



Celebrating your dedication and sacrifices during Correctional Officers Week

The first week of May has traditionally been Correctional Officers Week, here in Michigan and around the U.S.

During this week, we pause to thank corrections officers for their dedication and service.

Because we are under a state of emergency this year, all proclamations are on hold. But we aren't letting that stop us from recognizing and celebrating corrections staff.

To that end, a few Michigan legis-

lators recorded videos showing their appreciation and telling citizens about your vital role in public safety. [Watch them on our YouTube channel.](#)



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Gov. Gretchen Whitmer also showed her appreciation this week with a shout out to corrections officers

in her press conference Monday.

"Our corrections officers have some of the toughest jobs in the state. They

deserve our year-round appreciation," Whitmer said.

To say these are difficult times would be an understatement. MCO leaders and staff understand all that's being asked of corrections officers in this critical moment. You're putting your personal health on the line, distancing yourselves from family, and working a massive amount of overtime. MCO leaders and staff can't thank you enough for meeting the challenges of this time with professionalism.

Stay safe and well.

COVID-19: WATCH OUT FOR THIS PROBLEM WHEN YOU GET YOUR FIRST HAZARD PAYMENT

• The initial hazard payment is on the May 14 paycheck. This payment is from the April 5- April 18 pay period only. The hazard pay for the April 19-May 2 pay period will be on the May 28 paycheck.

A flaw has been discovered in the payroll system which may have affected some members' initial hazard payment. Here is what to watch for: If you worked all of your regularly scheduled days in the April 5- April 18 pay period and also worked voluntary overtime on the shift **prior** to your assigned shift, the payroll computer program will automatically designate any time worked past eight consecutive hours as overtime. For example, if someone on day shift worked a double by coming in for night shift and worked from 10 p.m. until 2 p.m. the next day, those day shift hours are registered as overtime, not as regular time, which means they may not receive hazard pay for that day.

MCO leaders brought this problem to the MDOC and they have identified a fix. They will run a report on all hours

worked in a pay period going back to April 5. The report will filter out any leave time used, so it will only show regular time and overtime. This will enable them to make sure that everyone who worked all their regular days doesn't get penalized on hazard pay on a day that they worked more than eight hours. If you worked all your days in a pay period and had overtime, but got shorted on hazard pay, you will still receive the hazard pay for the day or days that you were shorted. The Department is currently working out how corrective payments will be sent.

Since these payments are coming on a four-week delay, it's important that everyone keep track of voluntary overtime prior to your own shift and any leave used in the pay period.

Also, as of now the hazard payment will continue through the expiration of the Governor's Executive Order 2020-77, which currently runs until May 28.

• MCO has compiled a list of rapid COVID-19 testing sites around the state. For each site, there's info about the lo-

gistics of testing at that location. The list is on [MCO's COVID-19 info page.](#)

• There have been 303 cases confirmed among MDOC staff and 2,090 among inmates. [MDOC posts the latest numbers \(broken down by facility\) here.](#)

The Michigan National Guard tested all inmates at UP facilities this week. Most results of those tests are pending. All prisoners at Lakeland and Cotton have also been tested over the last week.

ARU Investigator Tom Johnson is recovering from COVID-19. Johnson was in the Intensive Care Unit at McLaren Hospital for several weeks but has improved this week and is expected to make a full recovery.

ARU investigators have been re-assigned to correctional facilities to cover for COs who are sick or on quarantine. Like COs, they are risking their health to keep the people of Michigan safe. **MCO leaders and staff thank ARU investigators, CTOs, FSAs, and all members for the extraordinary sacrifices they are making during this pandemic.**