



UPDATE ON PUGSLEY CLOSURE: MCO, MDOC TO NEGOTIATE BUMP REGION

As announced Tuesday, MDOC has decided Pugsley Correctional Facility will close, possibly in late September.

MDOC and legislators have stated Pugsley will be the only closure in the 2016-2017 fiscal year.

MCO leaders will meet with MDOC Tuesday to negotiate a bump region. That's the first step in the closure process. The bump region will be announced sometime next week after Tuesday. MCO will notify members as soon as the bump region is finalized.

MCO staff are compiling a packet that will be provided to officers at

MPF and in the bump region. It will explain how bumps and transfers work during the time of a closure.

Board members and staff will be at MPF in the coming weeks.

Previously, the Senate wanted two prisons to close (as MCO reported in the April 14 bulletin and the March 25 and April 26 KYIs). Due to uncertainty about the declining prison population, only one closure will occur for now, MDOC and legislators say.

MCO will update members every step of the way throughout this difficult process.



VITALLY IMPORTANT: MCO NEEDS CONTACT INFO!

Do you want to keep up to speed with news on the closure? The legislature and MDOC budget process? The staff realignment at the MCO central office?

These are just a couple of reasons MCO needs every member's personal email address. Staff and leaders don't want any members to miss important information.

Plus, members have been telling MCO leaders they want more transparency and more communication. Having your home email address is a critical part of communicating with you quickly and efficiently.

A few projects over the last year, including the PTSD survey, could have been improved if MCO had more personal email addresses. Your work email address is not appropriate for some of the engagement work we'd like to do in the future, as MCO strives to engage members in new ways.

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

AROUND THE STATE: RGC OFFICER SPOTS DRONE; MCF TRINITY WORKER FOUND WITH DRUGS ENTERING PRISON

A drone was seen flying around the RGC perimeter at about 10:30 p.m. Sunday, officers say.

A tower officer spotted the drone. The yard was shaken down, but nothing was found. Staff believes the drone did not land or drop anything inside the prison grounds. The situation is still under investigation. To the staff who eyed this drone, great job.

It was just a month ago that a toy drone was found lying in the grass inside the RGC perimeter.

MCO is supporting two bills, SB 487 and 488, which would make it a felony to operate a drone within 1,000 feet of a correctional facility. Events like those at RGC reinforce the necessity of laws addressing drones and prisons.

A Trinity worker at Muskegon was caught bringing drugs into the prison Wednesday.

She tripped the metal detector and metal-detector wand. She had Suboxone (prescribed to treat addiction to narcotics) and marijuana, officers say. MSP detained her.

Good job, to the officers who prevented this contraband from entering MCF.

Alger officers found four gallons of spud juice last week.

The spud juice was made from stolen food service items. Staff found it fermenting in a trash bag, wrapped in blankets, and stuffed in a duffle bag.

Also at Alger, there was an inmate-on-inmate stabbing Monday. No serious injuries were reported.

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