

California Correctional Supervisors Organization, Inc.

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“Supervisors Representing Supervisors”

WEEKLY UPDATE –FRIDAY, JANUARY 19, 2007

By: Pat Le Sage, Chief Operations & Financial Officer

CCPOA/DPA 2006 Arbitrator’s Award:

CCPOA and DPA, on Thursday, January 18th, came to terms regarding the recalculation and revision of the total compensation that will be given to affected R06 officers. In CCSO’s meeting with DPA on January 10th, DPA concurred with CCSO and stated affected S06 employees would receive the raise.

The decision directs that \$200 million shall be placed into an interest bearing account. Individual eligibility to receive the compensation will take 60-90 days. However, the 3.125% pay raise will be reflected in the January pay warrant. S06 employees already have the 85/80 employer medical contribution that became effective January 1, 2006; therefore, there will be no change for S06. Only the R06 were not given the 85/80 increase in January.

Retroactive payments will be delayed as claim forms and eligibility must be processed. CCSO will have further details, on claim forms for supervisors, next week. This is a job well done by CCPOA on behalf of their rank and file officers. CCSO has monitored this arbitration closely and have been in constant communication with DPA over bringing this over to supervisors (S06). We are happy to say that all affected S06 supervisors will receive this raise. CCSO is continuing to work with DPA to bring the raise over to M06 employees.

Folsom State Prison Tragedy:

On Wednesday, January 17th three bodies were found dead in a home in Folsom. An officer, from Folsom State Prison Lawrence Moll, 57 years old, shot to death his girlfriend, MTA at Folsom State Prison, Bonnie Lathum and also shot to death Teresa Contreras, the adult daughter of Bonnie Lathum.

After shooting Bonnie and Teresa, he shot himself in the head. There was no note left behind or a reason found for his tragic actions.

The prison was locked down on Wednesday, January 17th as counselors were brought in for staff.

DROP:

CCSO President Tatum, Administrative Field Services Representative Canutt, Chief Operations & Financial Officer Le Sage, lobbyists Curry and Lovell met with DPA representatives Debbie Endsley DPA liaison to CalPERS, Pamela Schneider and Dave Christianson on Thursday January 18th to discuss CCSO’s proposed Deferred Retirement Option Program (DROP) that will be introduced to the legislature this year.

It was a very productive meeting where interaction was open on both sides. DPA provided a wealth of information to enhance CCSO’s retirement program to secure an easier passage through California’s legislative committees. CCSO will review DPA’s recommendations, make certain revisions and schedule a meeting with CalPERS to gain their input.

The major challenge to the DROP legislation is overcoming negative public perception. If this new retirement option is to be successful the Governor’s office and legislators must be convinced there is no negative financial impact to the State.

Prison Plan Vexes Counties:

County officials in California are expressing concern to CDCR over a proposal by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger to raise the minimum state prison term from one to three years. Under California's current sentencing and incarceration arrangement, convicted criminals who are sentenced to 12 months or more are ticketed for a state penitentiary. But in an effort to reserve limited prison space for the worst convicts in California, the administration is asking the Legislature to lift the jail-prison cutoff and shift some of the offender population to the counties, even though 20 of them are already operating their lockups under court-imposed population caps.

CDCR Secretary Tilton said he has been meeting with sheriffs, other local leaders and legislators to devise a plan to "get through the interim." Both county jail facilities and state prisons are overcrowded and maxed to capacity. Schwarzenegger's proposed long-term fix is a \$10.9 billion construction plan that would add 83,000 prison, jail and juvenile hall beds to the state and local systems. About 20,000 of those beds would be set-aside strictly for county jail populations. But even if the Legislature approves the Governor's proposal in full, the beds won't come on line until about 2010.

The Governor is asking the legislature to change the sentence threshold to July 2008, which would leave the locals grappling with the problem of handling more inmates for up to two years before finishing touches are put on their new jails.

It's a changeover that is causing tremors among the sheriffs. Their overcrowding situation is so bad that in 2005, they were forced to release or never incarcerate more than 233,000 people. "Some (inmates) are doing 10 percent or less of their time," said Nick Warner, legislative director for the California State Sheriffs' Association. "In some cases, we have counties that don't book misdemeanors at all."

Governor Speaks Out:

The Governor stated that Californians have "lived in denial" about the crisis in the state's prisons. Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger on Wednesday January 17th complained that apathy in the electorate is to blame for the lack of will in the Capitol to address the corrections system's overcrowding and rising costs. In an interview with The Times, Schwarzenegger offered a blunt appraisal about the political roots of California's prison troubles.

Welcome New Members: The State Board and staff, welcome the new members who have joined CCSO.

Thought for the Week: "One kind word can warm three winter months." – Japanese proverb