

# ***Prison News and News Articles For Correction Officers in New York State: { Page 2 }***

## **ARTICLE LIST:**

[Back to Correctional Officers Informational Page](#)

[Back to Page #1, To Page #3, To Page #4, To Page #5, To Page #6, To Page #7,  
To Page #8, To Page #9, To Page #10, To Page #11, To Page #12, To Page #13,  
To Page #14, To Page #15, To Page #16, To Page #17, To Page #18, To Page #19,  
To Page #20, To Page #21, To Page #22, To Page #23](#)

[U.S. high court allows suits against prison guards\(6/23/97\)](#)

[PRISON PROPOSAL Needed: More cells for the worst offenders\(6/13/97\)](#)

[CCJR Task Force part 2 \(6/11/97\)](#)

[Corrections and Criminal Justice Reform Task Force\(6/9/97\)](#)

[Creating a Million Dollar PAC Fund \(Dave St. Louis Candidate for V.P.6/9/97\)](#)

[Prison Expansion \(Why?\)6/6/97](#)

[Use of Personal Leave is not allowed on Holidays](#)

[Jail plan pits state workers, AFL-CIO\(4/17/97\)](#)

[CCA, AFL-CIO, AFSCME & PRIVATIZATION\(5/29/97\)](#)

[Hepatitis B Vaccine / Update DOCS' Corrections Infectious Disease Training](#)

---

[Back to the Titles](#)

## **U.S. high court allows suits against prison guards**

WASHINGTON (Reuter) - The Supreme Court ruled Monday that guards at privately run prisons do not enjoy the same legal protections from liability lawsuits by inmates as guards at government-run prisons.

The high court, by a 5-4 vote, upheld a ruling that guards at a private prison in Tennessee should not receive the same immunity as state prison guards.

``The issue before us is whether prison guards who are employees of a private prison management firm are entitled to qualified immunity from suit by prisoners .... We hold that they are not," Justice Stephen Breyer said for the majority.

Justice Antonin Scalia said in dissent that the court traditionally has given immunity to private

individuals when they perform a governmental function. ``The only sure effect of today's decision -- and the only purpose as far as I can tell -- is that it will artificially raise the cost of privatizing prisons," he said.

The ruling was a defeat for officers Daryll Richardson and John Walker, who worked for Corrections Corp. of America at a prison it operated in Clifton, Tennessee under state contract.

The civil lawsuit was filed by inmate Ronnie Lee McKnight seeking more than \$400,000 in damages and claiming his constitutional rights had been violated when he had been transported in 1993 to the facility. The lawsuit claimed he had been subjected to excessively tight restraints, causing him extreme pain and swelling, and that his complaints were ignored by the two prison officers, who allegedly taunted him.

The two officers moved to dismiss the lawsuit, arguing they were entitled to partial or qualified immunity under their job functions as correctional officers. State-employed guards enjoy such immunity.

But a federal judge and a U.S. appeals court ruled the lawsuit may go forward on the grounds that Richardson and Walker, as employees of a private, for-profit corporation, could not claim immunity. The Supreme Court decision cleared the way for the lawsuit to proceed.(6/23/97)

---

[Back to the Titles](#) PRISON PROPOSAL

## **Needed: More cells for the worst offenders**

As the 1997 state Legislature drifts toward an unknown conclusion, one of the unsettled issues of consequences is Go, Pataki's proposal to build 6,950 maximum-security beds in the state prison system over a three-year period.

Opponents in the Assembly are calling the \$635 million price tag "an excessive expense" and are supporting more police on the streets and more drug treatment as alternative crime-fighting strategies. Other opponents want sentencing reforms that would divert low-level offenders away from prison to programs billed as less costly and more effective.

Many of the opponents' ideas are good ones. In particular, the state should ease away from the draconian "Rockefeller drug laws" that keep so many non-violent drug users in jail. But those reform ideas fly right past the issue at hand, ignoring what Pataki actually proposes.

It's *maximum security* space that the governor wants--space, in the words of his correction commissioner, "for killers, rapists, muggers and the like." These are not the milder offenders who would be targeted by alternative sentencing or changes in the drug laws. They're the bad guys who, by anyone's definition, belong in prison.

The governor wants places to keep the worst of the worst in ways that, it is hoped, will make prison a safer place for the staff and the more peaceful inmates.

New York has built 18 prisons since 1986. however, all but one are medium-security facilities where prisoners are kept in barracks-like settings in places surrounded by razor wire. Just one new prison--near Elmira--is a maximum-security facility with cells, bars and thick walls.

Pataki aides are saying the lack of maximum-security space has caused inmates serving lengthy

sentences for violent crimes to be housed in inappropriate dormitory settings. Furthermore, they assert that recent tougher sentencing laws involving repeat violent felons will result in longer prison stays for such hardened criminals, increasing the need for maximum security space.

Finally, if New Yorkers are to continue to enjoy declines in violent crimes, there has to be a place to put those who would bring the violence to the streets.

Pataki wants to build three prisons with 750 two-person cells each, add 100 two-person cells to 11 medium security prisons and build 250 single-person cells at the maximum security Clinton Correctional Facility.

It hasn't been particularly stressed, but many of the cells would be a type not otherwise found in the system, pretty much scuttling arguments about alternatives. Befitting their announced use for housing "the biggest threats to public safety," the cells would be more secure, partly because they would cut the need to regularly escort violence-prone prisoners away from their cell, a potential time of trouble.

Each cell would have a small adjoining room for the required one-hour-a-day physical exercise time. No visits to the yard. Meals would be taken in the cell, not a general mess hall. Doors might be solid with Plexiglas windows rather than barred. The cells could be used for short disciplinary stays as well as permanent housing.

The Legislature should give the green light to the principle of Pataki's building programs, if not its precise numbers. But it would be a right move to also reform New York's harsh drug laws left over from the Rockefeller era when it was thought--wrongly, it turned out--that a heavy hand would get illegal drugs off the streets.

Sentencing someone to 15 years to life on a conviction for possession of four ounces of narcotics is simply overkill. The Rockefeller laws cry for reform, but that's a separate issue. It has nothing to do with the tight sort of maximum security cells Pataki and his aides are proposing for truly violent criminals.

(The Buffalo News - 6/13/97)

---

[Back to the Titles](#)

## **RESOLUTIONS AND LEGISLATIVE SUPPORT: (CCJR Task Force part 2)**

The CCJR Task force unanimously adopted an anti-privatization resolution, and through unanimous consensus put their considerable political and economic clout behind the following pieces of pending legislation.

**H.R. 91, THE CORRECTIONAL OFFICER PROTECTION ACT** Author: Congressman Gerald Soloman (R-NY) Co-Sponsor: Mica (R-FL)

Reduces Byrne Grant program funding to any state that does not have a law to impose the death penalty on any inmate or ex-inmate who murders a correction officer who is either on or off duty.

**H.R. 218, THE COMMUNITY PROTECTION ACT** Author: Congressmen Duke Cunningham, (R-CA)  
Co-Sponsors: 52 cosponsors are already on this bill.

Standardizes the conflicting state and local laws governing the issue of out-of-jurisdiction peace officers carrying fire arms. Qualified current and retired peace officers would be granted an exemption from state laws prohibiting the carrying of concealed weapons.

**H.R 26 S. 262 H.R. 445 REPEAL OF RETRO ACTIVE FIREARM BAN FOR MISDEMEANOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.**

Author(s): Congressmen Bob Barr (R-GA) Senator Paul Wellstone (D-MN) Congressman Bart Stupak (D-MI)

HR 26 and S262 would prevent the retroactive application of the firearm ban. The law would apply only to convictions that occurred after September 30,1996. HR 445 would provide an exemption for peace officers.

**H.R. 1492 THE PRISONER FRIVOLOUS LAWSUIT PREVENTION ACT** Author: Congressman Elton Gallegly (R-CA) Co-Sponsors: Royce (R-CA), Hayworth (R-AZ), Davis (R-VA), Traficant (D-OH), Packard (R-CA), Foley (R-FL), Molinari (R-NY), Gibbons (R-NV), Ehrlich (R-MD), Condit (D-CA), Stearns (R-FL), Solomon (R-NY), Scarborough (R-FL), Horn (R-CA), Bereuter (R-NE), Bunning (R-KY). S.206 would strengthen recently passed habeas corpus and prison litigation reform laws. This bill would reinstate mandatory sanctions for filing frivolous lawsuits involving prisoners.

**S. 206, DENYING FRIVOLUS LAWSUITS BY PRISONERS ON RELIGIOUS GROUNDS** Author: Senator Reid (D-NV) Co-Sponsors: Breaux (D-LA), Cochran (R-MS) This bill would prevent prisoners from engaging in frivolous lawsuits or gaining special privileges in prison on religious grounds.

**S.J. RESOLUTION 6, CRIME VICTIMS CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT** Author: Senator Kyl (R-AZ) Co-Sponsors: 20 (15-R), (5-D)

This bill would amend th U.S, Constitution to protect the rights of victims of crime and their families. This would include, among other things, the right to be notified and present at all public proceedings related to the crime; to be heard at proceedings related to release, sentence or negotiated pleas; a notice of release or escape; and an order of restitution.

This same legislation was filed in the house (H.J. 71) by Congressman Henry Hyde (R-IL) and was referred to the House Committee on Judiciary on April 15, 1997. Members of the Task Force have agreed to appear before Judiciary in both the House and Senate to speak in favor of this omportant amendment. After all with 14,751 assaults and seven Correctional Officers murdered in the past year we are one of the largest identifiable groups of crime victims in the nation.

---

[Back to the Titles](#)

## **Corrections and Criminal Justice Reform Task Force**

Council 82 because of AFSCME wants nothing to do with this task force, they say we have AFSCME's Corrections United.....

Here is who belongs already :

Arizona/California/Delaware/D.C/Florida/Kanasa/Massachusetts/Michigan/ Minnesota/Montana/New Jersey/Nevada/Oklahoma/Oregon/Pennsylvania/ Rhode Island/Texas

Report on the 3rd Round table Conference --- Phoenix, Az. May 17-19 Note ( Attica's Richard Harcrow and Pat Vaccaro attended using there own time and without local funds )

Leaders from some of the nations most powerful Correctional Officers organizations have come together to form this historic Task Force which will begin to address the issues professional Correctional Officers face in this country today. Union affiliations and territorial claims have no place in the CCJR and played no part in our meetings as the only requirement to attend was a sincere desire to establish a national voice for Correctional Officers and begin the long overdue process of addressing those universal issues we all face behind the walls.

The CCJR wasted no time in identifying those issues, establishing the priority they must be given on a national level, developing strategic game plans and launching a legislative attack to get this process underway.

In just six months the CCJR has grown from four states, California, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Michigan to include the states listed above. And the CCJR has just begun. By our next conference, tentatively scheduled for Semtember 1997 in Chicago, Illinois we anticipate that the number of states represented will double.

## PRIORITIES DETERMINED

Establishing the number one problem facing professional Correctional Officers was a surprisingly easy task. In a pre-conference survey all but one state listed privatization as the number one threat to our professional in this nation. Establishing a national voice and staking out a claim in the law enforcement community as a force to be reckoned with ranked a very close second. Other issues high on the list of priorities include ; AIDS/HIV and communicable disease laws, repeal of the retro-active portion on what has become known as the Lautenburg Amendment which denies all citizens, including law enforcement personnel their second amendement rights thereby stripping them of their ability to maintain their jobs for MISDEMENOR violations : addressing the assaults on Correctional Officers in this country by exposing the real inmate to officer ratios in our nations prisons, striving for the better equipment and training, additional staff, harsher sentencing for inmates who last year alone assaulted over 14,700 CO's and a public awaerness campaign to let the people of this country know that we are the single largest group of victims in the nation.

RESOLUTIONS AND LEGISLATIVE SUPPORT will be part Two.....

---

[Back to the Titles](#)

## CREATING A \$1 MILLION PAC FUND

TO ALL COUNCIL 82 MEMBERS:

In creating a millon dollar P.A.C. fund, first, I feel the members should have some say as to who our union gives a political endorsement to. I will propose in a statewide referendum which will require a statewide one-man, one-vote every year as to who Council 82 offers political endorsements to and how Council 82 will spend and direct our PAC money. Afterall, it is our money. This can only be done by changing the constitution.

I'm sure everyone knows that the approximately \$2 million dollars we give AFSCME could really do us some good right here for us in our own PAC fund. The reality is we cannot touch that money as long as we are affiliated with AFSCME. Remember, Council 82 is AFSCME. We must then find new creative ways to build up our own PAC fund. I am against taxing each member an additional \$2 dollars per pay period to be put towards our PAC fund. I feel Council 82 must show me they are fiscally responsible before I give the union more money. I have looked at Council 82's financial statement and believe there are still more expenses that could be cut and diverted over to the PAC fund, however, there may not be several million dollars just laying around. I have noticed that Council 82 has recently shifted the monies around and now show that we have a little over one hundred thousand dollars in the PAC fund now. We might be able to squeeze a couple hundred thousand dollars out of Council 82 and divert it over to the PAC fund, but that is still nowhere near the \$1 to \$2 million dollars we need now, in order to fight privatization and prepare us for our next contract. Remember, no one else will do it for us, we must all pull together and do it ourselves.

I have discussed my idea for creating a multi-million dollar PAC fund with some co-workers. They have all given positive responses. I hope everyone supports my idea. We need to do something now, before it is too late.

#### MY IDEA FOR CREATING A MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR PAC FUND IS AS FOLLOWS:

Only union dues will be used to create this multi-million dollar PAC fund.

Each local would contribute out of their own local account an equal amount per member, per month towards a statewide PAC fund. Council 82 would then contribute an equal amount to that of what the locals contribute per member, per month. Or, Council 82 could contribute 2 to 1 the amount that the locals contribute towards a statewide PAC fund. The locals will be able to keep 80% of the money each local takes in for their own use, just as each local does now. Each local contributes only to the number of members in their own local. Each local would then send that money to the statewide PAC fund. For example: At Mt. McGregor CF we have 285 officers. We would then contribute .50 (cents) per member per month. Or:  $\$.50 \times 285 = \$142.50$  per month that my local would contribute to the statewide PAC fund. If your local had only 60 officers it would be  $\$.50 \times 60 = \$30.00$  per month. Keep in mind that not only do we give AFSCME \$2 million, but we also give the locals nearly \$2 million too.

For Example:

Locals contribute \$.50 (fifty cents) per member x (28,000 members) per month. This comes out to \$14,000.00 total per month or \$168,000.00 per year that locals contribute. Council 82 would then match the amount the locals contribute and contribute \$168,000.00 also. The total for one year contributed in the statewide PAC would be: \$336,000.00. After two years we would have \$672,000.00 total in our PAC fund.

Another example is:

Locals contribute \$ .50 (cents) per member x (28,000 members) per month or \$14,000.00 contibuted per month by locals or \$168,000.00 per year. Then Council 82 matches it by contributing 2 to1 of what the locals contribute or \$1.00 (one dollar) per member, (\$28,000.00 per month) or \$336,000.00 per year also. Our PAC fund would then have \$504,000.00 total for one year and after two years it would grow to \$1,008,000.00. (Over one million dollars).

Please keep in mind that the locals will still get to keep 80% of the money they take in. For example here at Mt. McGregor CF there are 285 officers. Our local takes in over \$1,000.00 per month. If our local contributed \$ .50 (fifty cents) per member per month for the statewide PAC fund, our local would still get to keep over \$800.00 per month. Every local would still get to keep the rest of the money they take in just as they do now.

Keep in mind instead of \$ .50 (fifty cents) per member, it could also be lowered to \$.25 (twenty-five cents) or whatever the members decide is appropriate.

I realize this maybe asking a lot of our locals, but, if it can help save our jobs in the long run from being privatized and get us a better contract in the future, I think it would be worth it. Remember, every member will be able to vote how we spend our PAC money which has never been proposed before. Don't expect AFSCME to be there, they have their own political agenda.

Dave St.Louis,  
Candidate for Executive Vice President

---

[Back to the Titles](#)

## **Prison Expansion**

Richard S. Abrahamson has attempted a feat never tried by a C-82 President before, C-82 in conjunction with the Governors office are pushing for for Prison Expansion.

The Road Block -- The Assembly ( Sheldon Silvers and friends the Black and Hispanic caucus ), The Senate along with the Governor WANT Prison Expansion.

Currently a Media push is on concerning Prison Expansion, President Abrahamson, Rod Ashby and myself Carl Canterbury have hit local Newspapers, meeting with Editorial writers in the Western New York area.

**WHAT ARE THEY HEARING ? HERE ARE JUST A FEW ITEMS/ISSUES:**

1.) THEY ARE HEARING PRESIDENT ABRAHAMSON OPENING WITH A VERY INTELLIGENT AND ELOQUENT EXPLANATION OF WHY CORRECTIONS NEEDS EXPANSION OF 3,500 NEW STATE OF THE ART SHU CELLS ALONG WITH AN ADDITIONAL 3,450 CELLS FOR CURRENT MEDIUM FACILITIES TO HOUSE THERE OWN PROBLEM INMATES. TOTAL 6,950 NEW MAXIMUM-SECURITY PRISON BEDS. CURRENTLY WE HAVE 20,000 CELLS AND A POPULATION OF 70,000.

2.) THEY ARE HEARING THAT IN 1995 ASSAULTS ON STAFF IN NEW YORK STATE RAN APPROX. 980 AS OPPOSED TO THE NATIONAL AVERAGE OF 500. THEY HAVE HEARD THAT INMATE ON INMATE ASSAULTS ARE TWICE THE NATIONAL AVERAGE.

3.) THEY HAVE HEARD ABOUT THE DRUGS, GANGS, WEAPONS, VIOLENT ASSAULTS ON STAFF, THE NEW AGE VIOLENT PREDATORS THAT INFEST OUR SYSTEM, AND HOW IT AFFECTS EACH AND EVERY FACILITY STATEWIDE.

4.) THEY HAVE HEARD HOW DRUGS AND GANG CONTROL FOR THE DRUG TRADE ARE

CAUSING MANY OF OUR PROBLEMS THAT PUTS STAFF AT EXTREME RISK.

5.) THEY HAVE HEARD THAT THE RATE OF INMATES THAT ARE HIV POSITIVE IS 60 %.

6.) THEY HAVE HEARD THAT WE THE OFFICERS OF NYS DO NOT HAVE THE RIGHT OF DISCLOSURE WHETHER OR NOT A INMATE IS HIV POSITIVE... WITH REGARDS TO ASSAULTS ON STAFF OR BLOOD EXPOSURE, AND HOW IT AFFECTS THE OFFICER AND HIS FAMILY, AND THAT IT IN ITSELF IS CRUEL AND UNUSAL PUNISHMENT TO THE STAFF MEMBER AND HIS FAMILY.

7.) I PROMISE YOU THIS THEY HAVE HEARD IT ALL FROM A---Z FROM ROD, RICH AND MYSELF

PRESIDENT ABRAHAMSON NEVER TOLD ROD ASHBY OR MYSELF TO HOLD BACK, HE WANTED THE MEDIA TO HEAR THE REAL DEAL AND THATS WHAT THEY GOT !!!!

IF YOU LIVE IN A DISTRICT WITH A ASSEMBLYMEN/WOMEN WHO IS A DEMOCRATE CALL THEM CALL THEM AND TELL THEM TO STOP PLAYING POLITICS WITH OUR LIVES, TELL THEM IN THE POLITICAL ARENA OUR BLOOD WILL NOT WASH OFF THERE HANDS SO EASY.

IN ENDING I WANT TO THANK PRESIDENT ABRAHAMSON FOR GIVING ME THE OPPORTUNITY TO ATTEMPT TO SERVE THE MEMBERSHIP, AS I FEEL FROM MY HEART HE ATTEMPTS TO DO EACH AND EVERY DAY.

Carl Canterbury Attica C.F.

6/6/97

---

[Back to the Titles](#)

## **Use of Personal Leave is not allowed on Holidays**

According to a bulletin received by Lee P. Gould, Director of Personnel, dated April 1, 1997:

### **Use of Personal Leave is not allowed on Holidays**

The Department of Civil Service has recently confirmed that the NYS Attendance Rules do not permit the use of Personal Leave credits when an employee is off from work on an official Holiday that falls on a regular scheduled workday. This has an impact on the way that certain facilities allow C.O.s and other shift workers to bid time off. Section 21.1 of the Attendance Rules page 2 states "...an employee is deemed to be observing the Holiday if the Holiday falls on the employee's regularly scheduled workday and the employee has that day off...". Although Security employees don't accumulate Holiday Leave, and they charge shows as a day of vacation leave, these days off are still considered as Holidays.

The use of P.L. time for taking off Holidays is no longer permissable. From this date forward Time Off Slips received thirty (30) days in advance of a Holiday must be marked "HOLIDAY" at the top and time off must be charged to Vacation Accruals. The Holiday will then be awarded to the Senior person (s) submitting a request form.



[Back to the Titles](#)

## Jail plan pits state workers, AFL-CIO

By Andy Sher and Alisa LaPolt - "Nashville Banner" 4/17/97

A potential move to turn Tennessee's 21 prisons and correctional centers over to a private company to run is drawing fierce opposition from state employees, but will have strong support from none other than the AFL-CIO.

It's put on one of most bizarre political twists imaginable on discussions among legislative leaders to privatize Tennessee prisons. And not just in Tennessee but nationwide. Tennessee AFL-CIO head Jim Neeley said today that under a national agreement recently inked with CCA, labor will support CCA efforts to manage prisons, not just in Tennessee but across the country. While labor won't initiate prison privatization efforts it will back them once CCA begins a push. CCA, meanwhile will not resist unionization at its facilities.

"It's a full-fledged marriage," Neeley said.

The joining of CCA and labor is expected to have a major impact on privatization discussions here in Tennessee. Talks among legislators that now include Gov. Sunquist are already triggering an ugly battle here, much as a similar proposal did twelve years ago. No bill has been introduced but, one is expected.

"I haven't seen the specific proposal, but we support concept," Sunquist said before speaking with a gathering of women executives from across Tennessee.

The "option" of turning the Department of Correction of to a private company is being floated by legislative leaders as they seek ways to avoid Sundquist's proposed budget cuts beginning in July. House Finance Committee Chairman Matt Kisber, D-Jackson, said the state could save \$100 million under preliminary estimates.

But critics quickly pounced. Rep. John Mark Windle, D-Livingston, called the calculations "voodoo economics" and said they don't include costs of incarcerating high risk prisoners or inmates with AIDS. He also lashed out at CCA. The company has been involved in Legislative discussions.

"I've probably already had 50 or 60 phone calls on this from my constituents," said Wilde, whose district has two state prisons. " their question is, 'Does big business own the governor and the Legislator now?' Prisons are the biggest employer in my district, and their getting slapped across the face by the legislature."

Several legislative leaders have been meeting for some time with CCA, which already runs one private prison on contract with the state. Also involved in meetings is Neeley.

---

[Back to the Titles](#)

## **CCA, AFL-CIO, AFSCME & PRIVATIZATION**

The following is a hand out given to all local presidents at the recent executive board meeting.  
(5/29/1997)

At this meeting Elliot Seide acknowledged AFL-CIO and AFSCME are working with CCA. He stated that their goal was to bring the private security at the CCA facilities up to our standards. If any one buys that I have a bridge to sell. The only thing could achive is to lower us. It's all about dues in their eyes. Ask your local presidents their stand on this and our continued affiliation with AFL-CIO and AFSCME. If they deny recieving the hand out, that is your answer. Privitazation is our cancer.

"... under a national agreement recently hiked with CCA, (Corrections Corporation of America), labor will support CCA efforts to manage prisons, not just in Tennessee but across the country It's a full fledged marriage"

Jim Neeley AFL-CIO, The Nashville Banner, April 17, 1997

Your hard earned dues dollars at work! The following questions must be answered today!

- 1)The AFL-CIO does not negotiate contracts. Which specific Union or Unions are involved in this insidious movement to destroy our profession for the sake of the almighty dues dollar?
- 2)What agreements have been reached between CCA and the AFL-CIO? We demand complete copies of those accords now!
- 3)What agreements have been reached between the AFL-CIO and subservient Unions? We demand complete copies of those accords now!
- 4)What agreements have been reached between AFSCME, the AFL-CIO and CCA? We demand complete copies of those accords now We demand to know who has been and/or is currently involved in this "marriage" destined to destroy cur profession for the sake of corporate, and now Union, greed!

We have two words for privatization in Corrections;

**ZERO TOLERANCE**

We have two words for those who support or condone this assault on our profession in any form;

**GET OUT**

We do not believe the blatant lie that this is best for the "guards" in those states that have no collective bargaining, (they are not Officers!) Tell the AFL-CIO and those blood sucking Unions who agree to this marriage with privatization to spend their money on enacting legislation in those states to get collective bargaining for public safety employees. We are not fooled by their lame explanations and cowardly rationalizations. It's not about representation, ifs about money.

Once the private corporations are able to tell the politicians that labor is no longer a factor in this fight, the battle is over for every Correctional Officer represented by an AFL-CIO affiliated Union. It will be just a matter of time before every state will seek to balance their Corrections budget on the backs of our salaries, pensions and benefits. Thirteen of our true brothers and sisters have died in The line of duty and over 14,700 of us have been assaulted in the past year in this country. This is how our dedication and

loyalty for protecting the public safety is repaid!!!

The slippery slope That The AFL-CIO and those Unions involved have decided to go down by attempting to rationalize this marriage fools no one! It's about money, nothing more. It's the formation of company dominated unions in Those states, it's the beginning of the end for professional Correctional Officers everywhere.

Annul The Marriage! We demand NATIONAL retraction by all involved! There are no short cuts, we will accept no excuses, nothing less will suffice. We want answers and action, now!

## ZERO TOLERANCE

Corrections Facilities Development,  
LLC

April 24, 1997

CCA

Sen. Maurice Johannessen  
California State Senate  
State Capitol Bldg. Room 2066  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Corrections Privatization

Dear Sen. Johannessen:

As one interested in corrections activities, I thought you would appreciate information regarding two significant events impacting the corrections community that took place within the last few days:

Corrections Corporation of America announces formation of a \$500,000,000 REIT

CCA announced today (4/24/97) that it proposes to sell a portion its owned properties to a newly formed real estate investment trust. CCA Prison Realty Trust has filed a registration statement with the Securities and Exchange Commission for the public offering of 17,000,000 common shares.

The REIT intends to use proceeds from the offering to purchase nine CCA facilities housing 6,687 beds for \$308 million. CCA also will grant the REIT the option to purchase any or all additional five properties with 5,638 beds for approximately \$193 million in cash. CCA intends to use the cash from these transactions to fund new projects.

(Press Release Attached)

Tennessee explores privatization of entire 21 prison state system

Faced with a potential higher education cut of \$40,000,000 and lay offs of over 700 State workers, Tennessee has begun serious discussions about privatizing their entire 21 facility 12,250 bed state prison system. (California's system is twelve times (145,000 inmates) the size of Tennessee's)

According to newspaper reports and remarks by Rep. Matt Kisber, D-Jackson, chairman of the Tennessee House Finance, Ways and Means Committee, annual savings of \$100,000,000 are anticipated, and preliminary discussions indicate the possibility of the state receiving a one-time windfall of another \$100,000,000.

(The Tennessean 4/18/97, attached).

Governor Don Sundquist... "I haven't seen the specific proposal, but we support the concept". (The Tennessean 4/17/97, attached).

House Speaker Pro Tem Lois DeBerry, D-Memphis, said she is "comfortable" with the \$100 million savings estimate and will give the proposal a careful look

(The Tennessean 4/17/97, attached)

CCA signs national labor agreement with AFL-CIO "...move to turn Tennessee's 21 prisons over to private company received strong support from none other than the AFL-CIO Tennessee AFL-CIO head Jim Neeley said today labor will support CCA's efforts to manage prisons not just in Tennessee but across the country". "It's a lull fledged marriage," Neeley said  
( The Tennessean 4/17/97, attached).

We will endeavor to keep you advised as other events affecting the corrections industry transpire.

We look forward to our next contact.

Very best regards.

Buck Johns

p.s.

"Make no little plans: they have no magic to stir men's blood.. Make big plans, aim, high in hope and work"

-Daniel H. Burnham

Just as Tennessee's higher education needs are requiring some of sky-scraper architect Burnham's "big plans", significant "blood stirring" creativity will also be needed to address the mounting budget pressures of the Golden State.

---

[Back to the Titles](#)

## **Hepatitis B Vaccine / Update DOCS' Corrections Infectious Disease Training**

Date: 96-05-02 15:36:31 EDT

From: COUNCIL82

In regard to comments concerning health and safety department at Council 82

RE: Hepatitis B Vaccine

Information concerning the Hepatitis B vaccine has been widely distributed by Council 82, other unions, DOCS and many others. Many people do not understand the concept of "developing antibodies" and whether they should be tested or no, after receiving the Hepatitis B vaccination series.

This point was identified recently by a joint labor/management committee established to review and update DOCS infectious disease training programs. Information about this committee was published in the Enforcer and distributed to all local presidents. A copy of the communication is attached for your information.

Council 82 has a health and safety department and is staffed with an individual who is knowledgeable about health and safety laws, rules and regulations. If you have any questions about the Hepatitis B vaccine, the infectious disease training committee or any other health and safety questions, please contact Occupational Safety Specialist John Stanforth at 1-800-724-0482.

Council 82

The following is a memorandum sent to all local presidents:

TO: All Correction Local Presidents

FROM: John Stanforth, Occupational Safety Specialist

Louie Delmonte, Acting Correction Policy Chairman

DATE: March 5, 1996

RE: Update of the Department of Corrections Infectious Disease Training

An advisory committee was established to develop an updated curriculum for the Department of Correctional Services (DOCS) Infectious Disease training. The joint labor/management committee visited six (6) correctional facilities to meet with rank and file members, administrators and trainers to evaluate the current departmental training on TB, HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis B and to determine the needs for updating the training. A list of issues that need to be addressed have been established. Some issues that were consistently identified include: confidentiality issues, understanding the role of medical staff, supervisor responsibilities, defining significant blood exposure, use of respirators, blood spill clean-up and the request for current statistics. Many of these issues will be addressed by the advisory committee and incorporated into the updated training curriculum. Supervisor responsibilities have already begun to be addressed by adding a segment about these issues into sergeant and lieutenant schools. A list of the suggestions made during site visits and a draft of the updated training outline are enclosed for your review. Please let us know immediately if you have any additional issues that need to be incorporated into the training. The curriculum is scheduled to be completed by the end of March. The help and input from the members of the facilities visited (Sing Sing, Bedford Hills, Mid-State, Collins, Great Meadow and Mount McGregor) is appreciated. We look forward to a continued cooperative effort for the duration of this project. If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact us at the Council 82 office.

Update of the DOCS' Infectious Disease Training.

## **TB CONCERNS**

- Update current statistics - trends
- Ventilation
- Better define contact tracing - Circle of testing, Not understood, Show stats - results of tracing
- New respirators
- Maintenance staff - repairs of isolation rooms
- HEPA vs. Regular mask - on inmate define - respirator on employee, Mask on inmate

- Active vs. Non-active - low risk - high risk
- Risks of smoking - general health - general hygiene
- Fit testing - mask size
- Need for questions and answers - medical knowledge
- Supervisor training
- Risk Factor - time elements - how long for bacteria to die (average time) - explain - "no" absolute answers
- Decontamination of vehicle air - cell air
- Current statistics - jail vs. Street
- explain - new PPD positive employee need x-ray, medical clearance
- Anergy testing
- Maintenance of HEPA filters - policy & procedure for - protection of employees
- Risk associated with inmates refusing PPD testing

## **BLOOD BORNE CONCERNS**

- Define significant exposure
- Explain BERT What is it, who contacts
- Roles in blood exposure - responsibilities exposed person, supervisor, medical staff, etc.
- Stress factor - non-med - afraid of unknown
- Confidentiality - Ryan white - first responder - stress importance of universal precautions, whether status is known or not - still follow precautions
- Lack; of sensitivity of med staff towards concerned or exposed person - communication to relieve concern
- Hep B vaccine - develop antibodies
- Universal precautions - describe - levels - need for equipment
- Supervisor training Chance terminology - significant exposure

## **GENERAL CONCERNS**

- Pre and post test questionnaire - evaluation component
- Consistent training - lesson plan - understandable
- Training Good - not consistent with practice need better implementation
- Incoming inmates - medical staff evaluated inmates - gen.
- Population
- Workers comp - benefits
- Define roles of fellow employees - develop trust - work together
- Confidentiality - exposure, transportation
- Update all information on a continual basis approval for new material - need approval from Albany
- Disinfect - decontaminate - restraint equipment

- General hygiene - hand washing - antibacterial soap
- Gear training for different education levels med vs.
- Non-med, security, maintenance
- More information on other diseases (MRSA) (flesh eating bacteria)
- Update films

## **TB/HIV/HBV CURRICULUM DRAFT REVISION**

### TB curriculum content

- Use TB/BBP questionnaire to reinforce previous learning
- Prepare new statistics, including world-wide. National, state and facility incidence of TB infection and TB active cases. Include contact trace results from selected facilities that were successful in inhibiting spread of infection.
- Introduce the new types of TB respirators
- Discuss confidentiality issues of TB infection and disease
- Renew short video on TB as review of transmission and protection
- BBP curriculum content
- Prevalence/incidence statistics (nation, state, prison, local)
- Confidentiality/reporting/exposed employees
- Risk assessment exercise: define significant exposure/flow chart risk
- BERT awareness
- Universal precautions/infection control/handwashing
- Videos (update)
- Blood spills/clean-up/disinfecting
- Training logistics
- Target group
- Level of training (basics enhanced)
- Recruitment and training of trainers
- Handouts and overheads
- Length of program agreed as 2 hours
- Evaluation
- Assessment of learning
- Reporting of training
- Curriculum review
- Timeline

Council 82

---