to be left open at the time of the incident and prevented what could have been a very serious assault.

SURVEYS ON THE WAY

The MCO Bargaining Surveys are at the printer and should be hitting the mail by the beginning of next week. Please be sure to fill them out and return in the business reply envelope. Your input is needed!



MORE LIGHT SHED ON RETIREMENT BILLS

This week has brought more questions and scenarios than answers. The House Committee met to discuss and debate HB 4701 & 4702 regarding state employee retirement and health care on Wednesday and while some issues were addressed, many were left unanswered.

Here are some clarifications we can make at this time:

1. Covered Retirement is NOT affected by these bills. The same criteria apply (i.e. 51 yrs. old and 25 years of **worked** covered service or 56 yrs. of age and 10 years of **worked** covered service.)
2. Overtime already earned and/or OT earned *prior* to October 1st, 2011, WILL be used in Defined Benefit (DB) pension calculations. OT earned *after* October 1, 2011, WILL NOT be included in any calculation.
3. For DB members who choose to pay the 4%, the percentage is on base pay, not including OT.
4. For Defined Contribution (DC) members, the state will continue to match your 401(k) contributions up to 3% based on your total compensation (including OT).
5. Defined Benefit members who convert to Defined Contribution under this bill will still get their health care earned as a DB member. This also includes those who chose to convert from DB to DC back in 1997 when it opened.
6. If a DC member who hired in after March 31, 1997, leaves state service for more than 60 months they forfeit all funds in the Health Reimbursement Accounts (HRA). Employees cannot access the HRA's until ages 55, 60 or 65 depending on the combination of age and years of service. Thus, if you leave state service more than 60 months before the date you can access the account you forfeit the funds no matter how many years you have worked for the state.
7. If you are a Defined Benefit member who chooses to pay the 4% to stay in the DB plan then your service will continue to accrue. You may choose to stop paying the 4% when you reach 30 years of service, freeze your pension and continue in the Defined Contribution plan, OR you may elect to continue to pay the 4% and stay in the DB plan where your service time towards your pension will continue to accrue.

ON LAYOFF? VACANCIES AVAILABLE

For those officers who are currently on Layoff there are vacancies in the Jackson area and a *few* in Ionia. If interested you need to activate your name on the statewide recall list by contacting your HR dept.

COMMUNITY MEETINGS IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

In our continued efforts to fight for a fair economy and rebuild the middle class, SEIU and MCO members are holding neighborhood meetings with elected officials this weekend. ***Come on out and join the dialogue on how we can turn this state around for everyone!***

Saturday June 18th

23706 Donald, Eastpointe, MI

10:30 - 12 noon

Monday, June 20th

24258 Blackmar Ave. Warren, MI 5:30 - 7 p.m.

food and refreshments will be served.

CARSON CITY HIGHLIGHTS CLASSIFICATION ISSUE

In just one week, 10 inmates were sent to Seg. for substance abuse, possession of weapons, assault on prisoners, assault and battery and assault resulting in serious physical injury. Of those, **more than half were from the Level I population.**

With all the current talk about classification levels there seems to be a misconception that Level I's are well behaved non-violent, minor crime offenders. The stats, however, tell the truth!



BILLS MOVE ON EMPLOYEE HEALTH CARE

This week the House passed on a 58-51 vote a bill (HB 4572) that would establish a cap on the amount of money a public employer would pay towards employee health care leaving employees to pick up the difference. The caps would stand at \$5,500 for a single person, \$11,000 for a couple and \$15,000 for a family. The bill now moves on to the Senate.

The Senate in the meantime has already approved a bill (SB 0007) that would instead require public employees to pay **at least 20 percent** of

their health care coverage costs.

The differences between the two bills would have to be reconciled before either could become law.

The plan coming out of the House wouldn't begin until the current bargaining agreements expire.

Obviously unions, including MCO, believe that these decisions should be left to the bargaining table rather than mandated by state law... ***Especially*** in light of our bargaining unit's unique work environment that lends itself to greater health risks for our officers over other state employees.

RETIREMENT CHANGES STILL SIT IN COMMITTEE

While a Committee meeting was expected this week on HB 4701 & 4702, it never materialized. It is now expected to be taken up next week before the legislature goes on recess.

Some have inquired further about the Supplemental Retirement for "covered positions" (i.e. Corrections Officers.) The Supplemental has not changed. However - it is a part of the DB plan, thus the provisions of a "voluntary" 4% contribution and future OT not counting toward pension calculations would apply.

CONCERT TIX FREE!- JUST CALL MCO

July 2 - John Michael Montgomery/Lorrie Morgan
July 4 - Lynyrd Skynyrd
July 7 - The Temptations/The Spinners
July 8 - Peter Frampton
July 8 - 1964 The Tribute
July 12 - "Weird Al" Yankovic

Visit www.mco-seiu.org and click on the "Concert Tickets" picture at the bottom of the page for an up to date list of available tickets for MCO members.

SHOTS FIRED AGAIN!

On the morning of Tuesday, June 21, 2011, an inmate at MR was stabbed in front of the gym.

A few hours later on the morning yard a fight broke out between prisoners who refused orders to break up and the gun tower fired a warning shot to gain control. Four inmates were sent to segregation.

This makes an unprecedented fifth warning shot fired in the state since the start of the year, and the second at MR in the last few months.

MCO TOUR SCHEDULE

MCO President Tom Tylutki will be touring at the following facilities next week to talk with members:

Monday June 27th

Bellamy Creek (1st shift)

Tuesday June 28th

Gus Harrison

(Labor Management & 1st)

Wednesday June 29th

SAI (1st & 2nd)

Thursday June 30th

Lakeland (2nd)



BULLETIN

JUNE 28, 2011

UNIT CLOSURES ANNOUNCED

MCO has been notified that the Unsecure Level I Units at the following facilities will be closed:

Brooks
Carson City
Gus Harrison
Chippewa
Cotton

The inmates will either be brought inside or transferred to Marquette Branch Prison, Ojibway Correctional Facility and possibly other prisons.

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MCO TESTIFIES AGAINST RETIREMENT BILLS

MCO testified at a Committee meeting on Wednesday against HB 4701 & 4702 which would change retirement for those under the “old” plan, and basically eliminate Health Care benefits for those in the “new” plan.

Key points in the testimony were...1) that overtime worked by corrections officers should count towards final average compensation, especially when officers suffer mandatory overtime, 2) the unique work environment of COs (who are exposed to contagious diseases and suffer injuries -sometime serious- due to their job) leads to substantially different health care needs than other state workers and that a one-time guess of the value of their health care benefits is inadequate at best for our officers, and 3) that these bills would essentially force employees to stay on the job later in their career and older in age... something that is hard to do in a field like corrections. The years take their toll on officers, the injuries add up and response time slows. This does not lead to a safe prison environment.

As you know, MCO also launched a letter writing campaign, a YouTube video “A message to my Legislator” and a patch through phone number (877-851-2521) this week to put pressure on legislators that this “one-size-fits-all” approach won’t work and that there are a lot of considerations that need to be addressed. It appears that the bills have slowed down and they still sit in committee with no subsequent meeting date set. The legislature is scheduled to wrap up session by the end of today, which likely means that they won’t be taken up again until after the summer recess - currently scheduled to last a couple of months.

MCO is going to continue to dial up the pressure, educate and lobby legislators on the issues of concern for us... and we need you to do the same over the summer. If you didn’t get the e-mail with the letter writing link you can find it at www.mco-seiu.org. Share it with your friends and family, this affects ALL STATE WORKERS. Be sure to write down the patch-thru phone number and give them a call too. MCO plans to orchestrate face to face meetings with members and legislators in their districts over the summer so watch for details once they’ve been set.

OFFICERS INJURED AT BARAGA

Two separate incidents on June 26th sent two officers and one inmate to the hospital for treatment of their injuries.

A fight broke out during Unit 7 chowlines between four prisoners, one of whom required stitches.

Later, also in Unit 7, two prisoners tried to force their way into another prisoner’s cell when returning from yard. Staff responded and two officers sustained non-life threatening injuries.

SHOTS FIRED AT ALGER

A fight broke out during evening chowlines in the Commons on June 29th.

Inmates continued to fight and ignored orders to cease while a growing number of “spectators” gathered to watch the fight. A warning shot was fired to quell the disturbance.

One officer was treated and released from the hospital for a shoulder injury sustained while breaking up the fight.

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SHOTS FIRED AT MR.... YET AGAIN!

A fight broke out between two prisoners on the way back from breakfast chow lines on the morning of July 4th. Staff responded but two more prisoners began to fight. Staff were beginning to get control of the situation when another four inmates broke into a fight causing a warning shot to be fired from the 11 post.

One inmate had stab wounds and the weapon was recovered. Two officers and a Sergeant were treated and released from the hospital for their injuries.

This marks the 4th time shots have been fired at MR since January, and continues a trend of more shots fired in such a short time frame (9 since December 22nd) than anyone can remember.

CHAPTER ELECTIONS AROUND THE CORNER!

August is the nomination window for those wishing to run for a chapter office in the September elections. Chapter Presidents will begin receiving election packets next week.

To run for a position on the chapter executive board, simply nominate yourself by submitting your name to the Chapter Elections Committee between August 1st and August 31st.

Simply write the following: "I (name) accept the nomination for (position) at the (name of your facility)" and give it to a member of your Chapter Election Committee.

BARAGA STAYS BUSY

As we reported in the last issue of the KYI, there were two incidents on June 26th that left officers injured. The activity has not slowed down.

6.26.11 - Level V inmate found with tobacco believed to have come in through secure pack.

7.1.11 - Three Level I inmates sent to Ad Seg. for disturbance in the chowhall and fighting in the housing unit.

7.2.11 - 3 on 1 prisoner fight in the Unit 6 yard. Two officers suffered minor injuries while breaking up the fight. The assaulted prisoner was sent to the hospital for treatment. Another inmate was later sent to Seg. for possession of a razor blade on the yard.

7.3.11 - Two inmates to Seg. for fighting on walk during Unit 6 chow.

7.8.11 - Prisoner attacked another prisoner after chow lines. Responding officer was struck in the nose resulting in a broken nose and possible concussion.

A COMMUNITY SPEAKS OUT

MCO is fighting back alongside state employees, community leaders, students and seniors to let politicians know that it's time to get their priorities straight and start protecting the middle class by *fighting for a fair economy for all!*

WHAT: Rally to protest attacks on middle class families and a call to our communities and our elected leaders to fight for changes that will create a fair economy for everyone!

WHEN: Tuesday, July 19, 2011
1-4 p.m.

Guest Speakers, a chance to submit letters to your legislators and more!

WHERE: Corner of M-80 (Tone Rd.) and Watertower Drive
Kincheloe, MI

QUESTIONS?

Contact Jeremy Tripp,
517.485.3310 or
jeremy@mco-seiu.org

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KYI

KEEPING YOU INFORMED

JULY 22, 2011

DETROIT RALLY FOR STATE REFORM!

WHAT: Rally to support state reforms - common sense solutions to streamline state gov't without attacking working families at the expense of tax breaks for wealthy corporations.

WHEN: Monday, July 25
at 12:00 noon

WHERE: Cadillac Place,
3040 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit

WHO: union members from
MCO, AFSCME Council 25,
SEIU 517M, MSEA Local 5, &
UAW Local 6000

C.O.P.S. DAY AT IONIA FREE FAIR

Come on out and join your fellow brothers and sisters from MCO and area law enforcement at the 23rd Annual C.O.P.S. Day on Wednesday, July 27th, at the Ionia Free Fair.



C.O.P.S. Day 2011

Ionia Free Fair

A special hospitality center will be set up at the Fair Administration Building just for us to recognize corrections, police, fire, and public safety employees.

Be sure to bring a valid work ID! This will get you into the hospitality center and all the goodies inside, plus you can *purchase an all-day ride wristband at a discounted \$12 rate at the hospitality center only!*

MCO and Michigan 1 Credit Union are sponsors of C.O.P.S. Day 2011 and we hope you can make it out!

STABBING DURING CHOW LINES

On Tuesday, July 19th, during evening chow there was an inmate on inmate fight at the Oaks Correctional Facility. One inmate received 4 stab wounds as a result.

STABBING AT RYAN

A Level II inmate attacked an inmate lying on his bed, stabbing him 6 times during evening count on July 17th.

REMINDER:

Keep making calls to your legislators about the pension bills
(HB 4702 & 4702)

1.877.851.2521

IN MEMORIAM



Officer Todd Foster,
41, of the Oaks Correctional Facility, passed away at home on July 16, 2011.

Foster joined the MDOC in 2002, and served on the ERT Team after serving in the Army and earning many awards for his service and expert marksmanship.

He leaves behind his wife, Heidi, two children, Morgan and Matthew, and two granddaughters, Mackenzie and Kennady.

Burial with full military honors were held on Thursday and memorials may be directed to the family to help with Matthew's education expenses.

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KYI

KEEPING YOU INFORMED

JULY 29, 2011

SHOTS FIRED AT MR FOR THE 5TH TIME THIS YEAR!

On July 21st a fight broke out on the Level II yard between two inmates. An additional four inmates joined into the scuffle and warning shots were fired to subdue the incident.

The next day another fight between two inmates left one with 4 puncture wounds.



THURSDAY, AUGUST 4TH

Admission for only \$3*
(\$8 at gate)

All day ride bands \$12*
(\$18/\$20 at gate)

* if purchased in advance through the Greater Lansing Labor Council by August 1st.

Call 485-5169 to get yours today!

HB 4701 & 4702 (RETIREMENT BILLS) UPDATE

While MCO and other groups were successful in stopping a vote on these bills prior to summer recess, the legislature will return in late August with them at the forefront of their agenda. ***We need to step up the calls and letter writing to your legislators!*** You can find the contact info for your legislators on our webpage (Union Tools/Legislator Look-up), and you can also use the "Send a Letter" post to send out an email.

Stay tuned, we will keep you posted on the movement/changes of these bills once the legislature returns.

NOTE: because they were not taken up before recess, it is likely that the window period and effective dates of the bills could change.

BARGAINING ON THE HORIZON

MCO will open bargaining with the Office of the State Employer on August 11th. We have received 3,000 bargaining surveys back which are being reviewed along with chapter leader discussions, and feedback from members as Tom tours facilities around the state.

MCO FAMILY DAYS AT CEDAR POINT!

Once again MCO has secured special pricing for MCO SEIU members above and beyond our normal discount for the following select dates:

AUGUST 21ST - AUGUST 27TH

Regular Admission just \$31/each*
Junior/Senior Admission \$18/each*
Ages 2 and under FREE



*With the MCO voucher (available by downloading it from our website at www.mco-seiu.org or calling 485.3310) Voucher valid for up to 4 admissions when presented at any Cedar Point cashier booth during selected dates above.



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SHOTS FIRED AT MARQUETTE

On August 3rd, an inmate got punched and fell to the ground while on the walk to chow. The attacker then jumped on him and continued the beating. A warning shot was fired to break up the fight.

This marks the 2nd shot fired at Marquette since late December, and the 11th since December statewide!

GROUP INSURANCE OPEN ENROLLMENT COMING UP

MONDAY, AUGUST 8 - FRIDAY, AUGUST 26, 2011, MARKS THE OPEN ENROLLMENT WINDOW PERIOD TO MAKE CHANGES TO YOUR GROUP INSURANCE.

This is your chance to review your health benefits and make new or different choices for the coming year. Are your health care needs the same? Or are you under the care of several specialists? Do you prefer one doctor to take care of your health care needs or do you want to be able to see any doctor whether they're in or out of network? Watch for more detailed information headed your way via snail mail.

PROBLEMS IN FOOD SERVICE AT BROOKS

For two consecutive days, July 24th & 25th, inmate fights broke out just outside of Food Service at the Brooks Correctional Facility - one involving a shank.

While MCO has many philosophical objections to privatization in general and specifically within the corrections setting, this is a prime example of why the proposed privatization of food service is of such concern. Many of the critical incidents that occur in a facility occur in or near Food Service where it is vital that staff (*all staff*) are trained and willing to respond. This will not be the case if food service is contracted out to a private for profit company.

Also at Brooks, on July 28th, an inmate "went off" and two officers were assaulted. One officer was treated and released from the local hospital.

LEVEL V INMATES AT BARAGA TURN ON OFFICER

On July 25th, an inmate returning from chow was pulled aside for a shakedown. The inmate refused and when we was prompted again he turned and squared off on the officer. Five other inmates who had passed by then turned and started walking towards the officer as well.

Thankfully officers were able to maintain control and the inmates sent to Seg as a result.

REMINDER!

MCO SEIU FUN DAYS!

AUGUST 21ST - AUGUST 27TH

Tickets just \$31



Print your voucher today at:

www.mco-seiu.org

FREE

CONCERT TIX:

August

25 – Untangled (2 & 7 p.m.)

26 – Laugh-A-Palooza (8 p.m.)

27 – Wine and Food Festival (1:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.)

27 – GetBack Beatlemania (8 p.m.)

28 – Wine and Food Festival (1:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.)

28 – Barrage (6:00 p.m.)

Contact Cindy Kogut @

MCO (517.485.3310 or

cindy@mco-seiu.org

org)

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BULLETIN

AUGUST 9, 2011

STATE EMPLOYEES UNITE TO *FIND* *NEW SOLUTIONS FOR MICHIGAN*

Challenging times call for new ideas, new approaches and new solutions. That is why MCO, along with SEIU Local 517M, UAW, AFSCME Council 25 and MSEA, -- collectively representing 35,000 state employees -- formally notified the Office of the State Employer today that they will work together and coordinate bargaining on the issues of compensation, benefits and retirement.

The coalition in May presented a “New Solutions for Michigan” report offering up front line employee solutions to save the state tens of millions of taxpayer dollars while at the same time protecting essential state services. This report, which contains real reforms proposed by state employees will serve as the backbone for the joint negotiations.

For example, the report found that Michigan had a significantly higher than normal manager to staff ratio (5.87 workers for every 1 manager) than other states who average closer to 11:1. By making changes to the staffing ratio, reviewing contracted services, and collaborating with front line employees, the state could be a better steward of taxpayer monies while at the same time ensuring the quality services and protections our citizens rely upon.

Coordinated bargaining has been done in the past, but not in recent decades, and not with all five state employee unions together. The collaboration extends to compensation, benefits and retirement only. Each union will continue to negotiate separately on non-economic unit specific issues.

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SHOTS FIRED AT MARQUETTE, AGAIN!

On August 10th, a one on one inmate fight broke out on the steps of the chow hall. As the prisoners were leaving evening chow one inmate sucker punched the other and they both flipped over the railing on the stairs outside the kitchen. A warning shot was fired to break up the fight and one inmate required hospital treatment for his injuries.

This marks the 2nd shot fired at Marquette this month, and the 12th since December statewide!

ESCAPE ATTEMPT AT THE FORENSIC CENTER

When officers opened the doors to let in fresh air on Friday, August 12th, they found that a patient was attempting to escape. He had made it over the first fence, but was stopped by staff before he could get to the second fence.

This "patient" had been telling everyone that he was going to escape for 3 days and they had initiated escape precautions. It is apparent, however, that he was intent on his mission.

Responding staff did an excellent job of stopping this quickly.

BARGAINING KICKS OFF...

At this point, MCO and OSE have met for two half-day sessions to start dealing with unit specific issues. Of particular interest this contract cycle is the decision of MCO and four other state employee unions to coordinate bargaining on compensation and benefits. Next week OSE and the state unions are meeting to discuss exactly how the coordinated process will work.

CHILDREN'S PICNIC
LOWER HURON METRO
PARK
BELLEVUE, MI

SATURDAY, AUGUST 20!

All day event with facepainting, barbecue, kids games, bounce houses and so MUCH MORE!

REMINDER!

MCO SEIU FUN DAYS!

AUGUST 21ST - AUGUST 27TH

Tickets just \$31

Print your voucher
today at:

www.mco-seiu.org



IN MEMORIAM

Officer Dennis Young, 51, of the Thumb Correctional Facility, was killed in a car accident on Sunday, August 14, 2011. He leaves behind a son in the military. His wife preceded him in death last year.

Officer Young hired into the MDOC in 1992.



FREE CONCERT

TIX:

August

19 - J. Geils Band

25 - Aretha Franklin

25 - Untangled

26 - Laugh-A-Palooza

27 - Wine and Food Festival

27 - GetBack Beatlemania

27 - Alice Cooper

28 - Wine and Food Festival

28 - Barrage

28 - Whitesnake/Tesla

Contact Cindy Kogut @

MCO 517.485.3310 or

cindy@mco-seiu.org



STATE EMPLOYEES WIN IN COURT OF APPEALS!

CONFIRMS LEGISLATIVE GRAB OF 3% UNCONSTITUTIONAL

In a decision received by MCO this afternoon, the Michigan Court of Appeals denied the State's appeal of Judge Collette's ruling back in February that the legislature's grab of 3% of employee wages into a retiree health care account was unconstitutional.

The state had appealed his decision arguing that among other things, his court was not the appropriate jurisdiction and that the legislature was working within its bounds (rather than circumnavigating the Civil Service Process) when it passed the law -- saying it was no different than health insurance premium deductions.

The court ruled, however, that this **was** the appropriate jurisdiction and that the legislature did in fact try to do through legislation what they were unable to get through the proper channels and in the process violating the Michigan Constitution.

It is unknown at this time if the State will appeal this ruling to the Supreme Court. **Stay tuned...**

TENSIONS FLARE AROUND STATE

8.18.11 - MBP - An inmate claiming to be sick of being at Marquette and that his meds weren't working and health care wouldn't help decided the answer to that was to sucker punch another inmate during evening chow lines. The inmate hit the other prisoner hard enough to knock out a tooth.

8.19.11 - Cotton - Inmate assaults officer in D unit. Officer is OK.

8.23.11 - Alger - At 7:30 p.m. a fight broke out in a housing unit and an officer was stabbed in his hand incurring damage to several tendons and requiring stitches.

8.9.11 - 8.17.11 - Carson City - inmates sent to Seg. for threatening behavior on a nurse, threatening behavior on staff and assault on staff, possession of weapons (a 6" sharpened toothbrush), and more.

OFFICERS HURT IN FIGHT AT SAGINAW

A fight broke out between three inmates, in a unit with a troublesome history, while officers were feeding C-wing in the unit.

One officer hurt his neck and another officer injured his knee and ribs.

WARNING SHOT AGAIN!

A yard fight on the morning of August 20th at MR led to a warning shot being fired. It was brought on by a fight between 5 inmates who ignored commands to step down. All 5 fighters were taken to segregation. Thankfully no officers were injured.

In case you're keeping count: that is the 6th at MR since January and 13th statewide!

BARGAINING NOTES...

Negotiations continued this week between MCO and the OSE with a few more days scheduled for next week.

Preliminary discussions have occurred between the State Employee Union Coalition and the OSE regarding the procedures for coordinated bargaining as well.



**LAST CHANCE
THIS
WEEKEND!**

MCO SEIU FUN DAYS!

AUGUST 21ST - AUGUST 27TH
**Tickets just \$31 when you print
your voucher today at:**

www.mco-seiu.org

**Just click on "Union Tools"
and then "Travel/Hotel" and
then the Cedar Point logo.**



BARGAINING NOTES...

Negotiations on MCO specific issues (seniority, transfers, etc.) have continued most days of the last two weeks, even late into the evenings, as proposals move back and forth between the parties.

A session was held for the better part of today between the OSE and the Union Coalition bargaining teams on the economics of the 2013 budget. Today's discussions set the stage for future sessions.

UPDATE ON COURT RULING RE: 3%

As reported in the 8.26.11 KYI, the Court of Appeals ruled that the state's grab of 3% towards retiree health care was unconstitutional. At this time we are awaiting the State's next move as it has 20 days to file an appeal to the Michigan Supreme Court.

RELATED NEWS: Passage of legislation currently working its way through the legislature (HB 4701 & 4702) would make an appeal to the Supreme Court moot. The bills call for the state to back off the 3% for all employees, and instead levy a 4% deduction on those who stay in the Defined Benefit plan. Further, it would eliminate health care for those in the Defined Contribution plan and instead give them a lump sum based on the estimated value of their accrued benefits to use to provide for their own retirement health care needs.

Use the links on our website for more information and to quickly send a letter/email/phone call to your legislator. ***Time is of the essence as they intend to bring the bills up in the next week or two!***

OFFICERS ASSAULTED AT OAKS

On Aug. 24th an inmate was taken off of the transition yard for inappropriate behavior. When officers got the inmate between the two sets of doors he decided he didn't want to comply and resisted. One officer from another unit tore a hamstring while responding and two officers in the unit were injured - one suffered a broken thumb with possible ligament damage and the other took kicks to the arm and ribs.

NEWS FROM AROUND THE STATE

- ▶ An FSA successfully dodged four pool balls being thrown at him by a "patient" at the Forensic Center on August 24th.
- ▶ An officer at Cotton was assaulted by a Level II inmate on Aug. 19th. Officer is fine.
- ▶ On Sept. 2nd a Level IV prisoner at MRF made a dummy in his bed and went out on the big yard for a possible escape attempt or trial run. Inmate was found and sent to Seg. and the facility mobilized.

OFFICERS INJURED

DURING CHOW AND CLOSED POSITIONS AT IBC

On August 20th a fight broke out in the day room of 5 block during chow. Officers restrained the inmates but within minutes another 10-15 prisoners began fighting in 5 block B lower. While restraining inmates an officer and a food service supervisor were injured. A total of 22 prisoners were locked up for fighting or incite to riot.

Another incident in 5 block occurred on August 25th when an inmate refused to lock up and started swinging at officers while they tried to apply restraints. Three officers and a Sergeant were assaulted in that incident.

On August 27th, on the 5 block yard, an inmate stabbed another inmate hard enough to penetrate through the prisoner's hand and into his chest.

The facility has continued to close several staff positions a day while having extra supervisor positions in the Control Center despite these incidents and injuries.

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BARGAINING NOTES...

Negotiations on MCO specific issues have continued nearly every day this week, including into the early morning hours today. Discussions have focused on Articles 9 (Grievance Procedure), 10 (Disciplinary Action), 15 (Assignment, Vacancy and Transfer) and 20 (Personnel files).

Another economic session will be held next week with the Union Coalition bargaining teams and the OSE.

UPDATE ON COURT RULING RE: 3%

The state has Until October 6th to make an application for leave to appeal the 3% decision to the Michigan Supreme Court. It is our understanding that they intend to, however it has not yet been officially filed. The Stay (meaning the state can continue to hold the money) is still in effect.

BATTLE OF THE BANDS

Put together by one of our very own CO's and the help of many others, the Battle of the Bands will kick off at the Little River Casino & Resort (near Manistee) on October 1st. General Admission is just \$10 each and the proceeds go to support the local Shop-With-A-Cop Program.

Each December, corrections officers, local sheriff's deputies, police and more bring local children from struggling families together for a holiday party and then take them shopping for presents for their family.

We're proud to have Corrections Officers involved in this program and especially to take such a lead role! So come on... *rock out and help some kids this holiday season!*

Tickets available at Startickets.com, Little River Casino Gift Shop and at the door.



ESCAPE ATTEMPT AT SMT

A Level I inmate attempted to escape from Parnall several weeks ago when he took off running and hit the fence.

Several officers on the yard took off after him and successfully pulled him down. The inmate required hospital treatment for the cuts he sustained from the fence.

ESCAPE ATTEMPT AT FORENSIC

On Thursday, Sept. 15, 2011, a patient who was taken to the outside clinic at St. Joe Hospital "ran for it" when he saw his family waiting for him there. Apparently the doctor, despite noting that he was an escape risk, had alerted the family that the patient was going to be at St. Joe's.

The transporting officers ran him down and successfully prevented the escape.

FIGHT DURING CHOW

While feeding C-D wing chow in the unit a fight broke out on Sept. 9th at Saginaw. Officers jumped in with two staff grabbing one inmate and two grabbing another. One inmate continued to resist and a fifth staff member joined to take him to the ground.

One officer sustained a back injury and the other a shoulder injury in the process.



BARGAINING NOTES...

Negotiations on MCO specific issues continued once again nearly every day this week. Current talks are focusing on Article 17 and the ever problematic OEL.

Two more economic sessions were held this week with the Union Coalition bargaining teams and the OSE.

Related News: Last Friday was the deadline for unions and the OSE to file for Impasse. This is a technicality and does not mean that the the parties are actually at Impasse. It is expected that economic bargaining will continue next week and possibly beyond, but by filing for Impasse the parties secure their ability for the Impasse proceedings to occur, should they become needed.



TWO LIVES SAVED AT RYAN...

In separate events, the quick actions of officers at Ryan saved the lives of two inmates in recent weeks.

On Sept. 6th a prisoner was choking in the chow hall and an alert officer successfully performed the Heimlich maneuver and freed his airway.

Then, on Sept. 21st, an officer called out that a prisoner was down in his cell with a wound to the forehead. While officers were attending to the cut the prisoner suffered a cardiac arrest. An officer shocked the inmate with the AED which brought him back.

NEWS FROM AROUND THE STATE

An inmate at Bellamy Creek was found with a shank on 9/8 and a porter on 3rd shift was found with two shanks on his person on 9/14.

Carson City had 15 inmates sent to Seg over a 4 day period for fighting, dangerous contraband, and threatening behavior on staff.



GRAND RAPIDS GRIFFINS OPENING NIGHT!

The Griffins and MCO are teaming up once again for a night of fun and entertainment at Griffins Opening Night!

This special game will feature:

- The ever-popular \$1 beer and \$1 hot dog promotion from 6-8 p.m.
- Special Opening Night post-game fireworks show
- FREE Glow Bams giveaway

Just for MCO members... Lower Level Faceoff tickets for only \$12/each plus no service fees!

Purchase your tickets today at www.griffinshockey.com/promocode. Your promo code is: MCO

If you have any questions, contact Zack Krywuj at 616.774.4585 or zkrywuj@griffinshockey.com

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BULLETIN

SEPTEMBER 28, 2011

REPRIEVE BRIEF **CLOSURE ANNOUNCED**

MCO received notification this morning that the Department of Corrections will be on site today announcing the closure of the **Mound Correctional Facility**.

Earlier this year the Republican led House Appropriations Sub-Committee on Corrections specifically identified the closure of Mound in its FY '11-'12 budget...something not done in recent times. Normally cuts are announced in terms of \$ savings and the decision as to how to achieve the savings is left to the DOC.

MCO members rallied in response, launching a letter writing campaign and 100+ members attended a Town Hall meeting with Detroit area legislators in May. In the end, Mound was removed from the final budget language as a specifically identified closure. It seems, however, that the reprieve was brief as the DOC, still in need of finding savings in the budget, has announced today that Mound is slated for closure once again.

Under the terms of the contract, MCO will now sit down with the Department to discuss the ramifications of this closure - with the goal of coming to a mutual agreement that will mitigate the impact to members as much as possible.

This process will take several weeks, so while it is understandably difficult, we ask for your patience. Any developing information will be passed along through regular KYT's and Special Bulletins, as well as the website and facebook when necessary. Please watch your bulletin board or sign up for e-mail delivery to stay informed of the latest developments.

MCO President Tom Tylutki, who was planning on visiting the Forensic Center this morning, has now changed his plans and is en route to Mound to meet with members there.

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BULLETIN

SEPTEMBER 28, 2011

MORE! WCC TO PRIVATIZE?

In addition to the closure announcement this morning of the Mound Correctional Facility, the Department has informed MCO that it is putting out a Request for Proposal (RFP) for the running of the Woodland Correctional Center. The bidding process can be lengthy. If the Department did decide to go that route it is unknown at this time at what point in the future it would occur.

The FY '11-'12 budget called for the Department to seek out competitive bidding and explore the use of public/private partnerships and privatization. As you know, SAI has already been set to be bid out.

Any developing information will be passed along through regular KYI's and Special Bulletins, as well as the website and facebook when necessary. Please watch your bulletin board or sign up for e-mail delivery to stay informed of the latest developments.

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

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NOTES...

Bargaining:

Two more economic sessions were held this week with the Union Coalition bargaining teams and the OSE.

Unit specific negotiations are also taking place today between MCO and the OSE. The MCO bargaining team appreciates the fact that most members would like to know the exact details of negotiations at this point. Unfortunately, that can't be given. Both sides are obligated to deal only with each other at the table and not in a public forum. If members look at other union web sites, they will see that they too only talk generally about bargaining. Because it's already public, we can tell you that the Governor and legislature want an 80/20 health insurance premium split and of course they have proposed to MCO 12 hour shifts.

Budget:

The state, seeking \$145M in concessions from state employees, took a big step this week with the announcement of the closure of Mound and its intent to privatize WCC as well as statewide prisoner health care and mental health care services. It is our understanding that this move is projected to save the state \$50M. As you know, MCO was targeted with over half of the concessions... at nearly \$73M. This leaves another \$20M that the state is STILL seeking for the current fiscal year.



Ticket package includes Detroit Red Wings ticket and a t-shirt. \$10 from each ticket will be donated to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund in support of the "A Matter of Honor" campaign to build the National Law Enforcement Museum.

Red Wings vs. Avalanche

Nov. 8th 7:30 p.m.

**Price: \$35 (seats located in the upper level
of the arena, rows 11-15)**

Order your tickets online:

www.detroitredwings.com/law

or complete the order form on MCO's website
and fax to 313.396-7014 or email:

paul.bee@hockeytown.com or

call 313.394.7594.

Tickets are limited so order soon!



National Law Enforcement
MUSEUM
A MATTER OF HONOR

ANOTHER FIGHT IN CHOW

Six inmates at Saginaw broke out into a fight in the chow hall vestibule on Wednesday, September 28th. All six were sent to Segregation for fighting. One Sergeant was punched in the face two times but is okay. Officers did a great job in responding and controlling the situation.

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BULLETIN

OCTOBER 4, 2011

DEPARTMENTAL CHANGES MORE HITS TO OFFICERS!

In what continues to be a “realignment” within the MDOC over the last two weeks, MCO learned today that the DOC is eliminating all Resident Unit Officer (RUO) positions, Assistant Resident Unit Supervisor (ARUS) positions, and Assistant Deputy Warden (ADW) positions. Further, there will be a reduction in the number of Resident Unit Manager (RUM) positions statewide.

While we have heard the Department intends to eliminate the RUO classification, MCO has not been formally notified of such action. There are issues around the elimination of the RUO classification that will have to be addressed through the Civil Service Commission. Ultimately it will be they who decide if those who are currently RUOs will be grand-fathered in (“red-lined”) with the transition to COs happening through attrition, or whether another course of action will be taken.

The RUO position was created years ago because the Department was having a hard time staffing the challenging environment in the housing units.

There will be an addition of 19 Deputy Wardens throughout the state and the creation of Prison Counselor positions to absorb the responsibilities from losing the ADW’s and ARUS’s.

Specific details and a time line for implementation have not been identified at this time.

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BULLETIN

OCTOBER 11, 2011

MOUND BUMPING REGION

ANNOUNCED

MCO met today with the Department and signed a Letter of Agreement identifying the following bump region for the closure of the Mound Correctional Facility:

**Thumb Correctional Facility
Macomb Correctional Facility
Ryan Correctional Facility**

Employees in these work locations will be provided with more information from their personnel offices, however it will take several weeks to move through this process.

If you have any questions you can contact your Labor Representative at MCO at 517.485.3310 or 800.451.4878.

Now that the bump region has been established MCO will be out meeting with affected members in the coming weeks.

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KYI

KEEPING YOU INFORMED

OCTOBER 14, 2011

BARGAINING GOES ON...

Negotiations on MCO specific issues as well as coordinated bargaining with the State Employee Union Coalition continued this week, even into the early morning hours on several occasions.

MCO is meeting again this afternoon on unit specific issues.

The Coalition of State Employee Unions is committed to continuing the collective bargaining process with the state as we near the Impasse procedure time line established by the Civil Service Commission.

Mound Closure Update: MCO continues to talk with the MDOC regarding the pending closure of Mound. While specific dates have not yet been established, the general procedure is that on a designated date employees will receive their bump notices and a packet of information on how to proceed. Generally, this will include a form to list facility choices based on seniority.

MCO is discussing with the Department a process that will be used now and in the future to better mitigate the impact on affected officers.



CLOSER TO HOME WINDOW NOW OPEN

October 1-31st is the open window period for Closer-to-Home Transfers. 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.

Please mail or fax your letter to:

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

For more information on the Closer-to-Home procedure and requirements, it is covered under Article 15, Part D, Section A, #5, on page 80 of your contract.

This list clears each year so if you have put your name on the list in previous years and did not get a transfer but still wish to, then you must re-submit your information.

LAST CHANCE FOR CRISIS FUND TICKETS!

Tickets go for \$5/each or 3/\$10 and you can purchase them from your local chapter officials. The winning tickets will be drawn at Central next Tuesday, October 18th. The following prizes will be drawn:

1st Prize: Smith & Wesson M&P-15 w/ Leopold Mark AR Scope-
(\$1250.00 value)

2nd Prize: Remington BDL .270- (\$750)

3rd Prize: Remington SPS .30-06- (\$550)

4th Prize: Remington SPS .270- (\$550)

5th Prize: Remington SPS 7mm- (\$550)

6th Prize: Remington SPS .300 Win. - (\$550)

7th Prize: Browning BPS 12 GA- (\$500)

8th Prize: Ten Point HLX w/ Accudraw- (\$700)



All prizes can be picked up at any Gander Mountain store or the winners may take a Gander Mountain gift card equivalent. All proceeds will go to the MCO Crisis Fund.

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

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MCO AND STATE AT IMPASSE

Bargaining comes to a standstill

The deadline for Impasse was extended several times, but at 5 p.m. today (the final deadline) MCO submitted Impasse Positions. Although the deadline necessitated this filing, MCO is still willing to discuss any portions of the contract to come to a voluntary agreement.

Preparation, evidence and briefs are to be submitted to the Impasse Panel on October 24th, and then Hearings will be scheduled in the first part of November.

Bargaining this year was tough, with the State coming after almost anything that had money attached. One obvious item was the State's proposal to shift costs of health insurance to an 80/20 premium split and to do a new plan design increasing individual costs as well. Other State proposals included removing annual leave, comp time and BLT as hours worked when calculating overtime (as with sick leave). Holiday pay was also proposed to change as it relates to overtime. There were proposals to take away uniform allowance and comp time entirely. Twelve hour shifts were on the Department's agenda with MCO pushing back. The matter will now go before the Impasse Panel. Although the State proposed eliminating shift differential, MCO was successful at maintaining it and that issue will not go to Impasse. The State and MCO have agreed to change the overtime call in procedure. Also agreed to were new changes in layoff/recall language that MCO views as better for officers affected by facility closings. Comp time will still be allowed but will not be used in the vacation calculation. MCO is still reviewing the State's Impasse position at this point.



CLOSER TO HOME REMINDER

October 1-31st is the open window period for Closer-to-Home Transfers. 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 to:

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

The Closer-to-Home procedure is covered under Article 15, Part D, Section A, #5, on page 80 of your contract.

SHOT FIRED AT MR

A fight broke out during Level IV chow on September 28th between two prisoners. While officers started to break up that fight another one jumped off between two more prisoners in front of the chow hall.

Eight staff and an ADW tried to break up the second fight but the inmates continued fighting requiring a warning shot from the tower officer. No serious injuries resulted from the incident.

STABBINGS AT STF

There were three inmate stabbings at Central Michigan over the course of 24 hours on October 16th.

All incidents occurred in the F unit at the Level I facility.

One inmate was sliced across the neck and was admitted to the intensive care unit at the hospital due to the severity of the wound.

Alarming to say the least to see this activity at a Level I.

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BULLETIN

OCTOBER 26, 2011

MCO AND THE STATE REACH TENTATIVE AGREEMENT

Although MCO and OSE had filed for Impasse, talks continued and a two year tentative contract agreement has now been reached. It was a hard fought battle on both sides but in the end, MCO, the State Union Coalition and the Office of the State Employer came to an agreement that recognizes the value of those on the front line and also helps Michigan citizens by facing up to the State's budget challenges.

In the next few days all MCO members will receive a letter from the union detailing most of the items in the agreement. A detailed summary is being prepared and will be sent to members in the next few weeks along with a voting ballot. All Chapter Presidents will receive a briefing at a meeting this Tuesday, November 1st. Statewide member meetings will occur over the next couple of weeks as well. Below is a review of the big issues dealt with:

Wages

- Oct. 2012: 1% base pay increase; in addition, a lump sum payment equating to 1% (not rolled into the base)
- Oct. 2013: a lump sum payment equating to 1% (not rolled into the base)

Insurances

- Health: Oct. 2012: 80/20 premium split – 85/15 HMO's. Keep current plan design (deductibles, etc.)
- Dental, Vision, Prescriptions: remain the same throughout life of agreement

Overtime

- Adds annual leave (like current sick leave) as time not worked when calculating overtime
- New call in procedure and equalization
- Language gained for the first time that will penalize the Employer for mistakes

New Solutions

- Creates a committee with goal of developing positive programs, helping government to work better for both its customers and its employees

Joint Healthcare Committee

- To be formed with mutual goal of finding savings

Twelve Hour Shifts

- MCO stopped. Retains current language requiring mutual agreement. MCO agrees to work with DOC to find joint solutions to increase operational efficiencies.

Comp Time

- Retained 150 hour cap, but no longer in the annual leave formula

As indicated in last week's KYI, the State and MCO agreed to new changes in layoff/recall language that better helps officers affected by prison closings. The State proposed taking away uniform allowance and shift differential, but MCO was successful in maintaining both. Other language changes in the contract will be detailed at meetings and with the contract summary mailed with your ballot.



4701 & 4702 RETIREMENT BILLS PASS COMMITTEE

This week, along straight party lines, HB 4701 and 4702 were passed out of the House Appropriations Committee. MCO strongly opposed the bills and spent a great deal of the summer lobbying legislators and urging members to contact their representatives directly.

Along with other groups, MCO was successful in changing the original version of the bill that would have replaced retiree health care coverage for those in the DC system with an actuarial lump-sum payment. Thursday's version gives DC folks the option of keeping the current DC- Retiree Health Care System of 3% a year up to 90 % or switching to a new 401k/457 employer match of 2%. ***This key victory was no small feat and everyone who took the time to make a phone call, write a letter or attend a meeting was crucial in getting this important change.***

The full house may vote next week and the bills will then go to the Senate. A full list of details and analysis of the bill is available on the MCO website or contact Jeremy Tripp at 517-485-3310.

STATE POSTS FSA POSITION OPENINGS

The state has posted job openings for FSA's at the Forensic Center. This is an internal posting on the state's NeoGov website. Certain MCO members within the Mound closing layoff region may wish to apply.

You must apply online by November 3, 2011. To qualify you must have completed 21 semester hours in certain college classes, not have any discipline for excessive use of force or a record of domestic violence.

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS SCHEDULED

Mound/Ryan - Monday, October 31, 11-4 p.m. VFW Hall

Thumb - Wednesday, November 2, 12-3 p.m., Visiting Room

Macomb - Thursday, November 3, 12-3 p.m., Training Room

West Shoreline/Brooks - Friday, Nov. 4, 12-4 p.m. Comfort Inn on Sherman Blvd.

The Detroit area meetings were already scheduled to talk about the closure. Now that there is a tentative contract we will be scheduling meetings around the state (like the one set up for West Shoreline/Brooks next Friday) in the coming weeks. Stay tuned for announcements of one in your area soon.

CRISIS FUND GUN RAFFLE WINNERS!

Our apologies for not printing this last week, but with bargaining and Impasse going on we got a little sidetracked!

Congratulations to all of our winners and BIG THANK YOU to everyone who purchased a raffle ticket. We were able to raise \$7,000+ for the Crisis Fund which means many more officers and their families can be helped in their time of need.

Kevin Grace

1st Prize: Smith & Wesson M&P-15 w/
Leopold Mark AR Scope

Tim Blain Sr.

2nd Prize: Remington BDL .270

Loraine Schmitt

3rd Prize: Remington SPS .30-06

John Hall

4th Prize: Remington SPS .270

Daniel Krawtz

5th Prize: Remington SPS 7mm

Rick Moon

6th Prize: Remington SPS .300 Win.

Dan Keiser

7th Prize: Browning BPS 12 GA

Tim Buis

8th Prize: Ten Point HLX w/Accudraw

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RETIREMENT BILLS PASS HOUSE

On Thursday, the Michigan House of Representatives passed Retirement Bills-4701 and 4702. These bills make major changes to the current retirement systems and set up a 3rd option in which all employees hired after January 1st, 2012, will no longer have guaranteed health care.

Other negatives of the bill include a 4% voluntary contribution to remain in the DB plan and an elimination of overtime in calculating FAC. DC members will have an option to remain in their current system or switch to the new 2% employer match. Once a decision is made it is irrevocable, therefore MCO is working with legislative policy staff to clarify questions on specific language. One highlight is the refund of the 3% contribution taken out since last year that has been held in escrow pending court proceedings. The bills now move to the Senate where they are expected to pass and could be voted on as early as next week.

4 CRITICALS AT GUS HARRISON ON OCT. 21ST

- A Level IV RTP inmate sexually assaulted a Nurse in Health Care.
- Level IV RTP inmate created a disturbance in the Chow Hall and while being escorted in restraints was combative and kicked staff.
- Level IV RTP inmate struck an officer in the head with his fist. Several officers responded to restrain the inmate.
- At the same time, other prisoners incite to riot in the activity room - one inmate shattering the room glass with his head - causing several more prisoners to rush to the area.

The unit was locked down and one officer was treated and released from the hospital for injuries related to the incident.

SHOTS FIRED AT MARQUETTE. LOCKED DOWN.

A fight broke out between two inmates on Thursday Oct. 27th when inmates were coming into the unit off of the morning yard. A third inmate jumped in, and then simultaneously another fight broke out between two more inmates. A warning shot was fired which stopped the fights, however the inmates still coming in from yard ignored orders to disperse during the incident. One officer was injured when the inmate he was cuffing swung and hit him in the face.

UPCOMING MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

- | | |
|--|--|
| 11.5 - Woodland 12-3 p.m. Training Room B | 11.10 - Kinross/Chippewa 12:30-4 p.m. |
| 11.6 - Ojibway 12:30-3 p.m. Training Room | Kinross Twp. Hall |
| 11.7 - Jackson 12-4 p.m. Avalon Hotel | 11.12 - Saginaw 12-4 p.m. Training Room |
| 11.7 - Baraga 1:30 - 4 p.m. Training Room | 11.14 - Carson City 1-4 p.m. St. Mary's |
| 11.8 - Ionia Area 12 - 4 p.m. Ionia Theatre | Church Hall |
| 11.8 - Marquette 1-4:30 p.m. Comfort Suites | 11.14 - Oaks 12:30-4 p.m. Training Room |
| 11.8 - Alger 8:30 - 11 p.m. Training Room | 11.15 - Gus Harrison 12-4 p.m. Adrian |
| 11.9 - St. Louis Area 12-4 p.m. Pine River Twp. Hall | Public Library |
| 11.9 - Newberry 12:30-3 p.m. Visiting Room | 11.15 - Pugsley 12:30-4 p.m. Training Room |
| 11.9 - SAI 12-3 p.m. Training Room | 11.16 - Lakeland 12-4 p.m. Comfort Inn |
| 11.10 - Forensic/WHV 12:30-4:30 p.m. | |
| CFP Auditorium | |

For an up to date list of dates/locations/times and printable flyers please visit www.mco-seiu.org and click on Events Calendar.

ALGER SHOTS FIRED.

SIREN SOUNDED. FACILITY LOCKED DOWN FOR DAYS.

A fight broke out at 0635 on Oct. 21st in front of food service during breakfast chow lines between three inmates.

Then at 0756 there was a fight on the big yard where three inmates jumped on an inmate from the 0635 fight that had been sent to Seg but released. This fight resulted in a shot being fired from 4 post. Four inmates were sent to Seg and one officer injured in responding.

At 1209 another fight jumped off, this time in the Commons, between 10 inmates. Officers who were pulling inmates out of the fight were then assaulted by those inmates trying to get back into the fight. Another warning shot was fired, this time from 5 post. A RUM and an officer were treated and released from the local hospital for their injuries.

Finally at 1216 the siren was sounded and facility placed on lockdown which lasted through Tuesday. But just an hour and a half after the lockdown was lifted an inmate assaulted an officer (punched him in the face when releasing the inmate from his cell) and the facility was shut down again until Wednesday.

There was another fight on Saturday with 6 inmates to Seg, but thankfully no officers injured this time.

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ATTENTION MEMBERS *Important Clarification*

The Retirement Bills HB 4701 and 4702 are not part of the contract. MCO does not bargain pensions or retiree health care as they are separate components handled through the legislature.

While both issues remain high on our agenda, they are in no way connected and your vote of "yes" or "no" on the contract will have absolutely zero effect on the outcome of these bills. MCO will continue its fight in the Senate but we hope this clears up any confusion moving forward.

CONTRACT BALLOTS TO BE MAILED NEXT WEEK

The Contract Review document (which outlines all proposed changes to the MCO Contract) and a ballot will be mailed to all eligible voting members next week. If you do not receive your ballot package by November 21st, please call MCO and we will send out another one to you immediately.

The ballots will be counted on December 2nd so it is imperative that you review the information and return your vote as soon as possible, allowing for slowed mail time over the Thanksgiving Holiday.

Detailed voting instructions are included. Please follow them or your vote will be invalidated.

NOTE: On page 1 of the Review Document it states correctly that this is a two year agreement, however the effective dates should read:

January 1, 2012-December 31, 2013.

MCO CONTRACT REVIEW

SEE VOTING INSTRUCTIONS ON PAGE 27

OFFICERS ASSAULTED AT WHV

A Level IV Segregation inmate violently assaulted staff on October 30, 2011.

The HIV+ inmate bit an officer in the arm, hit another officer in the head with a lock, and kicked a third officer in the knee.

OFFICERS INJURED IN FIGHT AT CARSON CITY

A four-on-one inmate fight broke out during Level IV chow lines on October 28th. Several staff responded and were able to contain the fight. However, one Sgt. sustained a possible broken thumb, one officer a knee injury, and another officer sustained a broken leg requiring emergency surgery.

DRUGS FOUND AT RYAN

An alert yard officer found several baseballs that had been thrown over the big yard fence. Close inspection revealed that they had been opened, filled with narcotics and then re-sewn... appearing innocuous. Good Eyes Guys!

UPCOMING MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

For an up to date list of dates/locations/times and printable flyers please visit www.mco-seiu.org and click on Events Calendar.

- 11.10 - Kinross/Chippewa 12:30-4 p.m. Kinross Twp. Hall
- 11.12 - Saginaw 12-4 p.m. Training Room
- 11.14 - Carson City 1-4 p.m. St. Mary's Church Hall
- 11.14 - Oaks 12:30-4 p.m. Training Room
- 11.15 - Gus Harrison 12-4 p.m. Adrian Public Library
- 11.15 - Pugsley 12:30-4 p.m. Training Room
- 11.16 - Lakeland 12-4 p.m. Comfort Inn

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KYI

KEEPING YOU INFORMED

NOVEMBER 18, 2011

CONTRACT BALLOTING UPDATE

The Contract Review document and ballots were mailed on Monday. If you do not receive your ballot package by November 21st, please call MCO and we will send out another one to you immediately.



We have subsequently discovered a couple of printing errors, only one of which concerns the proposed contract. A letter outlining the change is being sent to you today. In the event that you wish to change your vote (if you have already mailed it in), then you may request a new ballot.

As some of you have noticed, your name/facility code was erroneously printed on the "Ballot Enclosed" envelope instead of the "Business Reply" envelope. **If you have already mailed**

in your ballot with the provided envelopes, your vote is valid and you do not need to do anything. If you are concerned about the confidentiality of your vote simply copy your name/codes to your "Business Reply" envelope. Then you may either cross/cut out the information on your existing "Ballot Enclosed" envelope and continue to use it, use your own blank envelope, or get a new "Ballot Enclosed" envelope from your local chapter official. **Either way, your vote will be valid and counted as long as your name/facility code is on one of the envelopes you return.**

SHOTS FIRED AT ST. LOUIS

On Saturday, Nov. 12th, the tower officer called a fight on the big yard. He then saw inmates advancing on the officers who responded to the fight. The Tower officer and the PSV officer repeatedly ordered inmates over the PA system to "back away" but they continued to approach the incident and the officers trying to contain it. The fighting inmates resisted and the "observers" continued to close in, causing a warning shot to be fired. A 5" shank was later found on the yard. Two officers were treated for injuries.

Then on Sunday, the 13th, another fight broke out on the big yard. However, when staff responded they saw two other inmates chasing down and stabbing an inmate on a different part of the yard. When additional staff arrived to stop the stabbing a third inmate began running around as a distraction to prevent officers from stopping the attack. This was a well planned distraction fight and assault. The prisoner was hospitalized for serious stab wounds.

DRUGS DISCOVERED IN MAIL AT CENTRAL MI

When an inmate had been summoned to the control center to collect some legal mail, an alert officer discovered that several of the pages were stuck together. Turned out that the pages tested positive for brown heroin.

Excellent Catch!

INMATE GOES FOR WEAPON AT HOSPITAL

A prisoner from Woodland went after an officer's weapon while being seen at St. Joe's Hospital on November 14th. Thankfully the officer was able to turn the weapon towards the wall while he tried to use chemical agent and regain control. Other staff responded and subdued the prisoner.

OFFICER'S FAMILY THREATENED

On Nov. 7th a prisoner at Pugsley, suspected of being intoxicated, resisted escort out of the unit and scratched the face of an officer. He continued by threatening to have the officer's family killed.

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

sc:opeiu459aflcio



LEGISLATURE BUSY BEFORE HOLIDAY BREAK

Yesterday over 100 state employees and union leaders packed a Senate Hearing on HB 5002 to change Workers Compensation. The bill would reduce workers compensation by an amount the insurance company thinks you could earn at another job... regardless of whether you could actually get one in this job market.

MCO Executive Director Mel Grieshaber testified late yesterday at the Senate hearing on HB 4701/4702 (retirement bills). While significantly improved from the original version introduced in the House, the version before the Senate is still bad news for state employees. MCO continues to argue against the bills, and specifically the portion that eliminates OT from your retirement calculation. Officers are routinely mandated to work OT and they would be unduly harmed under these bills. If these bills pass, then the 3% levy for retiree healthcare currently before the State Supreme Court would cease (and be returned) and instead a 4% levy would be initiated to stay in the DB plan.

CHEMICAL AGENTS USED TWICE IN A WEEK AT AMF

A yard fight on Nov. 2nd between two inmates turned dangerous when other inmates on the yard attempted to keep officers from breaking it up. Since there are no longer gun towers at Baraga they utilized chemical agents.

On Nov. 3rd a fight broke out during Unit 4 breakfast chow lines between two inmates. Staff immediately stepped in and broke it up, but this is a unit that was just flipped from a Seg unit to a GP unit.

Five days later another fight broke out during breakfast chow lines, this time between four inmates. Chemical agents were again necessary.

When the Gun Towers were closed at Baraga MCO worked with the Department to get the chemical weapons as a management tool. It has proven a wise course as these incidents would likely have escalated without their use.

YOUTH FIGHTING AT THUMB...AGAIN

A large fight broke out on Nov. 15th on the unit and the entire youthful offender (YO) population was put on lock-down for two days.

On the 19th there were two prisoner assaults and an assault on staff. The officer was treated and released from the ER for his injuries.

Another large fight occurred on the youth yard on the 20th and while locking down from that incident there was another assault. The YO were again locked down, Segregation has been full and now several are on Non-bond Top Lock.

BALLOT COUNT DEC. 2ND!

The Contract Ratification vote count will be December 2, 2011. Please be sure to review the documents sent to you with your ballot and mail your vote in time to be received by the 2nd.

If you have not yet received your ballot, please contact MCO by Nov. 28th and we will overnight one to you.

17" SHANK AT CENTRAL MI

During a routine shakedown on November 12th, an officer found a 17" stainless steel weapon hidden under the ledge of a desk at an empty bunk.

Central MI continues to find tattooing materials and has had more incidents lately of inmates being caught in a different unit.

STABBING AT MBP

A four inmate fight broke out in the kitchen in chow lines with one prisoner being stabbed in the head with a 6" shank. Two weapons recovered. No staff injuries.

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BULLETIN

KEEPING YOU INFORMED

DECEMBER 2, 2011

CONTRACT RATIFICATION VOTE

50% OF THE MEMBERSHIP VOTED (6973 BALLOTS MAILED). THE CONTRACT RATIFICATION PASSED WITH 68% OF THE VOTE.

Facility	Yes Vote	No Vote	Disqualified	Vote Total
Alger	26	35	4	65
Baraga	35	91		126
Bellamy Creek	93	19		112
Brooks	80	17	1	98
Carson City	92	81	1	174
Central MI	114	50	2	166
Chippewa	93	73	1	167
Cooper Street	62	15		77
Cotton	94	38	2	134
Egeler	112	25		137
FOA	22	4	1	27
Forensic	80	5	1	86
Gus Harrison	95	40		135
Handlon MTU	100	13		113
Huron Valley Womens	78	26		104
I-Max	56	29	1	86
Kinross	64	41		105
Lakeland	77	22		99
Macomb	69	26		95
Marquette	30	99	2	131
MI Reformatory	81	15		96
Mound	56	29		85
Newberry	43	37	2	82
Oaks	100	19		119
Ojibway	42	40		82
Parnall	56	23		79
Pugsley	54	29	1	84
Ryan	70	20		90
Saginaw	118	28		146
SAI Bootcamp	20	1		21
St. Louis	79	43	2	124
Thumb	83	17		100
West Shoreline	65	14		79
Woodland	47	22		69
No identify codes			91	91
Totals	2386	1086	112	3584



RETIREMENT BILLS...SENATE...HOUSE...SENATE?

On Wednesday, MCO again spent the afternoon lobbying key Senators charged with making final changes to HB 4701 and 4702 (Retirement Bills). In the end, the Senate allowed overtime to be counted BUT decided to change the final average compensation (FAC) period from 3 years to 6 years. The bills were passed on votes of 23-13 apiece. Three Republicans joined Democrats in opposing the bills: Sen. Tom Casperson of Escanaba, Sen. Rick Jones of Grand Ledge and Sen. Mike Nofs of Battle Creek.

Although the inclusion of overtime credit was a victory for State Employees, the Senate was dead set on eliminating overtime spiking. MCO was opposed to any FAC increase, however, the 6 year FAC is substantially less than the 7-10 year plan they originally entertained. The Senate and House have agreed on the option for current DCs to continue to accrue retiree health care coverage.

The bills were sent back to the House last night and further amendments were made late this afternoon. The House passed the changes 62 to 46... sending it back once again to the Senate. It appears they won't be taken up again until the Senate reconvenes next Tuesday.

TEACHER ASSAULTED

A teacher at Baraga pulled her PPD on Nov. 22, when an inmate in her class became assaultive and threw his books at her. The teacher fled down the hall and the inmate pursued, pushed her into an open inmate bathroom and proceeded to kick her in the head.

Officers responded quickly and pulled the inmate off of the teacher, however the inmate then turned his aggressions on them.. and chemical agents were used. The teacher and one officer were treated at the hospital.

PUGSLEY STABBING

An inmate was found in the bathroom bleeding from four puncture wounds on Nov. 18th. On the same day a PPD went off when an inmate shanked another. Two officers treated for injuries.

STAFF AT FORENSIC TAKING HITS

There have been several incidents of assault on staff lately at the Forensic Center. On Nov. 12th a patient started throwing items in the cafeteria and became violent. Two FSA's were treated at the hospital for a possible concussion and punches to the face.

On the 13th a male patient groped a female FSA. Also that weekend a female patient became assaultive and an FSA broke her wrist in two places in the scuffle that ensued when she tried to redirect the patient. This same patient later assaulted another FSA in the face a week later.

DOC CONFIRMS RUOs TARGETED

Citing budget shortfalls as well as future budget challenges, MCO was informed Wednesday the Department is moving forward with the intent to eliminate the RUO Classification.

Although Classifications are a prohibited subject of bargaining, MCO is strongly arguing the RUO class is needed. The Department has indicated a final decision has not yet been made on whether it will advocate to the Civil Service Commission on freezing (redcircling) the pay of current RUOs.

DRF CHOW LINE FIGHT

Multiple prisoner fight on Nov. 22, during lunch lines sent 8 inmates to Seg. Four officers were treated for blood exposure and one treated for a thumb injury.



CONTRACT RATIFIED

With 50% of the membership voting, the 2012-2013 contract was ratified by 68%. The contract must now be approved by the Civil Service Commission which is currently scheduled to meet December 14th. Once approved, it will be printed and provided to each member.

As proofing/printing can take several months, an electronic version of the contract will be available on our web site soon.



BULLETIN

KEEPING YOU INFORMED

DECEMBER 13, 2011

RETIREMENT BILLS PASS AWAIT GOVERNOR'S SIGNATURE

Today the House and Senate agreed and passed HB 4701 and 4702 mostly along party lines. Due to the complex and important nature of this legislation, MCO continues to work with lawmakers and policy staff at determining the exact effect on members. At this point, ***our understanding from the Senate and from reviewing the Bills is that these changes will not impact members as negatively as originally thought.***

For Defined Benefit Members: One major development is the **continued inclusion of overtime** towards the calculation of your final average compensation (FAC). As you recall, all OT was originally on the chopping block. There will be a new procedure, however, for how overtime is counted for those OT hours worked after Jan. 1, 2012.

When you retire, they will look back to your OT for the previous six years and average it. This new "average OT" amount will then be added to your base pay for those six years to arrive at your "compensation" for each of those six years. (Note: this will only be used to calculate your compensation for Jan. 2012 and beyond, they will not go back and average any "compensation" amounts you've earned prior to Jan. 2012.) Then, the state will look back over your career and use the best three consecutive years, whether they occurred prior to or after 2012. That being said, please keep in mind that the Office of Retirement Services is the pension administrator and final authority on the interpretation of these bills.

Defined Benefit members will have a window period between January 1, 2012, and March 2, 2012, to make a decision about whether to stay in the DB plan and contribute 4% of your pay, or to freeze your time and benefits and move to the Defined Contribution plan.

In addition, the State Employee Union Coalition is currently discussing the possibility of any legal challenges to the 4% "voluntary" contribution.

For Defined Contribution Members: You will have a choice to either stay in the current plan for your retiree health care (i.e. 30% of your premium paid with 10 years of service and an additional 3% for each year of service thereafter up to a maximum of 90%), or to "monetize" your retiree health care. If you choose to "monetize" the state will determine the value of your "earned retiree health care" up to this point and place those funds into a Health Care Retirement Account (401k/457 type account). You would then be automatically enrolled to contribute 2% of your salary into this health care account and the state will match up to 2%.

With the passage of these bills, the state will return the 3% that has been taken out since November 2010. The bills state that the money will be refunded on or before April 1, 2012, with interest.

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SUPREME COURT DECLINES TO HEAR APPEAL

3% TO BE REFUNDED

With the passage of HB 4701 and the Michigan Supreme Court's refusal to hear the State's appeal, the lower court ruling in the lawsuit brought by state employee unions that the 3% grab was unconstitutional stands.

The deduction from your paycheck will stop immediately with the Dec. 22nd payroll and active state employees will receive a refund in their January 19, 2012, checks. ***Employees may also elect to have their refund deposited into their 401k/457 plan, however in order to do so you must contact ING at (800) 748-6128 by 4 p.m. January 5, 2012.***

If you had deductions taken from your paycheck but are not currently an active state employee your refund will be issued by mail on February 2, 2012. You should verify your correct address with MI HR no later than January 20, 2012, at (877) 766-6447.

Since these funds were deducted pre-tax, your refund will be taxed and reported as wages on your W-2. If you elect to have it deposited into your 401k/457 your federal, state and city taxes will be deferred.

If you are an active employee you may sign in to MI HR to estimate the amount of your refund and to change your W-2 exemptions for that pay period if you are concerned about it bumping you into a higher tax bracket.

The Healthcare Trust Fund earned 0.25% interest which was compounded and will be paid out prorated to the portion you paid into the fund.

A FAQ put together by the state is available on MCO's website for more detailed information/answers.

ANNUAL LEAVE USE WILL NOT AFFECT OT DURING UPCOMING HOLIDAYS



MCO has confirmed with the OSE today that the effective date that annual leave will affect your overtime pay per the new contract will start with the pay period beginning January 9, 2012. Thus, any leave used over the upcoming holidays will be treated as it has been in the past.

RETIREMENT BILLS SIGNED BY GOVERNOR

With the passage of the retirement bills the questions continue to flow in about how the new OT calculations will occur. Stated simply, your FAC is ***still*** your highest consecutive 3 years.

The difference is that before they look for your FAC, they will average the amount of your **OT only** for the last 6 years of your career. So, suppose you work \$2,000, \$2,000, \$2,000, \$7,000, \$10,000 and \$10,000 of OT your last six years. This is $\$33,000/6 = \$5,500$ average OT. So if your base pay was 50k each of those last years, your compensation for each of those last six years is \$55,500, rather than 52, 52, 52, 57, 60, and 60. Then they look for your highest consecutive 3, no matter where they fall in your career.

They will not, however, go back and change any compensation amounts prior to 2012. This means that, using the example above, if you were going to retire in 2014 they would still go back to 2009 and average all six years of OT, however that \$5,500 average OT number would only be used to determine your compensation for 2012, 2013 and 2014. Thus your last six years would look like this: 52, 52, 52, 55.5, 55.5, 55.5.

We are still talking to legislators and the ORS to get answers to unique questions, however now that the bills have passed, the ORS will be able to answer your questions too.



A 13" SHANK TENDS TO MAKE YOU WALK FUNNY

On December 8th, an RUO at the Brooks Correctional Facility astutely noticed an inmate walking with an abnormal gait and asked that he be strip searched. Officers found a 13" shank down the inside of the inmate's right leg.

Because RUO's are assigned routinely to housing units, they get to know the individual inmates, their behaviors, their quirks. This RUO recognized that the gait of this inmate was different than normal and for this a deadly weapon was removed from the institution. With the RUO Classification under the threat of elimination, these type of "catches" might not be noticed by an officer who hasn't "lived" in the housing unit with the inmates day in and day out.

CIVIL SERVICE APPROVES CONTRACT

The Civil Service Commission met on December 15th and approved (with no changes) the tentative agreements for nearly 35,000 state employees, including MCO.

A copy of the new contract (in the tentative agreement form) is available on our website for your reference. We will mail out the final version to each member when it is ready.

OFFICERS ASSAULTED OVER TICKET

An inmate at Cotton punched an officer in the face yesterday for writing him a ticket. Another officer responded and they were able to restrain the inmate, however both officers were treated at the hospital for minor injuries.

3 INCIDENTS AT ST. LOUIS ON DECEMBER 20TH

The first assault was during 2nd shift chow lines. An inmate assaulted an officer while being shaken down coming out of chow. Three officers were injured in taking down this inmate. Two were sent to the hospital with one treated for a leg injury and the other was knocked out and suffered a concussion. The inmate in question had 39 misconducts in the last 2 years with 5 prior assaults on staff.

Another officer was assaulted later in the housing unit, also during a shakedown. No staff injured.

Later there was an inmate on inmate assault in H/U 6.

REMINDER ON OT

As noted last week, annual leave use will not affect your OT until the pay period beginning Jan. 8, 2012.

After that time, only sick and annual will affect OT, birthday and other types of leave will NOT affect OT calculations.

GUS RUO's PLAY KEY ROLE IN YARD INCIDENT

On Dec. 4th, housing unit staff were alerted when inmates were seen running past the unit on the outside walk. Staff observed through the window an inmate down with another kneeling over him making a stabbing motion and called a fight over the radio.

RUO's from several neighboring housing units were quick to respond and also stopped prisoners who were trying to exit the scene, including the inmate who was severely cut. The inmate was sent out immediately via ambulance, and ultimately 5 inmates were sent to Segregation charged with assault.

Shift command acknowledged the excellent handling of the incident, citing the quick response by the RUO's as likely preventing a murder.

A WIN FOR 32 CTO's

MCO's Arbitration win and a subsequent win on the CTO 10 hour day ULP resulted in 32 CTO's being paid out a total of \$118,539 in award money.

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