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PEW CENTER STUDY RECOGNIZES MICHIGAN'S RE-ENTRY EFFORTS

A national study released on April 13, 2011, recognized Michigan as having one of the largest declines in the recidivism rate among all states that participated in the study. That trend continues today, with Michigan still among the leaders in percentage decline in both rate of recidivism and prisoner population.

The Pew study found that between 1999 and 2004, Michigan had an 18.2 percent drop in their recidivism rate, mainly due to how technical rule violations were addressed. However, between 2007 and today, Michigan has

shown a 33% relative reduction in the recidivism rate. Investment in prisoner re-entry and the full implementation of the Michigan Prison ReEntry Initiative (MPRI) are significant factors, though not the only factors in the improved recidivism rate. Fewer new criminal convictions by parolees, as well as an improved graduated system of discipline for technical violations with alternatives to prison as an intermediate sanction, helped Michigan's recidivism rate drop.

Michigan currently has a parole revocation rate of 195 per 1,000 parolees - the lowest rate in 23 years of keeping the statistic. It is also a stark difference from a decade earlier, when Michigan's rate was 344 revocations per 1,000 parolees.



By nearly any measureable objective, Michigan's re-entry program has produced positive results. MPRI has fostered greater confidence in Michigan's Parole Board to release offenders with the support they need to succeed in the community. As a result, the Parole Board paroled nearly 3,000 more offenders in 2009 than it did in 2006 when the program was still a pilot. The success of MPRI in Michigan communities is being felt throughout the state. Community partners are working with a record number of offenders under parole supervision to ensure success. These agencies, in collaboration with the Michigan Department of Corrections and other governmental partners at the state and local level, are investing in offender success. Their efforts are being rewarded with higher parole success rates, lower overall reported crime rates, and fewer returns to prison.

Michigan and its investment in effective prisoner re-entry policy is succeeding in creating safer neighborhoods and better citizens.



F.Y.I. is a publication of the Michigan Department of Corrections, Office of Public Information and Communications. Please submit articles through your supervisor to John Cordell at cordeljc@michigan.gov

BUDGET UPDATE: HOUSE AND SENATE SUBCOMMITTEES MOVE CORRECTIONS BUDGET BILLS

The House and Senate subcommittees in charge of developing the FY 2011-12 Department of Corrections budget both moved the budget bills out of their respective subcommittees to the full Appropriations committees on Thursday. The Senate version of the bill is \$75.32 million less than Governor Snyder's Executive budget recommendation and the House version is \$55 million less than the Governor's recommendation.

Significant differences from the Executive recommendation in each bill, starting with the Senate version, include:

- A \$10 million increase in funding to the County Jail Reimbursement Program (CJRP),
- A \$15 million cut in facility spending due to expected savings through CJRP diversion and expansion,
- A \$1 million increase to fund an inter-departmental transfer grant (IDG) to Judiciary for "Swift & Sure" sanctions for certain violations,
- \$15 million in savings through a statutory provision to allow the parole of offenders who have not completed necessary programming,
- \$15 million in savings through additional supply chain efficiencies throughout correctional facilities, food service, and transportation,
- A \$10 million reduction in prisoner education programming. This represents a 33% cut to prisoner education programs,
- \$10 million in further mental health consolidation / privatization efforts,
- \$8.32 million in additional savings from the closure of Florence Crane Correctional Facility,
- \$6 million in Central Office reductions,
- A \$1 million reduction for new custody staff training,
- \$5 million in savings in health care expenses from statutory changes that support a "Compassionate Release Policy," and
- \$1 million in savings by competitively bidding and privatizing the Special Alternative Incarceration Program.



Differences in the House version of the Corrections budget bill include:

- A \$1.54 million increase for additional MPRI investment,
- A \$250,000 interdepartmental grant (IDG) to fund the Legislative Corrections Ombudsman,

BUDGET (Continued on page 3)

*BUDGET (Continued from page 2)*

- A \$16.2 million reduction through a 1.5% across the board savings in prison operation efficiencies,
- \$9.58 million in savings as a result of privatization of \$57 million in prison operations,
- A \$6 million reduction in new custody staff training,
- \$5.5 million in partial year savings to close Mound Correctional Facility,
- \$4.5 million savings in prison bed costs through CJRP diversion/expansion,
- \$3.92 million in net savings through investment in programming to enhance prisoner parole eligibility,
- \$3.2 million in savings from a 4.5% across the board cut to Central Office,
- \$3 million in additional supply chain efficiencies throughout correctional facilities,
- \$2 million in additional clinical health care savings through consolidation and privatization including reduction in pharmacy costs,
- \$1.59 million in additional savings from the Florence Crane Correctional Facility closures including reinvestment in Phase I MPRI programming within CFA facilities,
- \$1 million through privatization of Special Alternative Incarceration Program,
- \$300,000 funding cut to the Felony Drunk Driver program, and
- A \$50,000 cut in Community Corrections public education.

THE BUDGET PROCESS

This is only the second step in the process of gaining passage of the bill into law. The recommendation of these appropriations subcommittees will now be reported out to the full appropriations committee. Following hearings and amendments to the bill, it is reported to the floor. The Corrections budget bills will then be passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate. If there are differences in the bills that are passed in the House and Senate, a conference committee will recommend a final bill to ensure both versions are the same. Once both chambers agree on the content of the bill, it is passed. Final approval of the bill into law is carried out with the Governor's signature. The Governor has the authority to veto specific lines of the budget bill prior to signing it into law. Any vetoed items can be overruled with a 2/3 vote of both chambers of the legislature. Governor Snyder has set a deadline of July 1 to have a two-year budget in place, though only the first year is legally binding.



RECENT EMPLOYEE DEATH SERVES AS A SAD REMINDER OF NEED TO FOCUS ON MOTORCYCLE SAFETY

Tragically, Sergeant George Torres of Gus Harrison Correctional Facility was killed Sunday, April 10 when the motorcycle he was driving left the roadway. A passenger was critically injured in the crash. Investigators do not have a reason for why the crash occurred and are investigating the accident.



May is Motorcycle Safety Month in Michigan and as we approach the motorcycle season, here are some important safety tips for both motorcyclists and other drivers:

CAR AND TRUCK DRIVERS ARE URGED TO:

- Be aware of cyclists. After Michigan's long winter, drivers are not accustomed to seeing motorcycles, mopeds, and bicycles on the roads.
- Share the road. Motorcyclists are entitled to a full lane of traffic, just like another car or truck. Moped and bicycle riders must stay to the right and share a lane.
- Keep a safe distance from the cycle. Because of road hazards or other traffic conditions, cyclists may have to swerve or stop suddenly.
- Check your blind spots before turning, changing lanes, backing up or parking. Many traffic crashes occur because a driver did not check or see the cyclist.
- Be extra alert for motorcycles, mopeds, and bicycles at or near intersections. They are easily overlooked if traffic is heavy or the driver is in a hurry. Pay particular attention when making left turns across traffic, to ensure that a cyclist may not be coming straight through.
- Use extreme care in passing. Because of the smaller size of a bike, a car or truck passing too fast or too close could blow the cyclist out of control. In addition, a vehicle passing too close to a bike, could throw stones or other road debris at the cyclist.

MOTORCYCLE OPERATORS ARE URGED TO:

- Keep in mind that weather conditions, road surfaces and fatigue pose greater problems for cyclists than other motorists.
- Always wear a helmet. A good quality helmet, which fits properly, affords the most protection. Gloves and boots provide added protection.
- Wear brightly colored clothing so other drivers see the cyclist. Operation of the cycle's headlight (standard on later model cycles), also increases the visibility of the cycle.
- Assume the driver of the other vehicle does not see the cyclist. Always be prepared to take evasive action. Drive Defensively.
- Ride near the center of the lane. Say out of other drivers' blind spots.
- When riding in groups, do not ride two abreast in a single lane. Ride in a staggered formation, allowing a safe distance to maneuver in an emergency.
- Avoid excessive speed when operating the cycle. Slow down at night and during inclement weather, when visibility is usually reduced.
- Avoid alcoholic beverages when operating the cycle.
- Keep your motorcycle in good operating condition, using the safety and maintenance checks listed in the owner's manual as a guide.

Additional Information:

For information on a rider safety course near you, contact the Motorcycle Safety Foundation by calling 1-800-447-4700. You can also access the Michigan Secretary of State's Motorcycle Safety Program Web page:

http://www.michigan.gov/sos/0,1607,7-127-1627_46351---,00.html

Information is provided courtesy of the Motorcycle Safety Foundation.



SOUTH DAKOTA CORRECTIONS OFFICER KILLED DURING ESCAPE ATTEMPT

A 23-year veteran corrections officer working at the South Dakota State Penitentiary was killed on Tuesday, April 12 during an escape attempt by two prisoners. Corrections Officer Ronald Johnson, a 63-year-old father of two and grandfather of six, was assaulted and killed by the two prisoners shortly before 11 a.m. Neither prisoner made it out of the prison, however a second corrections officer suffered minor injuries during the incident. Both prisoners have a violent and lengthy criminal history. One has two previous escapes from the penitentiary in the late 1980s.



charges related to the crime. Authorities from the prison said this is a solemn reminder about how dangerous the career can be. Both prisoners could face the death penalty in South Dakota if convicted of the murder.

Officer Johnson's son said that his father never had a bad word to say about others and in an ironic and gut-wrenching twist of fate, Officer Johnson died on his birthday.

Officer Johnson's murder is the first death of a corrections officer in the state of South Dakota since 1951 and only the third in the history of the South Dakota Department of Corrections.

The Michigan Department of Corrections Honor Guard is sending two members to Officer Johnson's funeral to pay respects on behalf of the citizens of Michigan and our Department.

The South Dakota Division of Criminal Investigation is continuing to investigate the incident and suspects were in court Wednesday to face



2011 CORRECTIONS OFFICER OF THE YEAR BANQUET IS MAY 4



The 2011 Michigan Corrections Officer of the Year Awards Ceremony and Appreciation Banquet is May 4, 2011 at the Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center, 55 S. Harrison Road, East Lansing, MI. The event starts with a reception at 5:30 p.m. and dinner at 6:30 p.m. with the ceremony to follow. Cost is \$29 per person.

This is a great opportunity to pay tribute to corrections officers throughout the state who are being recognized as the best at their facility and the best throughout Michigan. Along with officers from each facility and FOA region, the finalists and Michigan's 2011 Corrections Officer of the Year will be honored at the event.

For more information or to RSVP, please contact Michigan Corrections Officers' Training Council Liaison Jai Deagan at (517) 636-6115 or via e-mail: deaganja@michigan.gov. You can also contact Michigan Corrections Organization's Cindy Kogut at (517) 485-3310 or send your RSVP to Michigan Corrections Organization, 421 W. Kalamazoo Street, Lansing, MI 48933.

The Michigan Department of Corrections and Michigan Corrections Organization look forward to hosting an evening where our hardworking employees are recognized for the difficult job they do each day and the difference they make in keeping Michigan safe.



MDOC DEPUTY DIRECTOR POSITIONS POSTED, LEGAL AFFAIRS ADMINISTRATOR POSITION RE-POSTED

Deputy Directors John Rubitschun and Dennis Straub are both retiring after many years of distinguished service in the field of corrections. As a result of their retirements, the Michigan Department of Corrections is seeking applicants for the positions for the Correctional Facilities Administration (CFA) Deputy Director and the Field Operations Administration (FOA) Deputy Director. The FOA Deputy Director will be posted at the 19 level to ensure an adequate qualified applicant pool. Additionally, the Legal Affairs Administrator position will be re-posted at the 17 level after a careful review of the position's responsibilities and reporting employees.

The positions will be posted on the Michigan Civil Service Commission's MiJOBS Web page:

<http://agency.governmentjobs.com/michigan/default.cfm>

If you are interested and qualify for one of the positions, please ensure that you apply and submit your information through the posting once it appears on the site.



COMPUTER-BASED TRAINING OFFERED

The Department of Technology Management and Budget is offering **desktop training classes** for Microsoft Office applications (Word, Excel, & Access). These are instructor-led, classroom training sessions.

These classes are available at **no cost**, but are only held at the DTMB Learning Center located in the Ottawa & Hannah Building in downtown Lansing. **Employees interested in attending this training must have supervisory approval prior to signing up for a training session.**



To view a calendar of available courses, please click on (or copy and paste into the address line of your Internet browser) the following link- http://inside.michigan.gov/tech/training/Documents/1_All%20Course%20Calendar.aspx.

For additional information or questions, contact DTMB Employee Development by sending an email to DTMB-EmployeeDevelopment@michigan.gov. Include a brief message and your phone number. They can also be contacted at 241-3387.

Correction: In the previous issue, FYI misidentified two people in the photo at right. Our apologies. Here is the correct order. **From L to R:** Jacqueline Holmes, Sherron Rimpson, Trevor LeBarre, Kimberly Edwards, Latrelle Pickens, Governor Rick Snyder, Linsey LaMontagne, Ernie Papke, Charles Levens, Wanda Wright-Gilkey, Michael Smith.





RE-ENTRY ROUNDTABLE: SAFER NEIGHBORHOODS & BETTER CITIZENS

Re-Entry Roundtable is a continuing column that provides news, facts, and program successes within the Michigan Prisoner ReEntry Initiative.

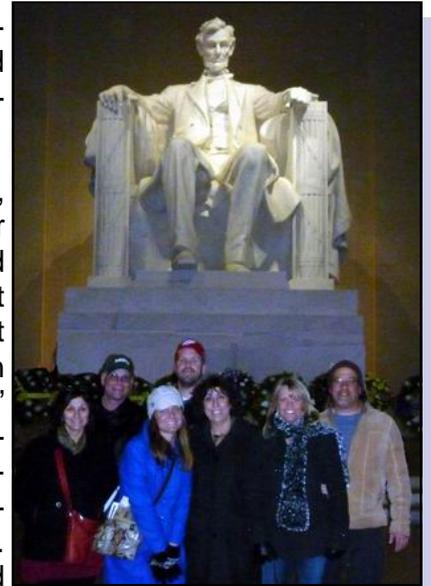
MICHIGAN RE-ENTRY HEADS TO WASHINGTON

The Michigan Department of Corrections (MDOC) had the fortunate experience to send seven representatives to the National Second Chance Conference in Washington D.C. West Shoreline MPRI Region is the recipient of a federal Second Chance grant that supports re-entry initiatives. Representing the West Shoreline MPRI region was Parole Supervisors Jason Carlson and Rita Dooley (Muskegon County), Workforce Development Leaders Joe Doyle (Goodwill Industries of West Michigan) and Brian Vork (70 x 7 Life Recovery), MPRI Co-Community Coordinator Roxanna Hartline (Ottawa County Michigan Works), and Family Reunification Specialist Kellie Oom (Ottawa County Michigan Works). Rounding out the group was the MDOC's MPRI Community Liaison Melisa Rice from Offender ReEntry Services. The West Shoreline MPRI Region learned that that they are doing some things very well, and also learned there are many things they can be doing better.

The Re-entry Initiative is supported by the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs (OJP) and its federal partners: the U.S. Departments of Education, Health and Human Services, Housing and Urban Development, and Labor. The initiative is a comprehensive effort that addresses both juvenile and adult populations of serious, high-risk offenders. In an attempt to reduce serious and violent crime, the grant provides funding to evaluate re-entry needs and strategies as it relates to the development and implementation of effective re-entry practices. In order to ensure the safety of the community, the initiative envisions the further development of re-entry programs that model effective practices such as providing re-entry plans and streamlined services from incarceration to community stabilization. West Shoreline MPRI Region is specifically engaging in housing navigation, employment and transportation services, case management, substance abuse and mental health services, parole and probation inter-

facing, family reunification, and health assessment.

The conference, which hosted over 500 people, held training breakout sessions that were focused on "today's thinking" for prisoner re-entry and community-based re-entry programs. This reinforced that Michigan is on the right track with MPRI. While Michigan continues to lead the country with implementing evidence-based re-entry strategies, it was helpful for the group to hear from the National-level re-entry experts that we are indeed embracing the model. The participants learned that by utilizing risk and need assessment tools that target a person's greatest criminogenic needs, responding with appropriate levels of programming, and by measuring program effectiveness, the department is poised to meet its goals. The conference motivated the participants from Michigan to bring home the national message that prisoner re-entry is about "creating offender success." Through programs, services, and collaborative relationships, MPRI can carry out the national vision of prisoner re-entry in Michigan.



L to R: Kellie Oom, Joe Doyle, Melisa Rice, Jason Carlson, Roxanna Hartline, Rita Dooley, and Brian Vork.

In order to learn more about what is happening in national re-entry, The Council of State Governments Justice Center has created a Web site dedicated to the initiative at the following link: www.nationalreentryresourcecenter.org.



DTMB TO INTRODUCE SELF-RESETS FOR USER PASSWORDS

The Department of Technology, Management and Budget (DTMB, formerly DIT) will be implementing a new automated process for resetting network passwords. In the near future, users will be asked to update their Challenge/Response System (CRS) security questions. The updated questionnaire now contains fields for both a HRMN ID and a personal identification number (PIN) in addition to the questions. State employees are strongly encouraged to include their HRMN IDs and choose a PIN. This will allow them to reset their own passwords without waiting for a Client Service Center (CSC) agent in mid 2011.



For users with State e-mail accounts, invitations will be sent April 15, 2011 asking that they complete the updated security questionnaire. This e-mail will come from the MDIT-Security-Config email address. Users must answer the questionnaire within 14 days. After 14 days, the invitation will expire and the user will need to contact the CSC directly and request a new invitation.

Each individual with a State e-mail account will receive an e-mail with a code number and a link to a DTMB Web site. They will use this code number to access the DTMB Web site where they will provide their personal answers to the challenge questions.

The CRS was created in response to audits, to ensure that adequate security measures are maintained. In addition to now collecting a HRMN ID and PIN, the CRS questionnaire requires users to answer 5 out of 10 pre-selected security questions. This information is stored securely and utilized by the CSC to validate user identity.

This Web site is inside the State firewall and therefore the individual will not be accessing an outside web site. NOTE: since this Web site is inside the State firewall, the individual must be logged into the State network to complete and submit their questionnaire. For those individuals who do not have a State e-mail account, their code number will be provided to their assigned proxy person who will then relay their code number and Web site address to them. The challenge questions must be answered within 14 days from the date the e-mails are sent.

Those who have not completed the CRS questionnaire will not be able to have their network password reset using the automated process and will have to submit their password reset requests via the authorized requestors for their agency.

NEW HONOR GUARD MEMBERS ANNOUNCED



The Honor Guard recently appointed three new members to the unit and expects to fill the remaining positions later this spring. The three new members are:

- Clinton Bradley, an Assistant Resident Unit Supervisor at Newberry Correctional Facility,
- Amanda Elliott, a Departmental Specialist in Correctional Facilities Administration, and
- Robin Harless, a Correctional Program Coordinator at Charles Egeler Reception and Guidance Center.

Please offer congratulations to each of them on appointment to this elite position. Their efforts in this capacity will help enhance the image of the Department while honoring our fallen employees.



OFFICER EARNS VALOR AWARD FOR DISARMING PRISONER



This is a graphic representation of the types of weapons found inside correctional facilities and is not the actual homemade knife used in this incident.

On January 26, 2011, Officer Robert Wozniak responded to a fight in Saginaw Correctional Facility's dining room. Several prisoners were involved and one prisoner, armed with a homemade knife, was attempting to stab other involved prisoners.

Officer Wozniak immediately pursued the armed prisoner, tackling him to the floor and disarming him. Only once the prisoner was controlled and restrained did

Officer Wozniak realize he had been stabbed in the forearm while attempting to gain control of the prisoner. Wozniak was treated and released from a local hospital.

This is the second time in his career Officer Wozniak has disarmed a prisoner intent on assaulting others with a homemade knife. In 2007, Wozniak stopped a vicious assault by one prisoner on another. In that incident, the prisoner was intent on seriously injuring or killing the other prisoner.

Because of his quick and decisive response in both of these incidents, Officer Wozniak controlled the situation and stopped greater physical harm to all involved while also de-escalating the situation. His bravery and courage under the threat of personal harm make him a worthy recipient of the Department's Valor Award.

PEOPLE MAKE THE DIFFERENCE

CHILI COOK-OFF RAISES FUNDS FOR SPECIAL OLYMPICS



G. Robert Cotton Correctional facility held the 5th Annual Chili Cook-Off for the Law Enforcement Torch Run - Special Olympics of Michigan. Eleven contestants participated in the event, raising \$408. The First Place winner was A/ARUS Harold Boorman (*pictured right*) for his Chicken Chili. Second Place went to A/ARUS Ryan Davidson (*pictured left*) for his Spicy Chicken Chili.



**MDOC LIFESAVERS ARE THERE TO ASSIST*****Fight in the Chow Hall - Officer Down***

In September 2010, Officers Christopher Mitchell, Darrin Gargus, and James Pilarski of Ernest C. Brooks Correctional Facility came to the aid of a fellow officer who collapsed while responding to a fight in the chow hall. During the altercation, the officer collapsed and was unresponsive. Officer Gargus immediately provided first aid for the officer, completing an initial assessment and determining that he was not breathing. Gargus radioed control center and requested the AED and activation of EMS. Officers Gargus and Mitchell performed CPR until Officer Pilarski arrived and applied the AED, shocking the unresponsive officer. Once the shock was delivered, the officer began breathing again and the responding staff monitored him until he was transported by EMS personnel to a local hospital. For their quick actions during a dynamic and dangerous situation, all three officers earned the Department's Lifesaving Award.

**PEOPLE MAKE THE DIFFERENCE*****Gas Pump Collision***

Officer Todd Johnston of Alger Correctional Facility was at a gas station in Iron Mountain when he witnessed a car crash into one of the station's gas pumps. The out-of-control car was approaching the pumps when it suddenly accelerated, struck another parked car and completely sheered off a gas pump at ground level. The force of the collision pinned a young woman who had been pumping gas, between the broken pump and her car. Officer Johnston and other witnesses disregarded the inherent dangers of being near the damaged gasoline pump and lifted the pump off the young woman, freeing her. Johnston then monitored her condition until EMS could transport her to the hospital for treatment of her injuries. Because of his alert actions and bravery under life-threatening conditions, Officer Johnston was awarded with the Department's Lifesaving Award.





RETIREMENTS - FEBRUARY 1, 2011



Ackerson, RandolphCFA Southern Region - Ionia
 Bell, Frank L.Field Operations - Ouststate Region
 Belusar, Donald J. Alger Correctional Facility
 Blemaster, Phyllis E.....Carson City Correctional Facility
 Davis, Roger C. Richard A. Handlon Correctional Facility
 Deventer, DonaldLakeland Correctional Facility
 Eesley, Anne Ernest C. Brooks Correctional Facility
 Grindle, Mark D.Lakeland Correctional Facility
 Hess, Matthew P. Marquette Branch Prison
 Hofbauer, Linda M. Chippewa Correctional Facility
 Juntunen, Melvin R..... Alger Correctional Facility
 Karazim, James J..... Cooper Street Correctional Facility
 Kinney, Leon M..... Chippewa Correctional Facility
 Leland, Dureen L. Bellamy Creek Correctional Facility
 Lepley, GarryCarson City Correctional Facility
 Merlau, Patricia A.Florence Crane Correctional Facility
 Miller, Brian J.....Carson City Correctional Facility
 Mleko, Larry R. Baraga Maximum Correctional Facility
 O'Guin, Timothy Bellamy Creek Correctional Facility
 Peterson, Paul Kinross Correctional Facility
 Redick, DianeMichigan Reformatory
 Reed, Paul A. Central Michigan Correctional Facility
 Salter, Terry L.....Charles Egeler Correctional Facility
 Slater, Steven M..... Kinross Correctional Facility
 White, Mark A. Newberry Correctional Facility
 Willis, Carol L..... Chippewa Correctional Facility
 Wilson, Margin G..... Women's Huron Valley Correctional Facility

PEOPLE MAKE THE DIFFERENCE

