



# BULLETIN

FEB. 26, 2019

## INVESTIGATOR COOKLIN HONORED AS MDOC 2019 OFFICER OF THE YEAR

**Stephen Cooklin, an Absconder Recovery Unit investigator based in Macomb County, has been named the 2019 Corrections Officer of the Year.**

Investigator Cooklin, who is also a Task Force Officer with the U.S. Marshals Service, keeps communities safe by apprehending dangerous parole absconders. Cooklin handles a demanding caseload but is always willing to help other investigators and other law enforcement agencies.

Cooklin said he loves his job.

“All absconders are on a path in the wrong direction, and it’s our duty to redirect them,” Cooklin said. “It’s challenging work, but I can’t imagine doing anything else. If you do what you love, you never work a day in your life.”

According to one of his reference letters, “the professionalism he displays in the community with offenders, their families, and other community partners often under tenuous circumstances is to be modeled.”

Cooklin started with the MDOC in 1994 as a corrections officer. He has been an ARU investigator since 2011. He also spent 22 years serving in the U.S. military. Last year, he received the MDOC’s Meritorious Service Award.

He has volunteered with the Cub Scouts, Hampton Elementary in Bay City, and local little league organizations.

Cooklin is married and has two children.

### Finalists for officer of the year:

#### **CTO Peter Formolo, Kinross Cadre**

CTO Formolo started his MDOC career in 1989 and became a corrections transportation officer in 2008. As a CTO, he has dealt with inmate medical emergencies and transported prisoners out of KCF after the 2016 riot.

Formolo was also on the Kinross-area Emergency Response Team (ERT), and in that role, helped find escaped prisoners and missing civilians.

His nominating committee called him a “constant professional” who is always willing to train new CTOs.

This isn’t his first time to be a candidate for MDOC officer of the year. In 1997, he was his facility’s officer of the year at Chipewa.

Formolo has volunteered as a football coach with Sault area middle and high schools.

He is married and has three adult children.

#### **CO Jeramie Mangus, Carson City**

CO Mangus has gone above and beyond during his MDOC career, working as a Field Training Officer (FTO) at the academy and serving on his facility’s Effective Process Improvement Communication (EPIC) Team and his facility’s staff recruitment team. Mangus also represents MDOC at job fairs and speaks about criminal justice careers at colleges.



**From left: ARU Investigator Stephen Cooklin, CTO Peter Formolo, CO Jeramie Mangus, and CMO Trent Myles. Not pictured: CO Thomas Goodreau, AMF.**

“He has volunteered as a mentor to new staff and his peers look up to him as someone they can go to for help,” his nominating committee said.

Mangus received the MDOC’s Lifesaving Award in 2014 and the Michigan National Guard’s American Patriotism Award in 2009.

Mangus started with the MDOC in 2001. He is working on a bachelor’s degree in integrated leadership.

#### **CMO Trent Myles, Woodland**

CMO Myles “is the officer that you want and need with you in every critical situa-

tion,” his nominating committee said. He is able to “calm most incidents” and “teaches others that communication is a key to positive outcomes.”

Myles trains other trainers in CPR, restraining inmates, and other skills.

He volunteers through All For One, a men’s group that provides food donations and clothes to the homeless.

Myles started his career as a Forensic Security Assistant at the old Huron Valley Center. He became a CO at Huron Valley Men’s and then a Corrections Medical Officer at Woodland. He is married and has four children.

#### **CO Thomas Goodreau, Baraga**

CO Goodreau takes an active role in making his facility safer. He helps identify Security Threat Groups, place prisoners in jobs, and monitor J-Pay transactions. He has worked to enhance tool control and is trained to lead Thinking for a Change. Last year, he received a Good Government Excellence Coin for his dedication. Recently, he found an unresponsive officer at work and immediately secured the area and called for help.

Goodreau, a U.S. Navy veteran, is very involved in the Baraga community. He is the girls’ varsity basketball coach and assists with elementary basketball. After a flood last summer, he coordinated a fundraiser for the community and volunteer cleanup efforts. He is also a member of the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community.

Goodreau started his career with the MDOC in 1994 and has worked at four correctional facilities and camps. He is married and has five children.

**Congratulations to all Officers of the Year! Read a list of all facility COs of the year on [our website](#).**