



## MCO, MDOC COME TOGETHER FOR THE EMPLOYEE AWARDS BANQUET MAY 3

MCO will officially take part in Corrections Officer of the Year selection and the annual banquet in May.

The list of facility officers of the year will be narrowed to five finalists later this month, and the Officer of the Year will be selected Feb. 8.

The Employee Awards Banquet will be May 3 at the Kellogg Center at Michi-

gan State University.

In addition to the Corrections Officer of the Year, a Parole or Probation Agent of the Year will be recognized at the banquet. Other awards include the Director's Award and Professional Excellence Awards.

The MCO Executive Board decided to once again join MDOC in these spe-

cial events that honor exemplary corrections staff. It's just one step MCO and MDOC have taken to build trust and cooperation. We won't agree on everything, but we should work together when we can to improve the lives of corrections officers.

MCO leaders and staff are excited to be part of this event once again.

## MCO AIMS TO EDUCATE MEMBERS MORE ON STATE, NATIONAL CORRECTIONS TOPICS

MCO is working to better educate members on national corrections trends and provide deeper context for issues important to our members.

A heightened level of professionalism is expected in our increasing complex jobs, and we know officers are being told to do more with less. Whether we like it or not, technologies like cameras and Tasers are now integral to our workplace. That's why it's important we all stay up to speed on corrections news in our state and around the country.

Here are a few steps we're taking now:

- The MCO website has a new feature: a live feed of top stories from CorrectionsOne.com. Find it at the bottom

right of the home page, [mco-seiu.org](http://mco-seiu.org).

- MCO has been in contact with CorrectionsOne, and we plan to republish some of their great content on our website. (See "It's 'correctional officer,' not 'prison guard'" on the MCO website now.)

- We're introducing a new type of publication called the MCO In-Depth. The MCO In-Depth is for MCO or MDOC programs and topics that leaders and staff feel require thorough analysis or background. Staff will prepare and email the MCO In-Depth to our email subscribers. The In-Depth won't be published at set intervals, but whenever it's needed.

You've probably noticed two In-

Depths already – one last week on MDOC's protocol for obtaining the CPL exemption; and one Wednesday on MCO's new dignity campaign.

We also plan to archive In-Depths on the website.

If you would like to sign up to get MCO emails, please go to [mco-seiu.org](http://mco-seiu.org) and click "Sign Up for Email Alerts" on the right. MCO staff is trying to compile a more complete list of home email addresses. Please sign up with your home (not Michigan.gov) email address.

We want to hear from you. What are your favorite sources of corrections news? What type of information do you want to get from MCO? Email [mail@mco-seiu.org](mailto:mail@mco-seiu.org) with your thoughts.

## MCO INITIATES ACTION TO PROTECT CORRECTION OFFICER DIGNITY IN THE WORKPLACE

Did you hear about MCO's dignity campaign?

We're raising awareness of crimes occurring inside the prisons, specifically sexual deviant behavior and dressing out of officers by inmates.

This initiative was sparked during

our 2015 member outreach program and after studying both Bargaining and State of Michigan Survey results.

Get more details at [mco-seiu.org](http://mco-seiu.org).

If you have ever been dressed out or have been the target of sexual misconduct by an inmate, MCO cares and

would like to hear your story. Please email [anita@mco-seiu.org](mailto:anita@mco-seiu.org) with your name, facility, and brief description of what happened. An MCO staff member will contact you for more details. Or, you can call the MCO central office at (517)485-3310 and ask for Anita.

## AROUND THE STATE: SAGINAW INMATE DIES; TONS OF PHONES UNCOVERED AT MUSKEGON

**A Level IV SRF inmate is suspected in the death of his bunkmate Wednesday night.**

MSP is investigating. The inmate accused in the death has been transferred to another facility.

**At least 10 cell phones have been found this month at MCF.** Five of them were found inside a guitar amp Jan. 5.

Also, two inmates were found unwrapping a bag of marijuana in the shower Tuesday.

**A woman is no longer employed with Trinity at ICF due to allegations of overfamiliarity.**

She is accused of exchanging love letters with an inmate, officers say.