



## SNYDER ANNOUNCES PLAN TO MERGE DHS, DCH IN STATE OF STATE ADDRESS

In his state of the state address Tuesday, Gov. Rick Snyder proposed combining the Department of Community Health and the Department of Human Services. The resulting department would be the state's largest, followed by corrections.

Merging the departments would streamline the delivery of services to

clients and address the cause of their issues, Snyder and other officials said in media reports.

MCO is trying to ascertain what, if any, impact a merger could have on FSAs.

Also of note was Snyder's plug for the road funding ballot initiative. Voters will be asked May 5 to in-

crease the state sales tax to fix roads and support education, mass transit and local governments.

Snyder hardly mentioned this year's \$325 million budget deficit revealed last week. Business tax credits created the shortfall. 2016 budget work starts next month and additional shortfalls are expected.

## AROUND THE STATE: SEVERAL BRAWLS, WARNING SHOTS AT MR; GANG FIGHTS AT MBP

**A rash of fights at Michigan Reformatory has kept officers busy.** Notable events:

1/12 – Nine inmates sent to segregation after three separate altercations. Shots fired from post during afternoon fights. Facility was locked down. Three officers were sent to hospitals after intervening in fights. All of them have returned to work.

1/13 – Five prisoners to seg for weapons and assaults.

1/14 – One prisoner to seg for possession of a weapon.

1/17 – Nine inmates to seg. Four separate fights. Facility placed on lock down.

1/18 – Two-on-one prisoner assault. Another inmate was stabbed and taken to a hospital for treatment.

1/19 – Five prisoners to seg after a two assaults.

1/20 – Eleven inmates to segregation for assault, weapons and threatening behavior.

The prison went back to normal operations today.

**Marquette officers had to use Tasers and gas to break up a fight Jan. 16 between two Level 5 inmates.** Officers think the fight was gang-related.

About an hour later, a two-on-one fight broke out. Tasers and gas were used to break up the altercation, which was related to the earlier fight. A warning shot was fired.

**Correction:** The Jan. 16 KYI story about the Oaks contained an error. The correct information is that on Jan. 2, 384 out of 740 general population (levels II and IV) inmates ate.

## FEB. 28 FUNDRAISER WILL BENEFIT IBC OFFICER

MCO members, please come to a special event to benefit a brother who is struggling with an undiagnosed medical condition.

**WHAT:** A dinner, cash bar, raffles and auctions to support Stephen Miller, a former MCO member and chapter official at Bellamy Creek.

**WHEN:** 5:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 28

**WHERE:** Sts. Peter and Paul School gym, 1433 Hamilton NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49504

The cost of admission is a donation. There will also be a cash bar, raffles and auctions at the event. Money raised will go toward medical testing and treatment for Miller.

Miller was an IBC officer for more than 10 years and had served as the MCO chapter secretary and vice president. He is now on a waived rights medical leave.

Get more details and read more about Miller in a flyer available at [mco-seiu.org](http://mco-seiu.org).

### MDOC BRINGS BACK STATE-RUN, PAID ACADEMIES

Earlier today, MCO issued a bulletin on the Department's decision to return to the centralized training academy. This is excellent news!

Read the bulletin at [mco-seiu.org/publications/kyi](http://mco-seiu.org/publications/kyi).