



JOIN US AT IMPASSE HEARING WEDNESDAY IN LANSING

MCO's impasse hearing is set for 11 a.m. Oct. 31. MCO Legal Director Jeff Foldie will argue our bargaining position in front of the Impasse Panel. This is a public meeting, so members may attend. **Seating will be very limited and we cannot guarantee everyone will get a seat.** If you do plan to attend, please wear your [50th anniversary pin](#) to show our solidarity.

WHEN: 11 a.m. Wednesday, Oct. 31

WHERE: 400 S. Pine St., Lansing, MI.

[More important info is in this printable flyer.](#)

Our primary concern at impasse is the dangerous staffing crisis.

Read more about our impasse position:

- [MDOC fails corrections officers: MCO forced to go to impasse to address the staffing crisis](#)
- [Impasse Documents Filed: Read them here](#)

FSA OPEN ENROLLMENT STARTS THURSDAY

2019 Flexible Spending Account (FSA) Open Enrollment runs from Nov. 1 thru Nov. 30. Eligible employees who wish to participate in the 2019 plan year, beginning Jan. 1, 2019, must enroll, even if you are currently enrolled for the 2018 plan year.

FSAs allow you to set aside wages on a pre-tax basis to pay for certain expenses. There are two types of FSAs, and eligible employees are able to enroll in one or both. The Health Care FSA allows you to pay for eligible out-of-pocket medical, dental, prescription, vision expenses, and more. The Dependent Care FSA allows you to pay for eligible expenses such as day care, day camp, nursery school, elder care, and more. FSAs are funded by pre-tax payroll contributions. The maximum contribution amounts for 2019 are \$2,650 for eligible health care expenses and \$5,000 for eligible dependent care expenses.

You are encouraged to verify that your contact information is up-to-date in the system as FSA Open Enrollment materials will be sent to you via email. If you do not have an email address currently listed in your HR Self-Service account, materials will be delivered by mail. Verify or update your contact information by logging into HR Self-Service, selecting "Employment," and then "Work Phone & E-mail" from the menu at left. You may also contact the MI HR Service Center at 877-766-6447.

- Provided by OSE

AROUND THE STATE: DDC CO HURT DURING RESPONSE

A DDC officer's knee was fractured recently when a combative detainee pushed her into a wall.

The detainee was handcuffed by another officer for being disruptive. That made her irate, COs said. The injured officer came to assist when she was shoved into a wall and hurt her knee. No other injuries were reported.

She has not returned to work.

The detainee will likely be charged with assault on corrections staff.

Please join us in wishing this officer a quick recovery.

Eleven Baraga prisoners were sent to segregation after yard fights.

The arguments broke out on Unit 4 (Level V) and Unit 7 (Level V) rec yards Oct. 19. Officers said it was gang related. No serious injuries were reported, but the prison was placed on lockdown.

Other events:

10/24: Officers find two weapons in Unit 4 (Level V) during shake down. One was made from an inhaler and the other from a pair of glasses.

10/18: Level V inmate spit in an officer's face during food tray pick up.

IN-PERSON ABSENTEE VOTING GOING ON NOW

Members, don't forget to vote absentee this year.

[Download the absentee voter application now.](#)

Print and complete the application and return it in person to your city clerk. They will give you a ballot on the spot, which you can complete and turn in. It's too late to mail your application and receive an absentee ballot back by mail.

You can visit mi.gov/vote to find your clerk's address, check your registration status, and view a sample

ballot.

Voting absentee is easy and can offer flexibility for the unpredictable work schedules of officers. We all know mandates are frequent and unpredictable. Make sure nothing gets in the way of your vote this year — vote absentee.

Don't forget to read [MCO's endorsement guide](#). Our endorsements are one suggestion we hope you'll consider when making a personal decision about how to vote.