



## WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT IMPORTANT CHANGES TO CHAPTER ELECTIONS

As of Jan. 1, 2019, the Michigan Civil Service Commission took away administrative leave from all state employee unions. Because we no longer have administrative leave for chapter election committees, **this year's chapter elections will be held by mail. To allow time for ballots to be sent to members in the mail and for votes to be returned by mail, the chapter elections will be held on a different timeframe than in past years.**

**The nomination period will be July 15, 2019 through Aug. 15, 2019. A nomination announcement will be posted on your union bulletin board by July 15.**

This timeframe will still allow 31 days for nominations. After that, MCO staff must prepare each chapter's unique ballot; ballots must be sent to members in the mail; members will vote and return bal-

lots by mail; and ballots must be counted. This new nomination window period will provide time for all of these steps to occur and ensure certain new officials may attend Central Conference in October. Please note, if there is no contested race at your facility, you will not receive a ballot. Instead, a message announcing your new chapter leaders will be posted to your union bulletin board.

The election count day is tentatively scheduled for Oct. 1, 2019 at the MCO Central Office in Lansing. This timeframe is being moved back from September to allow for time for the mail election. If there is an unforeseen delay with printing ballots or mailing, the Executive Board may further postpone the election count to allow members adequate time to vote by mail.

Since this year's chapter elections will be done by mail, chapter election com-

mittees' sole function will be to collect nominations and submit them to the MCO Central Office.

Article 19 of the [MCO Bylaws](#) govern how chapter officers are elected. Section 5(a) specifies that these elections may be conducted by mail at the discretion of the State Executive Board.

A letter should be posted to your union bulletin board that explains all chapter election changes this year in more detail. You can also [read the letter here](#).

**If you have recently moved, now is the time to update your home address** to make sure you get a ballot when it's time to vote. [Update your contact information on our website](#) or call the MCO Central Office at (517)485-3310. If you have questions, please contact MCO Member Engagement Associate Jim McHenry at (517)485-3310 ext. 155 or [jim@mco-seiu.org](mailto:jim@mco-seiu.org).

## DDC STAFF DEAL WITH SECOND GUN INCIDENT

For the second time in less than two months, a detainee made it into the Detroit Detention Center with a gun.

The latest incident happened Friday morning. A Detroit police officer brought a person who had just been arrested into the lobby and uncuffed him. The arrestee then reached for his waistband, where he had a gun, a corrections officer said. Police were able to take the gun, which made the man combative.

At DDC, MDOC corrections officers staff the jail. COs didn't know why the

man was uncuffed. They also ask why this weapon wasn't found in the field.

In May, a detainee passed through the metal detector and in to the jail housing unit [with a small pistol](#). COs found it when they asked the man to open his clenched hand.

MDOC staff are worried for their safety and for the safety of Detroit police staff at the facility. MDOC staff say they haven't heard any announcements or guidance from administration about these incidents.

## UP GOLF SOCIAL JULY 23

UP members are welcome to come to an informal golf social Tuesday, July 23 at Pictured Rocks Golf Course in Munising.

Instead of a formal golf outing fundraiser, this will be a casual event where MCO members from UP facilities can golf and visit with each other. MCO President Byron Osborn and Vice President Ray Sholtz will be at the event to meet with members, too.

To play, be at the golf course before 3 p.m. July 23. A round of 9 holes with cart is \$17.50 after a buy one, get one free discount. Bring a friend, or we will do our best to pair you with another golfer for the discount.

No pre-registration is required, but if you plan on coming, email Tim Fleury at [timfleury@outlook.com](mailto:timfleury@outlook.com).

Please note, this event will replace the UP Golf Outing, which was scheduled for Aug. 2. If you have questions, please contact Tim. See you there!

## IN MEMORIAM: OFFICER JIM WRIGHT



Gus Harrison Officer Jim Wright passed away June 25 after a battle with an illness.

CO Wright had been an officer since 2013. Before joining MDOC, he was a U.S. Marine. He was also an avid Nebraska Cornhuskers fan.

ARF staff came together to hold several fundraisers for CO Wright and his family, including a luncheon and raffle. The MCO Crisis Fund also contributed.

Services were June 29. Read more about Wright in [this obituary](#). Rest in peace, CO Wright.