



# BULLETIN

OCT. 20, 2014

## **SAGINAW OFFICER FORTUNATE TO BE ALIVE AFTER ATTACK** *SRF CHAPTER PLANS INFORMATIONAL PICKET ON STAFFING*

**A Saginaw inmate beat and stabbed an officer Friday with two locks in a sock and a homemade shank.**

Kevin Ott was stabbed in a lung three times. Ott suffered a fractured skull and a blood clot on his brain after being hit in the head with the locks in a sock about seven times. He also has a collapsed lung, but he is expected to make a full recovery. He remains in a hospital and could be released from the intensive care unit today or tomorrow. Please keep Ott in your thoughts and prayers.

The assault happened in 700 unit, a Level II, at about 3 p.m. Friday. Ott was packing up an inmate for transfer to a Level IV housing unit when the prisoner viciously attacked him. Ott couldn't reach his Taser. Officer Paul Stine heard Ott's clipboard drop and responded to the scene.

**Officers Stine and Ott were the only officers in 700 unit packed with 240 inmates.** The unit is becoming increasingly violent. Last night, a prisoner had to be taken to a hospital after he was stabbed in the throat.

This surge in violence is coupled with reduced staffing. In 2012, former Warden Lloyd Rapelje cut staffing levels. MCO chapter officials wrote letters to the warden and members voiced their concern at several labor management meetings. MCO wrote formal letters in July and August of 2012. Nothing was done. Earlier this year, Rapelje was promoted to assistant deputy director for the northern regional office based in Kinross.

**Now the Saginaw chapter is taking their message to the public with an informational picket near the prison Thursday.**

**WHAT:** Informational picket on reduced staffing and officer assaults at Saginaw Correctional Facility.

**WHERE:** Corner of Pierce Road and Highway 47 (Midland Road) near the prison in Freeland, MI.

**WHEN:** 1 p.m. – 3 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 23.

**WHO:** All corrections officers and community members.

**Please join us in spreading community awareness and pressuring the Saginaw prison administration to increase staffing levels. Remember, we're stronger together.**

MICHIGAN CORRECTIONS  
ORGANIZATION  
SEIU LOCAL 526M  
421 W. KALAMAZOO  
LANSING, MI 48933  
517.485.3319  
800.451.4878  
WWW.MCO-SEIU.ORG  
MAIL@MCO-SEIU.ORG