



GOV. RECOMMENDS JCF CHANGES IN FY 2015 BUDGET

Gov. Rick Snyder gave his 2015 FY budget recommendations this week.

He is recommending \$1.9 billion from the general fund for the Department of Corrections. The governor plans to increase spending for re-entry and community programs.

His recommendations include refurbishing the Cotton Correctional Facility to accommodate the growing number of elderly inmates and prisoners who require a high level of medical care. JCF is a good location because it's close to Duane Waters Health Center and secure hospital units, his budget recommenda-

tion says. The refurbishment is just a recommendation at this point. Nothing has been decided. The legislature will weigh in on the budget with hearings starting next week. The governor and legislature usually work on a budget for several months.

Also concerning the budget, Sen. John Proos, chair of the Senate Appropriations Corrections Subcommittee, wants to again push the DOC to get bids for privatizing a prison, MIRS news reported. There is no formal bid request at this time.

We'll keep you posted.

LOU REACHED ON CTO OT

MCO, OSE and MDOC have agreed on an LOU that addresses CTO overtime equalization, but it isn't in effect yet. The letter is being sent to the Civil Service Commission. The letter still needs interim approval by the state personnel director, which we expect to happen soon.

A copy of the letter is posted at mco-seiu.org.

AROUND THE STATE: BUSY TIMES AT CHIPPEWA; SHANKS AT STF, IBC

A URF inmate fought back Wednesday when a CO tried to take a shank from him.

An officer was searching an inmate when he felt a shank in the prisoner's boot. It was a 7.5 in piece of sharpened plexiglass. The convict bent over and grabbed the officer's hand when the CO took the weapon. He tried to pry the shank out of the officer's hands. The inmate gave up when another officer arrived and drew his Taser.

Also Wednesday, a level II inmate punched a housing unit ARUS in the head. He was knocked down but wasn't seriously injured.

Other recent events at URF:

2/1/14 – Level II inmate in possession of a weapon made from knee brace metal.

2/2/14 – Level II inmate placed

in seg for threatening behavior on an officer.

2/3/14 – Two level II inmates placed in seg for fighting.

2/4/14 – Level IV inmate found in possession of shank.

Level II inmate placed in seg for threatening behavior on staff.

Two level II inmates found in possession of metal bunk straps that could be made into shanks.

Two level II inmates sent to seg for fighting.

2/5/14 – Homemade cuff key found in inmate's possession during shakedown.

Feb. 5 at STF. It was held in place behind the JPay machine with a magnet.

These weapons were found recently at IBC.

The shank at was found Jan. 31. Officers think it was made from melted bags.

The blue weapon was the end cap of a bookshelf in the library.

Watch your back, watch your partner's back and stay safe.



The shank below was found

