



AROUND THE STATE: Two DRF OFFICERS ASSAULTED; FIGHTS JOLT AMF; MPF INMATES FACE PROSECUTION

A Carson City inmate punched two COs after one of them attempted to handcuff him last week.

An ARUS asked an officer to handcuff an inmate he had been speaking with. When the officer tried to handcuff the prisoner, he was punched. Another officer intervened and was also hit. The intervening officer and the inmate tumbled down a flight of stairs.

A third officer deployed his Taser, ending the assault.

The inmate was taken to segregation, where he spit on an ARUS.

The two injured officers went to a hospital. Their injuries were not serious, an officer tells MCO. Both are back to work.

1200 unit, a Level IV, was locked down until Sunday. The prisoner was transferred to ICF.

Please stay safe. Corrections officers truly have Michigan's toughest job.

Baraga inmates clashed in yard fights last Friday and Saturday, and as soon as a lockdown was lifted Tuesday, another fight started.

There were two altercations last Friday, one involving three inmates and the other involving seven. All inmates in the brawl were from unit 7, a Level V.

The next morning, 13 inmates faced off on the unit 6 yard. At about the same time, 5 inmates fought on the unit 7 yard. Most of the inmates who took part in the fights have STG status.

All Level V units were placed on

lockdown. The plan was to ease back into normal operations Tuesday. But that morning, a 14-prisoner fight immediately broke out when unit 5 was released for 30 minutes of yard time. The lockdown was reinstated.

On Thursday, staff started releasing one wing at a time for short blocks of yard time.

No staff members were hurt.

The officers on the yard during all these confrontations responded professionally and quickly. We applaud them for their vigilance and courage.

Five Pugsley inmates were charged this week with drug possession.

Four of them are accused of possessing marijuana, and one of them allegedly had Suboxone, according to media reports.

The drugs were found in November and December of last year.

A least three more cell phones were found at MCF in the last week.

Officers are doing shakedowns and working hard to find them.

Dozens of cell phones were found at the prison last year, officers say.

A Trinity employee who worked at both MTU and MR was placed on stop order last week.

Michigan State Police escorted her out of MTU Jan. 14. She is accused of bringing in contraband.

UPDATE ON RUO CASE

A hearing on the RUO lawsuit is scheduled for 10 a.m. Feb. 17 at the Ingham County Courthouse in Mason.

The Honorable William Collette will preside over the hearing.

According to Civil Service rules, our challenge first had to be filed through the Civil Service Commission. Once we exhausted that venue, we moved our complaint to the courts. MCO filed the case with the circuit court in August.

The RUO and CMUO classifications were eliminated in 2012. MCO has been fighting to reinstate them.

12-HOUR SHIFTS REMINDER

MCO staff have received a few inquiries lately regarding 12-hour shifts.

Here's a recap of where this stands: MDOC put a stop to new 12hour shift programs in summer 2014 in response to short staffing at most facilities. Although staffing levels have improved at some facilities since then, they do not plan on changing their stance on this anytime soon.

Keep in mind, the contract language concerning 12-hour shifts requires both parties (MCO and MDOC) to mutually agree. Even if a petition is passed at a facility, MDOC administration has indicated they won't sign off on new 12-hour shift programs. The Department will allow those prisons already operating on 12-hour shifts to continue.

MCO will share any additional developments on 12-hour shifts.