



## RUO/CMUO ARGUMENTS HEARD BY MICHIGAN'S SECOND-HIGHEST COURT

Three judges on the Michigan Court of Appeals heard arguments in the RUO/CMUO lawsuit Tuesday.

Only one judge asked questions during arguments. Unlike in the circuit court hearing last

year, the appellate court didn't give clear indications on how they might rule.

The hearing lasted about 30 minutes.



Above: Mary Ellen Gurewitz, MCO's outside legal counsel, argues MCO's case before the Court of Appeals. MCO made a short video after the hearing. Click the photo to watch.

The 2,472 former RUO/CMUO jobs "didn't change one bit" after the abolishment, said Mary Ellen Gurewitz, MCO's outside legal counsel. There was never any

evidence RUOs weren't fulfilling their job duties.

"These jobs ... are so important and

simply devalued by the department," Gurewitz said.

Assistant Attorney General Christopher Braverman argued for the state and said the abolishment was above board. The intended duties of these jobs, including a role in prisoner treatment, were never realized, he claimed.

The appeals court has no deadline in making a ruling. MCO will share any developments with members.

MCO has been fighting the RUO/CMUO abolishment since 2012, first through the Civil Service Commission, and now through the courts. For a timeline of our actions, [go to our website.](#)

## AROUND THE NATION: GEORGIA MOURNS THE LOSS OF TWO COs; JCF COs ASSAULTED

**Two Georgia corrections officers were shot and killed after inmates stole their weapons during a transportation run Tuesday.** Two prisoners fled in a car and were on the lam almost three days before they were caught.

Officers Curtis Billue and Christopher Monica were shot. Two prisoners somehow overpowered them and stole their weapons, according to media reports. The inmates then carjacked a vehicle and escaped, leaving the other prisoners on the bus, media reports state. It happened about 80 miles from Atlanta on a state highway.

Police launched a nation-wide manhunt for suspects Donnie Rowe and Ricky Dubose. They were apprehended Thursday evening in Tennessee.

Billue, a U.S. veteran, had 10 years with the Georgia DOC. Monica had eight years with the department.

Please pray for the family and friends of Billue and Monica and for all Georgia corrections staff.

MCO leaders and staff thank all corrections employees for putting your lives on the line every day to keep the public safe.

**A Cotton prisoner punched an officer in the face Sunday while being locked in his cell.**

A second CO suffered wrist injuries while trying to contain the inmate. They were treated at a hospital and released.

The assault happened in J-unit, a Level IV. The inmate was sent to segregation.

**Drugs are being found frequently at Carson City.**

One Level II unit is so bad, "we're pulling drugs, weapons, and contraband out of that unit on a weekly basis," an officer said.

Here is a summary of recent events at DRF:

6/14:

- Inmate ticketed for threatening behavior on staff, sexual misconduct, and disobeying a direct order. Two other inmates were ticketed later that day for threatening behavior against staff.
- Prisoner found in possession of marijuana.

6/13:

- Prisoner-on-prisoner fight.

6/10:

- Inmate found in possession of marijuana.

6/9:

- Prisoner found in possession of a weapon.
- Prisoner found in possession of Suboxone.

6/7:

- Inmate ticketed for threatening behavior, smuggling, possession of money.
- Inmate-on-inmate fight.

**Kudos to all the officers who uncovered contraband and responded to these fights and assaults.**