



URF PROPERTY OFFICER ASSAULTED BY PRISONER

A Chippewa prisoner punched an officer several times in the head and neck and knocked his radio out of his hand when he tried to call for help.

The assault happened May 25 in the property room. The prisoner swung on the officer. He attempted to defend himself with chemical agent and man-

aged to get around the prisoner and out of the property room, where other staff responded to assist him.

The officer is still off work, but should make a full recovery, staff said.

Since the assault, plans are under way to make the property room more secure. Stay safe.

DID YOU GET YOUR 2019-2021 MCO CONTRACT?

The 2019-2021 contract was mailed to the home address of everyone in the bargaining unit last month.

If you did not get your copy, it may be because your address is slightly off in our records. Please email [Mikaela Bliven](mailto:Mikaela.Bliven) or call her at (517)485-3310 to get your copy. You can also access the contract [on our website](#).

The parties noted areas where

changes to Michigan Civil Service Commission rules resulted in removed language. These articles usually state that the topic "is a prohibited subject of bargaining and, as such, is governed by Civil Service Rules and Regulations."

Remember, this contract only includes one year of wages and benefits. We will be back at the table this summer to negotiate those items.

APPLY FOR ACADEMY REIMBURSEMENT, STUDENT DEBT PROGRAMS

Applications for MCO's [Academy Assistance Program and Student Debt Assistance Program](#) must be post-marked by June 15.

The Academy Assistance Program is for current members who paid out of pocket for the MDOC training academy in 2014 or 2015. The Student Debt Assistance Program is for MCO members carrying debt from college. Each program will award 20 grants of \$500 each.

These programs will run on a trial

basis this year. After we assess their value to members, MCO may or may not offer them in future years.

MCO leaders have decided to try these programs this year because we need to do something to address the challenges of our time. If we don't do it, no one else will. We can and should provide programs that have a positive impact on members and their families.

[Read more about why MCO developed these assistance programs.](#)

Good luck!

IN MEMORIAM: NCF OFFICER DAVID PAVEY



Newberry Officer David Pavey passed away unexpectedly May 24.

Pavey had worked at NCF since 2001, his entire MDOC career. He is also a veteran of the U.S. Army. Pavey is survived by his wife,

children, mother and other family.

A memorial service was held Sunday. You can read his obituary and express your condolences on the [funeral home's website](#). Rest in peace, CO Pavey.

House Rep. pens article supporting COs

Rep. Thomas Albert, chair of the House appropriations subcommittee on corrections, makes a strong case for corrections officers and their professionalism in an [opinion piece published last week](#) in the Ionia Sentinel-Standard. Albert specifically says he's dedicated to addressing low staffing and PTSD. He makes some bold proposals, such as a dedicated MDOC training facility and \$1 million in funding for COs who need help with PTSD.

This article shows the power of MCO's advocacy and that, with members' help, we're making huge gains at the legislature. We have been meeting with Rep. Albert (among other legislators) and telling him COs are part of law enforcement and need more resources and support. This proves when we stick together in a union, we can influence the conversations happening around corrections. Our union is our venue to raise our voices and collectively work with the legislature to bring about positive change.

Thanks, members, for your support.

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