



ARAMARK UPDATE: DRUGS SMUGGLED INTO JCF; MCSC NOT THRILLED

An Aramark worker smuggled two large bags of marijuana into the Cotton Correctional Facility Wednesday, the same day MCO and others urged the Civil Service Commission to reject the Aramark contract.

The Detroit Free Press quoted a Michigan State Police lieutenant as saying the 19-year-old food service worker “succumbed to some pressure from the inmates.” The number of Aramark workers placed on stop order is ap-

proaching 40 – roughly 10 for every month of the contract.

Here are a few of the Aramark incidents MCO was informed of this week:

- A food service employee at Lake-land was escorted off the grounds after she was found with a love letter to an inmate.
- An Aramark worker at Gus Harrison didn’t record and couldn’t remember which inmate was issued a dough cutter. The emergency response team

combed the entire prison today, but the tool has not been found.

- Also at ARF, drink flavoring packets, onions and more than 35 pounds of ground beef were found in the restroom used by inmate food service workers.

The Civil Service Commission seemed unsettled by all the complaints about Aramark. To read more about Wednesday’s MCSC hearing, go to mco-seiu.org.

AROUND THE STATE: OFFICERS AT JCS AND LRF HURT; GANG FIGHTS AT LMF

A Cooper Street officer’s ankle was broken during a fight with a Level I inmate in the A unit last week.

The officer was walking the prisoner back to his bunk and noticed he had a TV. The convict was on a loss-of-privilege order, so the officer confiscated the TV.

The inmate came to the officer station to take his TV, but the CO got in his way. The prisoner rammed him into the desk, and they both fell to the floor. Officers responded.

The injured CO will undergo ankle surgery Monday, officers say.

Alger has seen a wave of gang-related brawls over the past week.

Six inmates fought March 15 in front of a housing unit during dinner chow lines. An officer in a gun tower fired a warning shot and three Tasers were deployed to break up the melee. No serious injuries were reported.

Two more fights broke out Sun-

day and Monday during chow lines. Wednesday there was a scuffle on the day shift small yard. A total of 10 inmates were sent to segregation as a result of these fights.

The altercations appear to have been between the Bloods and the Gangster Disciples, officers say.

A Brooks inmate threw a hot, sticky liquid on an officer’s face and neck Tuesday.

The CO went to a hospital for burns. Further details on his injuries weren’t available.

The liquid had been heated in a microwave. After the inmate threw it in the officer’s face, he ran out of his unit and went to a meeting spot behind another unit, where another prisoner was waiting with a change of clothes. Yard staff and tower officers caught them.

The inmate who threw the liquid was shipped out, while the accomplice is in seg at LRF.

MCO FIGHTS RETALIATION

An MCO chapter official at Gus Harrison has been retaliated against for his efforts to defend a member placed on stop order, MCO’s attorneys allege in an Unfair Labor Practice filing.

The ULP accuses a captain and higher ups at the facility and in the Department administration of one count of retaliation and one count of interference and restraint.

“It is an unfair labor practice for the Employer to interfere with, restrain, coerce, discriminate against, or retaliate against employees in the exercise of rights granted by (Civil Service rules),” the ULP states.

WINTER MCO REPORT ONLINE

The Winter MCO Report is available now at mco-seiu.org/publications/mco-report.

This issue has articles on bargaining, MCO’s involvement in a U.S. Supreme Court case that could affect all public employee union members, and one officer’s efforts to recognize a CO’s forgotten sacrifice.

