

California Correctional Supervisors Organization, Inc.

"Supervisors Representing Supervisors"

Friday, September 2, 2005
Weekly Update

Expression of Sympathy for Katrina Victims:

Our thoughts this week turn to the victims of Katrina. The devastation caused by this hurricane in New Orleans, Mississippi and Alabama will require all Americans to pull together to assist victims. Send your support and donate to the American Red Cross. Call 1-800-435-7669 or www.redcross.org
Louisiana Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals: www.la-spca.org
For guidelines to help make sure your donations get to where they are needed, check this site run by the Federal Emergency Management Agency: www.fema.gov/rr/help2.shtm

CHAD Officers Reinstated:

Six correctional employees at Chaderjian Youth Facility won back their jobs after being terminated for allegedly beating up two wards that was caught on videotape.

The judge found the employees acted in self-defense after the two wards broke into an office and attacked an officer. It was deemed that the wards were not compliant and the only serious injury was to an officer. CDCR Secretary Hickman stated "we strongly disagree with this decision" and that CDCR intends to study the Personnel Board's action and then review options. The main option is to appeal the decision to Superior Court. Hickman's stand to possibly appeal is the new departments position to break the code of silence and to send a message that CDCR is serious regarding reform.

CCSO disagrees with CDCR Secretary Hickman's response. The wards at CHAD are violent offenders ranging from 18 to 25 years of age. These wards (inmates) realize their rights provide them the upper hand against the staff. Staff needs the support of CDCR to take back control of CHAD. CDCR must remember that their first mission should be the protection of their employees. The workplace must remain safe for employees to do their job properly.

The best thing that could happen for the staff at CHAD is to have the legislators step back and allow experienced staff to do their job.

Teen Found Dead at Chaderjian:

An 18-year-old offender was found hanging by a sheet in his cell Wednesday night, August 31st, state authorities said. Officers discovered the body of the 18-year-old about 6:30 p.m. in his room in Pajaro Hall at the N.A. Chaderjian Youth Training Facility, said Julio Calderon, a spokesman for the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. Officers sought to revive the ward, but he was declared dead shortly before 8 p.m. at St. Joseph's Hospital in Stockton.

Mr. Calderon also said this was the first suicide at the institution in about a year and stressed that staff members have been focused on preventing inmate deaths. "The wards," Calderon said, "are well-entrenched in their gang culture and because of that you are going to have more violence in the institution as you go along. Our attempt is to break them away from the gang culture which for some is impossible."

Calipatria State Prison's Acting Warden:

Calipatria State Prison's Acting Warden, Stuart Ryan was moved to Ironwood State Prison as Chief Deputy Warden. CDCR spokesperson JP Tremblay stated Ryan was "reassigned after a management assessment of the prison that they began at least a week before the riot." The decision to reassign Ryan was made hours before the August 18th riot occurred at Calipatria State Prison.

FBI Assessment of Inmates:

The FBI will conduct, nationwide threat assessments of inmates. FBI agents want to identify, report, analyze and disrupt efforts by extremist individuals or groups that advocate or recruit for the purpose of violence within correctional facilities. FBI Director Robert Mueller stated the Senate Intelligence Committee in February found that prisons are "fertile grounds for extremists." FBI agents will go into all institutions to assess the population.

Goyette & Associates Website:

Goyette & Associates now have a website with current newsletters referencing case law and legal issue updates. Check out the latest legal updates by going to <http://www.goyetteassociates.com/currentnews.htm>

Academy Expansion — Suspend 4 Year Rotation:

CDCR will activate the Northern California Women's Facility (NCWF) as a training academy annex in November 2005. The new training center will become fully activated in January 2006, once the Parole and Juvenile Program Academies have completed their training and relocated to the Stockton Training Center, formally the Youth Academy Training Center in Stockton. Alternating academies at both the NCWF and CTC sites will be implemented to allow for a steady flow of graduates approximately every eight weeks.

The 4-year rotation policy will be suspended for the academy training staff in order to secure that correctional officer numbers are achieved and to secure a steady flow of trained officers for the facilities.

Labor Day Observance:

The CCSO office will be closed Monday, September 5th in honor of Labor Day. **The next weekly update will be September 16th** as State President Tatum and Chief Operations & Financial Officer Le Sage will be attending the California Law Enforcement Association's (CLEA) Conference in San Diego on September 8th and 9th.

Welcome New Members:

On behalf of the CCSO State Board and staff, we welcome the new members who have joined CCSO this

Thought for the Week:

"The quality of an individual is reflected in the standards they set for themselves." – Ray Kroc

Legislative Update By Legislative Advocates Paul Curry and John Lovell:

The capitol will be buzzing for the next couple of weeks as lawmakers face the deadline of the end of this year's legislative session on September 9, 2005. With the three day labor day week end falling before the end of the session there is not much time left for getting the peoples business done. The cloud of the special election has really changed the dynamics in the capitol with a lot of attention being focused on the special election and not much else.

The Governor has signed into law AB 1523, by Assemblyman Blakeslee. This bill would require the appointing power to grant a military leave of absence for the period of active duty specified in the orders, not to exceed 5 years. Waiting for action by the Governor is AB 296, by Assemblymember Negrete McLeod which requires the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to provide hepatitis C screening to all inmates who request it, and

offer it to inmates that have a history of intravenous drug use or other risk factors for hepatitis C. This testing shall be confidential. The medical co-payment authorized in Section 5007.5 shall not be charged for hepatitis C testing, treatment, or any follow up testing.

While the above two bills have made it through the process several other CCSO supported bills are still waiting their final fate in these last couple of weeks and CCSO's advocates can be found walking the halls and meeting with decision makers everyday and into the evenings.

AB 971 Horton which would require the Inspector General to approve persons selected to be Superintendents of Youth Correctional facilities (just as Wardens are now) still has a chance of passing this year. This bill is waiting for amendments before a hearing in the assembly.

AB 240 Assembly Member Bermudez

This bill would provide that the State Department of Health Services could not provide or pay for any prescription drug or therapy to treat erectile dysfunction for any Medi-Cal recipient required to register pursuant to these provisions, except to the extent it is required under federal law.

AB 276 Assembly Member Baca

This bill would specify that a state employee would be entitled to retain hazardous duty pay, hostile fire pay, imminent danger pay, or any other special and incentive pay from the federal government because they would not be included as military pay and allowances for the purposes of these compensation benefits.