



MOVE FORWARD: THE VALUE OF FAMILY

It is widely known that corrections is a difficult environment and officers get little recognition. From long hours to dangerous situations, it's easy to ask why officers do the job. For most, that answer is easily traced back to one extremely important reason: family, and providing them with a humble living.

That's why family is this month's value in the [Move Forward Campaign](#).

"This career is a double-edged sword – we do it to provide for our families, but the stress of it can separate us from our families if we aren't careful," Cotton Officer Steve Hammond said. "It's so important that we open up to our loved ones and appreciate and make time for them."

"I chose this career to provide for my family, but there is so much mandatory overtime. There are times we make plans with our families and we have to miss them because we have to

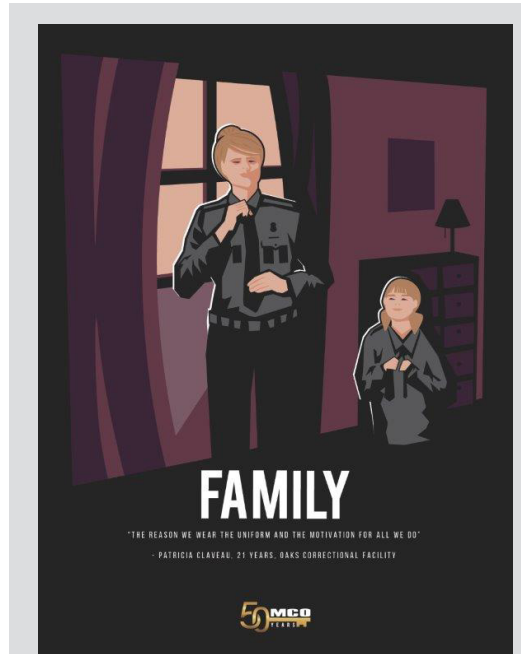
work," Hammond said.

Families inspire COs to do the job with pride.

"When I walk through the gates, I know what could possibly transpire inside," Bellamy Creek Officer Mindi Vroman said. "Knowing that my family understands the importance of what I do and is behind me 100% keeps me motivated on the task ahead and anchored in doing the best job possible."

MCO is dedicated to serving not just corrections officers, but their families. We know mandatory overtime is taking a toll on families, and we are constantly advocating for more staff. We are also developing a partnership with MDOC to help them not only recruit but retain corrections staff. All of us and our families depend on it.

When you go home after your shift,



This month's value in the Move Forward campaign is Family. [View the poster now on Instagram.](#)

make time to connect with your family. After all, they're the motivation for all that we do.

AROUND THE STATE: CTOs RECAPTURE ESCAPEE; ICF CO ASSAULTED

A Chippewa inmate temporarily escaped July 17 after a court appearance in Luce County, but CTOs quickly caught him.

The Level II prisoner ran from CTOs at the courthouse. One CTO fired one shot, but it didn't hit the inmate. The CTOs were able to catch up with the prisoner and restrain him. The sheriff's office and other police agencies assisted. No one was injured. The prisoner was taken to MBP.

The inmate was secured with belly chains, as MDOC policy requires for Level II prisoners.

This serious event underscores the dangerous jobs CTOs have. A routine court appearance can turn into an

escape with little warning. MCO supports all CTOs who work to keep the public safe.

An ICF inmate hit an officer in the chest after the officer patted him down.

The assault happened July 21. A CO stopped a prisoner for a pat down as he was leaving Housing Unit 3 (Level V). The prisoner was upset and spoke to a sergeant, who told him to return to his cell. The inmate started to go back, but stopped and hit the officer. Staff quickly responded. The CO suffered bruises near his eye.

Later staff found the inmate had a weapon made from a comb.



IN MEMORIAM: CO STAHL

JCF retiree Eric Stahl passed away July 19.

Stahl started his corrections career in 1993 and retired in 2016. Before working for the MDOC, he served in the U.S. Army.

Stahl leaves behind a wife, son, siblings, and other family. Services were held earlier this week.

Rest in peace, Officer Stahl.

CONGRATULATIONS, RECRUITS!

The Bonita Hoffner class graduated today. Seventy-six recruits graduated in Lansing. Sixteen more recruits are training to work at prisons in the UP.

[See photos from today's graduation.](#)