



KYI

KEEPING YOU INFORMED

MARCH 4, 2016

MCO FORMS MILITARY MEMBERS COMMITTEE TO ADDRESS CONCERNS OF VETERANS, ACTIVE SERVICE MEMBERS

For years MCO has been talking about serving the special needs of our military members. Well, the talking has ended and now is the time for moving.

In October 2015, MCO brought in 20 military members from all over the state for a focus/work group to discuss the issues that were most important for this new initiative. After a day of hard but fun work, the group broke it down to four issues: Resources, PTSD, Facility Advocates and Recruitment.

Chief of Staff Andy Potter has started dialogue with the MDOC about partnering to recruit new officers, specifically veterans and current military members.

In the next phase we hope to be establishing our facility advocates. The facility advocates will encompass a lot of the other issues the group focused on, with the first group being trained in April.

The new MCO Military Members Committee is as follows: Chair Ray Sholtz, Executive Board Member, St. Louis; Cindy Kogut, MCO Staff; James Wexstaff, Brooks; Mark Rankin, Alger; Steve O'Harris, Forensic Center; John Hassen, Woodland; Mike Presley, Pugsley; and Ed Clements, Executive Board Member, Baraga.

We have had a good turnout thus far of military members signing up for this

program. But, we need even more. We need to compile a list of veterans and active service members for future events, such as volunteering for projects, etc.

Please sign up and tell us whether you would like to be notified on future events and discounts, be a facility advocate, or get involved with other initiatives. You can sign up at mco-seiu.org or by emailing cindy@mco-seiu.org.

For further information, questions or concerns, feel free to contact:

MCO Board Member, Ray Sholtz
(989)445-0082 / slfmco@yahoo.com

MCO Staff Member, Cindy Kogut
(800)451-4878 x117 / cindy@mco-seiu.org

AROUND THE STATE: MBP COs STOP POTENTIAL ESCAPE; MTF CO FOILS CONTRABAND DROP

A hospitalized Marquette inmate jumped out of bed and ran for the door in what was an apparent escape attempt Monday.

He also tried to stab an officer with a piece of metal.

The prisoner was in leg irons. He had on an electronic stun ankle cuff, but it wasn't effective. MBP Officers Skytta and S. Richards were on site, and they reacted quickly. They gained control of the inmate and managed to keep themselves safe, even though the prisoner had a weapon. Great job,

officers.

Last week at MBP, an inmate bit an officer and spit on another CO. Officers checked on him because he was unresponsive. Stay safe.

A West Shoreline officer vigilantly watching cameras spotted an inmate collecting packages that had been thrown over the fence.

Officer Schultz was in the bubble watching cameras when she saw a prisoner in an out-of-bounds area picking up three packages. She called

in officers, while watching the inmate with different cameras. When officers searched the prisoner, they found the packages, which contained marijuana, tobacco, lighters, wrapping papers, and phone chargers. The contraband was wrapped in wool socks closed with duct tape. Good eye, Officer Schultz!

The person who threw the contraband into the prison wasn't caught. No PSV was patrolling, and by the time one was dispatched, it was too late. Constant PSV rounds deterred criminal acts. This security tool is sorely missed.

Do you want more communication from MCO? Please give us your home email!

Does MCO have your home email address?

The Executive Board and staff are doing more to engage members, and providing us with your home email address is a critical part of that.

During our work to bring water to officers and their families in Flint, we realized how many home email addresses we still don't have. Other projects over the last year have been somewhat hindered by our lack of home email addresses. And state email addresses may not be appropriate for some

of the engagement work we'd like to do in the future.

In addition, staff are researching options for distributing the next bargaining survey by email. We hope this will increase participation.

Officers, please give us your home email address now by going to mco-seiu.org and clicking "sign up for emails" on the right.

This information is intended for office use only. MCO will never sell your information.