

# CALIFORNIA CORRECTIONAL SUPERVISORS ORGANIZATION

January 28, 2010 - Weekly Update

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**Reported By Ford Canutt, Administrative Liaison:** On Monday January 25, 2010 CCSO State President Rich Tatum, Administrative Liaison Ford Canutt, Field Representative Bill Braden, and CMC Chapter President Dave Ivie met with CDCR Labor Relations Officers Charlotte Clarke, Tony Jones, Chief of Labor Relations and several subject matter experts concerning the implementation of SB 18: the credits for inmate's early release. CCSO is concerned because during the drafting of this new procedure, we were never contacted for input or noticed. A crucial part of this procedure involves the Inmate Assignment Lieutenant, who will produce a 128-G that will mitigate the amount of time an inmate will serve. This puts a large amount of liability and workload on the Lieutenant that normally would and should be placed on the CCIs. CCSO's arguments seemed to fall on deaf ears. The only positive information received is the fact that the majority of education programs that would qualify an inmate for the Milestone Completion Credits have been reduced. It would appear that the reduction of education programs would reduce dramatically this early release program.

Also, during this meeting CCSO inquired about a rumored 3 to 5% cross coverage and redirection plan that CDCR is contemplating. Tony Jones said that they were working on this new procedure but it was still on the drawing board. CCSO reminded Labor Relations that this Organization picketed headquarters in 1999 and took the Director to court over this same issue. If CDCR wants to cross cover, then there has to be program modifications. There also needs to be a system in place that caps these staff cut backs when the institution has reached their 3 to 5 % saving threshold. President Tatum told Tony Jones that CCSO will audit all institutions to ensure they do not exceed the 3 to 5% staffing cuts and to ensure programs are modified for cross covering.

Tony Jones assured CCSO that we would have the opportunity to have discussion and dialog before the plan becomes final or its subsequent implementation.

**California launches plan to cut prison population:** State prison authorities Monday, January 25<sup>th</sup> began reducing the number of parole violators sent back behind bars and offering inmates more opportunity to shorten their sentences, as part of a plan to decrease the prison population by 6,500 inmates over the next year. Low-risk offenders, including those convicted of nonviolent crimes, will not have regular supervision by a parole agent. And they will no longer be returned to prison for technical violations such as alcohol use, missed drug tests or failure to notify the state of an address change.

**Senate bill restricts return of parolees:** A California State Senate bill affecting parole and sentencing requirements took effect on January 26<sup>th</sup> to the dismay of local law enforcement officials, including CCSO, who see the move as shifting the prison burden to local government. Senate Bill 18 (3X), passed Aug. 31, 2009, prohibits certain felons from returning to prison after parole violations, changes the dollar thresholds on certain theft crimes and reduces the amount of time certain prisoners stay incarcerated, according to the bill. CDCR Secretary, Matt Cate supports this new law and said it will reduce the workload of parole agents.

**Notification of Layoff Plan Change:** Employees impacted under the DJJ Rightsizing, Program 800, and Headquarters Reduction plans (the three layoff plans scheduled to be effective January 31, 2010) were sent letters mailed on Thursday, January 28, 2010, identifying important new dates. These dates were modified in order to accommodate several administrative issues that were brought to CDCR's attention, including

processing delays. No other layoff plans are affected by these changes per CDCR Undersecretary Mary Fernandez.

Employees awarded a new position in lieu of layoff will receive an Official 30-day Notification of New Start Date letter, moving their report date to **March 2, 2010**. Employees awarded new positions will be allowed to facilitate earlier start dates, if they choose to do so. This must be done by mutual agreement between hiring authorities.

Employees laid off will receive an Official 30-Day Notification of New Date for Layoff letter, with a new effective date for layoff of **March 1, 2010**, upon close of business.

Employees previously notified they would be laid off due to the Seniority and Placement Unit (SPU) being unable to facilitate a placement for them will receive an Official 30-Day Notification of New Date for Layoff letter, with a new effective date of layoff of **March 1, 2010**, upon close of business. Employees in this category may still be awarded a vacant position within the Department, but must initiate contact with the SPU starting no earlier than noon on Thursday, January 28, 2010, and ensuring to call no later than 5:00 pm on February 8, 2010. To allow for maximum placements, for affected employees, these vacancies will be awarded on a **first come, first serve basis**. If you are awarded a position through this process, you will be sent a confirmation letter, and your Institution Personnel Officer (IPO) or Personnel Liaison will also be notified.

All updated dates will be posted on the CDCR Intranet.

Note: CCSO opposes the first come, first serve basis, as it does not follow the DPA's layoff manual guidelines. As long as an employee is employed seniority takes precedence. CCSO has made contact with CDCR and DPA.

**Sgt. Lemon Injured at HDSP:** On Sunday, January 24th at HDSP on the Facility B SNY Yard at approximately 1650 hours, Sgt. Lemon responded to Facility B, Building 2 to supervise the removal of an inmate from his cell. The inmate was placed in handcuffs and as the door opened he was able to free himself from the right cuff. He struck Sgt. Lemon in the facial area. Besides Sgt. Lemon, three officers were injured while gaining control of the inmate. Chief Operations & Financial Officer Le Sage spoke with Sgt. Lemon and he is doing well and returned to work on Thursday, January 28th. CCSO remains ever cognizant of the fact that any time an inmate assaults an officer that grave injury including death could be the end result. We are thankful that Sgt. Lemon was not seriously injured, and we applaud him as we do all our members who work so closely with inmates.

**Chief Dentist Litigation Update:** For the Chief Dentist Litigation update, please go to [www.ccsonet.org](http://www.ccsonet.org) and then go to the "News" page and click on the "Chief Dentist Litigation" link.

**T a k e C a r e a n d B e S a f e !**