



## HAVE YOU REAUTHORIZED YOUR UNION DUES YET?

[As previously reported](#), the Civil Service Commission now requires all members to reauthorize dues deductions annually. So if you haven't already, please log in to the [HRMN online portal](#) as soon as possible to reauthorize your union dues and maintain your union. [Here's a flyer that explains the steps to reauthorize](#). The portal will remain open through Saturday, Aug. 22nd.

The survival of MCO depends on everyone standing together and getting

this done. MCO proudly has the highest percentage of dues paying members of any state employee union at 95%. We must maintain that solidarity and commitment to using all of our voices together to continue to be able to bargain and advocate for our membership.

Stand with MCO and continue to support our membership – reauthorize your dues now. More information about reauthorization, including a how-to video, is at [mco-seiu.org/reauthorize](http://mco-seiu.org/reauthorize).

## AROUND THE STATE: URF OFFICERS STOP ESCAPE; COVID MOVES RATTLE MUSKEGON PRISONERS

**Chippewa officers quickly thwarted an escape attempt last week.**

On the evening of Aug. 3, a few inmates in Lime unit tried to distract officers so three others could escape. The three prisoners walked out of the unit and ran to the inner perimeter fence. They threw a sheet over the razor wire and attempted to pull it down.

The Electronic Monitoring officer immediately called the zone break, checked the zone's camera and saw the inmates on the fence. Officers immediately responded to the zone, restrained the prisoners and took them to segregation. The whole incident happened in just a few minutes, a CO said.

This story illustrates why officers must always be vigilant. Nice work, URF staff!

**MCF is dealing with a COVID outbreak, and prisoners refused to return to their cells July 30 in protest of the administration's orders related to moving inmates to different units.**

A staff squad restored order.

Officers did a great job dealing with this dangerous situation. Muskegon was severely understaffed before COVID-19 broke out at the facility.

Almost 400 MCF inmates have tested positive for COVID-19.

Newberry Correctional Facility is also dealing with a COVID outbreak. Thirty-two inmates have been confirmed as positive. [MDOC posts the latest numbers \(broken down by facility\) here.](#)

Thank you, members, for your dedication during this time. Stay well.

## Calling all MCO retirees and soon-to-be retirees!

Join us for a special picnic Sept. 12 in Lansing to kick off our Retiree Steering Committee. Everyone who retired as an MCO member, and current members looking forward to retiring soon, are invited. You'll learn about MCO's new Retiree Steering Committee and find out how you can become a committee member.

Over the years, we have heard from many retirees who want to advocate for corrections officers and stay engaged with MCO. MCO leaders started thinking about ways to connect these retirees to each other and to the union so they can make a positive difference in members' lives.

Vice President Ray Sholtz reached out to other local unions to research ways they give their retirees a voice and a vehicle for staying involved. MCO also issued a survey last year to our retirees. (Didn't get a survey? [Update your](#)

[contact info here.](#))

Sholtz led a small group of leaders and retirees to finish the mission and determine the overall purpose of the retiree committee. Retiree committee members will get MCO's discounts and perks, while helping work on our initiatives, like PTSD awareness and resources, political advocacy, military member support, and MCO member outreach.

[Learn more at the picnic.](#)

Details are below.

This story was edited for space. [Read the full story on our website.](#)



### **Retiree Committee Kickoff Picnic**

**WHEN:** 12 p.m. - 3 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 12.

**WHERE:** Sharp Park Pavilion, 1401 Elmwood Rd., Lansing, MI 48917

[View the flyer.](#)

## Sponsor or play in the 2020 Crisis Fund Golf Outing!

Don't forget, the 24th annual Crisis Fund Golf Outing is Friday, Sept. 11 Sign up now while there's still time!

The event will be at Ledge Meadows Golf Course in Grand Ledge. Spots for four-person teams are available.

We are also looking for sponsors.

Sponsorships start at just \$25. The deadline to sponsor a tee or cart sign is Sept. 3. [Registration and sponsorship info is on our website.](#)

To reserve your spot, send in your registration with payment as soon as possible. See you there!