

# CALIFORNIA CORRECTIONAL SUPERVISORS ORGANIZATION

May 29, 2009 - Weekly Update

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**Recent Budget Proposals, Rumors, and Pay Cuts:** There have been many announcements from the Governor's Office concerning budget cuts, layoffs, an additional 5% pay cut, and elimination of state funded programs. It is important to remember that the May revised budget and the proposals that have been made since, are not set in stone. The factors that are being considered are changing daily. The budget that will be voted on in late June or early July may not be what the May revised budget indicates nor will the proposals remain the same. DPA Director Dave Gilb made an announcement at the CCSO conference last month that the State was going to cut the furloughs back to one day. Since that time numerous budget factors have changed. As of today, CCSO has not been informed that the Directors announcement concerning the furloughs has changed. CCSO representatives are scheduled to meet with DPA, and should receive some answers that we can pass on to members by June 12th. CCSO will be fighting to hold Director Gilb to his word, and the idea of an additional 5% pay cut will be fought tooth and nail.

**CDCR Takes Hit:** CDCR prisons and parole system will lose about 5 percent of its sworn officers as Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's layoff order takes hold over the next four months, according to administration figures. Besides CDCR there are 10 other agencies, including one that serves veterans and another that collects taxes, that will cut staff, but none come close to the 3,665 layoff notices delivered by CDCR as part of Schwarzenegger's plan to eliminate 5,000 state jobs. About 100,000 state workers earn \$8.8 billion annually that comes from the general fund. Of that, \$5.2 billion goes to Corrections, which has roughly 63,000 employees. About half of them are correctional officers watching 170,000 prison inmates. About 1,800 of the layoff letters to Corrections staff went to sworn officers with 18 months of time on the job or less. The layoffs assume a commensurate reduction in the prison population through transfers that Schwarzenegger outlined last week in the May revision of his 2009-10-budget proposal. "When you lose prison population, you lose staff," said Scott Kernan, CDCR Undersecretary for operations.

**Mental-Health Center Could Be Built At California Men's Colony:** The California Men's Colony in San Luis Obispo has been targeted for a \$63.7 million facility where state prison inmates would be treated during mental-health crises, CMC officials say. The state Department of Public Works is overseeing the planning of the stand-alone building at the prison and aims to have it open by 2013. State prison officials say funding for the project would come from California's lease-revenue bond pot designed for jail construction under Assembly Bill 900. Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger signed the bill in 2007; it appropriates \$1.2 billion for jail construction through bonds.

With the fiscal crises that California is facing and the hard hit blow to CDCR the \$63.7 million facility to treat mental health issues for criminals should be redirected by California legislature to offset CDCR's proposed reductions. CCSO opposes the monies in AB900 that has been earmarked for inmate medical improvements. If California were fiscally sound, these improvements would be acceptable; however, this is not the time to take from state workers and give to inmates.

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