

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS POLICY DIRECTIVE		EFFECTIVE DATE 02/01/2021	NUMBER 02.03.100
SUBJECT EMPLOYEE DISCIPLINE		SUPERSEDES 02.03.100 (01/01/2018)	
		AUTHORITY MCL 423.501 et seq.; MCL 791.203; Civil Service Rules 2-6 and 6-5	
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POLICY STATEMENT:

Discipline shall be imposed for violations of Department work rules to obtain employee compliance with conditions of employment.

RELATED POLICIES:

- 01.01.140 Internal Affairs
- 02.03.109 Discriminatory Harassment
- 02.03.130 Corrective Action for Performance Problems

STATE-WIDE OPERATING PROCEDURES:

- 01.01.140 Internal Affairs
- 01.01.140A Expedited Investigations
- 02.03.100A Employee Discipline
- 02.03.109 Handling Discriminatory Harassment Complaints
- 02.03.130 Corrective Action for Performance Problems

POLICY:

DEFINITIONS

- A. Employee - For purposes of this policy, includes only Michigan Department of Corrections (MDOC) staff.
- B. Management Representative - Executive Policy Team (EPT) members and staff designated by EPT members to chair disciplinary conferences and/or impose discipline.

GENERAL INFORMATION

- C. Exclusively represented employees shall be governed by their collective bargaining agreement where in conflict with this policy.
- D. The Office of Executive Affairs (OEA) Administrator shall ensure that the Employee Handbook is updated as necessary to identify current Department work rules and other employment requirements. The Employee Handbook shall be provided to all new employees by the appropriate Human Resources (HR) Office. Revisions to the Employee Handbook shall be provided to all employees. The current Employee Handbook shall be available to all staff on the Department's Document Access System (DAS).
- E. The current Civil Service Commission rules and regulations are available on the Civil Service Commission website. The current rules and regulations also are available for review by employees in the HR Office or other appropriate location, as determined by the Warden or appropriate administrator. The OEA Administrator or designee shall ensure that any revisions to the Civil Service Commission rules and regulations which, if violated, could result in discipline are incorporated into this policy or the Employee Handbook, as appropriate.
- F. Employees are required to comply with Civil Service Commission rules and regulations and the Department's policies, procedures, manuals, Director's Office Memorandums (DOM) and the Employee Handbook. Employees failing to do so may be subject to discipline as set forth in this policy.
- G. If an employee's performance level warrants the issuance of either an interim or probationary unsatisfactory service rating, an unsatisfactory service rating shall be issued only after a disciplinary conference is conducted

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consistent with this policy. At the conclusion of the conference, the unsatisfactory service rating shall be issued if it is determined to be warranted based on the evidence presented at the conference. The unsatisfactory service rating shall address the performance deficiencies and the action necessary to regain satisfactory status, unless the level of performance warrants discharge.

- H. Only management representatives are authorized to chair disciplinary conferences and impose discipline. In a correctional facility, only the Warden is designated as the management representative to perform these disciplinary functions for employees under their supervision unless otherwise approved by the appropriate Assistant Deputy Director (ADD).
- I. If discipline imposed is inconsistent with the requirements set forth in this policy directive or Civil Service Commission rules and regulations, the OEA Administrator or designee has the authority to correct the discipline imposed to bring it into compliance with such requirements.
- J. An employee who disagrees with discipline imposed pursuant to this policy may file a grievance in accordance with Civil Service Commission rules and regulations and/or appropriate collective bargaining agreement.

DISCIPLINARY INVESTIGATIONS

- K. The management representative or designee shall enter all allegations of employee work rule violations, including Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) and discriminatory harassment complaints, into the Administrative Investigations Management (AIM) database as set forth in PD 01.01.140 "Internal Affairs." Processing and investigating cases entered in aim shall be in accordance with PD 01.01.140 "Internal Affairs," OP 01.01.140 "Internal Affairs," OP 01.01.140A "Expedited Investigations," PD 02.03.109 "Discriminatory Harassment," and OP 02.03.109 "Handling Discriminatory Harassment Complaints."

SUSPENSION FOR INVESTIGATION

- L. An employee being investigated for an alleged rule violation shall be suspended if the employee has a pending criminal charge for any controlled substance or criminal sexual conduct offense, or has any pending criminal felony charge.
- M. An employee being investigated for an alleged rule violation may be suspended if any of the following apply:
 1. The alleged rule violation affects the order and security of the worksite.
 2. There is evidence that the employee used excessive force, as defined in PD 04.05.110 "Use of Force" against an offender.
 3. The employee has outside employment that poses a conflict of interest with Department employment as set forth in PD 02.03.105 "Outside Employment."
 4. The employee is under criminal investigation for conduct connected with or related to their employment with the Department.
 5. The employee has a pending criminal misdemeanor charge for conduct connected with or related to their employment with the Department or has a pending criminal misdemeanor charge for any conduct which, if the allegations are found to be true, would likely result in the employee being discharged from employment, unless suspension is mandatory pursuant to Paragraph L.
 6. The alleged rule violation is for conduct which, if the allegations are found to be true, would likely result in the employee being discharged from employment, unless suspension is mandatory pursuant to Paragraph L.
 7. The suspension is in accordance with applicable collective bargaining agreements.
- N. Except when necessary to attend disciplinary investigatory interviews or a scheduled disciplinary conference, a suspended employee shall not be allowed to enter any Department correctional facility, building, or office without specific permission from the Warden, FOA ADD, or appropriate administrator. The Warden, FOA ADD, or

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appropriate administrator shall ensure that a stop order is prepared and posted in appropriate areas of the facility, building, or office under their control to prevent unauthorized entry by a suspended employee. Written notification of the stop order also shall be sent to the OEA Administrator or designee and the appropriate ADD for distribution to the appropriate Deputy Director, Public Information Officer, Legislative Liaison, Department Discipline Coordinator, and others as deemed appropriate. The appropriate Deputy Director shall ensure notification is forwarded to the Director.

- O. A suspension pursuant to Paragraph L shall be for the duration of the disciplinary investigation and the criminal proceedings. The length of all other suspensions shall be determined by the OEA Administrator or designee. The OEA Administrator or designee shall base their decision on the conduct alleged to have occurred, and the impact the employee's presence would have on the order and security of the worksite and the ongoing investigation. The OEA Administrator or designee may have the employee temporarily reassigned to another worksite in lieu of continued suspension, except if the suspension is pursuant to Paragraph L or Paragraph M, no. 5. All suspensions shall be documented on an Employee Departure Report (CS-301).
- P. The entire suspension ordered pursuant to Paragraph L or Paragraph M, no. 5, shall be without pay. All other suspensions shall be in accordance with the appropriate collective bargaining agreement or Civil Service Commission rules and regulations.
- Q. If disciplinary charges are not filed against a suspended employee, or if it is later determined that there was no rule violation committed, the employee shall be returned to work and shall be entitled to back pay for the period of the unpaid suspension. An employee shall not be entitled to back pay if the employee is discharged from employment.

DISCIPLINARY CONFERENCES

- R. If it is determined that an employee is to be charged with a rule violation that may result in disciplinary sanctions being imposed (i.e., discharge, demotion, suspension, or written reprimand), the appropriate management representative shall ensure that a disciplinary conference is scheduled and conducted in a timely manner. The management representative or designee must receive approval from the Discipline Coordinator or designee prior to charging an employee with an asterisk rule violation identified on Attachment A. The Discipline Coordinator or designee may add or delete work rules, as necessary, to ensure the employee is properly charged. The employee shall be given written notice of the charge(s) and the date of the disciplinary conference. The employee also shall be notified that they are subject to discipline up to and including discharge. Copies of all written documents pertaining to the charges shall be provided to the employee. The employee shall be given the opportunity to view any other evidence not provided in a private location. If the employee is on an extended leave, the employee shall be notified that they may submit a written response to the charges and evidence that will be used at the conference if they are unable to attend the conference.
- S. The disciplinary conference shall be conducted with the charged employee and appropriate management representative serving as the chairperson in attendance. The investigator will attend the disciplinary conference unless they are on an extended leave, have retired, or are no longer employed by the Department. Investigators may participate in the conference either in person, by telephone, or by video conference as determined by management. However, the conference is not required to be rescheduled if the charged employee fails to attend after receiving notice of the conference. The charged employee may waive in writing the presence of the investigator, subject to the approval of the chairperson. The charged employee shall be permitted to have a representative in attendance upon request, even if the employee does not attend the conference.
- T. The charged employee shall be allowed to speak and provide documentation on their behalf at the disciplinary conference but shall not be allowed to have witnesses present oral testimony on their behalf. The charged employee is required to truthfully answer all questions asked by the disciplinary conference chairperson. Failure to do so may result in additional disciplinary action.
- U. If issues are raised during the disciplinary conference that were not addressed during the investigation, the chairperson may adjourn the disciplinary conference to have the investigator obtain additional information and provide a supplemental report as needed. The disciplinary conference shall be reconvened to address the findings of the supplemental report, with notice provided as set forth in Paragraph R, even if the supplemental report reveals there was no rule violation.

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- V. If it is determined by the chairperson, or by the OEA Administrator or designee, that the employee was not properly charged, the chairperson shall reconvene the disciplinary conference after the appropriate charges are determined and notice is provided as set forth in Paragraph R.
- W. The chairperson shall determine whether the employee committed a rule violation based on a preponderance of the evidence presented at the disciplinary conference. If the rule violation is one for which only the OEA Administrator or designee may impose discipline, the chairperson shall consult with the OEA Administrator or designee prior to dismissing a disciplinary charge. The chairperson also shall ensure that a disciplinary conference summary is prepared. The summary shall include the arguments presented at the conference, the determination of whether a rule violation was committed and, if so, if there were any mitigating or aggravating circumstances. The summary also may include a recommendation of discipline to be imposed.
- X. If it is determined that the employee did not commit a rule violation, the employee shall be notified in writing of that determination. If it is determined that a rule violation was committed, disciplinary sanctions shall be imposed as set forth below.

IMPOSITION OF DISCIPLINARY SANCTIONS

- Y. Employees who commit similar rule violations should generally receive similar discipline for their conduct. An employee who continues to commit rule violations should generally receive more severe discipline than an employee who commits a single rule violation. However, some conduct is so egregious to warrant discharge for a first offense. Attachment A shall be used to determine the appropriate discipline for rule violations that are committed by employees, absent a finding of mitigating or aggravating circumstances that support a departure from the discipline identified for the rule violation. Attachment A is not to be used to determine the discipline for supervisory and managerial employees because these employees are held to a higher standard of conduct than other employees.
- Z. An unsatisfactory service rating and prior discipline shall be considered aggravating factors when determining discipline. However, only unsatisfactory service ratings and discipline within the preceding two years shall be considered unless the ratings and/or discipline remain in the employee's personnel file due to the employee failing to complete two years of actual work time without receiving further discipline.
- AA. When there are multiple employees involved in the same incident, discipline shall be determined for all employees by the OEA Administrator or designee regardless of the work rules charged. This applies to all work rules identified in Attachment A.
- BB. A management representative is authorized to determine and impose discipline for all rule violations except for asterisk rule violations, escape related conduct, offender death and consistent with Paragraph AA. The OEA Administrator or designee shall determine and impose discipline for all asterisk rule violations and consistent with Paragraph AA.
 - 1. Non-Supervisory and Non-Managerial Employees - First Rule Violation:
 - a. Discipline shall be determined and imposed by the management representative as identified in Attachment A.
 - b. A management representative is authorized to determine and impose discipline below that identified in Attachment A due to mitigating circumstances. A settlement agreement shall be used in such cases consistent with the requirements set forth in Paragraph CC.
 - c. Only the OEA Administrator or designee is authorized to determine and impose discipline that exceeds that identified in Attachment A, including a demotion.
 - 2. Non-Supervisory and Non-Managerial Employees - Subsequent Progressive Discipline:
 - a. Any subsequent discipline shall be determined and imposed by the management representative as identified in the progressive discipline guide in Attachment A. If the subsequent discipline is less than what would be imposed for a first violation, the greater discipline shall be imposed.

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b. A management representative is authorized to determine and impose discipline below that identified in Attachment A due to mitigating circumstances. The discipline imposed shall not be lower than the current discipline on record. A settlement agreement shall be used in such cases consistent with the requirements set forth in Paragraph CC.

c. Only the OEA Administrator or designee is authorized to determine and impose discipline that exceeds that identified in Attachment A, including a demotion.

3. Supervisory and Managerial Employees - First Rule Violation:

a. Discipline shall be determined and imposed by the management representative. Supervisory and managerial employees are held to a higher standard of conduct and discipline imposed shall be greater than a penalty for non-supervisory or non-managerial employees for similar conduct.

b. A management representative is authorized to determine and impose discipline below the higher standard of conduct due to mitigating circumstances. A settlement agreement shall be used in such cases consistent with the requirements set forth in Paragraph CC.

c. Only the OEA Administrator or designee is authorized to determine and impose a demotion.

4. Supervisory and Managerial Employees - Subsequent Progressive Discipline:

a. Any subsequent discipline shall be determined and imposed by the management representative. Supervisory and managerial employees are held to a higher standard of conduct and discipline imposed shall be greater than a penalty for non-supervisory or non-managerial employees for similar conduct.

b. A management representative is authorized to determine and impose discipline below the higher standard of conduct due to mitigating circumstances. The discipline imposed shall not be lower than the current discipline on record. A settlement agreement shall be used in such cases consistent with the requirements set forth in Paragraph CC.

c. Only the OEA Administrator or designee is authorized to determine and impose a demotion.

CC. Management representatives authorized to impose discipline may offer and/or agree to settle a disciplinary case at any time during the disciplinary proceeding except:

a. If the settlement includes a demotion or otherwise exceeds the discipline identified for the violation in Attachment A, or

b. The discipline is required to be determined by the OEA Administrator or designee.

DD. Standardized language developed by the OEA Administrator or designee shall be used whenever a disciplinary case is settled. Any deviation must be approved in advance by the OEA Administrator or designee. A "last chance agreement" shall be determined by the OEA Administrator or designee.

EE. Whenever discipline is to be determined by the OEA Administrator or designee, the appropriate management representative shall submit the disciplinary packet, including the disciplinary conference summary and Employee Disciplinary Report (CAJ-231) to the OEA Administrator or designee. The OEA Administrator or designee shall sign the Employee Discipline Report (CAJ-231).

FF. Whenever discipline is determined by the management representative, the disciplinary packet, including the disciplinary conference summary and the Employee Discipline Report (CAJ-231), shall be submitted to the OEA Administrator or designee for post review after the disciplinary determination is made.

GG. In all cases, the appropriate management representative shall ensure the charged employee is provided a copy of the disciplinary conference summary and notified of the approved discipline. They also shall ensure that the approved discipline, including discipline imposed through a settlement agreement, is imposed.

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HH. An employee who receives a disciplinary suspension may request to work and forfeit accrued leave credits for the period of the suspension in lieu of serving the suspension unpaid. Sick leave credits cannot be used for this purpose. Any period of unpaid suspension pending investigation shall be applied toward the disciplinary suspension.

RETENTION AND DISCLOSURE OF DISCIPLINARY RECORDS (INCLUDING UNSATISFACTORY SERVICE RATINGS)

II. Upon written request of an employee, disciplinary reports and related disciplinary records shall be removed from the employee's Personnel file when the employee has completed two years of actual work time during which they have not received any additional discipline. If there is additional discipline, the existing discipline shall remain in the file until the employee has completed two years of actual work time without receiving any further disciplinary action.

JJ. Documentation removed from an employee's Personnel file pursuant to Paragraph II, or due to a court or administrative order (e.g., from the Civil Service Commission), shall not be used to determine discipline for a rule violation.

KK. As set forth in PD 01.06.110 "Freedom of Information Act - Access to Department Public Records," documents in an employee's Personnel file, including disciplinary reports, are not released under the Freedom of Information Act. However, if the Department divulges disciplinary reports or other records of disciplinary action to a third party outside of the Department, the Department shall provide written notice to the employee or former employee who was the subject of the disciplinary action, except as set forth in Paragraph LL. The written notice shall be sent by first-class mail to the employee's last known address no later than the day the disciplinary action is divulged. Disciplinary reports and records of other disciplinary action shall be divulged when ordered in a legal action or arbitration.

LL. Notice pursuant to Paragraph KK is not required if:

1. The employee or former employee specifically waived notice as part of a written signed employment application with another employer;
2. A court or arbitrator ordered to disclose to a party in a legal action or arbitration;
3. The records were requested by the Department of Attorney General;
4. The records were requested by another State or Federal agency that has demonstrated authority to have access to the records, as determined by the appropriate HR Officer after consultation with the OEA Administrator;
5. The disclosure was required by a government agency as a result of a claim or complaint by an employee;
6. The records were released to the collective bargaining agreement representative who is representing the employee.

PROCEDURES

MM. If necessary, to implement requirements set forth in this policy directive, the OEA Administrator shall ensure that operating procedures are developed or updated.

AUDIT ELEMENTS

NN. A Primary Audit Elements List has been developed and is available on the Department's Document Access System (DAS) to assist with self-audit of this policy pursuant to PD 01.05.100 "Self-Audits and Performance Audits."

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ATTACHMENTS

OO. This policy includes the following attachment:

1. Attachment A - Discipline Guide

APPROVED: HEW 01/29/2021

**ATTACHMENT A
DISCIPLINE GUIDE**

THIS GUIDE IS NOT APPLICABLE TO SUPERVISORY AND MANAGERIAL EMPLOYEES AS THEY ARE HELD TO A HIGHER STANDARD OF CONDUCT. DISCIPLINE IMPOSED WILL BE GREATER THAN A PENALTY FOR NON-SUPERVISORY AND NON-MANAGERIAL EMPLOYEES FOR SIMILAR CONDUCT.

FIRST RULE VIOLATION

The following shall be used to determine discipline for a first rule violation absent a finding of aggravating or mitigating circumstances; however, the Office of Executive Affairs (OEA) Administrator or designee shall determine discipline for any violation related to an escape, escape attempt, offender death, or when there are multiple employees involved in the same incident and, if aggravating circumstances are found to exist, may impose any sanction up to and including discharge.

NUMBER	WORK RULE	DISCIPLINE WITHOUT AGGRAVATION OR MITIGATION
1	Humane Treatment of Individuals	1 Day Suspension
2	Use of Position for Personal Gain	1 Day Suspension
3	Discriminatory Harassment	*
4	Misuse of State or Other Agency Property or Equipment	1 Day Suspension
5	Conduct Unbecoming	*
6	Physical Contact	1 Day Suspension
7	Confidential Nature of Records	Written Reprimand
8	Use of Health Care Services	Written Reprimand
9	Class II Insubordination	* Discharge
10	Class I Insubordination	1 Day Suspension
11	Searches While on Facility Property	* Discharge
12	Responding or Providing Assistance	3 Day Suspension
13	<i>Enforcing Rules, Regulations, Policies, Procedures, Post Orders and Work Statements</i>	<i>Rule Rescinded Eff. 1/15/21</i>
14	<i>Maintaining Order</i>	<i>Rule Rescinded Eff. 1/15/21</i>
15	<i>Chain of Command</i>	<i>Rule Rescinded Eff. 1/15/21</i>
16	Criminal Acts - Felony	* Discharge
17	Controlled Substance/Intoxicant – Possession, Introduction, or Attempted Introduction	* Discharge
18	Use of Alcohol or Controlled Substance	* Discharge
19	<i>Use of Controlled Substance/Other</i>	<i>Rule Rescinded Eff. 4/24/00</i>
20	Introduction or Possession of Contraband Items	*
21	Contraband in Vehicle on the Premises of a Facility Housing Offenders	1 Day Suspension
22	Misdemeanor or Other Restrictions	*
23	<i>Possession and/or Use of Medication</i>	<i>Rule Rescinded Eff. 1/15/21</i>
24	<i>Improper Relationship-Romantic, Sexual, Shared Residence, Unauthorized, or Overly Familiar</i>	<i>Superseded by Rule 46 Eff. 9/17/99</i>
25	<i>Recreational Activities with Prisoners</i>	<i>Rule Rescinded Eff. 4/24/00</i>
26	Entry and Visiting in a Facility	Written Reprimand
27	Dereliction of Duty	1 Day Suspension
28	Use of Force	* Discharge
29	<i>Exchange of Duties – Custody/Security</i>	<i>Rule Rescinded Eff. 1/15/21</i>
30	Duty Relief and Exchange of Duties	1 Day Suspension
31	Security Precautions	1 Day Suspension
32	Attention to Duty	1 Day Suspension

FIRST RULE VIOLATION – Continued

NUMBER	WORK RULE	DISCIPLINE WITHOUT AGGRAVATION OR MITIGATION
33	Reporting Violations	Written Reprimand
34	Reporting Approach to Introduce Contraband, Violate Rules, Policies, Procedures, Director's Office Memorandums, and Manuals	1 Day Suspension
35	<i>Failure to Become Familiar with Duties</i>	<i>Rule Rescinded Eff. 4/24/00</i>
36	<i>Failure to Take Counts</i>	<i>Rule Rescinded Eff. 9/30/03</i>
37	<i>Required Rounds</i>	<i>Rule Rescinded Eff. 04/01/12</i>
38	Reporting Requirements	Written Reprimand
39	<i>Required Field Agent Contact</i>	<i>Rule Rescinded Eff. 04/01/12</i>
40	<i>Performing Less than Satisfactorily</i>	<i>Rule Rescinded Eff. 4/24/00</i>
41	<i>Failure to Meet Training Requirements</i>	<i>Rule Rescinded Eff. 4/24/00</i>
42	Employee Uniform Requirements	Written Reprimand
43	<i>Punctuality and Use of Time Cards / Clocks</i>	<i>Rule Rescinded Eff. 4/24/00</i>
44	<i>Failure to Give Proper Notice of Absence</i>	<i>Rule Rescinded Eff. 4/24/00</i>
45	<i>Inappropriate Use of Leave Credits</i>	<i>Rule Rescinded Eff. 4/24/00</i>
46	<i>Sexual Misconduct, Sexual Harassment, Improper Relationship, or Overly-Familiar Contact</i>	<i>Superseded by Rules 50, 51 and 52 Eff. 02/13/06</i>
47	Falsifying, Altering, Destroying, Removing Documents or Filing False Reports	* Discharge
48	Giving or Receiving Gifts or Services	1 Day Suspension
49	<i>Fighting</i>	<i>Rule Rescinded Eff. 04/01/12</i>
50	Overly-Familiar or Unauthorized Contact	*
51	Sexual Abuse of Offender	* Discharge
52	Sexual Harassment of Offender	*
53	Workplace Safety	* Discharge
54	Misuse of Recording Devices or Recorded Information	*

*Determined by OEA Administrator or designee and may be any sanction up to and including discharge, unless otherwise specified above. The management representative can only recommend discipline for these violations.

PROGRESSIVE DISCIPLINE GUIDE

The OEA Administrator or designee shall determine progressive discipline for any rule violation related to an escape, escape attempt, offender death, or when there are multiple employees involved in the same incident and may be any sanction up to and including discharge. In all other cases, the following Progressive Discipline Grid shall be used to determine the appropriate discipline to be imposed absent a finding of aggravating or mitigating circumstances. However, if the discipline identified in this attachment is less than what would be imposed if the violation was a first violation, the greater discipline shall be imposed. Although Unsatisfactory Service Ratings are not specifically listed in this attachment, an unsatisfactory rating is discipline and will be considered when assessing the appropriate discipline for subsequent rule violations.

FIRST RULE VIOLATION:	SECOND RULE VIOLATION WITHOUT AGGRAVATION:	THIRD RULE VIOLATION WITHOUT AGGRAVATION:	FOURTH RULE VIOLATION WITHOUT AGGRAVATION:	FIFTH RULE VIOLATION WITHOUT MITIGATION:
Written Reprimand	1 Day Suspension	2 Day Suspension	3 Day Suspension	* Discharge
1 Day Suspension	2 Day Suspension	3 Day Suspension	4 Day Suspension	* Discharge
2 Day Suspension	3 Day Suspension	4 Day Suspension	5 Day Suspension	* Discharge
3 Day Suspension	4 Day Suspension	5 Day Suspension	6 Day Suspension	* Discharge
4 Day Suspension	5 Day Suspension	6 Day Suspension	7 Day Suspension	* Discharge
5 Day Suspension	6 Day Suspension	7 Day Suspension	8 Day Suspension	* Discharge

*Determined OEA Administrator or designee.