



SEND A STRONG MESSAGE OF SOLIDARITY – WEAR THE MCO ANNIVERSARY PIN COMING IN MAIL

In facilities all over Michigan, MCO members are discussing Civil Service rule changes that are scheduled to take effect January 1, 2019. These changes are the result of a strategic attack on unions and another attempt by anti-worker organizations to silence the voice of workers and inject uncertainty about issues important to corrections officers and forensic security assistants.

Like our brothers and sisters who founded this organization, MCO members have met these attacks head on and refused to back down or be intimidated by bad policies designed to break us.

As a way of demonstrating our solidarity and commitment to each other, we are asking all members to wear this 50th anniversary pin on their uniform until the end of 2018. By doing so, it sends a strong message – that you support your brothers and sisters and believe in the collective power of our union. Members should receive the pin in the mail in the next few days.

This pin also symbolizes your resolve and our union's proud tradition



[This new video](#) explains how the Michigan Civil Service Commission adopted rule changes that prohibit bargaining on several issues important to MCO members. Read more about the changes and how MCO members can show solidarity despite the changes at mco-seiu.org/civilservice.

Share video now:



of not allowing outside influences divide or defeat us.

We've faced challenges in the past and the fact that MCO consistently maintains the highest rate of union membership speaks to the tenacity and dedication of our members.

Now we face another set of challenges and we know that one officer or facility can't do it alone. It will take all of us fighting together to keep what we have earned and protect what others are so desperately trying to take away.

As always, it's up to us and no one is going to do the work for us. MCO is a union of 6,100 individuals and we know that together there is leverage in numbers. It's time to stand up for each other and show our solidarity. Wear this pin on your uniform for the rest of 2018 and let everyone know that together, We Are MCO!



MDOC HAS FAILED ITS OFFICERS – MCO GOING TO IMPASSE ON CONTRACT

[As announced Thursday](#), MCO is going to impasse on contract negotiations. The MCO legal team is expected to file a 20-page brief and 130 pages of exhibits today with the Michigan Civil Service Commission's Impasse Panel.

Our key outstanding issue is the ever-growing staffing crisis. MCO has proposed several possible solutions to retain staff, but the Office of the State Employer and the Michigan Department of Corrections have denied all of them because of their cost – even though the funding required would be a small fraction of the overall corrections budget.

“For the last few months at the bargaining table, and years before that in other venues, MCO has been proposing solutions to the persistent staffing crisis in Michigan prisons. Some of our ideas have been heard, some have not,” said MCO Executive Director Andy Potter, MCO's lead negotiator. “Let me be clear – the excuses and can-kicking end today. The employer has failed their officers, so MCO leaders will do everything in our power to implement real solutions to this crisis, even if the MDOC won't. That's why we're going to impasse.”

Although we are deadlocked, MCO leaders are still open to working with OSE and MDOC to resolve this contract. MCO will continue to keep members updated.

[Read our full impasse announcement.](#)



IN MEMORIAM: BELLAMY CREEK CO JOHN CARTER

IBC Officer John Carter passed away Friday morning.

Carter was a shift steward and had 15 years with the MDOC.

Services have not been announced.

Please pray for IBC staff and Carter's family and friends.

Rest in peace, CO Carter.