



MCO STILL WORKING TO GET THOSE WHO PAID FOR TRAINING REIMBURSED

Since the MDOC announced the return of paid academies a week ago, MCO has received several inquiries about whether those who financed their training will be reimbursed.

This decision is ultimately up to the MDOC administration. MCO has asked them repeatedly, as every new

development in this failed experiment came to light, to compensate those who funded their own training.

While MCO is pleased with the state-run academies' return, we know the switch to the colleges, then switch back, has been confusing and frustrating for many. We will contin-

ue to ask the Department to "make things right" by their employees and reimburse those officers who paid. MCO is also talking to legislators about this issue. The state budget process starts in early February.

We will keep you posted on any updates.

AROUND THE STATE: MURDERER ATTEMPTS TO ESCAPE JCF; CRITICALS SPIKE AT LRF

An inmate serving a life sentence for murder attempted to escape from Cotton Thursday.

An alarm sounded at about 6:30 p.m. in the sally port area. Officers immediately responded and found a prisoner climbing the inner-side of the sally port outer fence. He complied when staff ordered him to get down. He had scaled the first fence by covering the razor wire at the top with a wool blanket and then sliding down torn sheets. Officers took an emergency count and all inmates were accounted for.

The prisoner had minor injuries. No staff injuries were reported.

The convict had just arrived at

Cotton Jan. 23. He is now in segregation.

Good job to the staff who quickly thwarted this escape attempt!

There were several fights Jan. 24 at Brooks, and two inmates were stabbed.

The assaults happened when Dublin unit, a Level IV, was open for yard time. The unit was locked down after the fights.

Criticals have been through the roof this month, an LRF officer said. About a week ago, an inmate tried to slash another prisoner while on the yard. The "victim" turned around and punched the attacker.

And about two weeks ago, a Level II inmate had a drug overdose while on the yard. An officer said the prisoner had consumed uncut heroin. He was taken by ambulance to a hospital, and he survived.

Top MDOC administrators made surprise visits to the facility this week.

Aramark contract monitor Ed Buss has left the job after less than five months, according to media reports.

Scant details were provided about his departure. Officials wouldn't say if he was fired.

MDOC is looking for a new contract monitor.

MOUNT CLEMENS HOCKEY MATCH SUPPORTS OFFICER HAMMOND'S KIDS

A special hockey game Saturday will benefit the children of Clarence Hammond III, the MRF officer killed outside his home three years ago.

The MDOC Black Knights and a Detroit police officers' team will face off at 7:30 p.m. tomorrow at the Mount Clemens Ice Arena at 200 North Groesbeck. Tickets are \$10, and kids 12 and under are free.

There will also be a 50/50 raffle and Score-O (a game in which a player shoots a puck into a modified net) for the chance to win \$500.

This is the second annual hockey game to support Hammond's kids. Money raised will go to their college savings accounts.

Hammond's murder remains unsolved. MCO is working with Crime

Stoppers and has offered a \$5,000 reward for information leading to an arrest in Hammond's death. MCO has also donated \$10,000 to his children's college fund.

MCO will never forget this tragedy. We are still hopeful his killer will be apprehended.

For more info about tomorrow's hockey game, contact Macomb Sgt. Warner at warnerj3@michigan.gov.