



LETTER OF AGREEMENT LETS COs AT SOME FACILITIES GET MORE OVERTIME

MCO and MDOC have signed a Letter of Agreement allowing officers at certain facilities to work up to 160 hours during a pay period.

The LOA amends Art. 17, Sec. F of

the contract, which states only 120 hours may be worked in a two-week pay period.

MCO tried to get the Department to let COs at any facility work up to 160 hours, but MDOC would only agree to

modifying hours at 17 prisons hardest hit by staffing shortages. Other facilities will be added as needed.

For a list of the facilities and a copy of the LOA, go to mco-seiu.org.

AROUND THE STATE: MORE LIGHT SHINED ON ARAMARK; CENTRAL MICHIGAN ARUS ASSAULTED

MDOC Director Dan Heyns feared losing control of a prison under Aramark service, according to emails he sent in March that were obtained by Progress Michigan and the Detroit Free Press.

The email exchange between Heyns and Dennis Muchmore, Gov. Snyder's chief of staff, was partially redacted. So much for the "utmost transparency" the governor's office said was in everyone's best interests!

Also revealed this week – the Department canceled the \$98,000 Aramark fine imposed earlier this year, and a controversial former director of Florida and Indiana corrections is the new Aramark contract monitor.

Read more details in news reports available at mco-seiu.org.

A Level I inmate attacked an ARUS this morning at STF.

Details were limited, but an officer said he knew they wrestled to the ground. The officer said the ARUS shot his pepper spray, and a CO – the only other employee in Housing Unit G with 160 inmates at the time – intervened to help subdue the prisoner.

The ARUS was taken to a hospital by ambulance.

The prisoner was scheduled for discharge in 10 days, the officer said.

"Video cameras do not replace staff. The prisoner knew there was videotaping in there and that didn't stop him one bit," the CO told MCO.

Brooks officers report finding several cell phones and shanks recently.

Here are some recent events from LRF:

9/6 – An inmate kicked and punched an officer who tried to shake him down. The officer approached him because he seemed to be

intoxicated. An officer who intervened was also assaulted. Both COs suffered minor injuries.

9/9 – Four pouches of marijuana were found in a pair of socks in an inmate's locker.

9/10 – Drugs and a lighter were found on two inmates on the yard. They were shaken down after an officer noticed them in a corner off to the side of the yard.

9/11 – Officers intervened in an inmate-on-inmate assault before serious injuries were sustained. It happened in the Level II Conklin Unit. The fight was possibly gang related.

9/11 – During routine rounds, an officer found an inmate sharpening a shank. Four shanks and a tattoo gun were found

in his cell.

Saginaw had three serious stabbings in 10 days.

The first occurred on Labor Day. A prisoner stabbed another inmate in the chest while they were walking back from the yard. The injured prisoner was taken to a hospital by ambulance and was rushed into emergency surgery. Two units were locked down after the assault.

On Monday this week, another inmate was stabbed. A 6-in. shank whittled from locker metal was found in the pool table in the Level II 700 Unit. The prisoner was stabbed in the upper back and slashed on the back of the neck. The convict was taken to a hospital by ambulance.

Then on Wednesday, another prisoner was attacked in the 700 Unit day-room. He was treated at the prison. The assaults are under investigation. There were at least two other inmate fights this week and three weapons found.

Also at Saginaw, Officer Chris Westphal removed an obstruction from a choking prisoner's throat during chow on Wednesday. Good job, Officer Westphal!

And last week, officers found some unusual contraband. Bags of fresh peppers, dried peppers and jars of pepper juice were found in six cells Sept. 4. All peppers were removed from the inmate garden due to concerns prisoners were trying to make pepper spray.

SMT SUPPORTS CRISIS FUND

Parnall Correctional Facility raised \$1,329.70 for the MCO Crisis Fund at a BBQ Aug. 29.

Thank you Parnall officers and staff! Your support will help many officers facing tragedy.