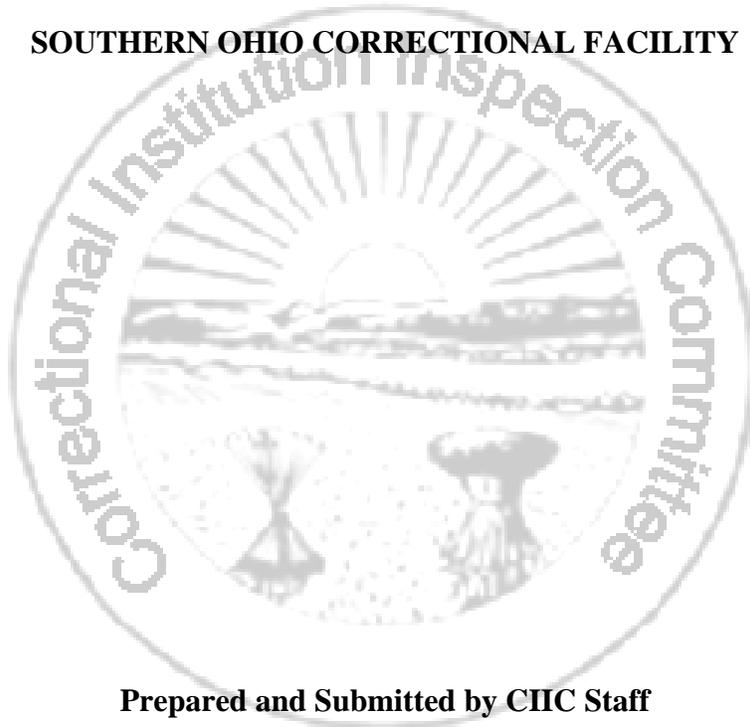


CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION INSPECTION COMMITTEE REPORT
ON THE INSPECTION AND EVALUATION OF
SOUTHERN OHIO CORRECTIONAL FACILITY



Prepared and Submitted by CIIC Staff

May 20, 2009

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**CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION INSPECTION COMMITTEE REPORT
ON THE INSPECTION AND EVALUATION OF
SOUTHERN OHIO CORRECTIONAL FACILITY**

INSPECTION PROFILE

Date of Inspection: March 9, 2009

Type of Inspection: Unannounced

CIIC Member and Staff Present: Representative Tyrone Yates
Shirley Pope, Executive Director
Toni Del Matto, Inspector
Darin Furderer, Inspector
Adam Jackson, Inspector
Gregory Geisler, Inspector

Facility Staff Present: Phillip Kerns, Warden
Anthony Cadogan, Deputy Warden
Donnie Morgan, Deputy Warden
Cynthia Davis, Unit Management Administrator
Captain Cool
Captain Oppy
Rhonda Stahlnaker, Health Care Administrator
William Prise, Mental Health Administrator
Chase Queen, Recovery Services Coordinator
Walter Reutzel, School Administrator

CIIC spoke with many additional staff at their posts throughout the course of the inspection.

Areas/Activities Included in the Inspection:

| | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Entrance/Processing | Kitchen/Food Storage |
| General Population Housing Units | Captain's Office |
| Segregation | General Population Recreation |
| Residential Treatment Units | 4B Housing Units |
| Medical/Infirmary | Library/Law Library |
| Protective Control Units | Meeting with representative group of staff |
| Inmate Dining Hall | |

STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

Attendance at a General Meal Period

In accordance with the statute, CIIC attended the general meal period. Part of the CIIC team received a tray of food left over from the K7 and K8 Protective Control Unit, but the meal was eaten in K6, termed the STG, Separation and/or Step Down Unit. The meal consisted of a burger, two pieces of bread, potatoes, peas, carrots, and an apple.

Part of the CIIC team attended the general meal period in the inmate dining room for the purpose of observation and listening. They did not have a meal. Further information regarding the meal period and food service is provided later in the report.

Attendance at an Educational or Rehabilitative Program

Per the statute, the inspection must also include attendance at an educational or rehabilitative program. The CIIC inspected two blocks, K-5 and J-4 which are used as residential treatment units for the seriously mentally ill. In addition, inmates were observed participating in a recovery services aftercare program. There was also extensive communication with the Recovery Services Coordinator. Additional information pertaining to programming is included later in this report.

BACKGROUND ON INSPECTION: Warden's Invitation

On February 27, 2009, the Warden left a phone message asking when the CIIC Director would like to come down again. The last on-site visit was in September 2008 for a mental health meeting that included a walk-through of the mental health units in K5 and J4. On March 3, 2009, the CIIC Director responded by e-mail to the request, due to inability to get through on the busy phone line. The Warden replied as follows:

The invitation was extended to you and the committee to see what positive changes have been made here at SOCF. I believe we have made *huge strides in moving the institution in the right direction and have engaged that staff to be a part of the solutions that are coming about.*

I have **challenged the mental health staff with moving our chronic MH inmates to Oakwood for a more intensive intervention as well as moving several of our self-injurious inmates there for behavior modification.** We are *making progress with this venture and should have our first few inmates moved to Oakwood by late March.*

Our RTU is now open for group programming, weekly treatment teams, security staff involvement, as well as Activity Therapy Staff working programs. On March 16, 2009, we will be **moving the RTU inmates to the inmate dining hall for all three meals so these inmates have the opportunity to get out of the cell more while functioning like GP inmates.**

We are also **moving the PC inmates to chow in a controlled movement so they too can get off the unit a little more while still maintaining their safety. This group already shares the visiting room area with GP inmates but they sit in a specific area. The PC inmates will do their own serving and clean up just like they do on the unit.**

Our recovery service group won the award this year for best recovery services programming in the DRC. We are extremely happy with their efforts and services.

Our Education Department just held a graduation ceremony several months ago and we graduated more inmates in this class than any other graduating class here at SOCF.

I took over the final review of all security instruments back in August 2008 and since have reduced over 120 inmates to level 3 facilities. *The inmates are working hard to stay out of trouble so they may be reviewed several months early and possibly be reduced to level 3. This is working!* I have inmates now telling me when they should score low enough to be reduced. *We are selling the notion (of) hope and how one achieves the goal of hope!*

Our institution has been extremely quiet until we experienced the death of inmate...several weeks ago. The two individuals involved in this case are now facing a murder case with the Scioto County Prosecutors office.

As I read a CIIC request outlining details and concerns from Inmate... I had to bite my tongue and let Dave See handle this inquiry. **I was certainly not upset with the CIIC committee but I was upset with the distortion portrayed to the committee.** Dave interviewed Inmate... as did Trooper Mark Ball and as it turns out; Inmate... *did not inform the CIIC exact details.* It seems he wrote what he wanted to depict and **not factual information.**

I say all this above simply to say this, we had **over 900 lost work days for staff in 2005 due to inmate on staff assaults, use of forces and responding to situations. In 2008, we had 124 lost days due to inmate on staff assault or injuries controlling inmates.**

Again, *this is why I invite the committee down to visit SOCF to see and talk with the inmates about how they are being treated, if we are fair with them, and to witness how quiet this facility is versus where we were several years ago. I cannot stand by and let a few inmates paint a picture of SOCF that is incorrect and fails to reflect the improvements that have been accomplished. We have worked hard to change the culture of how we do business and the investment is now paying dividends.* Take care and looking forward to a visit!

INSPECTION GOALS

In a pre-inspection meeting on March 6, 2009 with the CIIC Director, the CIIC Chairman requested information on the goals of the planned unannounced inspection. The following was communicated in that regard.

GOAL: Respond promptly to Warden's invitation

- See what positive changes have been made, including improvements, accomplishments, and changes in the culture.
- See and talk with the inmates and staff about operations, conditions, programs, and grievance procedure.
- Witness how quiet the facility is.
- Identify and report on positive observations and comments.
- Identify and report on observed and reported concerns and areas in need of improvement.

GOAL: Fulfill inspection and evaluation duties

- Attend general meal period.
- Attend educational or rehabilitative program.
- Include all important areas in inspection
- Inspect/evaluate operations, conditions, programs, and grievance procedure.
 - Listen to staff
 - Listen to inmates
- Identify and report on:
 - Positive observations and comments, improvements made and underway
 - Observed and reported concerns, and areas in need of improvement

GOAL: Include positive changes cited by Warden in inspection

- **Residential Treatment Unit for Mentally Ill (K-5)** The RTU is now open for group programming, weekly treatment teams, security staff involvement, as well as Activity Therapy Staff working programs. March 16, 2009, they will go to the inmate dining hall for all three meals to get out of the cell more while functioning like population inmates.
- **Protective Control Unit (K7 and K8)**
 1. **Dining Hall** – PC inmates are going to chow in a controlled movement so they too can get off the unit a little more while still maintaining their safety. The PC inmates do their own serving and clean up just like they did on the unit.
 2. **Visiting Room** – This group already **shares the visiting room area** with general population inmates but they sit in a specific area.
- **Substance Abuse/Recovery Services: The SOCF recovery services group won the award this year for *best recovery services programming in the DRC.***

- **Education Department:** The SOCF Education Department just held a graduation ceremony several months ago and *graduated more inmates in this class than any other graduating class at SOCF.*
- **Hope:** SOCF is “selling the notion of hope and how one achieves the goal of hope.” The Warden **took over the final review of all security instruments in August 2008, and since has reduced over 120 inmates to level 3 facilities.** *The inmates are working hard to stay out of trouble so they may be reviewed several months early and possibly be reduced to level 3.* The Warden relayed, **“This is working! I have inmates now telling me when they should score low enough to be reduced.”**
- **Inmate on Staff Assaults, Use of Force, Staff Injuries:** SOCF had over 900 lost workdays for staff in 2005 due to inmate on staff assaults, use of force, and responding to situations. *In 2008, SOCF had 124 lost days due to inmate on staff assault or injuries controlling inmates.*

INSPECTION ASSIGNMENTS

In order to cover as many parts of the facility as possible during the inspection, CIIC requested that the CIIC member and staff present divide into three groups, each assigned to include specific areas and/or activities. For the most part, the plan was implemented, thanks to the assistance provided by SOCF staff who accompanied the three CIIC groups.

Table 1. Planned Areas and Activities for Inclusion in the SOCF Inspection with CIIC Team Assignments

| AREAS/ACTIVITIES | Pope Yates Smith | Geisler Furderer | Jackson Del Matto |
|--|------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| Meet with representative group of SOCF staff | x | | |
| Attend L Side Meal Period | | x | x |
| Attend Recovery Services Program | | | x |
| Attend Educational Program | x | | |
| Library | x | | |
| OPI Shop | | | x |
| L1 GP | | x | |
| L2 GP | | x | |
| L3 GP | | x | |
| L4 GP | | x | |
| L5 GP | | | x |
| L6 GP | | | x |
| L7 GP | | | x |
| L8 GP | | | x |
| L Side Recreation | | x | |
| K1 4B | | | x |
| K2 4B | | | x |
| K3 4B | | x | |
| K4 4B | | x | |
| K5 RTU | x | | x |
| K6 GP | | | x |
| K7 PC | x | | |
| K8 PC | x | | |
| Attend PC meal period | x | | |
| K Side Recreation | | | x |
| Visiting Room GP/PC | x | | |
| D1 Infirmary/Medical Dept. | | x | |
| J1 LC | x | x | x |
| J2 SC,DC, Safe cells | x | x | x |
| J3 4B | x | x | x |
| J4 RTU + | x | x | x |
| J Side Recreation | | x | |
| Closing | x | x | x |

INSTITUTION OVERVIEW

Construction on the 1,625 acre compound started on June 28, 1968, reportedly with the intention of replacing Ohio's maximum security prison, the Ohio Penitentiary (later renamed Columbus Correctional Facility). SOCF opened in September of 1972 when they received their first inmates. The institution was originally designed with 1,640 cells, but the facility lost two cells since the opening due to Americans with Disabilities Act standards. SOCF currently has 1,638 cells under one roof, in a building, which covers 22 acres.

Mission Statement

It is the mission of the Southern Ohio Correctional Facility to efficiently provide a safe, secure, environment for inmates, employees and the community, and to promote the incarcerated offenders' positive adjustment, behavior and ability to return to a lower security facility.

STAFF

As shown in the table below, the Southern Ohio Correctional Facility has a total of 707 staff, with 80.6 percent male and 19.3 percent female. In all, *white staff comprise 93.8 percent of the employees, while only 4.4 percent are black.*

As of February 2, 2009, the *inmate population of 1,379 was 56.42 percent black with 778 black inmates, and 42.78 percent white, with 590 inmates.* The remaining 11 inmates were categorized as American Indian, Asian/Pacific Islander or Other.

The facility has 472 Corrections Officers, and the ratio of officers to inmates is 1:3. The total number of Custody staff, including supervisors, is reported as 513, comprising 72.6 percent of the facility staff.

Table 2. Breakdown of SOCF Staff by Gender and Race

| Gender/Race | Male | Female | Total | Percent |
|----------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| White | 532 | 131 | 663 | 93.8% |
| Black | 25 | 6 | 31 | 4.4 |
| Other | 13 | 0 | 13 | 1.8 |
| Total | 570 | 137 | 707 | 100% |
| Percent | 80.6% | 19.3 | 100% | |

Facility staff relayed that *they have the least number of union and staff grievances in the state and staff morale appears to be up because they feel safer.* It was relayed that the Warden invites union leaders to SOCF to talk about issues.

When asked about staff shortages due to budget cuts, staff relayed that they lost four Unit Managers (UM) and six Case Managers (CM). The institution reportedly has only two Unit Managers (UM), one Unit Management Administrator (UMA), and six Case Managers remaining. Staff commented that they are 34 officers short, and although they recently hired 14

to 16 new Corrections Officers (CO) in the past few months, the institution is holding four to six officer positions open for the staff to fall back on if necessary.

The institution currently has one of their two Investigators assisting in the Inspector's office. Lack of secretarial assistance was also noted regarding the Inspector's office. The lone Investigator is reportedly overloaded and overwhelmed. It was relayed that the Warden assists with investigatory duties, such as phone monitoring which otherwise would not be done.

Staff expected to lose five positions in the business office as part of the DRC (Department of Rehabilitation and Correction) cutback of 500 more positions which includes a plan to centralize business office operations. However, a recent release from the DRC Director states that the 500 positions will be placed on hold, as the budget is "tight but manageable."

**Table 3. Unit Management Positions Eliminated FY 08
Southern Ohio Correctional Facility**

| Program Name | Description | Positions |
|--|--|------------------|
| Unit Management Administrator (UMA) | Secretary | 0 |
| | Social Work Supervisor 1 | 0 |
| | Social Work Supervisor 2 | 0 |
| | Human Services Program Administrator 2 | 0 |
| Unit Management/Manager | Corrections Specialist | 3 |
| Unit Management/Case Support | Corrections Program Specialist | 4 |
| Unit Management/Clerical | Secretary | 3 |
| Unit Management/Corr. Counselor | Corrections Sergeant/Counselor | 1 |
| Total | | 11 |

Meeting with Representative Staff

The inspection included a meeting with a representative group of staff from various departments for the purpose of listening to any areas of pride, accomplishments, and improvements as well as any needs or areas of concern. The following information is a summary of the communication simply grouped by subject, and *does not necessarily indicate that staff members associated with that department or category relayed that particular communication*. The format was an open forum and staff commented on various institutional subjects and departments of which they may or may not have been assigned.

Staff maintained that the Warden is a positive aspect of the institution, has an open mind, listens to suggestions, and creates a positive job environment, which gets people coming to work. They explained that they have not panicked, but there is a lot of concern. Staff reported that Southern Ohio has 11 percent unemployment, and many people want to work, which is why they are proud that they have a job despite the stress.

Medical/Mental Health

- Only need is a full time medical doctor.
- Overall, the medical department is very fortunate.
- They follow through on CIIC medical inquiries and know that all concerns are addressed.
- Mental health does an excellent job treating patients, but continues to struggle because they remain short staffed.
- They believe that transferring inmates from the J4 intensive mental health unit to Oakwood Correctional Facility (OCF) will help.
- Institution as a whole works together.
- All staff members are reportedly all in touch with each other and all departments meet at 9 A.M.
- Their heart goes out to security because they are so short on staff

Unit Management

- The worst of the worst are here, but staff are doing a great job putting out fires all day and completing the same work with a shortage of staff.
- We are proud to have a job and guarantee that the work will be done, but have serious concerns about the consequence of continued staff shortages.
- We are all overwhelmed. There is a dire need for more staff to fill vacancies. We have to chase our tail to get the work done, even without any breaks.
- Concerns relate to workload, which makes it difficult to maintain close communication with inmates.
- We have doubled and tripled our workload.
- The institution has six Case Managers (CM) and two Unit Managers. One Unit Manager has eight cell blocks (640 men). Another UM has 12 cell blocks (960 men).
- They continue to cut staff and add to their workload. Yet, expectations do not change and policies and responsibilities do not change.
- The unit management system is not what it used to be.
- We have made no changes to the Unit Management Model and have kept offices in the same location instead of centralizing unit staff. We decided this system would better serve the institution needs.
- PC inmates cannot centralize. The social services model would probably create hardships, as they lack resources to escort PC inmates whenever they need to meet with unit staff.
- We need to be in the units more often. We do rounds once a week, but some inmates do not see the unit staff during rounds. We need to be able to conduct rounds three times per week and fear that we may miss communication that otherwise could have prevented tragedy.
- This constant pull inevitably sacrifices quality, not quantity in the rounds.
- Sergeant probably sees inmates more than the Case Managers (CM) or Unit Managers (UM). There are 80 to 160 inmates per Sergeant.

Grievance Procedure

- Inmate grievance procedure runs well at SOCF.
- Biggest issue is property and medical, with medical being cyclic.
- Medical complaints are never about inmates not being seen or not getting ordered medications.
- Received extreme influx of medical complaints when institution switched doctors.
 - Doctors had different philosophical beliefs regarding prescriptions for asthma and other medications.
 - One doctor did not believe in pain medications.
 - Could not question the doctor's judgment, but talked to medical at Central Office when they received a complaint from an inmate reporting the doctor cut out all medications.
 - There has not been one asthma attack because of the medication change.
 - When the inmates were taken off their pain medications, they addressed the concern by sending them to the pain clinic at OSU (Ohio State University Medical Center).
- Other complaints pertain to property loss and court of claims issues.
- Staff explained that they investigate inappropriate supervision complaints thoroughly.
- Have not received one kite or grievance about the tobacco ban, which they believe is positive and means inmates have accepted it.
- The Inspector of Institutional Services (IIS) and secretary were cut and now they only have an Assistant IIS and Inspector.
- They have shifted resources assigning the Investigator to assist the Inspector.
- Maintain that corrections has cut all that it can cut safely.
- Corrections funding has been cut to the bone and there is no fluff, yet 500 more positions are being cut.
- Staff relayed that supplies are so low they feel guilty if they use a sticky pad (post-it note).

Security

- We have good, hard working staff who are loyal to SOCF and we have tried to change the reputation that we treat inmates poorly.
- We are proud that the institution's overall security operation is the best in the state.
- We enjoy working with the people at SOCF.
- The Captain is doing an excellent job and it is a challenge every day.
- We are doing a fantastic job, but it is hard to keep up the morale.
- Inmate and staff morale is terrible. It "literally sucks" because of layoffs, the workload, the type of inmates at SOCF, and the tobacco cessation for staff and inmates. It takes a toll on staff.
- Happy people work better. Staff and inmates have had a lot dumped on them, which we are now trying to fix.
- Security is left to deal with the non-tobacco repercussions and have taken measures to prepare for any sit down as rumored. We have not seen a big problem on the issue, but fear tobacco will replace marijuana as the drug of choice. We must continually monitor how it comes in and keep it in check.

- Assaults are down, but we still have slingers and flingers (inmates who throw human waste or feces).
- The workload at SOCF is greater than other institutions because of the taxing demands on extra attention and security.
- Overall, security feels that the atmosphere is positive, but staff shortages remain a concern.
- The cuts in July when jobs were consolidated created a thick workload.
- The Officer shortage is worst on second shift.
- We have a three percent vacancy rate and we have only a few in the Training Academy.
- We cannot fill posts, which results in a lot of overtime, especially on second shift.
- We remain concerned with Governor's proposal to do more with less.
- There are concerns regarding scheduling. The Sergeant is out to do moves two times a day.
- We already lost two Lieutenants and if we lose another, we lose the ability to schedule.
- We need more programs for 4B inmates who are on the mental health caseload, but additional programs require officer escorts.
- When we run short, we receive grievances about the library being closed.
- "Why do 5,000 state employees have to fix the state's budget?"

Food Service

- Food service department does not compromise on food portions and makes sure they have what they need.
- There are concerns pertaining to inconsistency in stocking central warehouse. We previously needed to contact an outside vendor, which has resulted in spending more money.
- The budget is the worst we have ever seen it, and sometimes, we do not know where the money for the next meal is going to come from.
- This is not good for a maximum-security prison.
- There is excitement regarding the plans to escort Protective Control, Residential Treatment Unit, and K6 inmates to the chow hall. Having the additional four blocks go to the dining room instead of having food delivered to the blocks will be a change that will create a lot of work, but will also create great cost savings by conserving staff resources.
- There are concerns relating to lack of relief staff for their department.
- They are forced to carry vacancies with no relief factor, and to rely on mandatory overtime to fill posts, which has an impact on morale, wellness, and accuracy of the job.
- Mandatory overtime results in \$5,700 in overtime per week. Over the last year, 60 percent of the staff hours were mandatory overtime.

Maintenance

- The facility has started to show its age.
- We are down to one supervisor.
- We are not ordering supplies and believe that it will later cost more money in capital improvements.

INSPECTION

Processing/Entrance

CIIC arrived at the institution at 9:30 A.M. *It was noted that the grounds appeared well maintained and landscaped. An inmate was cleaning the entry area, which also appeared well maintained and clean.* The entry officer was concerned that he had no paperwork on the CIIC inspection and noted that the CIIC white badges were not issued by the Department of Rehabilitation and Correction. The entry officer commented that he was aware of the Committee, but noted that he was having issues with white identification badges, some which are worn by Central Office staff. The processing officer also relayed that he lacked updated CIIC member and staff information at the entry post. However, *staff remained efficient, organized and respectful during the processing procedures.*

The Warden's Assistant relayed that the Warden was in execution training and accompanied CIIC staff to a conference room for the pre-inspection discussion. Staff relayed that they are preparing for two scheduled executions on April 7, 2009 and June 3, 2009. The inmate scheduled for execution on April 7, 2009 received a brief reprieve for further review.

CIIC staff were pleased that there was not a trace of trash outside of the cell blocks as was seen in prior years. This is certainly a remarkable turnaround and indication that staff have found a solution to what had been considered an on-going problem.

Initial Meeting

CIIC met with the Warden and several staff members for a brief meeting to discuss new improvements, issues of concern, and several other topics. The Warden previously spent two and a half years as the Investigator and two years as Deputy Warden at Toledo Correctional Institution, and one year and nine months as Warden of the Oakwood Correctional Facility.

The Warden relayed that they will hold a ceremony for inmates graduating from the ADAPT recovery services program on March 30, 2009. He further mentioned how proud he was of the program's accomplishments and commented that they invited the inmate's families to attend the event. The Warden stated that staff members often speak to inmates as a way of encouraging them to get involved in programs. It was relayed that the graduation is a first in SOCF history, as three groups of inmates (Security Threat Group, General Population, and Protective Control) will graduate at once.

In addition, it was noted that approximately 41 inmates graduated three months ago with their GED.

Staff explained that the General Population (GP) inmates are normally content and relayed that they recently installed a new television system with direct TV due to the digital transition, a significant improvement over the old reception which was extremely fuzzy.

Although some inmates reportedly threatened a disturbance over the tobacco ban, staff warned the inmates that any threats of "take over" or rioting will be dealt with accordingly. SOCF is

prepared in training and weaponry such as gas and shotguns with non-lethal bullets and beanbags to handle the situation. The towers are equipped and inmates were told that the hatches in chow hall are for gas and shotguns if needed.

SOCF had a standard audit in 2008, currently has an internal management audit scheduled in 2009, and an ACA audit scheduled for September 2009.

Food Services

The inspection of SOCF included the L Side kitchen/inmate chow hall. The L Side dining area is split up into two chow halls referred to as L East and L West. The legs of the tables and attached seats were color-coded (green, blue, yellow, and red). One staff member explained that tables are color-coded based on the inmate's lock. However, another staff member relayed that there was no significance to color. The staff person relayed that inmates are instructed which side to sit on when they enter the chow hall and the assigned seating remains based on their block. Staff relayed that they permit 20 inmates to eat at a time, though the maximum capacity could accommodate 80 inmates.

Inmates are allotted a 20-minute period to eat, which begins when the last inmate in the chow hall starts to eat. The institution usually serves lunch until approximately 1:20 P.M. Staff mentioned that since the riot, K Side inmates do not go to the chow hall to eat. However, beginning March 16, 2009 staff reported that they would escort inmates from K5 (Residential Treatment Unit for eligible mentally ill), K6 (STG/Separation/Step-down Unit), K7 (Protective Control), and K8 (Protective Control) to chow. Staff relayed that PC inmates will serve other PC inmates, and each block will serve their own respective block. They stated that this will save money and allow Protective Control and Residential Treatment Unit inmates more time out of the cellblock.

Inmates entered the dining hall in an orderly fashion while the atmosphere remained rather quiet and appeared calm. Some inmates indicated that they were afraid to speak due to retaliation.

The dishwasher room, which is a separate area near the entrance of the dining hall, was observed. Inmate workers assigned to the dishwasher room relayed that staff do not provide them with cleaning solution or supplies for dishes or the kitchen area. According to the inmate workers, they only use hot water to clean the dishware and the water sometimes does not get hot at all. The dishes reportedly come out dirty, and although many of the trays are cracked they are reportedly still in use.

The drinking dispensers appeared stained from years of use and possibly inadequate cleaning. Inmates alleged that the staff do not care if the population gets sick. However, staff maintained that the dish machine operates fine, and there have been no recent malfunctions. It was relayed that an inmate had been sabotaging the machine, but the problem was no longer an issue.

Inmates also made allegations of finding roaches, vermin, and even rat feces, in the kitchen area. Inmates stated that they get along with the Food Service staff. However, officers have allegedly forced inmates to take food they do not want, as they go through the serving line, such as vegetables or a slice of bread.

The Food Service Manager explained that they have approximately 150 inmates working in food service, but no more than 44 at one time.

The floors contain a non-slip material and the entire kitchen area seemed well maintained, clean, and orderly. The appliances and equipment in the kitchen appeared to be in good working condition and staff relayed that they recently upgraded several appliances including the massive oven, which is the original oven from the institution's opening date. The institution contains three walk-in freezers and several other food storage areas. The temperature in the refrigerator was 38 degrees and the meat freezer thermometer read five degrees. Staff mentioned that they had a capital improvement project several years ago to upgrade the freezers to all run on separate compressors. Before, if the compressor went down, they lost all food in all coolers. All food storage areas seemed well ventilated, clean, and in compliance with ACA (American Correctional Association) standards. The Food Service Manager stated that DRC Central Office stocks the institution's outside storage warehouse about once per month and they refill their indoor storage areas about twice a week from the outside storage warehouse. Finally, the Food Service Manager relayed that the inmates no longer butcher and prepare meat, as there is an OPI (Ohio Penal Industries) meat-processing center at Pickaway Correctional Institution (PCI).

Throughout communication with the inmates, many openly relayed concerns pertaining to SOCF procedures and SOCF staff.

One inmate complained that the institution does not permit him to bring his own spoon to the chow hall. SOCF staff reportedly (and understandably) considered this a security concern. This inmate reported that staff placed him in segregation for allegedly refusing to eat burnt pancakes. He also relayed further concerns regarding a situation where an officer on his block tore up a magazine considered inappropriate. The inmate stated that staff did not give him the option of mailing the magazine home or allowing the staff to destroy. His concern is that the officer decided to destroy his magazine without consent. He relayed that he has used the inmate grievance procedure for similar issues before, but stated it was not effective. The inmate relayed that he participates in the Anger Management program, believes the program is helpful, and added, "anything can be effective if you apply yourself."

At a separate table, two inmates openly relayed serious allegations of racial profiling by staff. Many inmates later make allegations of racial profiling and discrimination throughout L Side, K Side, and J Complex. Inmates alleged that since the Presidential election, the officers have seemed more disrespectful toward black inmates, sometimes using racial slurs when making a direct order to them. Staff reportedly told the inmates they are doing this because it is Black History month.

One of the inmates at the table alleged that there was an increase in use of force incidents particularly against black and minority inmates. They relayed that a third shift officer sprays inmates with mace and does not write a report about the incident.

Several inmates urged CIIC to inspect J-block and to speak with an inmate who was allegedly recently "beat up" by officers a few days before the inspection. The inmate reportedly has a

black eye, cuts, and had his teeth knocked out by an officer. The officer allegedly waited until the inmate was cuffed before he reportedly used excessive force.

Two inmates further relayed that over the past six to eight months the tension between the inmates and staff has been getting worse. They suspect that the total tobacco ban is part of the problem. Reportedly, when inmates send informal complaints, staff send them back to the inmate unanswered. They are reportedly not allowed to possess hairbrushes and the institution forces them to receive haircuts. One inmate commented that staff sent an inmate to Security Control (SC) for writing the FBI. Another inmate inquired about information on transitional housing.

Inmates pass through a metal detector in the hallway when returning from their meals. Various metal detectors are placed throughout the institution for added security.

Library

Inmates must walk through a metal detector upon entering and exiting the library. The library appeared to be stocked with adequate reading, law, and technology materials for inmates. The law library area contains various legal resources along with a copy of the 1993 Riot Agreement, *Fussell* settlement, Ohio Revised Code, and American Correctional Association standards. In addition, the library contains seven computer workstations and several typewriters. A DRC paralegal was working on updating the DRC Policies and Administrative Rules (AR) as well as rebinding them due to the security risk of the metal bindings. Staff mentioned that they print original copies in pink so that they can tell if an inmate attempts to steal any materials. The corkboard in the library displayed a copy of CIIC's memo which outlines the Committee's responsibilities, duties and contact information.

Several inmates relayed the need for a greater variety of books. They also mentioned that they could only access the library one hour at a time three to four times per week. Inmates relayed frustration and concern about situations reportedly faced by inmates, saying "you get punched, fight back, and get sent to 4B K Side for six months to a year, where you have no access to legal." A major concern was alleged total lack of access to the law library for those in 4B on K Side, that is lack of response to kite requests to the law library. Of equal concern to the inmates was the alleged practice of keeping the mentally ill in lock down for long periods, which reportedly makes them "hostile when they get out." Referring to the above altercations with the mentally ill, they stated, "We are the victims." The inmates further expressed, "You write an ICR (Informal Complaint Resolution) on a Case Manager and they give it to the Case Manager to answer!" Finally, one group of inmates from L Side voiced complaints about a particular officer.

Table 4. SOCF Library Schedule Effective April 9, 2009

| | Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|-------------------------|--------|--------|---------|-----------|----------|--------|----------|
| 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. | K7-4 | L5 | L8 | L2 | K8 | L7 | L2 |
| 9:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. | K5 | L4 | L1 | L4 | L3 | K5 | L7 |
| 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. | | | | | | | |
| 12:00 p.m. – 1:15 p.m. | L2 | L3 | L5 | L6 | K7-4 | L8 | L1 |
| 1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. | K6 | L7 | K6 | K7-3 | K7-3 | K6 | K7-3 |
| 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. | | | | | | | |
| 5:00 p.m. – 6:15 p.m. | K7-4 | K8 | K8 | K7-4 | L8 | K8 | L8 |
| 6:30 p.m. – 7:45 p.m. | L6 | L5 | L2 | L7 | L1 | K5 | L4 |
| 8:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. | L1 | L6 | L3 | L3 | L5 | L4 | L6 |

Medical/Infirmary

The medical and infirmary areas were also included in the inspection. The medical department has two floors. The bottom floor includes, but is not limited to an emergency room, dental clinic, general examination room, medical pill call room, mental health pill call room, x-ray room, eye clinic, records office, and the Health Care Administrator's office. The bottom floor also contains two holding areas. One holding room is an open room, which at the time of the inspection held two inmates. The other holding room had three cells which were reportedly for inmates not in general population such as Security Control (SC) and 4B inmates.

The top floor consists of the infirmary and an area for body weight exercises. Staff mentioned that they use one side of the infirmary for mentally ill inmates and the other side for inmates with medical problems. The top floor also has a small conference room, which was reportedly the former on-site pharmacy area. The Department of Rehabilitation and Correction's prisons use Central Pharmacy to obtain necessary medications. Although it is less convenient for the institution staff not to have their own pharmacy, it has been reported by central office staff to be a major cost savings measure.

Medical staff were given an opportunity to discuss problems, concerns, and overall office functions. Medical staff relayed that they have a part time physician and are five weeks behind for doctor's sick call. Staff reported that they see inmates on nurse's sick call within 48 hours and most inmates see medical staff the next day. CIIC provided staff with inmate's names and numbers who reported medical issues during the inspection.

The staff explained that in J2, nurses make rounds four times per day, Monday through Friday and three times on weekends. It was also relayed that the nurse generally sees about 20 inmates per day and the doctor sees approximately 20 to 28 inmates per day. Medical staff reported that their greatest need is a full time doctor. The current doctor works four ten-hour days every other week, but they have other doctors who rotate. The DRC Assistant Medical Director relayed that she will be seeing inmates until the institution receives a permanent doctor. Staff mentioned that they have 12 Registered Nurses and five Licensed Practical Nurses. The institution uses a state employed Phlebotomist.

The dental examination room has three chairs and appeared to have adequate equipment for general procedures. Staff relayed that they have no issues with dental equipment, but are one month behind on cleanings. Staff explained that the dental department operates with contractual services. They currently have a dentist who is on site 28 hours per week, a hygienist who is on site eight hours per week, and a full time dental assistant. Staff mentioned that they have no backlog for the eye clinic or for the Podiatrist.

The x-ray room appeared to be well organized/clean. Staff relayed that x-rays are contracted as needed several times per week and they have no problems with the equipment. Finally, staff mentioned they have a diet technician, which they share with Hocking Correctional Facility, who reportedly is at the Southern Ohio Correctional Facility two times per week, and at Hocking CF three times per week.

The organization and cleanliness of the medical area was extremely impressive. Specifically, the infirmary was a definite highlight, as one could almost see one's reflection in the completely spotless floor. Medical staff stated that D2 is not currently being used. It was also noted that they had to implement a call system in the infirmary cells because of the *Fussell* agreement. On the date of the inspection, the infirmary had two patients on the mental health side and one patient on the medical side. Staff relayed that they have another medical inmate, but he was on a roundtrip to Ohio State University for a CT scan. One inmate referred to a use of force incident and relayed that another inmate recently received a bad beating.

**Table 5. SOCF Medical Monthly Institutional Statistical Summary
January and February 2009**

| | January | February | Total |
|------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Sick Call | | | |
| Nurse Intake Screen | 58 | 45 | 103 |
| Nurse Referrals to Doctor | 176 | 135 | 311 |
| New Intakes Referred to Physician | 28 | 21 | 49 |
| Nurse Sick Call and Assessments | 761 | 766 | 1,527 |
| Doctor Sick Call | 136 | 165 | 301 |
| Doctor H & P Done | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Doctor No Shows | 0 | 4 | 4 |
| Emergency Triage | | | |
| Sent to local ER | 9 | 13 | 22 |
| Sent to OSU ER | 3 | 5 | 8 |
| Sent from Local to OSU | 7 | 5 | 12 |
| Inmate Emergencies Treated On Site | 169 | 234 | 403 |
| Staff Treated | 145 | 146 | 291 |
| Visitors Treated | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Infirmiry Care | | | |
| Bed Days Used for Medical | 58 | 28 | 86 |
| Bed Days Used for Mental | 114 | 116 | 230 |
| Bed Days Used for Security | 0 | 25 | 25 |
| Dental Care | | | |
| | January | February | Total |
| Scheduled Visits | 153 | 157 | 310 |
| Emergency Visits | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Total Visits | 153 | 158 | 311 |
| No Shows | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| AMAs | 6 | 7 | 13 |
| Specialty Care On Site | | | |
| Optometry | | | |
| Consults | 38 | 32 | 70 |
| Inmates Seen | 27 | 26 | 53 |
| Emergencies Seen | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Hours On Site | 13 | 13 | 26 |
| Podiatry | | | |
| Consults | 17 | 18 | 35 |
| Inmates Seen | 16 | 15 | 31 |
| Emergencies Seen | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Hours On Site | 4 | 4 | 8 |

| Pharmacy | | | |
|----------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|
| Medical Refills | 571 | 633 | 1,204 |
| Mental Refills | 452 | 408 | 860 |
| Medical New Prescriptions | 663 | 733 | 1,396 |
| Mental New Prescriptions | 405 | 516 | 921 |
| Total Prescriptions | 2,091 | 2,290 | 4,381 |
| Medical Controlled Prescriptions | 17 | 7 | 24 |
| Mental Controlled Prescriptions | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Lab Data | | | |
| Blood Draws | 79 | 90 | 169 |
| DNA Blood Draws | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Mental Health Blood Draws | 18 | 41 | 59 |
| EKGs | 5 | 6 | 11 |
| Non CMC X-Rays | 39 | 53 | 92 |
| Infections Disease Data | | | |
| Number Inmates Tested for TB | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| Positive PPD Test | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Staff PPD | 11 | 10 | 21 |
| Inmates Completed INH | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Inmates Incomplete INH | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Inmates Refusing INH | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| HIV Positive Inmates | 10 | 10 | 20 |
| Inmate HIV Conversions | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Deaths | | | |
| Deaths Expected | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Deaths Unexpected | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Suicides | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Homicides | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Deaths at Local Hospital | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Deaths at OSU | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Deaths at CMC | 0 | 0 | 0 |

The Unexpected Deaths

In regard to the two unexpected deaths, the February death was an alleged homicide of an inmate on L side general population who was thrown over the range by an inmate.

The January unexpected death occurred in a J2 slammer cell, which inmates alleged was related to the combined effect of extreme “heat blasting out of the vents in these cells, making them a living oven.” The deceased and at least one other inmate reportedly told medical staff a short time prior to the death, that they felt dizzy and had difficulty breathing. Reportedly, the small crack under the two steel doors is the only ventilation. In response to an inquiry regarding the January death, it was reported that SOCF has a protocol in place regarding the monitoring of cellblock temperatures. Records reportedly reflect that block temperatures have been conducted and recorded appropriately. Further, all temperature logs are reportedly maintained by the Psych/MR Nurse Supervisor and all data reflect that as of February 24, 2009, no temperature readings have been out of range. In addition, the facility has initiated several new protocols to include the following:

- Unless security deems otherwise, the strong cell outer doors will be opened during pill pass for those patients receiving medication. This will increase ventilation and compliance of taking medications.
- The cell temperature will be checked by medical nursing each pill pass on second shift and report the temperature to Mental Health nursing which will record it on the shift nursing report sheet.
- A total of at least three temperatures per range need to be recorded for the North side. A cell by or close to the shower, one midway down the range, and one at the opposite end of the range for the top and bottom ranges.

The death occurred on January 22, 2009. Prior to the death, on January 8, 2009, the inmate was in K1. According to his conduct report, he told an officer to get him a high calorie food tray or he would “bomb out” the officer. Reportedly, the inmate had a styrofoam tray with feces on it. The officer reportedly gave him several direct orders to go to the back of his cell and to put the tray down. The inmate started to the front of the cell and the officer reacted by administering a short burst of OC spray to the facial area.

Recovery Services Program

The Recovery Services Supervisor spoke about the ADAPT program and provided a wealth of information. The Warden previously relayed that DRC Central Office awarded SOCF with the “Recovery Services of the Year” award. The K6 inmates were observed coming up to the area for group and the ADAPT classroom was visited during the inspection. The opportunity was provided to learn about, and receive literature on the program.

SOCF staff were enthusiastic and proud of the program. According to the staff, ADAPT is a 16-week Alcohol or Other Drug Cognitive Behavioral Program that teaches logical and illogical rational therapies. Staff also relayed that ADAPT is an “earned credit” re-entry approved program. Inmates involved in the program receive workbooks that they keep in their cells during the 16-week period. Inmates reportedly watch videos associated with their coursework and complete assignments associated with the video. Protective Control inmates reportedly come to Recovery Services for their programs on Tuesday and Thursday. Staff further mentioned that they must apply for approval from the Warden each year to run the program.

According to the Recovery Services Supervisor, he is responsible for inmate drug testing. Staff commented that they conduct random urine sampling and send the samples to CMC for testing. Staff relayed that they used to test inmates monthly, but now only have to do the sampling quarterly since they have had at least five years of less than one percent of their population test positive for drugs. Institutions with higher percentages have to test inmates monthly. The Recovery Services Coordinator can also test an inmate “for cause” if they have reason to believe the inmate is using drugs. Recovery Services consists of four licensed staff, which includes three Correctional Program Coordinators and one Recovery Services Supervisor.

Adapt Cognitive Behavior Treatment Program

On March 30, 2009, the CIIC Director was honored to be key note speaker at the graduation ceremony for the ADAPT Cognitive Behavior Treatment Program at the Southern Ohio Correctional Facility. The ceremony was held in the visiting room for the inmate graduates, and their family, and past graduates were invited to join, along with key SOCF staff.

The purpose of the program is to provide effective drug and alcohol treatment to maximum security inmates at the Southern Ohio Correctional Facility. The program is a 16 week Intensive Outpatient Program focusing on cognitive behavioral aspects of drug and alcohol abuse and addiction. Program goals and objectives include:

1. Provide treatment to eligible inmates in general population and protective custody
2. Motivate participants to explore their problems and ramifications of their drug/alcohol abuse.
3. Examine attitudes and feelings in regard to alcohol/drug use and/or addiction, and consider alternate solutions.
4. Educate and improve conscious awareness of alcohol and other drug abuse to general population and protective custody inmates.
5. Provide an opportunity for inmates to examine their drug/alcohol involvement, and to accept responsibility for past and present behaviors.

Participation in the program is voluntary. Eligibility and appropriateness for inclusion in the program is determined through a review of the inmate's record and an interview process, where the inmate is screened for drug and alcohol use, abuse and dependency issues. An inmate who voices or otherwise describes abuse or dependency symptoms and behaviors is basically found to be appropriate for the program. The maximum number of inmates in the program was reported to be 10.

Participants meet three to five days per week at varying times depending on whether the group is general population or protective custody. Closed Education and Counseling groups are facilitated throughout the program. The primary technique used in the program is Cognitive Behavioral Therapy in which one's thoughts and beliefs are examined in terms of being logical or illogical. A thought or belief is seen as illogical, once brought to the light of awareness and can then be changed to a thought or belief that is more logical. The program takes place in the Learning Center complex. Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous, and Aftercare are used as support programming. Certificates of completion are awarded on successful completion of the program.

SOCF Program staff are continuing efforts to try to get the cutting-edge Cognitive Behavioral Treatment Program to as many of the security level four inmates as possible. They have implemented three separate CBT groups to various inmate sections at SOCF to try to include not only the level four inmates, but also inmates who have to be segregated from the general population, such as the PC inmates and the STG separated inmates.

The current graduates consist of two general population groups and one STG separated group. These three groups completed the program simultaneously. The Warden gave special permission to have a graduation ceremony that includes the three graduating group members and their invited family members. In keeping with the importance of having family members involved as a vital piece of inmate recovery and support system, SOCF made this graduation one in which family members not only see their loved ones graduate from a top quality treatment program, but also share a lunch meal and have a recovery-related speaker to address the graduates and their family.

As one program staff person relayed, in these difficult times that DRC is facing, it is good to see some positive things happening and all were excited about the positive aspect of this event. Staff are excited about the CBT groups at SOCF and know that they will have a positive effect on the offender and eventually the entire institution. It was a giant step to have a graduation ceremony for the CBT graduates and may have been the first time some have ever experienced such an activity. The CIIC staff join the DRC Director in applauding the Warden and program staff for not only having the event at the maximum security facility, but for including the family members.

Visiting Room GP/PC

Since there are no visits on Mondays, the inspection did not incorporate observation of the inmate visitation period. However, the visiting room was observed and staff were available to respond to questions. Staff mentioned that visitors must make reservations 72 hours in advance. Those in Local Control (LC) and 4B visit behind glass, as they are not permitted contact visits. The LC and 4B glass visiting area appeared clean and outstandingly bright. The rest of the visiting room was exceptionally clean.

The Protective Control (PC) inmates sit in front of the officers on their visits and staff reported that they have not had a problem. They relayed that they adopted this model from the Warren Correctional Institution (WCI) and the Marion Correctional Institution (MCI), both which previously housed Protective Control units. The visitation area also contains a children's reading corner and a room for attorney visits. Two sets of Corrections Officer monitor the visitations.

Table 6. Inmate Visiting Hours/Schedule

| | Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|-------------------------|-----------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| General Population, Protective Control -No time limit | 9:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m. | No Visits | 9:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m. |
| 4B Privilege Level, Protective Control -Four hours only | No Visits | No Visits | 9:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m. |
| Special Management (SC, DC, LC) -Two hours only | No Visits | No Visits | 9:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m. |

Barbershop and Mailroom

Observation of the barbershop indicated that it seemed to run smoothly and, as typical with most institutions, the inmates serve as barbers. Inmates in 4A cut the hair of other 4A inmates, and Protective Control inmates cut hair for other PC inmates, etc.

The inspection also included a visit to the mailroom where officers were busy processing mail.

Captain's Office

Staff relayed that the Captain's office used to be the commissary. Staff provide administrative forms specific to SOCF, which assists with general security operations. The office also consists of a storage area for heavy SRT (Special Response Team) gear and equipment, as well as a dry cell, which staff referred to as the cooler. Staff reportedly uses this cell as a brief placement for a problem inmate in an effort to calm or "cool" the inmate down. Dry cells are normally used for those suspected of ingesting ballooned drugs on a visit.

The office also has a mural of an outside view of the institution on the walls. The panorama is unfinished and staff relayed that a PC inmate started the project.

INSPECTION – HOUSING UNITS

Table 7. Breakdown of Housing Units and Population

| Cellblock | J Complex | K Side | L Side |
|------------------|--|--|-----------------------|
| 1 | LC | 4B | General Population 4A |
| 2 | Security Control Disciplinary Control Safe Cells | 4B | General Population 4A |
| 3 | 4B | 4B | General Population 4A |
| 4 | 4B Intensive Mental Health Treatment Unit | 4B | General Population 4A |
| 5 | – | Residential Treatment Unit | General Population 4A |
| 6 | – | General Population 4A (Step down/STG/ Separation) | General Population 4A |
| 7 | – | Protective Control | General Population 4A |
| 8 | – | Protective Control | General Population 4A |

Table 8. Description of Special Management Housing Units (SMHU) per Administrative Rules (AR)

| SMHU | Description per Administrative Rule (AR) |
|--|---|
| Security Control (SC) AR: 5120-9-11 | An inmate may be placed in security control: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. When needed to facilitate an investigation prior to the issuance of a conduct report or other administrative action, criminal prosecution; and/or, 2. Pending a hearing before the rules infraction board (RIB); 3. Pending transfer to another institution; 4. As a temporary housing assignment for inmates to facilitate an inmate's appearance in judicial or administrative proceedings. |
| Disciplinary Control (DC) AR 5120-9-11 | An inmate who has been found guilty of a rule violation by the RIB, pursuant to rule 5120-9-08 of the Administrative Code, may be placed in disciplinary control. An RIB panel may impose up to fifteen days in disciplinary control for a single violation or series of violations arising out of a single event. |
| Local Control (LC) AR: 5120-9-13.1 | An inmate may be placed into local control if the warden determines after a hearing that: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The inmate has demonstrated a chronic inability to adjust to the general population, or 2. The inmate's presence in the general population is likely to seriously disrupt the orderly operation of the institution. Placement in local control shall be for an indefinite period, but shall not exceed one hundred eighty days unless the prior written approval of the director or his designee has been obtained. |
| Protective Control (PC) AR: 5120-9-14 | The director or designee shall designate one or more institutions to maintain housing areas designated as protective control. These protective control areas shall be used to house inmates that, due to personal physical safety concerns, need to be separated from the general inmate population. |

J Complex

J Complex is a Special Management Housing Unit more commonly referred to as including their segregation unit which inmates term "the hole." J complex encompasses one block for Local Control (LC), and one block for Security Control (SC), Disciplinary Control (DC), and safe cells. The complex also has one block for 4B inmates and an Intensive Mental Health Treatment Unit for 4B selected mentally ill inmates. During the inspection of J1 and J2, it was noticed that segregation daily log sheets were not above the cells as required. The sheets provide important documentation on contacts and necessities provided to the inmate in each cell.

J1 – Local Control (LC)

J1, formerly termed "J1 Supermax" was re-opened by the previous Warden for the purpose of providing a Local Control block for disruptive inmates in 4B. The bottom range has a locked metal cage a few feet in front of the cells for extra security. J1 also has suicide watch cells with clear Plexiglas for monitoring suicidal inmates. Staff reported that they only have a few inmates located in Local Control. Of those in Local Control, some were reportedly convicted of attempted murder in the K-5 Residential Treatment Unit, two received LC due to involvement in a recent murder in general population on L side, and one inmate was under LC status for refusing

to lock in Protective Control. The LC area has 20 available cells and the reported count, on the day of the inspection, was 15.

The yelling of various inmates generated a high noise level in the block. Staff reported that inmates on the top range were calling out to the female CIIC Inspector, as they reportedly wanted to “flash” her. Staff explained that many of the males are known to masturbate in front of females.

One inmate spoke about the grievance procedure and its reported ineffectiveness. A separate inmate stated that he is in Local Control because of a weapon, which he maintains he needed. Another inmate reported that he had a broken thumb and needed medical treatment. SOCF staff responded to this comment and documented the concern. Many of the cells appeared dirty and overall sanitation issues were evident.

J1 has a separate entrance area used for inmate programming as well as visits for death row inmates the night before their execution. The area included an open bathroom and ten bright yellow cages or program booths to hold inmates. Staff relayed that they might end up using this as a reception/receiving area for inmates.

J2 – Security Control (SC), Disciplinary Control (DC), Safe Cells

J2 is a segregation block, which includes inmates placed in SC and DC. The unit has two security cameras, with one at each end, and two safe cells on the bottom range with Plexiglas around the bars used to closely monitor inmates. On the day of the inspection, staff reported that there were 73 inmates in J2. The breakdown included eight in Disciplinary Control, seven in Protective Control or PC investigation, three in Local Control and the remaining 55 under Security Control status. The noise volume in the unit was very loud. However, this is typical for most segregation units.

One inmate commented that when he moved to J2, staff failed to pack up all of his property. He stated that some of his property was not on the pack up slip and he is missing shoes and other items. The inmate also referred to a use of force incident where staff allegedly sprayed him with mace and did not provide him access to medical. He reported that he still has limited vision in his eye because of the incident. A separate inmate also voiced concerns pertaining to an alleged unreported use of force incident, harassment from staff, and poor cell conditions. Another inmate spoke of concerns regarding access to medical treatment, and reportedly failed to understand why staff recommended him 4B placement, as well as why he received a commissary restriction.

During a separate conversation, an inmate reported that unit staff members do not respond to informal complaints. He expressed that staff do not always respond and when they do, they usually do not address the concern. The inmate relayed that the medication he receives for an injury to his hip is not sufficient. He reportedly kited the Administrative office for a grievance regarding this matter three weeks before the inspection, and still had not received a response.

One inmate communicated frustration that he had been in J2 for seven days without a conduct report. When asked if he was under SC or DC, he later explained that he is under investigation

for an incident that occurred the week before. He also stated that he was aware that staff could take up to 21 days to complete an investigation. However, he was still upset that staff had not yet issued a conduct. Another inmate stated that he has been asking to transfer to Ohio State Penitentiary for two years.

Inmates made allegations of racial profiling during the inspection of J2. Most of the racial profiling allegations pertained to verbal abuse from unit staff, use of force, and harassment. Reportedly, three officers allegedly pulled a black inmate out of the shower, which reportedly resulted in the inmate receiving a black eye. In another instance, inmates cited harassment by an officer as an inmate was leaving the chow hall. Allegedly, the officer stated that the inmate was being harassed because it was Black History Month.

One inmate relayed that his cell was dirty and he needed cleaning supplies while a different inmate stated that his laundry was misplaced. A separate inmate relayed that he was just placed in a cell and it needs to be cleaned. This information was relayed to a CO that an inmate requested cleaning supplies. The officer did not seem that he was interested, but commented that he would try to get it done. Sanitation issues remained a problem throughout the block. Certain cells were in dire need of a cleaning.

One inmate stated that he has been in prison for seven years on a technical parole violation. He mentioned an upcoming parole hearing and relayed that his is trying to remain in his cell so he can stay out of trouble. He further commented that the last time he had a conduct report, and was continued another year by the Parole Board.

J2 – Slammer Cells

J2 also has what is known as “slammer cells,” which are cells that have two doors, with an inside door comprised of a metal latticework structure and the outside door fortified with solid steel and a small window. The J2 slammer cells continue to remain a concern as visibility into the cells is extremely limited, they are very dark even in daylight, unless the light is turned on by an outside switch. A number of inmates asked for the light to be turned off again, for it hurt their eyes. There is a clear lack of natural light.

One particular inmate in a J2 slammer cell mentioned that he is having suicidal problems and stated that he tried to hang himself the night before. Staff verified the alleged suicide attempt and placed him on constant watch. He relayed that he is being forced out of Protective Control, and will be killed by a specific gang. The CIIC Director later viewed the video of the attempted suicide, which took place on the stairs of the Protective Control Unit, with other inmates present and running to help the inmate. In spite of this attempting hanging, there were no suicide attempts reported at SOCF in the month. Another inmate in a slammer cell relayed that he needs help but cannot communicate well in English.

One inmate previously mentioned via correspondence that an inmate died in a J2 slammer cell and attributes the death to poor ventilation and hot temperatures. The inmate stated that the deceased voiced complaints about the cell being too hot, but was dismissed by staff. On the day of the inspection a separate inmate in a different block relayed concerns about the same inmate

dying in a slammer cell. He believes that staff are supposed to keep the outside doors open, but they continue to keep both doors closed.

The inmate also explained that he has problems in which he has to go on suicide watch at times and when he does, staff keep him in a special strong slammer cell because he reportedly destroyed state property in the past. The inmate relayed that at times he has been forced to sleep on steel and does not receive a mattress. He also expressed that the slammer cell has vents that he could use to hang himself or to access razors to harm himself.

J3 – 4B

J3 is a block within J Complex that houses 4B (formerly Administrative Control) inmates and had a reported current count of 74. During the inspection, one inmate relayed that he had gone ten days without hygiene products. Similar complaints also came from another inmate who further mentioned that he had a toothache. Although there are state-issued hygiene products, the inmate relayed that he is not indigent.

Another inmate relayed that he wished SOCF had better Mental Health care and stated that the food portions are too small. He was upset that SOCF and DRC took tobacco from inmates. Another inmate stated that he is mentally ill, and continues to be maced by staff.

During the inspection of J3, an inmate spoke with the Captain regarding an officer allegedly preventing inmates from taking showers if they refused to take recreation. The Captain explained this in incorrect and expressed concern regarding misinformation given to inmates. During the inspection, the Captain let several officers know that they need to do a better job of watching their unit to ensure that they follow all the policies and procedures.

J4 – Intensive Mental Health Treatment Unit (IMHTU)

Until its recent closure, J4 has been termed an Intensive Mental Health Treatment Unit (IMHTU) for selected mentally ill in 4B inmates. On the day of the inspection, staff relayed hope that the inmates in J4 Intensive Mental Health Treatment Unit will be transferred to Oakwood Correctional Facility (OCF) and they could use it as an orientation/receiving block. According to the plan, they would send eight chronically mentally ill, two “cutters,” and approximately four to five more. They were ready to send ten chronic self-mutilators.

The block has five televisions mounted from the ceiling that were viewable by inmates on the top and bottom ranges. Inmates throughout the block were rather quiet. One inmate relayed concerns about leg pain and needing a rod changed in his leg. He also stated that staff took him off of his pain medications.

It was noted that some cells appeared clean, but sanitation problems were observed as well. Some of the inmates also appeared to have personal hygiene needs.

One particular inmate explained that he once feared being removed from the K5 RTU and feared being sent to another prison. However, the inmate relayed that he is now transferring to

Oakwood Correctional Facility as cadre and shared his appreciation for the Warden for such a great placement for him. In fact, the inmate was transferred to Toledo Correctional Institution instead.

Another inmate stated that the Sergeant tried to give him tickets for something he did time for already. The inmate was reportedly at SOCF for a psychological evaluation and remained worried about getting out because he was told it would take three months to be evaluated. The inmate's cell had a foul odor. Facility staff replied that they would look into it at their treatment team meeting.

A separate inmate relayed concerns about an officer's reported harassment. He further relayed that he has no laundry, needs underclothes, and wants to transfer to the Ohio State Penitentiary.

A different inmate explained an incident where he reportedly grabbed a Sergeant by the throat. He stated that he has no idea why he did it and has kited staff, but receives no answers.

An inmate relayed that he received a Rules Infraction Board conviction for a rule violation, but he maintains his innocence. He stated that he asked for a polygraph because he believes that the conduct report was based on another inmate's false claim.

Inmates on the upper range relayed concerns about running out of food trays for the block and a Corrections Officer reportedly reading their mail. They alleged that the Officer reads their mail, throws it away, and takes money orders.

One inmate was sitting straight up on his bed, completely still, and responded that there is nothing else to do. He relayed that he has been in J4 for six months. When asked if he had anything to read, he got up and pointed to several old magazines on the back wall shelf. The inmate also stated that when he gets out he would like to be a car mechanic.

Finally, one inmate expressed his anger pertaining to mail services and insisted that his outgoing mail is not being delivered. He reportedly sends kites and files informal complaints to no avail. He presented a letter from the Ohio Innocence Project stating that they are closing his case because he did not respond to them since 2006. He insisted that he had in fact written to them and that he has even been cut off from his family due to interference with his mail.

K Side

K Side, blocks K1 through K4 houses inmates in 4B classification, which is a classification similar to what was previously known as Administrative Control (AC). K side also contains two Protective Control (PC) blocks, K7 and K8, one Residential Treatment Unit (RTU) in K5, and one General Population (GP) unit, K6. K7 houses PC inmates classified as level one (minimum) and two (medium), while K8 houses PC inmates with security levels three (close) and four (maximum).

Staff relayed that approximately 22-23 inmates, mostly level one (minimum) and two (medium) signed out of PC because of the plan to no longer bring food trays to the PC blocks, but rather to

have the inmates leave the block to have their meals in the dining room. Reportedly, the inmates had concerns for their personal safety. Staff relayed that they are attempting to get PC inmates involved in painting the ceilings, which has not been done in 17 years, and possibly receive certificates for floor cleaning. This would reportedly take place during the midnight shift and give them more time out of the block.

Table 9. K5, K6, K7, and K8 Weekly Recreation

| Location | Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 7:00 a.m.-9:30 a.m. IN | K5 Level 2 |
| 7:15 a.m.-8:45 a.m. OUT | K7 Level 3 | K8 Level 1,2 | K7 Level 3 | K8 Level 4 | K7 Level 3 | K8 Level 1,2 | K8 Level 4 |
| 9:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m. Groups and Rec. | K5 Level 2,3,4 |
| 9:00 a.m.-10:30 a.m. OUT | K8 Level 1, 2 | K7 Level 3 | K8 Level 1, 2 | K7 Level 3 | K8 Level 4 | K7 Level 3 | K8 Level 1, 2 |
| 11:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m. | G.I. |
| 12:30 p.m. -3:30 p.m. IN | K5 Level 3, 4 |
| 12:45 p.m. -2:15 p.m. OUT | K6 G.P. | K8 Level 4 | K6 G.P. | K8 Level 1,2 | K6 G.P. | K8 Level 4 | K6 G.P. |
| 4:00 p.m. -5:00 p.m. | G.I. |
| 5:00 p.m. -6:30 p.m. IN | K8 Level 1,2 | K5 Level 3,4 | K8 Level 4 | K5 Level 3,4 | K8 Level 1,2 | K5 Level 3,4 | K8 Level 4 |
| 6:40 p.m. -8:15 p.m. IN | K5 GROUPS |
| 6:40 p.m. -8:15 p.m. IN | K8 Level 4 | K6 G.P. | K7 Level 3 | K6 G.P. | K7 Level 3 | K6 G.P. | K7 Level 3 |

K1 – 4B

The reported inmate count in K1 on the day of the inspection was 34. It was noted that the first two cells in K1 are handicap accessible cells. Many inmates had blankets covering part or their entire cell door and some also had newspaper and toilet paper covering the light inside their cell. Facility staff told the inmates to take the blankets down, and told several officers to walk their unit.

Empty cells K1-10 and K1-15 were extremely dirty, unsanitary, and contained trash. When asked what the procedure is for empty cells to be cleaned, staff relayed that porters are suppose to clean the cell when an inmate moves out. However, it did not appear that was taking place.

K2 – 4B

The inmate count on the day of the inspection for K2 was 73. A portion of the block contained strong cells or slammer cells as described in the J2 – Slammer Cells section of this report. Staff relayed that they use the slammer cells for inmates who throw urine and feces.

One inmate, when talking about mace, stated that staff members do not check medical files and do not know which inmates have asthma problems, which could cause serious complications if they were sprayed with mace. He also relayed that when nurses are in the block and mace is sprayed, they run out because it is so strong and staff do not open windows in the block or try to clear out the air, and all the inmates have to deal with the strong mace.

In addition, the inmate wrote that he has been in the same orange clothing for a month and has not received additional clothing. He stated that he cannot even wash his clothing because he has nothing else to wear and would be naked. The inmate relayed problems receiving hygiene items. He reportedly used the grievance procedure about his hygiene item concerns, and his grievance was granted. However, he alleged that neither the Inspector nor anyone else has made sure the appropriate action was taken, because inmates are still not getting their hygiene items. (Another inmate also voiced concerns about not receiving hygiene items.) The previously referenced inmate further voiced problems about getting haircuts and argued the need for electric trimmers so they can shave in 4B. He also relayed that inmates in Security Control/Disciplinary Control are not provided with ink pens and cannot do their legal work.

Another inmate stated that he was involved in a use of force incident with two officers and the incident was reportedly investigated, but he has not received any information on the result. The inmate later stated that he did not know if it was being investigated, but said his ticket (conduct report) was “thrown out.”

One inmate stated that he had open-heart surgery in 2004. His main concern related to the fact that he was on a treatment plan during his time at Ross Correctional Institution, but since his arrival at SOCF, he reportedly has not received the appropriate treatment for an inflamed heart lining.

Allegations were also made about staff abusing the use of mace. According to one inmate, some officers abuse the system by going “Hollywood” on an inmate. “Hollywood” is when staff, with their back to the camera, will fall back to act as if an inmate pushed or spit on them and therefore, reportedly make it appear that mace was justified. Staff relayed that some officers have had the mace removed for 30-90 days for misusing the chemical spray.

Another inmate relayed that he is in 4B overflow and should have been moved out of that area two weeks ago. He also stated that it has been 19 days and his ticket has still not been heard.

Several inmates reported a roach problem in the shower and commented that the roaches are just everywhere.

K3 – 4B

For the most part cells were generally clean, but some needed attention. There were traces of very foul odors in certain spots on the bottom range and some inmates had towels on cell bars, tucked between bars, or hanging from a string stretched across the cell limiting vision inside. Other inmates had shirts or various objects covering the lights in their cell so they could sleep. The officer told inmates to remove the items, which obscured vision into the cells, but the main concern remains, the appearance that officers are not walking the blocks and/or allowing this to occur.

The showers within the block appeared to be in adequate condition. However, an inmate stated that the shower was dirty and contained bugs that bite the inmates.

When asked about any concerns one officer shared that his only concern relates to mandating or freezing officers to the next shift, as it is frustrating when you do not know what time you will leave.

The escort officer attempted to address concerns on site and offered suggestions to the inmates. The officer remained very courteous and efficient during his interaction with inmates.

One inmate stated that he received a letter from Central Office regarding his approved religious materials and wishes to obtain it from his long-term storage.

Another inmate expressed concerns regarding a security review and stated that staff reportedly terminated an officer for racial slurs, who reportedly caused his 4B placement. He felt that he should have also been released from 4B.

One inmate reported that it is hard to get out of 4B because you automatically receive three points for 4B placement. He stated that it makes inmates stay a lot longer than necessary. He believes that staff should review inmates more frequently.

Other inmates relayed that the food is served without lids, making it very cold.

Inmates stated that there are no ICRs (Informal Complaint Resolution forms) or they cannot receive them.

One inmate stated that he came off of suicide watch, then was put back in K3 and feels his life to be in danger from a Officer who allegedly threatened his life. The inmate gave some indications of mental illness and requested to be moved to another block.

Another inmate stated that he is three years over his max and was given five more years by the Parole Board for excessive conduct reports. There were also indications that this inmate is mentally ill.

One inmate stated that the doctor took him off his pain medications and he tried to kill himself due to the pain. The inmate does not believe he qualifies for the mental hospital at the Oakwood Correctional Facility, but he was recently placed back on the mental health caseload. According to this inmate, if staff catches you and stops you from hanging or cutting yourself, their attitude is, "He was just seeking attention." He also maintains that staff feel, "If an inmate dies, maybe he was seeking attention, we just didn't get to him in time." The inmate stated that they are not getting help while on suicide watch and relayed that inmates simply wait out the watch, then attempt to kill themselves again, because staff fail to address the original problem.

K4 – 4B

Informal complaints, kites, and other important forms are available in the bullpen area of the K4 Block.

The shower on the bottom range of K4 was continuously running and the inmate next to the shower stall had to place a mop head outside his cell so the water would not leak into his cell. CIIC picked up the blue mop head and saw the presence of quarter-inch worms. The rest of the showers appeared to be in adequate condition with traces of minor soap scum. The inmates relayed that they lack chemicals for cleaning. Based on correspondence to CIIC, staff previously attempted to address the vermin concern with shower gel, but the worms reportedly keep coming back. The escort officer maintained that the same conditions exist in every shower in the institution. He seemed very concerned about working overtime and requested that a relief officer get him off the range immediately.

It was noted that one cell had an outstretched blanket from one corner of the cell to the other, which inhibited observation and posed security concerns. Throughout the inspection of this block inmates were observed sitting idle in cells, sleeping, reading, watching soap operas, and staring listlessly out of cell bars.

One inmate referred to an incident where he attempted suicide, but an officer came and cut him down. He relayed that he was previously in the Residential Treatment Unit (RTU) for eligible mentally ill, but he was reportedly "kicked out." He explained that he is being charged with assault in an outside court because he allegedly inadvertently hit the officer during the suicide attempt. The inmate further relayed that his attorney entered a plea of not guilty by reason of insanity. The institution reportedly conducted the mental health analysis, but the court reportedly rejected the institution's mental health analysis.

Other inmates voiced complaints about lack of hot foods, meals being served cold because trays are not covered, and the previous institutional doctor's alleged dismissive attitude.

One inmate reported that he has been without toilet paper for days, and staff tells him that there is no soap or toilet paper available due to budget cuts.

Another inmate expressed that he was indigent and needed essential supplies.

One inmate relayed that he had a broken clavicle, has been signed up for medical for three months, needs to see a doctor, and wants to be transferred to Ohio State Penitentiary.

Another inmate reported pain from bullet wounds and said he has no feeling in his lower leg. He allegedly has filled out multiple health service request forms without result.

Finally, another inmate stated that his medications were returned to him per decision of the Chief Inspector. However he still has not received help from the doctor regarding his pain medications and blood thinner medication.

K5 – Residential Treatment Unit (RTU) for Eligible Mentally Ill

CIIC met with the Mental Health Administrator in the office who seemed genuinely excited about the possibility of moving J4 north inmates to a special unit at Oakwood Correctional Facility and redirecting focus and resources on the K5 RTU. The plan was to phase out J4 north as a mental health unit. There are eight to ten chronically mentally ill that were recommended for the specialized unit at Oakwood Correctional Facility. The remaining would be assessed for reduction to 4A and placement in the K5 Residential Treatment Unit instead of just leaving them in 4B. Staff have been doing a lot of that already, reducing the number of mentally ill in 4B. In regard to “cutters” and “self-harmers”, it was relayed that they are assessed every few weeks and months. While staff do not want to reward them for their behavior, they are increasing one-on-one communication, and when appropriate, they are moved to K5 and D1 infirmary.

Recreation for the RTU inmates includes going to the gym, but not on Mondays and Thursdays. A recreation staff person goes to the RTU and the inmates can play cards at the tables two days per week. Staff want to find other activities, and they are trying to increase activities. They are also focusing on the quality of their groups. They have six Mental Health/Activity Therapists, with three covering the mentally ill, and three for the whole institution. They plan to mount a television to provide an incentive program and to use it for education, too. Videos are shown on suicide prevention, medication and mental health services once per month.

Upon entering K5, the inmates were getting ready to go to outside recreation on a beautiful day. However, a significant number of inmates chose to just stay in their cell in bed. One inmate had crumpled papers all over his mattress, and a large bin of shredded papers in his cell. The cell was a mess. The inmate was lying in bed and said that the trash is not going anywhere. One cell had a very foul odor and was extremely filthy. The showers appeared to have a great amount of soap scum accumulation.

Inmates relayed concerns about the smoking ban. Another inmate relayed the need to see the chronic care doctor and mentioned that he has problems with high cholesterol. He reportedly has not seen the doctor in nine months.

In regard to good personal hygiene, cell sanitation, and laundering of clothes and bed linens, it is recommended that staff ensure that inmates who need help receive that help through personal guidance and assistance, and/or with the help of a responsible, supervised porter.

K6 – General Population (GP/Step down/STG Separation)

Staff relayed that they use K6 as a transition unit from 4B to 4A. The count in K6 on the day of the inspection was 66 although many inmates were not present in the block at the time of the inspection. The block contains a few metal tables in the center common area with benches attached to the floor, and meals were served and eaten in the block. CIIC observed the meal period being served in the block and spoke with a number of inmates.

One inmate disputed that K6 is a “step down” general population block after leaving 4B. He commented that the block was made for gang leaders, that he has been there for a year, and wants to move to L side. He further alleged that K6 is still a gang and separation block. A second inmate explained that he has been in the block for two years and said he has no separations or gang affiliations.

Inmates insisted that their cells need to be painted and it was observed that there are areas of chipped paint throughout the block. Some inmates in K6 had paper on their cell doors instead of blankets to inhibit vision in the cells.

Another inmate commented that he had a parole on or after date, but has been unable to find a halfway house placement or some other place to go, so he has not been released.

One inmate voiced concerns about the current laundry situation. He explained that PC inmates allegedly steal dark-colored clothes when doing laundry.

Inmates also relayed concerns that if they forget a number on their phone list, it is not provided to them.

An inmate relayed that officers take the pens from inmate boxes received from their families, even though they are reportedly permitted to receive them.

It was also relayed that inmates lack toilet paper in the block.

One inmate commented that access to staff is limited and it is hard to contact the unit staff. He relayed that you have to send an ICR and kites are not answered. He further mentioned that unit staff covers all of K side and you cannot talk to a Sergeant because he reportedly will not come in the block.

Another inmate voiced concerns about confiscated property. Staff reportedly took his beard trimmer, but he has not received a conduct report.

A separate inmate said that he works in K3 and K4, that there are 70 inmates in K6, but only 20 jobs available.

One inmate relayed that he has been in K6 since 2003 and has asked to transfer to OSP twice. He states that he was sent back because other inmates got into it over the shower at OSP. The Parole Board reportedly continued him for another three years because of that conduct report.

Another inmate relayed that the institution seems to have good programs. He reportedly filled out an interest form, but is not enrolled in any programming, because the Reentry Management team reportedly told him that he does not need any programming.

One inmate voiced complaints about access to the library. He relays that they only have access to the library twice per week and he sometimes cannot go because of work.

Another inmate stated that unit staff do not answer kites and that they are lucky if they get to go to the library.

Another inmate stated that he cannot read and write and presented an Informal Complaint that somebody wrote for him. He also showed a document from the court of claims that said his indigency was accepted.

An inmate voiced complaints about the scoring for 4A overflow. He reportedly spent four days in 4B, which he believes should not count as 4B. Facility staff agreed, but other staff reportedly told him that it does count as if he was in fact in 4B.

One inmate relayed that he was in school and had five more years. He commented that he needed to talk to unit staff because he did not understand the difference between reentry score and security level.

A different inmate said that he was seen by the Neurologist, but cannot find out what is wrong with him. He stated that an MRI and EEG tested positive for damaged nerve in his spine, yet staff reportedly think he is faking.

K7 – Protective Control (PC)

K7 is the PC Block for inmates with a security classification of three (close) and four (maximum). During the inspection, inmates were observed sitting in the dayroom, playing cards, and sitting in their cells.

The block contained bodyweight exercise equipment such as a pull ups and a dip bar. Staff mentioned that inmates are doing more recreation now and are outside four and half hours per week. Recreation reportedly fluctuates between mornings and evenings. It was noted that CIIC contact information is displayed on the inmate's televisions.

Inmates throughout the block reported concerns regarding the lack of sanitation and overall conditions within the block. They stated that it is filthy in the block, there are roaches in the showers, and vents contain two to three inches of dust.

One inmate voiced complaints about the grievance procedure. He reported that he had a medical complaint and used all three steps of the grievance procedure, but was allegedly referred back to the Inspector of Institutional Services who stated that the complaint was already grieved.

Another inmate relayed allegations that an officer reportedly sat on the examination table during a medical appointment. He feels strongly that officers should only be there if the inmate is a threat, but he said he has been in DRC for six years without any RIB (Rules Infraction Board) convictions. He reportedly filed an Informal Complaint, and the response stated that it is policy because SOCF is a maximum security prison. He added that they even go to the dentist in handcuffs, shackles, and a belly chain.

Finally another inmate referred to the block temperature and stated, "It's burning up in here." The inmate had his window open and staff expressed that is just the way the heating system works.

K8 – Protective Control (PC)

The K8 Block houses level one and two inmates under PC status. During the inspection of this block the meal period was observed and it was noted that the block only has enough seats for 20 inmates to eat at one time. The other inmates must walk around or wait until they have a spot to sit and eat. However, plans were already in place to escort this block and several others off the range to the inmate dining hall during meal periods.

One inmate commented that he has a food allergy and almost died three weeks ago. He mentioned that he is allergic to soy, but the dietician does not want to listen.

A second inmate relayed that they need more recreation because they have no equipment in the block. However, a dip bar and chin up bar was available for body weight exercises.

Inmates maintained that they have nothing and have no incentives.

Inmates also voiced concerns regarding the total smoking ban as of March 1, 2009. They stated that they do not have access to nicotine gum and cannot afford the 40 dollar patches. The inmates further relayed the need for a program to help them with the smoking ban. Facility staff relayed that they have been running a smoking cessation program, although it was also relayed that the program has stopped.

Another inmate reported problems with mental health care. He stated that staff believes nothing is wrong with him and that he just wants attention. However, he mentioned that while on the streets, he was on psychotropic medications. In addition, the inmate explained that he cries, hears voices, and cannot sleep.

A separate inmate requested that CIIC look into the laundry situation. According to the inmate, the hot water was shut off, they use little detergent, and the institution reportedly mixes regular laundry with biohazard laundry. When asked if he filed an Informal Complaint, he stated they he has not because reportedly, they will retaliate and shake down your cell. Other inmates also voiced allegations of repercussions if they complain or use inmate grievance procedure.

A minimum level inmate mentioned the he reported complaints about the lack of toilet bowl cleaner. He states that inmates are expected to clean the commode with their bare hands and a little scratch pad.

L Side

L Side serves as the institution's General Population (GP) Housing Unit, without exception. General population at SOCF contains inmates with a security/privilege level of 4A. Throughout the Inspection, CIIC observed that the units within L Side seemed relaxed. In other words, no apparent tension existed between inmates or staff. All SOCF cells are single or one-man cells and the blocks contain eight showers (four on the bottom range and four on the top range).

L1 – General Population (GP)

In regard to sanitary conditions of the cells within L1, most appeared moderately clean with no foul odors. The shower areas had minor traces of soap scum, but overall seemed clean.

The overall atmosphere seemed calm and relaxed.

Inmate concerns include violations of Administrative Rule 5120-05-03 titled "Court order for payment of funds from inmate's account." One inmate reported that the staff fails to leave the minimum balance of 15 dollars, per the AR, on his account after withdrawing his court fees. The inmate also commented that they do not receive Ohio television channels so he cannot view Ohio news. He reported a lack of medical care and mentioned that staff took him off all his medications. He also expressed complaints pertaining to the continually increasing commissary prices.

Another inmate reported that he was approved for release on parole, but there is a reported delay due to lack of approved placement.

A separate inmate mentioned that the Investigator is pressing charges, though he was reportedly told that he would not. He stated that he is still willing to take a lie detector test to prove his innocence.

A different inmate stated that his property was lost and he is going to be released next month with little clothing.

Another inmate relayed that they have nothing to cook food with, no stingers, no hotplates, and no crock pots.

Finally one inmate relayed concerns about state-pay and court costs leaving him with very little to spend each month.

L2 – General Population (GP)

The inmates in L2 were at lunch. The conditions of the cells and showers in L2 were similar to those in L1. There were several vacant cells, as several inmates reportedly were transferred out of the block because of tobacco debt.

L3 – General Population (GP)

The water in one shower, labeled S3, continuously leaked water. Otherwise, the showers in L3 appeared to be in good condition. Most cells were moderately clean, and the overall mood and tone of the inmates was similar to those in L1.

Concerns relayed during the inspection of L3 related to allegations of racist staff members, unsanitary cell conditions, heart healthy diet, staff mentally intimidating inmates, lack of response to informal complaints/grievances, inability to appeal hearing officer's decision to Rules Infraction Board (RIB), and inappropriate shakedowns.

One inmate inquired about information for a transfer to Ohio State Penitentiary (OSP).

One inmate relayed that inmates have five channels total, including two CSPAN channels and two PBS channels. He believes that more television stations would reduce noise on the range and less turbulence in the block.

Another inmate stated that there are ants in his cell every morning and he wants a cell move, but has not received any assistance from staff.

A separate inmate reported that he has spinal stenosis and relayed that the previous doctor removed him from his medications and gave him information on stretching instead. The inmate further states that the new Doctor will not prescribe pain medication either. In addition, he allegedly has not received any medication for his skin rash and has kited the Inspector's office for a grievance form, but received no response. Finally one inmate relayed that he has mental problems, but is doing better. He stated that he rarely sees mental health staff.

L4 – General Population (GP)

One shower labeled S1, had water continuously running from the showerhead. Most cells remained clean and well maintained, while some were in need of cleaning and possibly paint. Several cells were empty or were currently unoccupied.

It was noted that one inmate had a three-foot long pole on his mattress, which was made out of rolled up magazines. The officer who was conducting cell searches commented that the inmate used the device for changing channels because he is too lazy to get up to change the channel. All remote controls were previously removed unless grandfathered in based on inmate's admittance date. The officer took the device out of his cell and disposed of it properly.

According to one inmate, second shift staff are treating him poorly. Reportedly, he will not come out of his cell because he fears staff on second shift. The inmate further explained an incident where staff allegedly pushed his head into wall. He also relayed that he is not receiving medication that he is supposed to have. The inmate seemed to have serious anxiety issues.

L5 – General Population (GP)

During the inspection of L5, an inmate made allegations of inappropriate supervision by officers. The inmate alleged that second shift staff makes racist remarks towards black inmates in the chow hall during the dinner meal. He also alleged that male officers make inappropriate comments or gestures towards the female officers including smacking the female officers on their backside. Another inmate alleged that a female and a male third shift officer engaged in a sexual activity in the control booth several days before the inspection. The inmate speculated that the reason for the tinted glass on the control booth was to allow officers to engage in such activities. However, it was noted that it was hard to see in the control booth based on the view from outside the inmate's cell and the darkness of the tinted glass. The inmate also complained of officers "rushing" them, and using their PR-24 sticks to break up fights.

A separate inmate relayed he has a swollen hand and needs to see a doctor and stated that staff took his carry medications from him. In addition, he explained a situation in which his refills were sent in early and he still cannot get his medication. Reportedly, his blood sugar is up and he cannot get a grievance form.

L6 – General Population (GP)

On the day of the inspection, the inmate count in the block was 65. During the inspection of L6, the majority of the inmates were out at recreation. However, the few inmates that remained spoke with CIIC.

One inmate expressed serious concern about how their clothes are washed. Inmates in L Block general population alleged that PC inmates in the laundry room often steal dark colored clothes. A second inmate stated that several of his dark-colored items were never returned. Other inmates stated that their white-colored clothes were returned discolored after they were apparently mixed with dark-colored clothes. As a result, several inmates were seen washing their clothes in their units with "Tide" detergent purchased from the commissary in an effort to maintain the true color of their clothes.

One inmate expressed concern pertaining to an obvious bruise, which looked more like a boil, on his lower lip. According to the inmate, his lip was busted in November 2008. He was seen by the SOCF doctor and was eventually approved for surgery. The inmate originally stated that he has been on the waiting list for three weeks, and later said it had been three months. Since the incident, the bruise appeared dirty and infected. As a result, the inmate has problems eating food because of the injury.

Another inmate stated concerns about the heart healthy diet as well as the smoking ban.

L7 – General Population (GP)

Upon entering L7, an estimated 14 to 15 inmates were leaving L7 to attend chow. A stand was observed that had blank informal complaints, kites, cash slips, health care request forms, etc. The block also had four phones on the back wall (two each on the top and bottom range). The inmate count on the day of the inspection was 66.

One inmate stated that the cleaning solution provided to inmates is diluted. Inmates reported that they receive a diluted cleaning solution and no towel or scrubbing device to actually clean the cell. A different inmate relayed that he had to rip one of his t-shirts to use as a washcloth for his cell. This inmate reportedly spent time in a J2 cell that was previously occupied by a feces thrower. According to the inmate, the cell was not cleaned and still had feces in the cell.

Although inmates in L7 complained about the cleaning solution provided to clean the cells, staff in L8 stated that a green solution replaced a previously used pink solution. According to an officer, the green solution contains more disinfecting solution and the pink solution reportedly left a film. However, one staff member thought the pink solution was better. It was noted that many of the cells were clean.

One inmate made serious allegations of threats, verbal abuse, and harassment by an SOCF staff member that was reportedly a friend of the victim in his crime. The inmate alleged that when he was preparing to go out to court for his case to be reheard, the staff member threatened that he better plead guilty or he was going to “f--- him up.” The inmate also stated that once he returned, the staff tried to humiliate him during strip search check by allegedly making the inmate bend over and spread his buttocks longer than the normal time.

The officers in the block were randomly checking cells and one security staff member commented that the officer keeps the unit quiet and does not let inmates yell back and forth. After leaving L7, CIIC passed the offices of the Case Manager, Social Worker, and Captain.

L8 – General Population (GP)

Staff relayed that L8 Block houses inmates who have job assignments in the inmate dining room, OPI (Ohio Penal Industries), or who are porters for J Complex. However, staff in J Complex relayed that their porters are not from general population, but rather from 4B status in J Complex. Although the porters are reportedly assigned after a multi-group of staff for screening and selection, the number of complaints from inmates about the inmate porters alleged behavior has prompted consideration of going back to the former practice of using porters from general population in J Complex. This practice was abandoned in part due to the reported pressures on the porters to smuggle in contraband from general population.

The block contained the CIIC memo, which summarizes the Committee’s responsibilities and duties, and provides contact information for both staff and inmates.

The count on the day of the inspection was 69. During the inspection of L8, CIIC stood in the control booth to view the cells. The purpose was to see the officer’s view as inmates moved in and out of their cells. Staff relayed that it is sometimes hard for officers to make sure an inmate

is entering the correct cell. However, the view appeared to be clear. The control booth is equipped with dark green tinted windows, which were reportedly installed to prevent inmates from masturbating while a female officer is on staff. The control booth could be seen from most (if not all) the cells on the top and bottom range.

Staff relayed that there have been five fights since the smoking ban.

The noise level in the block was initially low. However, the noise level increased after CIIC entered the unit. According to staff, the inmates in L8 are usually loud.

The showers were lined with metal panels that were installed in 1993 and had not been changed in 16 years. It appeared an inmate had just used the shower, as the walls and floor were wet. There was no visible mold or mildew on the floor or walls, possibly due to the metal panels.

Staff relayed that inmates are responsible for cleaning their own cells once a week and with few exceptions, the cells were clean. Many of the cells had blankets covering the windows. Staff provide inmates with cleaning solution and water to clean and if an inmate refuses to clean their cell, or if they physically cannot clean their cell, the porter is assigned to clean the cell.

There are two black boxes, which contain security cameras at each end of the block. The cameras are equipped with a wide-angle lens and a DVR system to record the inmate's movements. Information regarding the capital improvement plan to update the institution's camera system may be found in the budget section of this report.

Inmates again relayed allegations of racial discrimination on the part of staff. During the inspection of L8, staff permitted an inmate the opportunity to come out of his cell to speak about the need for "sensitivity" training for the Corrections Officers. The inmate relayed that officers may have never seen or communicated with minorities such as African-American, Latinos, and Asians, before working at SOCF. The inmate noted that he was not blaming all the officers for the acts of a few. This conversation took place in the presence of the Captain, who advised the inmate to make sure he documents any incident in which racial slurs, discrimination, etc. occur and he assured the inmate that he would look into it.

One inmate relayed concerns about a missing ID badge, and facility staff responded that they would look into it.

Another inmate reported that he had his teeth knocked out by staff during a use of force incident and he has been denied care. He stated that there has been no use of force statement and he wants the officer to be prosecuted. In follow-up communication, staff assured CIIC that the use of force incident was investigated and they would be in contact with the inmate.

A separate inmate relayed that J2 inmates are not receiving meals.

Other inmates relayed problems with discrimination based on religion, sexual orientation, as well as race.

L Side Recreation

The recreation area for L side inmates contains a full size basketball court with six basketball hoops, gymnasium bleachers, and bodyweight exercise equipment such as dip and pull up bars. Upon entering the gym, two officers were sitting in chairs near the entrance. One officer appeared to be using smokeless tobacco. Another officer got up to make a round soon after and then returned to his original position. An abundance of recreational activity was observed. Inmates were playing basketball, handball, jogging, utilizing the exercise equipment, and playing cards.

There was little interaction observed between white and black inmates, but no tension was apparent. Many inmates complained about the smoking ban stating that it is causing tension between inmates and staff. The inmates reported that it is creating fights and more use of force incidents. They further believe that use of force incidents have increased since the staff were given the green light to use mace. Finally, inmates stated that one particular Sergeant is giving excessive commissary restrictions of six to nine months for a single charge.

An inmate complained of group punishment such as commissary restriction because one person in the block threw trash out the window. He also reported that officers use mace excessively. In regard to the punishment for throwing trash out of the window, as is mentioned elsewhere in this report, the absence of huge mounds of trash outside of the windows was a major noticeable improvement from some past inspections at SOCF, when staff had not been able to find a way to resolve the problem. They certainly appear to have solved it.

One inmate relayed that he filed a medical grievance because he has not seen the doctor, and staff took him off medication and off of the chronic care list. He also commented that his laundry was lost and the quartermaster did not provide adequate replacement. He reportedly cannot have his books because they are hard back, though he reportedly could have them at other institutions. He also relayed concerns about paying for items sent to DRC Central Office such as grievance appeals and other material, because he maintains that mail to and from Central Office is interoffice, so should be sent through free interoffice mail. The inmate stated that this prevents inmates from exhausting procedures or contacting Central Office because they would rather use their scarce money to write family.

One inmate stated that he has not received the programming that the institution reports that he has received. In other words, he relayed that the institution reportedly says he completed certain programs that he has never been in.

Another inmate expressed concerns regarding a security review where he had been out of 4B for over a year, but did not receive a security decrease.

Two inmates expressed concerns about the publication screening of the religion Nations of God and Earth also known as the Five Percenters. They report that they cannot receive literature relating to their religion, because the institution maintains that it is a security threat group, but alleged that other institutions allowed them to receive it.

Exit Meeting with Warden

At the conclusion of the inspection CIIC again met with the Warden and Administrative staff. The staff was thanked for their time, as they were courteous, patient, accommodating to requests which included escorting CIIC to every requested cellblock and providing a wealth of information. Tension between the staff and inmates appeared to be minimal. Inmates openly discussed issues of concern, including some serious allegations regarding use of force, discrimination, unsanitary conditions, and inappropriate supervision.

Several inmates alleged that kites never seem to reach their destination. According to one inmate, he kited the Institution Inspector to request a grievance form three weeks ago. As of the date of the inspection, the inmate reportedly had not received a response from the Inspector. Some inmates relayed that staff are not good about responding to informal complaints, and some alleged “They don’t answer kites or informal complaints here.” This information was relayed to the Warden during the exit meeting.

Several inmates alleged racial profiling during the inspection of each block. Most of the racial profiling allegations were concerning verbal abuse from their unit staff, use of force, and harassment. Many inmates mentioned a recent use of force incident involving an inmate, who was allegedly “beat up” by officers the week before the inspection. Another inmate in J-Block alleged that three officers pulled a black inmate out of the shower for unknown reasons. The incident reportedly resulted in the inmate receiving a black eye. Other inmates referred to officers “rushing” them and using their PR-24 to break up fights. One black inmate made reference to being harassed by an officer as he was leaving the chow hall. The officer allegedly stated that the inmate he was being harassed because it was February in reference to Black History Month. A few inmates stated that since the Presidential election, the officers have seemed more disrespectful toward the black inmates, sometimes using racial slurs when making a direct order to them. Other inmates have expressed similar allegations through correspondence. One inmate was given an opportunity to come out of his cell to talk about the need for “sensitivity” training for Correctional Officers. The inmate spoke openly about problems with officers who may have never seen or communicated with minorities particularly African-Americans, and Latino-Americans. The inmate noted that he was not blaming all the officers for the acts of a few.

The communication received from staff and inmates on the day of the inspection was overwhelming, necessitating time to carefully study the notes of all members of the CIIC team. The Warden was assured that follow-up communication to relay any matter that may need attention would be provided.

IMMEDIATE FEEDBACK ON INSPECTION

The CIIC (Correctional Institution Inspection Committee) Director provided a brief summary of the inspection the following day to the DRC (Department of Rehabilitation and Correction) Assistant Director as well as the Warden. Every inspection ends with a closing session with administrative staff. The purpose of the closing is to communicate to the Warden major positives as well as any major concerns reported or observed during the inspection. It is not exhaustive or as comprehensive as the inspection reports which are based on a careful review of all notes and relevant written information. Extensive information was gathered during the inspection. In order to keep the closing brief, and not to go beyond normal business hours, the CIIC Director relayed that all notes from the inspection would be reviewed, and follow-up written information would be provided to the Warden on the following day, to include any specific inmates and reported problems that may warrant SOCF staff assistance. A summary of the communication to the DRC Assistant Director from the CIIC Director is provided below:

First of all, the administrative staff were truly professional, most helpful and accommodating. Thanks to them, we were able to have a very thorough walk-through covering all major areas of the institution. We included a meeting with a representative group of SOCF staff who again were most impressive in their willingness to speak about areas of pride, progress and accomplishment, as well as any concerns. Some staff cited the Warden as a major positive aspect of the institution due to his willingness to listen to them and listen to suggestions and to follow-through with action. While officers spoke of low morale due to staff shortages, job insecurity and the smoking ban, senior security and administrative staff seemed to feel morale was fairly good considering the current challenges. Unit staff expressed concern that the enormous workload has resulted in shortcuts in rounds and expressed fear that they will miss communication that might otherwise prevent tragedy. They noted that the inmates tend to talk to unit staff easier than to block officers. There is much excitement among staff regarding hopes, plans and proposals for their 4B mentally ill. I understand that there are currently 218 mentally ill in 4B. I certainly share the excitement and praise every DRC staff person who is helping to develop a better way of handling the mentally ill at SOCF.

Both the K5 RTU and J4 RTU have sanitation issues. This was true for the K7 and K8 PC units as well. Idleness was a concern in the RTUs as well as the PC units. We were most pleased that tension does not appear to be present, in spite of what has been relayed via mail. I have prepared detail from our notes on site to share with the Warden so that he would know of specifics. I was concerned about the repeated allegation that staff do not answer kites, problem with non-response to informal complaints, and many reports that inmates would not use the grievance procedure because they believe it results in retaliation. Inmates also relayed concerns about not seeing their unit staff. We encountered numerous inmates who relayed that they have problems, and are unable to read or write, limiting their ability to get help solely by any staff making rounds.

Much was seen that is positive and all will be fully detailed in our report. The attached is being forwarded to the Warden to provide more detail than what was able to be provided in the closing. We all have sincere appreciation and admiration for the hard working, fully dedicated SOCF staff.

CIIC further attached a detailed inspection summary to the Warden and the DRC Administrative Assistant regarding specific concerns. The detailed inspection summary included inmate's names and numbers who relayed concerns throughout the inspection so the administration could provide follow up assistance if necessary. The SOCF administration reported that they had a detailed meeting with staff members regarding our follow up communication. On March 20, 2009, the institution provided an in depth response to the follow-up communication.

INSPECTION BRIEFING TO HOUSE CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE

On March 18, 2009, per request of the House Criminal Justice Committee Chairman, a brief summary of the inspection was provided to the Committee as follows:

...The inspection of the Southern Ohio Correctional Facility was prompted by an invitation from the Warden to come to the institution, to see what positive changes have been made, including improvements, accomplishments and changes in the culture, to see and talk with inmates and staff about operations, conditions, programs and grievance procedure, to witness how quiet the facility is, and to identify and report on positive observations and comments as well as observed and reported concerns and areas in need of improvement.

Southern Ohio Correctional Facility (SOCF) Inspection, March 9, 2009

- **The Mentally Ill:** There is much excitement among staff regarding hopes, plans and proposals for their mentally ill who are kept in lockdown in 4B status. There are currently 218 mentally ill in 4B. I certainly share the excitement, and praise every DRC staff person who is helping to develop a better way of handling the mentally ill at SOCF. Based on a meeting with the DRC Chief of Mental Health Services on March 12, 2009, a plan has been developed that will, in time, address the very serious issues of concern regarding the mentally ill at SOCF, which comprise 30 percent of their population.
- **Staff Morale:** While officers spoke of low morale due to staff shortages, job insecurity and total indoor and outdoor smoking ban, senior security and administrative staff assessed morale as fairly good considering the current extreme challenges.
- **Special Needs Inmates:** SOCF is one of the few prisons that is not overcrowded, though staff referred to their inmates as "the worst of the worst." After the riot of 1993, double-celling was eliminated at the overcrowded facility.

- **Tension:** Tension was not detected on the day of the inspection in spite of what has been relayed via mail, prior to and following a February 16, 2009 murder in general population.
- **Staff Shortages:** Unit staff expressed concern that the enormous workload resulting from staff reductions has resulted in shortcuts in making rounds in the cellblocks. They noted that the inmates tend to talk to unit staff easier than to block officers. Staff expressed concern that they will miss communication that might otherwise prevent tragedy.
- **Inmate Access to Staff:** Inmates also relayed concerns about not seeing their unit staff. Numerous inmates who are unable to read or write, relayed problems that can only be solved through staff. They depend on staff coming into the blocks and giving them enough time to relay their problem.
- **Staff Responsiveness to Inmates:** There were repeated reports that staff do not answer kites and informal complaints, and that many inmates will not use the grievance procedure because they believe it results in retaliation.
- **Sanitation and Idleness:** Both Residential Treatment Units for the mentally ill have sanitation issues. This was also true for the Protective Control Units for inmates who face a verified risk of serious harm in the prison system. Idleness was also a concern in the mental health blocks and in the Protective Control Units.

SOCF INSPECTION FOLLOW-UP COMMUNICATION

Based on the extensive questions from the House Criminal Justice Committee members following testimony on the inspections, the DRC Assistant Director was contacted to seek further information on *how SOCF's current staffing level or shortage compares to the staffing level/shortage just prior to the riot*. In addition, information was requested on *whether or not the reported officer shortage has resulted in lack of cell shakedowns*. One House Criminal Justice Committee member commented on the report regarding the murder, that inmates in L7 were upset with the inmate for reporting the theft of his property, because it resulted in the shakedown of their cells, and confiscation of their contraband. The legislator relayed that it *seems to indicate that the shakedown surprised them, that perhaps shakedowns have not been conducted regularly as they should*.

The DRC Assistant Director responded that he would try to find out what the staffing levels were at SOCF prior to the April 1993 riot. He relayed that they currently **have 726 staff positions of which 38 are vacant, and this vacancy rate (5.2%) is reported to be not unusual for an institution of this size**. In reference to the vacant positions or staff shortages having an impact on the frequency of shakedowns or the murder of the inmate, it was reported that **each cellblock is**

staffed by two Correction Officers on first and second shift, and one on third. One officer is required to remain inside the control center and the other is on the range. *Prior to the riot, there was only one officer per block, and they were double bunked in each cell.*

These officers are required by their post orders to conduct multiple cell shakedowns on first and second shift. In addition, these are negotiated posts that must be filled every day, even if they have to pay overtime. Therefore, the DRC Assistant Director advised that *there is no relationship between staff shortage and shakedowns not occurring.* **If they are not occurring, it is reportedly because someone is not doing what they are supposed to be doing.** The Warden is looking further into the issue of shakedowns.

It was also relayed that *inmates are instructed to report thefts to staff, and staff are instructed to conduct a search for the missing property. On the day of the murder, the institution reportedly had extra staff on duty, so they were able to send several of them over to assist in the search.*

The Warden relayed on March 11, 2009 that he would have a detailed report and plan completed by March 19, 2009 on the extent to which reported concerns are valid, and to address concerns. His response was received on March 20, 2009, which included the following as well as a separate attachment, the content of which is provided below.

...We appreciate the fact that your committee was able to spend a little over six hours touring the facility while talking with inmates and staff. We also appreciate the fact that our inmates and staff alike feel free to say what is on their mind without fear of retaliation. Subsequent to your visit and following report, I held a meeting with approximately 30 staff members whose area may have been mentioned in your report. Our team members read off each concern for their respective areas and were challenged with following up on inmate complaints, issues, problems and reporting their findings back... **We have addressed every issue contained in your report** unless we could not figure out which inmate a committee member was referencing on a given issue.

Summary:

As you read through our responses to issues, you will see where out of all the inmate concerns, **about three had merit** and the rest may have been that our answers were not the answers desired. As for **some cells that were down with broken doors or other issues and were "filthy,"** those cells have been cleaned up and staff knows where to find a hand crank to open cells. **There is no excuse for this issue...**

We are addressing about five or six staff through the use of force committees and/or through observations who will receive follow up disciplinary actions if there is just cause. I am not going to tolerate excessive force, unnecessary force or questionable force. We have made significant strides in the number of lost staff working days from 905 in 2005 to 104 in 2008 for staff, while

reducing the number of inmate injuries through use of force. These improvements will continue.

...Some racial issues were brought up by inmates...**I will not tolerate racial issues and will deal with them swiftly and with purpose.** An example of my dealings with this issue involved two different employees, one probationary and one off probation. One felt it was funny to **use racial comments towards several black inmates and to throw latex gloves filled with watter at inmates. He is no longer employed by SOCF. The second employee though it was cute to say whatever he wanted to say to black inmates and use the excuse he slipped. He slipped one too many times and now he is no longer working at SOCF.**

I believe that this staff at SOCF is second to none! We deal with all the inmates that could not make it at levels 1, 2, or 3 and came here on a disciplinary. We care for this level of inmate transfer 365 days per year, 24 hours per day and we literally house the worst of the worst. I will add this, through inmates making commitments to good behavior, I have reduced over 120 inmates in the last five months.

We have made great strides with our mental health program and will continue to improve throughout the next several years. I read your previous visit report from SOCF and it appears that mental health is moving in the right direction.

I hope the packet of information we provided all team members will allow you to recognize improvements at SOCF while noting all we do for the community of Scioto County. Improvements at any facility are an ongoing process and ours will always be ongoing!...

In addition to the above, the Warden provided a detailed response to each item noted on the CIIC staff's immediate written inspection follow-up communication, all of which is included below. In addition to the Warden, CIIC staff received communication from additional SOCF staff expressing appreciation for the inspection. **The facility staff's responsiveness to the reported concerns has made a positive difference.**

CIIC staff are extremely pleased to learn from the SOCF staff's response, that the **most seriously mentally ill at SOCF will be transferred to Oakwood Correctional Facility as early as April.** It was also learned through the response that the **average length of stay at SOCF is 6.4 years. With the commitment of DRC to do the right thing regarding the locked down mentally ill now at SOCF, the length of stay at SOCF will be favorably reduced in the months to come.**

CIIC staff were equally pleased to learn through the SOCF staff response, that **SOCF unit staff will be accessible to inmates with problems while inmates are waiting in the chow line.** A similar method was viewed at the inspection of the Northeast Pre-Release Center, which was

most impressive. It reportedly had proven to be an effective way to increase inmate access to unit staff as well as staff coverage in the dining hall.

Sanitation issues at SOCF were acknowledged and corrective action has been and is being taken. Based on the information provided in the response, the ability to inject programming and activities to eliminate idleness is hampered by staff reductions.

Reported Concern:

After reviewing our notes from yesterday, this is to share the following to be sure that you were made aware of observed or reported concerns beyond what was briefly noted in the closing. The first section is from my notes, followed by the four Inspectors.

*The **Entry Officer** was concerned that **CIIC I.D.s** were not issued by DRC, but rather by the Highway Patrol. He also was upset that they are “white I.D.s,” and indicated that DRC also has a problem with the Parole Board because they have white I.D.s. **If there is a problem with the CIIC I.D.s, I certainly will try to resolve it. The current arrangement has been the same since October 2003, when it was worked out mutually between the CIIC legislative members, this office, DRC central office and the Highway Patrol.***

*He was also upset that he was not notified of the inspection. He did not seem to understand that unannounced inspections are authorized and are the norm. He was also concerned that **his binder** included outdated CIIC staff photos from our website. The CIIC website has the current CIIC staff and photos which may be copied and inserted in the binder. As soon as we receive all appointments to the CIIC, their names and photos will be on our website. Currently, the following have been appointed for 2009 and 2010: **Representatives Robert Hackett, Shannon Jones, John Otterman, Tyrone Yates.** We also just learned that **Senator Ray Miller** has been appointed to the CIIC. The remaining senate members are expected to be named very soon.*

SOCF Response:

...we have reiterated to security staff prior to March 9, and since the committee visit, that CIIC is not required to announce when they visit. [Staff]...updated the names and photos of those currently serving on the committee, and members serving from the Ohio Legislature. He [referring to staff] spoke with a representative from CIIC and was informed that new committee members were recently sworn in. Once all records have been updated, as well as the website, additional information will be provided to A-Building security staff. The post orders should probably reflect authorization of CIIC personnel to access SOCF at anytime with identification.

[Staff]...updated Photos and list of CIIC were placed in A-Building and are displayed in A-Building. CIIC have their own IDs' and SOCF has in Policy and Procedures, as well as post orders, the list of all IDs issued at SOCF. White IDs are not DRC and parole board staff has their own IDs, but we will address that in a letter to staff at roll-call and in our Post Orders. An Officer in A-Building had a question about the CIIC having to be cleared into SOCF.

The Officer was informed about the CIIC list being in A-Building and that they are allowed into any state prison unannounced. We also informed our prison staff at roll-call and at the operations meeting.

Reported Concern:

***Protective Control/General Population Visiting** – Even though PC inmates visit near the officers, and officers monitor the non-PC inmates, with the **proximity of non-PC inmates in the same room, easy access and speed with which an incident could take place**, perhaps consideration should be given to possible changes that would **prevent any such incident from occurring**. I still remember the tragedy at the MANCI minimum camp when the inmate murdered his wife in the visiting room. The possibility of a PC inmate being harmed in the SOCF visiting room would seem to be far greater due to motive and opportunity.*

SOCF Response:

The PC visiting procedures at SOCF were adopted from the institutions that previously housed the PC units. The PC inmates are seated away from the general population inmates and are under direct supervision of security staff. There has not been a physical incident as a result of general population inmates being in the same room.

The current procedure for processing PC inmates for visits affords the most security possible without adding a significant number of staff to the area. ALL inmates entering the visiting area are strip searched prior to entering the area and weapons of opportunity are minimal. The PC inmates are escorted to and from the visiting room and separation is maintained at all times except within the confines of the visiting room. Even at that, the PC inmates are seated in an area in close proximity to the staff, separate from GP inmates and ALL inmates are required to remain seated during their visits. Visiting room staff is diligent when it comes to enforcing the rules and maintaining surveillance over the PC inmates. The current process affords the most secure environment possible without a significant increase in staffing.

Reported Concern:**K-8: Protective Control**

Inmate comments:

- Food allergy. **Nearly died three weeks ago from it. Allergic to soy. Dietician does not want to listen. Meal included soy burger.**

SOCF Response:

Inmate...has been on an allergy diet for No Peanuts and No Tree Nuts for a considerable amount of time. Suddenly, he had a severe allergic reaction and required medical intervention. On [date]...based on this incident and [inmate's]...statement, his diet was modified to include no spices until allergy testing could be completed. There was no indication given to food service that he was allergic to soy. [Staff]...Dietary Operations Manager from the Office of Correctional Health Care and [staff]...Dietetic Technician interviewed [inmate]... on [date]...

This inmate has been referred to allergy clinic; however it should be noted that soy is not listed as an allergy. The Diet Tech has placed this inmate on a bland diet until further determination from the allergy clinic.

Reported Concern:

- Need more recreation. No equipment in here. (CIIC staff observed a dip/chin up bar.)

SOCF Response:

K8 inmates are offered 9 recreation periods a week which take place in either the gymnasium or on the recreation yard. Each recreation period is 1.5 hours in length. There is a dip/chin bar, a recreation mat and a small exercise wheel available in the block. The inmates also have out of cell time in the block.

Reported Concern:

- No smoking since March 1. Smoked for 25 years. Patches cost \$40 and they don't sell gum. Guys can't afford. **Need a program for us.** Staff relayed that they have a **smoking cessation program at SOCF, though PC inmates reportedly were not aware of it and did not know if they could attend.**

SOCF Response

Several months before the March 1 smoking – tobacco ban, PC inmates in both K7 and K8 were solicited by way of a sign up sheet in both blocks for the smoking cessation program. One inmate...said he was interested. As it was not practical to offer a group process for one inmate, we instead offered him the entire set of

program materials and provided one on one responses to him as he progressed through the materials. The inmate was satisfied with this scenario, and he did complete the entire line of program materials and he did receive a DRC Summary of Participation form (DRC 4161) for having completed these items. No inmates in K7 were interested in the smoking cessation offerings. As mentioned at the meetings, clear, legible signs were placed in both blocks offering printed materials related to smoking cessation / stop smoking tips / etc. Again, we got no response from either block on this offer.

[Staff]...has instructed [staff]...to re-post a sign up sheet in both blocks, offering the smoking cessation program to both blocks once again. They will also insure that the signs offering the printed materials are still posted and in clear view in the sally ports.

Several months prior to March 2009, both K7 and K8 were solicited by way of a sign up sheet for the smoking cessation program. At that time, only one inmate stated that he was interested. As it was not practical to offer a group process for one inmate, the Recovery Services Department offered the entire set of program materials and provided one on one response as he progressed through the materials. This inmate did receive a DRC Summary of Participation form (DRC4161) for having completed these items. As mentioned above, clear, legible signs were placed in both housing locations offering printed materials relating to smoking cessation, stop smoking tips, etc. Again, the Recovery Services Department received no responses from the inmate population.

Nonetheless, [staff]...has been instructed to re-post a sign-up sheet in both housing locations. In addition, the Recovery Services staff will insure that all informative signs offering printed materials are still posted and in clear view in the sally ports.

Reported Concern:

- **Inmate... – Can't get proper mental health care. Say there is nothing wrong with me. On the streets was on psych meds. Can't sleep, I cry, and I hear voices. They say I just want attention. (Also has a bad stutter.)**

SOCF Response:

Inmate...informed staff that he no longer believes there is a threat to his safety and has requested to sign out of PC. This request was prior to the CIIC inspection. Inmate...has been assessed on numerous occasions by the Mental Health staff. In the past, this inmate stated that he would not take any medications; however, this inmate has now agreed to take medications.

Reported Concern:

- Multiple inmates – Look into **laundry situation. No hot water. Cut it off. Only certain amount of detergent allowed. Throw it in with biohazard laundry. (Others indicated they also believe this to be true).**

SOCF Response:

At the request of [staff]...the steam was taken off the Laundry Water System on 7/9/2008. From that time on, the laundry department has been washing clothing in cold water. The actual steam usage in the Power Plant has been recorded on the Power Plant Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition System (SCADA). [Staff]...from the Treatment Plant monitored the actual steam usage from six days prior, and six days after July 9, 2008 to determine that the actual gas usage for this time period. S.O.C.F. used 56.4 Thousand Cubic Feet (MCF) of Natural Gas less during the six days after the steam was removed, than it did the six days before the steam was removed.

S.O.C.F. is billed at a rate of \$11.47235 per MMBTU

One MMBTU = One MCF

*56.4 MCF * \$11.47235 = \$ 647.04 per six days*

\$647.04 / 6 = \$107.84 per day

*\$107.84 * 365 = \$39,361.60 Total Savings Per Year*

There is one washing machine in the Laundry Services Department that is designated for washing biohazard laundry only. This laundry is washed in hot water. The proper amount of detergent is utilized to wash the biohazard laundry. Biohazard laundry is not washed with any other laundry.

Reported Concern:

- Multiple inmates – In response to question on whether they filed an **Informal Complaint regarding the concern, “They’ll retaliate against you. They’ll shake your cell down. I complained about not having toilet bowl cleaner, have to clean the toilet with our bare hands, with just a little scratch pad, and they retaliated. Repercussions if you complain or use the grievance procedure.”**

SOCF Response:

The Institution has installed chemical dispensing stations which have helped control the proper dilution of our cleaning products. We are just entering the second month of usage for one of OPI’s cleaning products introduced this year. Disinfectant Concentrate 64, will replace three cleaning products for us, Multi-purpose Cleaner, Disinfectant and Glass Cleaner. As a result of the dispensing stations and a new product mix, it is estimated that we will reduce the cost of cleaning chemicals by 20% this fiscal year saving approximately \$3,800.

Toilet bowl brushes will be made available to the inmates during cell clean up days on March 20, 2009. Each cell block was issued a new toilet bowl brush after the handles had been modified for security reasons.

Reported Concern:

- **No incentives. We have nothing.**

SOCF Response:

K8 Inmates are offered 9 recreation periods per week that take place in the gymnasium or on the recreation yard. The recreation periods are 1.5 hours in length. There is a chin/dip bar, an exercise mat, and a small exercise wheel in the block. Inmates are offered three different programs by the case manager on a rotating basis. These include "Free Your Mind", "Cage Your Rage", and "From the Inside Out". Recovery Services offers Drug and Alcohol education and Aftercare on a rotating basis. The K8 inmates have access to the library four days per week. Each period is an hour and 15 minutes in length. The K8 inmates have access to the chapel every day of the week.

Reported Concern:

Foul odors noted.

In dayroom space, seating available for only 20 at a time. Staff relayed that the others just walk around.

Reported Concern:

K-7: Protective Control

Inmate Comments:

- Spend time sitting in day room playing cards or in their cells. Some read, play cards, watch TV.
- They should have PC where our security level is. Filed ICR on **being handcuffed, shackled and belly chained to see the dentist. ICR said this is a max prison**, no matter what the PC Inmate's security level is.

SOCF Response:

We will change our post orders by having an Addendum read and placed in PIM manuals that will allow the PC inmates to see the dentist without restraints. Protocols regarding the escort procedure surrounding Level 1, 2, and 3 PC inmates have been revised to reflect that no restraints are to be used for dental consults.

Reported Concern:

- **Alleged female CO actually sat on the medical exam table and I was supposed to be on the table. CO should be there when inmate is a threat. I've been in DRC six years and not one RIB conviction.**

SOCF Response:

[Staff]...investigated these allegations and was unable to determine whether this incident actually occurred; nevertheless, all medical staff has been informed that officers are not permitted to sit on the exam table during consults.

Reported Concern:

- **It's "burning up in here." Staff say that is the way the heating system is. Have the windows open.**

SOCF Response:

The Southern Ohio Correctional Facility is heated by Electric, and Hot Water. Electric Roof Top units heat the control booths in the blocks and several office areas. These units are controlled by local thermostats located in these areas.

The majority of the facility including the cells, corridors, inmate visiting, infirmary, employee training areas, Warden's complex, CC1,CC2, B-building, and many other areas are heated with Hot Water.

Steam generated from the Power Plant's boilers is used to heat approximately 46,000 gallons of water that circulates through heat exchangers in the Power Plant to be heated to approximately 165 degrees F. Pneumatic controls throttle the steam in the exchangers to maintain this temperature. The water is constantly circulated from the Power Plant to the institution and back by means of a circulation pump located in the Power Plant. The only role the Power Plant plays in heating the institution is maintaining the temperature of this main loop.

In the tunnels, the hot water is pulled off of the main loop and distributed to all of the areas by the use of booster pumps, valves, thermostats, and pneumatic controls that are located in the tunnels beneath the institution. SOCF maintenance personnel maintains, operates, and adjusts this equipment as needed to provide the temperature needed in each area.

The main loop is maintained at approximately 165 degrees F. from November through March. As the outside temperature increases in April, the water temperature is gradually decreased until heat is no longer needed. At this time

all heating equipment in the Power Plant is shut down. Maintenance personnel also shuts down the booster pumps located in the tunnels.

In May, the Centrifugal or Absorption chiller located in the Power Plant is brought on line to chill certain parts of the facility using the same type of closed loop system. This system operates on the same principal as the heating system but is dedicated to circulate chilled water only.

Reported Concern:

- **Inmate... wrote CIIC. We say use grievance procedure. *“It’s filthy in here. Roaches in the shower. Look at this block. It’s not cleaned. Ceiling vent is 2-3 inches thick with dust. Has used grievance procedure – all three steps. Referred it back to the Inspector and she says it’s already been grieved***

SOCF Response:

In reference to the complaint of K7 PC Inmate...stated that there were Roaches in the shower. I had spoke to this inmate concerning cleaning chemicals being issued to this block but there was no conversation concerning Roaches in the showers.

There has been a problem in several areas where food is served, this block being one of roaches. The institution has a contract with Ace Pest Control to eliminate these problems and follow a treatment schedule. This block was treated for roaches on February 12th, February 19th and also February 26th at approximately 5:30 am each day. Also if any inmate in any area of the facility is having a problem with pest, they are to send a kite to the safety coordinator stating the issue needing addressed and the area. This information is put in work order form. All additional work orders are completed the following week after the scheduled areas are treated.

Reported Concern:

K-6: Population Step Down or Gang Unit

Inmate Comments:

- This was made for the gangs. One inmate has been in the block one year. **It’s still a gang and separation block. I have no separations and I’m in no gang.**

SOCF Response:

We have a total of 32 STG profiled inmates locking in K6. There is 8 of the 32 that has separations from other inmates that are either locking on L-side, K-side 4B, J-side 4B and some have multiple separations from other inmates locking on all sides. Also there are 4 inmates that have been moved to K6 for administrative reasons. (i.e. couldn’t adjust to L-side, safety pre-cautions etc...) The average

breakdown of STG inmates locking in general population blocks is 28.7 STG inmates per block. (L1 through L8 and K6).

Reported Concern:

- **Inmate... – I've been in the block two years. This is no "step down unit!"**

SOCF Response:

K6 is a Level 4A general population block. Inmates in other Level 4A blocks are not moved unless there is a problem with the inmate being housed in the block or some other administrative reason.

Reported Concern:

- **We can't go to the unit staff. You have to send an ICR because they don't answer kites. This is the worst. Unit staff cover all of K side. You can't talk to the Sergeant. Made rounds today. Our Sergeant won't come in here.**

SOCF Response:

According to the unit kite log, inmate...sent one kite to the Unit Manager dated... regarding being reclassified to another job assignment. The Unit Manager responded to his kite on [date]... Rounds are conducted by unit staff in every housing block. Additionally, each Level 4A housing block has a sign up sheet posted in the sally port area for inmates to sign up to see unit staff. Inmates that sign up are seen by the staff within the week.

Reported Concern:

- **I work K3 and K4. There are 70 people in the block and only 20 have jobs. After you work 90 days at a job you are supposed to be able to change. I've worked this a year and they say no. I fix trays for those across the hall.**

SOCF Response:

As of March 13, 2009 there were 59 inmates housed in K6. Of those 59, 44 are assigned jobs, 13 are students and only 2 were unassigned. Examination of those assigned to food service duty revealed all but one assigned in late 2008 or early 2009. Inmate...has been a food service worker since [date]... I will recommend he be reviewed for a job change.

Reported Concern:

- **Been max since 2003. Volunteered for OSP twice. Sent me back over the shower incident. Parole Board gave me three years for that ticket, two more years. On the sheet,**

it says **get in programs. Not in any programs now. I filled out the interest sheet for programs. Re-entry Management Team said I don't need anything.**

SOCF Response:

There was no inmate name or number to accompany this comment. Therefore, no specific information can be given. According to DOTS Portal, the average length of stay at SOCF is 6.4 years. The protocol for inmates to volunteer for a transfer to OSP is to submit a written request to the UMA. The inmate is placed on the waiting list by the date of the request. Every inmate must receive a mental health evaluation to determine if they meet the exclusionary criteria. If they inmate meets the exclusionary criteria, they can not transfer to OSP. If they are not excluded based on the mental health evaluation, the UMA completes the transfer packet and it is submitted to the Bureau of Classification for final approval. Due to the reduction in programming staff within the units, only reentry intensive inmates are receiving priority in programming.

Reported Concern:

- **Staff don't answer kites. We're lucky to get to the library.**

SOCF Response:

K6 Cell Blocks are scheduled 4½ hours of Library a week per ODRC Policy. Please see the attached schedule.

Reported Concern:

- **Inmate... Can't read and write. Somebody wrote ICR to IIS for me 12-13-08. No answer. Needs help to use the grievance procedure. Showed court of claims letter filing for indigency to waive \$25 fee. Is in school. Needs to talk to unit staff. Not understand Reentry score vs. security level. ICR says on 12-7-08 while working K4 and K3 as kitchen porter, he was told by the CO in the booth that the trays were ready to be picked up. While picking up the trays from K4-41-60 range, he noticed that the 4B porter was on the range without cuffs and the gate was open. He told the CO that the gate was open and the porter was on the range. He told him to just pick up the trays. While picking up the trays, the porter I/M... approached the open gate and started to complain about the trays. He told the porter to tell the Food Coordinator. The porter came through the gate and attacked him. He was maced and taken to seg. "All of this could have been prevented if the CO would have done their job." He wrote that was denied an informal complaint and medical also. The CO watched and noticed there was a problem and that the gate was open K3 CO... See DVR.**

SOCF Response:

In regards to I/M...claim that he is unable to read and write, this inmate has scored at the Pre-GED level on his CASAS test battery and he has passed the Pre-GED test which makes him eligible to take the GED test at some future date. His claim that he is unable to read and/or write is invalidated by these test results.

[Inmate]...in regards that he cannot read and write and needs assistance with filing Grievances and Informal Complaints: This inmate scored at the Pre-GED level test battery and he has passed the Pre-GED test which makes him eligible to take the GED test at some future date. His claim that he is unable to read and/or write is invalidated by these test results.

In regards to the comments about the Library and Legal Services: K6 is scheduled to go to the Library 4 times per week (2 morning and 2 evening sessions) for a total of 4 ½ hours per week. New books were also placed into circulation during the month of February 2009, which consisted of 25 boxes of books. The Paralegal staff delivers legal materials on a regular basis to segregation inmates who are unable to visit the Law Library, when kites are received in accordance to policy. Inmate...has not filed any Informal Complaints with the IIS since [date]...

The allegations that inmate...was picking up food trays off the ranges in K3 and K4, and he was attacked by inmate...: This was a RIB case and inmate...and inmate...began fighting on the range and the officer's broke up the fight and wrote conduct reports. Inmate...was not injured however: both inmates were checked by medical staff. The allegations that kites and Informal Complaints are not available to him: Kites and Informal Complaints are kept in all housing units at SOCF, so that they are made available to all inmates. The IIS also makes rounds in housing units and ensures that all blocks through out the institution have kites and Informal complaints in all units.

Inmate...has scored at the Pre-GED level on his CASAS test battery and he has passed the Pre-GED test which makes him eligible to take the GED test at some future date. His claim that he is unable to read and/or write is invalidated by these test results.

Reported Concern:

- **Inmate... Medical. Seen by neurologist. Can't find out what's wrong though positive results on MRI and EEG. Damaged nerve in spine. 7 years. They think I'm faking.**

SOCF Response:

Inmate...has been seen on multiple of occasions by specialists and physicians relating to this complaint. Inmate...had undergone EMGs and MRIs resulting in normal results. Inmate...was recently seen by [staff]...Asst. Medical Director, who diagnosed this inmate as having arthritis to the knees. This inmate has been provided medication for this illness.

Reported Concern:**K-5: RTU Bottom Range**

One cell very foul odor. Filthy (K5-54)

SOCF Response:

Inspections of cells will be conducted daily by the designated Mental Health staff and cleaned as needed to prevent accumulation of dirt and/or debris.

Reported Concern:

Papers on mattress with Tupperware bin of papers. Mess in cell. Inmate laying in bed. Quite a few inmates declined the chance to go outdoors for rec.

SOCF Response:

Inmates who decline morning recreation are afforded the opportunity to participate in range activity to include, dominos, cards, video, etc. Range activities take place Monday through Thursday.

Reported Concern:

- **Inmate...Need to see chronic care doctor. High cholesterol. Not seen a doctor in nine months.**

SOCF Response:

Inmate...does have hyperlipidemia. He was seen [date]...by [staff]...and enrolled in the CCC (Chronic Care Clinic).

Reported Concern:

- Problems quitting smoking.

J-complex corridor very shiny floor.

SOCF Response:

We have already discussed this issue, no response is needed.

Reported Concern:**J-4: Intensive MH Treatment Unit**

Inmate comments:

- Sgt. try to give me a ticket for something I already did time for. (Cell has very foul odor)

SOCF Response:

The length of stay in J4 is monitored by the Mental Health Administrator, when appropriate the Mental Health Administrator will refer an inmate to the Treatment Team for possible housing transfer. It should also be noted that all IMHTU inmates are to be transferred out of the J4 housing area tentatively by April 15, 2009.

Mental Health and Unit Staff have addressed the issues regarding sanitation in J4 and [staff]...went to inspect the cell to ensure that the inmate is complying with proper hygiene procedures.

Reported Concern:

- Two years in J-4. came here from CRC
- **Inmate... Caught a new case. Claim spit on me. Angry. Says CO harass. No laundry. I want OSP transfer. Was in K5 RTU. I need underclothes.**

SOCF Response:

Inmate...is on the mental health caseload and resides in the Residential Treatment Unit (RTU). He is excluded from transferring to OSP due to mental health reasons. His request for clothing has been addressed through his unit staff.

Inmate concerns were forwarded to [staff]...Activity Therapy Supervisor and addressed.

Reported Concern:

- **Inmate – Can't explain it. Grabbed Sgt. by throat. Don't know why. Kite all over and no answers. I kite them about all good matters and who I really am.**

SOCF Response:

Inmate...was involved in a Use of Force incident on [date]... [Staff]...gave the inmate several direct orders to face the wall and he refused. The inmate lunged towards [staff]...and grabbed him around the throat. [Staff]...attempted to divert his arms away and turn him around. At this time, [staff]...administered his O.C. Spray. [Staff]...then attempted to pull the inmate off of [staff]... [Staff]...Safety Officer, was walking down K-Corridor and observed the situation and went to assist the staff. He attempted a fight break-up technique and they went to the floor. The inmate was handcuffed and escorted to J2. All staff and Inmate... were checked by Medical Personnel. The incident was investigated by the UOF Committee. The committee found the force utilized on Inmate...to be justifiable and that it was in accordance with Administrative Regulations 5120-09-01 and 5120-09-02 and was not excessive under the circumstances.

Reported Concern:

- **Inmate... 2-6-09 RIB conviction. I didn't do it. Asked for polygraph. All inmate claims. They are false claims. Indicates doesn't know how to appeal. Says it's too late to appeal. Conduct report supplement says "I/M... and I/M... stated that I/M... was involved in this plan to kill I/M... I/M... and I/M..."** Conduct report says on 1-4-09 [inmate...] and [inmate...] consumed a mixture of Kool Aid, prescription meds and water. [Inmate...] entered [Inmate...] cell with a piece of cord from a laundry bag to strangle [inmate...]. [Inmate...] was lookout. Later in morning, [inmate...] realized [inmate...] was still alive. [Inmate...] went into cell and strangled him with same cord. *"I/M... assisted I/M ... and I/M... by gathering some of the medication that was used to drug I/M..., I/M..., and I/M..."*

SOCF Response:

I/M...did receive a conduct report as written in your correspondence. I/M...was found guilty at the Rules Infraction Board. The IIS has asked [staff]...to provide I/M...appeal to the Director forms and to instruct I/M...how to file the appeal to the Director.

Reported Concern:

- **J4 upper – Filed ICRs. Keep running out of food trays for upper.**

SOCF Response:

A review of the Food Service Department's Kite and ICR Log revealed only one ICR filed regarding a shortage of food trays. This was filed by inmate...; however, it was not authored until [date]... Food Service Managers make regular rounds in the satellite feeding areas and address deficiencies when/if noted. On [date]... I [referring to staff]...walked ranges in J4 and spoke to multiple inmates.

I spoke to several inmates who have worked for me over my seventeen years at SOCF. Most inmates told me we do not run out of trays in J4. Most inmates told me that serving sizes were acceptable on most occasions. SOCF maintains at least one Food Service Manager on duty during all operational hours. If an issue does develop that food service is not aware of, it is immediately relayed by the security supervisors to the food manager and resolved at that time.

Reported Concern:

- **CO... messes with our mail. He reads our mail and he throws it away and he takes our money orders.**

SOCF Response:

[Staff]...reviewed the DVR for a few selected days and observed Officer...passing out mail in J-4 North. At no time did he see him read or throw any mail away. Money orders are removed from letters in the mailroom and taken to the Cashier's Office for processing. The inmate receives the letter and the envelope is stamped with the date and amount of the money order. Officer...has no access to inmate money orders.

Reported Concern:

- **Empty cell though assigned to inmate...? FILTHY CELL**

SOCF Response:

Inspections of cells will be conducted daily by the designated Mental Health staff and cleaned as needed to prevent accumulation of dirt and/or debris.

Reported Concern:

- **Six months in J4. Just sitting perfectly still on the bed. Says does that all day. Nothing to do. Have magazines... Program on medical diagnosis Mondays. Came to SOCF two years ago. I want to be a car mechanic.**

SOCF Response:

Inmate...has participated in numerous Mental Health Programs; however due to the upcoming transfer of those mentally ill inmates assigned to J4, no new Mental Health programs are being initiated at this time. In addition, all inmates housing in J4 are afforded the opportunity for a one hour outside of the cell recreation period.

Reported Concern:

- **[Inmate...] – Mail is not going where it needs to go. Showed 2006 letter from Ohio Innocence Project that said since we did not hear back from you, we’re closing your case. He says he wrote back again and again. Says they have even cut him off from his family. He says “I do kites, ICRs, etc.” Very angry.**

SOCF Response:

This inmate was interviewed by the IIS [date]...concerning mail he had received from National Payment Center U.S. Department of Education RE: old student loans. I/M...was confused about the mail until he talked it through then realizing he had taken out loans in 1987 & 1988. The institution is unaware of any mail problems for this inmate.

Reported Concern:

J-1 - Guys yelling. No conversation with any. Suicide watch cells with Plexiglas. So dark can barely see in them.

SOCF Response:

This institution is currently implementing a painting project in the J1 housing area. The housing block is scheduled to be painted a lighter color in order to better reflect the current lighting rather than being absorbed by the current color thus improving visibility.

J1 and J2 Cells are going to be painted sometime next week. The cells are scheduled to be cleaned on [date]...

Reported Concern:

- **Inmate...: In J1 because had a weapon. Had a weapon because of a situation. Has not told staff. Will write.**

SOCF Response:

Inmate...was interviewed by the STG Coordinator and the UMA prior to the CIIC inspection regarding his concerns. He did not provide any information or specific inmate that was causing his problems. He has received numerous RIB convictions for refusal to lock and manufacturing weapons.

Reported Concern:

- **Top range inmate reported having a broken thumb. UMA responded.**

SOCF Response:

Inmate...was the inmate noted in the report requesting medical attention for his thumb. UMA contacted the Health Care Administrator regarding his request. She stated, he had already been seen by medical staff, but would have him evaluated again.

Inmate...was treated by OSU on the date of injury, per...Health Care Administrator.

Reported Concern:

J-2 - Inmate said he wants to go to OSP. Been asking for two years.

- **[Inmate...]. Same problem. Sheet around my neck yesterday. Force me out to be killed by Gangster Disciples. "UMA don't like me." Says he has no one out there that cares about him.**
 - (Staff verified attempted suicide. Put on constant watch. Was in PC. Trying not to be released. Appealed. His separations are deceased)
 - **Concern:** Just because persons named in the separation order are out of the picture, if it was a gang threat that put him in PC, the threat would not necessarily be eliminated with the death of one or two persons from whom he was separated. WCI/PC Warden... used to say regarding release of a PC inmate from the PC unit, that a *win-win situation is when both the administration and inmate agree that release is warranted. Considerable effort was made to work with the resistant inmates, to communicate fully with them so that they understood the confidence of the staff's recommendation for release, and working with them to prepare them for return to population, including letting them know what to do if they face another serious threat.*
 - **Concern:** It is difficult to imagine taking someone who just tried to hang himself the day before, from constant watch to the dark maximum isolation and seclusion of his J-2 cell. There could be no more depressing place to put him. If he has no one on the outside, and believes that staff are turning him over to be killed by the gang, it is very easy to understand his suicidal thoughts. This is the kind of thing that creates inmates perception (or misperception) of staff, in this instance, he believes neither mental health nor PC unit/administrative staff care.

SOCF Response:

Inmate...allegations that UMA does not like him and that no one cares about him. Inmate...has been interviewed by the IIS, UMA, and STG in regards to his allegations that Gang members are out to get him, and this inmate has not been able to substantiate any evidence to support such allegations. In regards to being in PC, the Bureau of Classification process has been done correctly and proper procedures have been followed.

Inmate...was released from protective control per the 55-SPC-03 (Classification/Release of Protective Control Inmates) policy. Inmate...utilized the appeal process. The Bureau of Classification made the final decision to release inmate ... from PC.

Inmate...was removed from watch as a result of no longer at risk of harm to himself. This inmate was placed on suicide watch follow-up protocol to ensure no visible risk to self. On [date]... Inmate...was transferred to...

Reported Concern:

In the **Library:**

- Guys said need *more variety* of books. Access is 3-4 times per week for an hour.

SOCF Response:

In regards to comments about the library and legal services:

K-6 is scheduled to the library four times per week (two morning and two evening sessions) for a total of 4 ½ hours per week.

25 boxes of new books were placed into circulation during the month of February, 2009.

The paralegal staff delivers legal materials on a regular basis to segregation inmates who are unable to visit the law library in response to kite requests in accordance with Policy.

Approximately 34 boxes of new books were placed into circulation in the month of February 2009. In addition, a new shipment of library books has been delivered to the institutional warehouse and is pending transfer into the institution for proper distribution. The Librarian Assistant is also in the process of coordinating a book purchase through the local book store.

Reported Concern:

- **“How come you can get punched and merely fight back and get six months in lock down in 4B on K side, and have no access to legal. Guys back there have no access to law library. How can they do that?”**

SOCF Response:

R.I.B. holds all inmates accountable for their actions and each incident is looked into by reviewing an inmate's past disciplinary record. If an inmate's

disciplinary record demonstrates his inability to maintain control of his actions in General Population, then R.I.B. will refer the inmate to 4B. At this time, the 4B Committee will conduct a placement hearing with the inmate and determine whether a 4B placement is warranted. Some of the determining factors in a 4B placement that the Committee considers are the inmate's disciplinary record, where the altercations took place when fighting, how the inmate responded to orders given to him by staff when breaking up the altercation, and ultimately what lead up to the altercation.

Legal Services makes weekly rounds within the 4B Blocks and the inmate also has the ability to utilize the institution kite system to request legal materials.

Reported Concern:

- Locked down with mentally hostile who when they finally get out, we are the victim.

SOCF Response:

Inmates having a mental illness are release to general population according to treatment recommendations in compliance with policy 67-MNH-23.

Reported Concern:

- L-7 CO.... Group relayed have real problems with CO...

SOCF Response:

All inmate complaints have been addressed by the appropriate departments and no merit has been found. A coaching session has been held with Officer...concerning the complaints from inmates to ensure [staff]...is following Policy and Procedures pertaining to the operation of...Cell Block. Officer...actions will continue to be monitored by the Shift Supervisor and handled accordingly.

Reported Concern:

CIIC Inspector Greg Geisler:

J-2 Foul odor. Needs cleaning.

SOCF Response:

This area is being addressed and has was treated on February 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th, and March 5th. The area is much better and we will continue treatment. Cells need to be cleaned and all food disposed of properly to minimize this issue.

We have a plan in place to Red Tag cells have them cleaned and painted and to ensure that all cell inspection sheets are attached to the cell front and list all that's wrong with the cell.

The changes that we have made in J2 is that we have started to Red Tag two cells in J-2 a day and we are totally cleaning the cells from top to bottom, and after this is done the Porter then paints the cell. We have also added a third Unit Porter to work in J-2 to do special cleaning. This third porter can also help with cleaning empty cells in J-2 to improve on inmate's complaint that they are just put in the cell.

Reported Concern:

J-2-31. Inmate relayed that he was just put in the cell and it is really dirty.

SOCF Response:

Inmates are given cell clean ups at least once a week and the cells in J-2 are cleaned as the inmates leave the cell-block. On the day he was talking about we had someone cut them self and the Porters were busy cleaning up the blood. The cell did get cleaned and we also sent a porter down and had this cell cleaned.

Reported Concern:

K-3 A few cells could use scrubbing. Very foul odor in some spots on bottom range. **Towels on cell bars, tucked between bars, or hanging from string stretched across bars. Shirts or other objects covering back lights so inmates can sleep.** Captain... tells inmates to remove them from the bars or takes them down himself. **Concern: Are officers walking the range or allowing this to go on? This was apparent in almost all of the blocks.**

SOCF Response:

Toilet paper is handed out every Wednesday in K4. Toilet paper has always been available. The soap supply was depleted and a new supply has been received in the warehouse. Indigent items were handed out this week.

Officers assigned to the cell blocks at SOCF utilize the DRC 4238 (Block Sheet) and Range Check Log that shows the range checks are being conducted at staggered intervals, which are not to exceed thirty (30) minutes. The Administrative Captain also completes a random check of posts by generating a computer report once a month on officers assigned to those posts to ensure rounds are being conducted per policy. Anytime a staff member is found to be non-compliant, corrective and/or disciplinary action is taken. Roll Call announcements are made and supervisors instruct officers to maintain cell

appearance compliance when they are making their post inspections on each shift.

Reported Concern:

K-4 Inmate relays that he has been *without toilet paper for days, that staff tell them that there is no soap or toilet paper available due to budget cuts.*

SOCF Response:

Our procedure is that each inmate is issued one roll of toilet paper per week. If an inmate needs more toilet paper, he must return the empty cardboard roll to exchange for a new roll of toilet paper. Other supplies are also available upon request.

Reported Concern:

L3-1 Ants in cell every morning. No assistance from Unit Manager. Wants cell move.

SOCF Response:

This was reported to [staff].... [Staff]... spoke to this inmate about this issue with the ants. This was reported to [staff]... You will be receiving his follow-up response to this. But, [staff]...feels the inmate wants a cell move. Inmates in other Level 4A Blocks are not moved unless there is a problem with the Inmate being housed in the block or some other Administrative Reason.

Per [staff]...the area was sprayed on March 5th and will receive additional treatment March 19, 2009.

Reported Concern:

Five weeks behind on Doctor's Sick call.

SOCF Response:

This institution is scheduled to gain a full time CMO (Chief Medical Officer) on April 6, 2009. As a result, there will be double coverage for a period of one week, it is anticipated that at this time the backlog can be brought up to date. SOCF is still, however, attempting to fill the part-time ALP (Advanced Level Provider).

Reported Concern:

CIIC Inspector Darin Furderer:

- [Inmate]-Reported that he filed medical grievance because he has **not seen the doctor**.
-Taken off medication and chronic care list
-Relayed that laundry was lost and quartermaster did not provide adequate replacement.

SOCF Response:

Inmate...has never been listed as chronic care. This inmate has requested medication renewal for back pain and seasonal allergies. Inmate...is currently scheduled to be seen by the physician.

Inmate...had not made staff aware of the issue pertaining to his whites. [Staff]...was contacted and informed to look into this complaint and ensure that the inmate receives his replacement items, if needed. [Staff]...contacted the Quartermaster on 3/18/09 and was informed that [inmate]...had been issued whites on [date]... [Staff]...then completed a cell search of [inmate's]...cell and found that he did in fact have his required state issued whites and he has stated issued blues.

Reported Concern:

- [Inmate]-Does **not understand current classification level**. Believes his security should have been decreased because he spent a full year out of 4B

SOCF Response:

Inmate...did not understand current security classification. We have already explained to the inmate the process 1) at orientation; and 2) when he specifically asked me about it when he had his security review last month. Inmate was classed as level 2. He had a security review on [date]...was recommended by warden for level 3. It wasn't signed off on by the bureau and the portal shows he was retained at level 2. When the lab test results came in, (positive for possession of cocaine) a new security review was done and he was recommended both by the warden and the bureau for level 4B placement. A common misconception is that inmates just have to be a year clear of 4B to reduce their status. This is not necessarily correct. Inmate must be a year clear of 4B when his annual security review is completed. If he only did 6 months in 4B, by the time his annual security review is completed, he is only 6 months out of 4B. I always advise inmates that it usually takes two annual reviews to have the points to reduce. I made copies of inmate's security review to show him what happened in his particular instance.

Reported Concern:

- [Inmate]-Received letter from Central Office regarding approved religious property (rosary) **Wants to get his rosary from long-term storage**

SOCF Response:

Concerning Inmate...allegations about his "rosary", the following facts apply. It is not a rosary; it is in fact a large gold cross that is approximately 3 inches tall and as big around as a pencil. It is hollow. It is on a very heavy gold toned chain. It was placed in his long term storage due to security concerns. Inmate...tried repeatedly to be issued the cross until he finally got [staff]...at Central Office to approve it for him. However, the inmate is currently in level 4B and has been since he arrived at SOCF on [date]... He is not allowed to possess such an item in 4B in any circumstance, so the cross has been titled to him and placed with his 4A property. It will be issued to him when and if he goes to level 4A.

[Staff]...to interview inmate regarding this matter, accommodations will be met if appropriate.

Reported Concern:

- [Inmate]-Concern regarding privilege review. Employee who reportedly caused his 4B placement was reportedly fired for **racial slurs yet he is still in 4B**

SOCF Response:

Inmate...was placed into 4B in [date]... The reason he was placed into 4B was because he was found guilty of hitting a staff member in the head with a crock pot. The employee he is speaking about is Correction Officer...from...who was terminated from his employment with the Department of Corrections.

Reported Concern:

- [Inmate]-Inmate reported that he was **attempting suicide when an officer came to cut him down**. He explained that he is being charged in an **outside court with assault on the officer because he allegedly hit staff during the incident**. Inmate relayed that *his attorney filed for not guilty by reason of insanity. Inmate stated that court rejected institution's mental health analysis. He states that he was previously "kicked out" of the RTU. Appears to be mentally ill or in need of treatment.*

SOCF Response:

Inmate...is currently on the Mental Health Caseload. This inmate was discharged from the RTU in [date]...and is receiving regular outpatient

treatment. Inmate...was seen in clinic on [date]...and will be seen every 90 days by the presiding Psychiatrist. In addition, Inmate...will also be seen on an as needed basis by the assigned Mental Health Liaison.

Reported Concern:

- [Inmate]-Reports that when he transferred to current unit, staff failed to pack up all property. Some property not on pack up slip and he is missing shoes and other items. -Reported *use of force incident where staff sprayed him with mace and he did not see medical.* Inmate mentioned that he *still has limited vision in his eye as a result of the incident.* Explained that he has *problem with reading and writing*

SOCF Response:

[Staff]...was made aware of a complaint made by Inmate...which explained that he was missing property and that he did not receive medical attention after being sprayed with OC chemical on [date]... At approximately [time and date]...[staff]...went to J2-43 and hooked up inmate...and escorted him to the E Sgt's Office. Inmate...stated that he does now have all of his property. He claimed that he did not have an opportunity to give a Use of Force Statement. [Staff]...then filled out a statement for him which he signed. [Inmate]...claimed that he was not checked by medical. [Staff]...went to the Capt.'s Office and made hard copies of his pack-up slip, medical, and all other forms pertaining to the use of force. Inmate...made claims to the CIIC that he was having problems with his vision, which he now claims is not an issue.

Inmate...was seen after a use of force incident on [date]... Inmate...stated during the medical exam, "I'm cool. I just got sprayed." Inmate was informed to wash affected area and to change clothing. Inmate was also to follow-up with NSC if needed.

Reported Concern:

- [Inmate]-Alleged **unreported use of force incident**

SOCF Response:

This was a reported Use of Force. It was handled as a Slight Use of Force and was not assigned to a Committee. The incident date was on [date]...involving Inmates...and [inmate]... fighting on the range of K6. Inmate...had hit Inmate...with a broom handle. While they were in the process of removing the fighters out of K6, Inmate...refused to get off of the telephone. [Staff]...ordered the inmate to get off of the phone and to get onto the wall several times. He refused to comply and approached staff in an aggressive manner. At this time [staff] utilized his O.C. Spray to gain control of the situation. Inmate...was checked by Medical Personnel.

Reported Concern:

- [Inmate]-Concerns regarding access to **medical** treatment. Does **not understand why staff recommended 4B placement** or why he received commissary restriction.

SOCF Response:

Inmate...was captured on DVR entering another inmate's cell and stole his property. The inmate reported to staff that his cell had been robbed. Subsequently, the block was shaken down and the other inmates felt as though he was a "snitch" for reporting that his cell was robbed. The inmate was later thrown off of the top range and died. Due to inmate...actions, he can not be managed in Level 4A and was placed in Level 4B.

Inmate...is housed in J2 pending 4B placement. All inmates assigned to this housing location have access to a medical nurse daily on four separate occasions, Monday through Friday. Access to the medical nurse is conducted on three separate daily occasions on Saturday and Sunday.

Reported Concern:

- [Inmate]-**Trouble speaking English and appears to need assistance -In J2 slammer cell**

SOCF Response:

Inmate...has been at SOCF since [date]...and has not demonstrated the inability to communicate with staff in utilizing the English language. He has been interviewed and his Unit File has an abundance of communications that he has written to unit staff.

Reported Concern:

CIIC Inspector Toni Del Matto:

- Inmates relayed concerns about the **cleanliness of the eating utensils and trays**. It was relayed that the **dishes come out dirty**. **The water reportedly only gets so hot, but at times it does not get hot at all**. It was also relayed that **there are no cleaning chemicals in the dishwasher**.

SOCF Response:

The Hobart FT900 dishwasher operates off of direct steam for heating the water. Detergent is provided through an EcoLab dispensing system per state term contract. Our EcoLab representative addresses all issues within 24 hours of

reporting per the contract. If the automatic detergent dispensing system malfunctions the machine can be manually charged with detergent as directed by the EcoLab representative, or the machine can be completely shut down and trays hand washed using the 3-compartment sink method with chemical sanitizer. Temperature issues also arise; however, we have a Maintenance Repair Worker assigned to food service that is very responsive to dish washer malfunctions. Again, the dish washer can be shut down when required and all trays hand washed. We have no lack of labor for this task.

Reported Concern:

- Several inmates relayed concerns about an **inmate... who reportedly had his teeth knocked out by C/O... The officer reportedly waited for the inmate to be handcuffed before he used excessive force.**

SOCF Response:

These recent use of force incidents were properly reported, the shower incident and the PR 24 incident. Both have been assigned to Use of Force committees and are still under review. The inmate harassed from chow has been interviewed by the IIS. This incident has been resolved as a misperception of events by the inmate.

Reported Concern:

- Reportedly, **L6 regulars (staff)** are very disrespectful

SOCF Response:

This information has been relayed to the Unit Manager and to Shift Supervisors to monitor.

Reported Concern:

- Inmates relayed that the **environment at SOCF** is getting worse, especially over the last six to eight months.

SOCF Response:

SOCF has had several employees that were laid off due to the budget cuts and unit staff was one area that has been cut. One could say that the environment was worse, but the staff and most inmates feel that since Warden Kern's arrival at SOCF the environment has gotten better. The Deputy Wardens, Chief of Security and the Unit staff as well as supervisors believe that security is great and that they see more staff out and about. Inmates are a little upset about the shortage of unit staff in the units however that's been addressed by having staff enter the

Inmate Dining facility to talk with inmates during mass movement to and from chow to address any concerns or issues the inmates might have.

Reported Concern:

- One inmate relayed concerns about **racial discrimination** from the staff. He suggested that staff take a **cultural awareness program, or one be developed for staff training, so they may better understand those from different backgrounds.**

SOCF Response:

There is a class regarding this which is conducted at the Corrections Training Academy.

Reported Concern:

- **Inmate... - Relayed he has a swollen hand, and has not been able to see the doctor. He also reported that he has carry meds and has had a problem with getting a refill because the refill date was wrong. He has filed an ICR about his concerns, but has not been able to get a grievance form from the Inspector. He has been waiting since 2/21/09 for a grievance form.**

SOCF Response:

Inmate...allegations that he has filed Informal Complaints about his medical concerns and has been waiting for a Grievance from the IIS. Inmate...filed an Informal Complaint to medical on [date]...and after reviewing the IIS kite log, has never kited the IIS for a Grievance nor has he ever filed a Grievance at SOCF.

There have been several concerns regarding this patient and medication use. This inmate has received the prescribed self carry medications on six occasions since [date]... The prescription was written for a six month period, so therefore this inmate should have the appropriate amount of medication and none should be needed if taken as prescribed. The shakedown officer packed up this inmate's belongings and found no medications; as a result, all medications for this inmate will be dispensed by the nurse.

Reported Concern:

- The **recovery services program** and supervisor, were most impressive. It was reported that they have had trouble facilitating programs due to limited access to the inmates, but are now able to offer services to all inmates, including: **PC inmates, general population inmates, and inmates in 4B. It was also reported that they even have programming for the "STG inmates in K6."**

SOCF Response:

The Recovery Services Department is in the process of implementing a modern presentation facility within the Learning Center which will include a wall mounted large screen which will enable this institution to provide viewing of modern PowerPoint presentations and DVD educational related films. In addition, the Recovery Services Department will be offering an additional earned credit approved program as well as continuing the ADAPT earned credit programming, SAMI, and Alcoholics Anonymous/Narcotics Anonymous fellowship meetings

Reported Concern:

- Inmate... – Inmate relayed that he has spent the past seven years in prison for a technical parole violation. He reported that he is **4B, and currently in J2. He is afraid to come out of his cell for recreation, because he does not want to get in trouble. Past communication from the inmate to CIIC shows he has been on the caseload at one time, but it is unclear if he is on the caseload now. This inmate has been 4B or higher since 2003.**

SOCF Response:

Inmate...is currently on the Mental Health Caseload and is receiving out patient treatment as required by policy.

Reported Concern:

- Inmate... – relayed he has **no hygiene items**, and has been unsuccessful at getting them and is currently in J3

SOCF Response:

Inmate...moved into J3 on [date]...afternoon and never asked any officer or Sergeant for any hygiene items. When [staff]...spoke with Inmate...the inmate told him that he did not know how to get these items. [Staff]...explained to him that he can purchase them from the Commissary. [Staff]...also gave the inmate Soap, Toothpaste and a Toothbrush. So, he now has the items.

Reported Concern:

- Inmate... – relayed concerns about being **mentally ill and being maced by staff**

SOCF Response:

Inmate...was involved in a Use of Force incident on... Inmate...was attempting to throw an unknown substance onto the inmate Porter, and then he spit at staff.

The Lieutenant was contacted and went to the inmate's cell front and ordered the inmate to cuff up so that he could be escorted to J2 and placed into Security Control for his actions. The inmate refused several direct orders to be handcuffed. At this time, the Lieutenant administered a short burst of O.C. Spray to Inmate...facial area to bring him into compliance. The inmate was then handcuffed and escorted to Security Control. No other force was used and this UOF was not referred to a Committee because there was no further action required.

Inmate...is currently on the Mental Health Caseload and is receiving out patient treatment as required by policy. Inmate...is due to see the treatment team on [date]...

CIIC Concern:

- Inmates in J3 relayed **if they refuse recreation, they will not be able to take a shower.**

SOCF Response:

This is false. All inmates in the 4B cellblocks are afforded the opportunity to shower once a day Monday-Friday. If the inmate refuses recreation, then they are offered a shower as soon as the showers are opened, usually following the breakfast meal, but showers are available starting at 6:30. If the inmate gets on the recreation list, and then refuses once the recreation staff arrives, he remains on the shower list, but is moved to the bottom of the list. The inmates who did go to recreation will have the opportunity to shower upon returning from recreation ahead of those who scratched from the recreation list.

Most inmates will get on the recreation list and then scratch from the list so they do not have to take a shower early in the morning. If recreation comes in at 3:00 PM and 40 go to recreation and another 15 scratch from the list, then the 40 that went to recreation will have first priority for the showers over those that scratched.

Reported Concern:

- **Empty cells K1-10 and K1-15, were extremely dirty**

SOCF Response:

Staff has been advised to use the manual override key in order to access these cells to maintain sanitation levels. These cells have been red-tagged for several months due to an electrical problem. Maintenance and Security have been unable to evacuate the entire cell block to complete the rewiring of the entire cell block. However, this will be completed at the earliest convenience when Maintenance and Security have the ability to relocate the 78 inmates currently

assigned to that block. This project will take approximately two weeks to complete.

Reported Concern:

- Inmate... – relayed he was **to be released from 4B two weeks ago, but has been told he is in 4B overflow. It is unclear how there could be a 4B overflow, when many empty cells were observed throughout the institution**

SOCF Response:

This statement made by the inmate was untrue. He was not 4B overflow; he had not even been reviewed yet. He was told by this writer that he could have a special because at the time we needed beds. Upon doing his paperwork, I realized he had a pending Rule 36 violation so he was not given a special. I told him that if his ticket would be dropped he would get a review. His ticket was dropped and he was reviewed [date]...with a recommendation to release to 4A. Committee is still ongoing in Unit A as of this scribe so the inmate has not been approved by the Warden or designee to be released to 4A as of yet.

4B reviews were completed on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, the week of March 9th through the 13th, 2009. Inmate...was due to be seen by the committee during the month of March, 2009. He was seen by the 4B committee and was recommended to be released to general population. He was a Level 4B and was housed in a 4B block.

Reported Concern:

- **K2 inmates relayed that there is a bad roach infestation**

SOCF Response:

This area is being addressed and has was treated on February 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th, and March 5th. The area is much better and we will continue treatment. Cells need to be cleaned and all food disposed of properly to minimize this issue.

Reported Concern:

- Inmate... – relayed he has been in the same orange clothing for a month, with **no hygiene items**, no ink pens for legal work, no haircut. He reported **that when he goes on suicide watch, he is placed in a slammer cell, J2-20 and gets no mattress and is forced to sleep on steel. He said there are vents in the cell that he could hang himself or get razor blades from the vent.**

SOCF Response:

On [date]...Inmate...handed a piece of notebook paper to Unit staff that had Quartermaster items listed on it. He was told to put the items on a Quartermaster form in order to get Quartermaster items. Hygiene packets are passed out every week to inmates that are on the indigent list. Inmate...is on the current indigent list. Legal work is given to 4B inmates if the legal work is organized, properly indexed, and is a current case. Haircuts are offered twice monthly to inmates housed in 4B blocks. Inmate...is placed in J2-20 when he is placed on suicide watch with no mattress due to previously destroying two moduform beds that are utilized in suicide cells.

Inmate...has destroyed several suicide beds while on constant watch, as a result cell modifications were made to ensure the safety of the inmate as well as to prevent undue budget hardships on this institution. As far as this inmate's risk of harm regarding the presence of the vent, it should be known that this inmate is placed in this cell for the purpose of a constant watch and as such an officer is posted and supervises this inmate's activity at all times; therefore the risk of this inmate making a "razor" from the vent is not present. In addition, this inmate does not have the capability of reaching the said vent.

Reported Concern:

- Inmate... – relayed he has **no hygiene items**

SOCF Response:

Inmate...has been receiving indigent packs since [date]...the day he moved in from J2. [Staff]...makes up and distributes the indigent packs on Wednesday when he gets supplies.

Reported Concern:

- Inmate... – relayed his POA was **September 3, 2008 and has not been able to find a community placement so he can be released**

SOCF Response:

Inmate...has a POA date... All the halfway houses have rejected his placement noting violence as the reason. [Staff]...is working with Inmate...Parole Office...to assist in placement. [Staff]...emailed her a copy of an application for placement at the Keating Center. [Staff]...gave the application to Inmate...and advised him that she would fax it back to [staff]...when he completed it. Inmate...completed the application and returned it to her. He later requested that she give the application back and he stated that he would take care of it himself.

Reported Concern:

- **K6 inmates relayed that family is able to send them pens from Access, but are taken by the COs during a shakedown.** It was also reported that if you forget a number on your calling list, the staff will not provide you with the information.

SOCF Response:

The pens from Access are not permitted at SOCF. The inmates have been made aware of this and the pens, if included in a package are confiscated by the package officer in the mailroom prior to giving the package to the inmate. Any issues with the inmate phone system are directed to the company. The inmates are provided with information to contact the company. The company then sends the information to the mailroom supervisor who then prints the information and forwards it to the inmate with the first class mail. Staff does not have access to the inmate's phone account information.

CIIC Inspector Adam Jackson

Reported Concern:

- Although the tension between staff and the inmates appeared to be minimal during movement in the hallways and in the units, inmates openly discussed issues of concerns including some serious allegations regarding **use of force, discrimination, unsanitary work place, and inappropriate supervision.**
- Dishwasher room – Inmate workers said that they are **not provided with cleaning solution for the drinking dispensers and for the kitchen area. According to the inmate workers, only hot water is used to clean the drinking dispensers. Later, inmates made allegations of roaches and vermin, such as rat feces, being found in the kitchen area.**

SOCF Response:

In reference to the roaches and vermin in the Dishwasher room, the entire IDR area in fact was infested with roaches, due to the condition of the tunnel under food service area. This entire area was cleaned, and has been treated every Thursday morning at 4:30am for the past two months. The problem with roaches has been significantly depleted to almost none. Maintenance was e mailed and requested to clean the tunnel area once again to remove the dead roaches and eggs to completely eliminate the problem on March 5th.

Drinking dispensers are washed and sanitized in the pot and pan washer in the scullery. This machine also contains an automated detergent dispensing system provided by EcoLab. SOCF did experience an issue with unacceptable roach and mice infestation; not rats. Our pest control provider was notified and took action

to correct the issue including the termination of one of his employees. Additionally, the tunnel system underneath the Inmate Dining Room was allowed to become very dirty and unsanitary. This issue was addressed by the administration and appropriate action was/is being initiated towards the responsible employee(s).

Reported Concern:

- Inmates in L-block general population made allegations that **PC inmates in the laundry room often steal dark colored clothes**. One inmate stated that several of his dark-colored items were never returned. Other inmates stated that their **white-colored clothes were dingy when they were returned after they were apparently mixed with dark-colored clothes**. As a result, several inmates were seen washing their clothes in their units with “Tide” detergent purchased from the commissary in an effort to maintain the true color of their clothes.

SOCF Response:

Upon SOCF receiving the PC inmates from other Institutions within the State, there had been a continuous problem with the PC inmate’s laundry. Their laundry was coming up missing and at times being destroyed. SOCF immediately made a change to the laundry area by removing L-Side inmate workers and replacing them with PC inmate workers. Since this change, there have been complaints from L-Side inmates about their laundry coming up missing. To this date, there has been no merit to any of the complaints made. [Staff]...believes that these complaints have been made in an attempt to have the L-Side workers reassigned back into the laundry area. The reason for this is because inmates who work the laundry service have the ability to communicate and possibly pass contraband (i.e. tobacco, gambling tickets) throughout the Institution. Therefore, this is a very sought after job by the inmates.

Reported Concern:

- Several inmates alleged that **kites never seem to reach their destination**. According to one inmate, he allegedly **kited the Institution Inspector to request a grievance form three weeks ago**. As of the date of the inspection, the inmate had not received a response from Inspector. Other inmates relayed that **staff are not good about responding to informal complaints**.

SOCF Response:

In regards to inmates alleging that kites are not reaching their destination: This is a brief summary of different departments in the institution, and how many kites are received and addressed.

MEDICAL- received 1,549 kites in a 6 month period.

*UNIT E- J1-J4 received 419 kites in a 3 month period
 MAJOR'S OFFICE- received 82 kites in a 3 month period.
 UNIT C/D- L1-L8 received 225 kites in a 3 month period
 UNIT A- K1-K4 has purchased 42, 600 kites and is getting ready to purchase more.*

The IIS in 2008 received 2,558 kites and addressed 540 Grievances. The allegations that inmates are not getting responses to their Informal Complaints they are filing: The IIS sends out Late Response letters to individuals that have not answered in a timely manner and when the letters are sent to the individual, a Grievance is automatically forwarded to the inmate that filed the ICR, that way he still gets to address all of his concerns.

If an inmate does not follow the correct procedure of the Grievance Procedure, the IIS will go and talk to each individual, or either interview the inmate to make sure that he understands the procedure and address his concerns at that time. IIS also completes Orientation of the Grievance Procedure to all inmates when they enter the institution. SOCF averages 300-400 Informal Complaints a month.

Reported Concern:

- Several inmates alleged **racial profiling** during the inspection of each block. Most of the racial profiling allegations were in regard to **verbal abuse from their unit staff, use of force, and harassment**. Many inmates informed CIIC of a **recent use of force incident involving an inmate, who was allegedly “beat up” by Officers the week before our inspection**. Another inmate in J-Block alleged that **three Officers pulled a black inmate out of shower for unknown reasons**. The incident reportedly resulted in the inmate receiving a black eye. Other inmates made reference to Officers **“rushing” them and using their PR-24 to break up fights**. One black inmate made reference to **being harassed by an Officer as he was leaving the chow hall**. The Officer allegedly stated that the inmate was being harassed because it was February in reference to **Black History Month**.

SOCF Response:

Inmate...was upset when he went to the black history month program because he wasn't chosen to read his poem. The poem was not positive and had the 'f-word' used several times. It was not appropriate for reading. He left the program. After this, every time [staff]...walked the range, or he went to chow, or when the officer was on the range, he would make comments such as 'I bet if I was white I could've read that poem' and made racial slurs himself, using the 'n-word,' slavery, and 'f-ing white folks up.' He was told to keep it down, which aggravated him more. Inmate... has a history of escalating behavior. [Staff]...reports that she hasn't heard anyone make or use racial slurs toward him; he's just a very bitter person and feels persecuted when things don't go his way.

...there was a reported Use of Force incident in the J-2 shower area which involved inmate .C/O...and other correction officers. This incident has been referred to a Use of Force committee and is being closely monitored.

Reported Concern:

- Other inmates stated that **since the Presidential election, the officers have seemed more disrespectful toward the black inmates, sometimes using racial slurs when making a direct order to them. Other inmates have expressed similar allegations in letters to CIIC.** It should be noted that staff permitted an inmate the opportunity to come out of his cell to speak to CIIC about the **need for “sensitivity” training for the Correctional Officers.** The inmate relayed that Officers may have never seen or communicated with minorities particularly African-Americans, and Latino-Americans. The inmate noted that he **was not blaming all the officers for the acts of a few.** This conversation took place in the presence of an **SOCF Captain, who told the inmate to make sure he documents any incident in which racial slurs, discrimination, etc. occur and he assured the inmate that he would look into it.**
- One inmate on K-side made **allegations that staff misuse their mace when dealing with inmates by going “Hollywood” on an inmate.** According to the inmate, **“Hollywood” is when staff, with their back to the camera, will fall back to act as if they were pushed or assaulted by an inmate and use their mace.**

SOCF Response:

Announcements were made to staff on all three shifts for Roll Call on March 11th, 12th, and 13th, 2009 that staff is not to misuse their Chemical Agent.

Reported Concern:

- Inmate... made serious **allegations of verbal abuse, harassment, and threats** against a Lieutenant. According to inmate... the Lieutenant is a friend of the victim of his crime. When the inmate was preparing to go out to court for his case to be reheard, the Lieutenant reportedly threatened that he **better plead guilty or “I am going to f--- you up.”** **The fact that inmates were not afraid to speak openly in front of staff may have been a good sign.** It could be a sign that inmates are not afraid of retaliation for relaying their concerns.

SOCF Response:

[Staff]...is conducting an investigation into these allegations. In addition, there was a UOF Incident involving Inmate...on [date]...which is presently being investigated by a UOF Committee.

FINDINGS OVERVIEW

The Statute requires CIIC to inspect each Ohio prison and to report findings in its evaluation of operations, conditions and grievance procedure. The Statute further states that the report may include programs proposed or developed to assist in the development of improvements. To identify needed improvements, it is necessary to identify problems, issues or concerns. The evaluation and inspection duties require a careful examination to determine positive aspects of the institutions, as well as any areas in need of improvement.

This section is based on careful study of all that is contained in this report, what was observed while on site, communication from facility staff and inmates, information and data review. It also takes into account the historic perspective gained from inspecting, evaluating and monitoring the facility since 1978. Knowledge of reported concerns and other on-going communication from facility staff and inmates is also taken into account. More communication is received from SOCF than any other prison through direct contacts, reported concerns and in response to inquiries. SOCF's response to inquiries continues to be appreciated. It was in fact an inquiry that prompted the request for CIIC to come to the institution to talk to inmates and staff and to witness how quiet the facility is.

SOCF's Place in the System

While all of the prisons are challenged due to loss of staff and resources that impact operations, conditions, programs and grievances, and most prisons are further stressed by the impact of overcrowding, this is an appropriate time to focus on the Southern Ohio Correctional Facility. Just as in corrections where "everything is connected to everything," SOCF is impacted by all other Ohio prisons. It is a unique, valued and necessary resource for the others, a place for individual inmates and groups to be transferred due to extremely serious and/or chronic misconduct at other prisons. It is the only Ohio prison exclusively designated for inmates classified as maximum security (level four).

Some of SOCF's inmates will be further processed at intake for level five (High or Administrative Maximum) and will be transferred to the Ohio State Penitentiary. Some of SOCF's level four inmates may be transferred to OSP, excluding those with serious mental illness and/or those with IQs under 75. Therefore, the SOCF population does in fact include what staff have long referred to as "the worst of the worst," though the SOCF population also includes the largest percentage of mentally ill of any Ohio prison, as well as an unknown number of inmates who encountered problems at other institutions, suffering from overcrowding and predatory gangs. SOCF receives identified predators and some who are victims of predators. The environment impacted by crowding and staff shortages at other prisons affects the extent to which such inmates can obtain staff intervention and assistance to deal with predators in their population, without violating rules or otherwise committing acts of violence. The environment is not a justifiable excuse for their misconduct, but a reality in understanding it.

Protective Control

In the backdrop of this population mix, SOCF once again has the main Protective Control Unit for those at SOCF and at other institutions whose placement in Protective Control was based on a determination that they face a verified risk of serious physical harm in population at any institution. Such placement is a last resort, based on a finding that no other alternative, such as cell move, unit move, separation orders from specific inmates, or lateral transfers to another prison that matches the inmates security level, would keep them safe. SOCF once had the PC unit for all Ohio prisons, but the decision was made to close the unit and open a new PC unit at the Warren Correctional Institution in Lebanon, Ohio. The PC Unit also houses a mixed and difficult population to manage, some who are considered “weak”, some who were predatory gang members, some who suffer emotional and mental problems that preceded or stem from the trauma of actual or imminent injury.

The need to keep PC inmates safe from non-PC inmates at SOCF requires isolation from the rest of the institution. That isolation contributes to the difficulty of managing the PC unit, and the difficulty of ensuring their safety from other PC inmates with whom they live day after day, and year after year. Those in PC, even when the unit existed at WCI, were always known as a high maintenance group of inmates where staff, no matter how patient, hard working and attentive to duties, tended to burn out at a faster pace than those assigned elsewhere. An effective method of aiding the management of this difficult population has been the infusion of structured, supervised activities, as well as individualized counseling and on-going assessment of the extent to which danger of serious physical harm continues to be faced outside of the PC unit.

Most inmates need a plan and most hope that one day they can be released safely from the PC unit. For many, if not most, PC is not a desirable placement. Those who are classified as level four or level three believe that their only hope of safe release rests in earning reduction to medium or minimum security. However, the presence of medium and minimum security inmates in PC demonstrates that they, too, can face verified risk of serious physical harm, even in medium and minimum security facilities. Determining when a PC inmate no longer needs PC is not an exact science. In the best situations, it is a mutual assessment on the part of the inmate and the PC review committee, Warden and Bureau of Classification Chief. That mutual assessment is a product of research, communication, hard work and extensive planning involving the inmate’s input guided by staff counsel. In making such PC release decisions, there is wisdom in the saying, “If you must err, err on the side of caution.” Better to keep an inmate longer than necessary in PC than to force the inmate out of PC and find that he has been harmed elsewhere. Safe PC releases which otherwise would result in tragic violence or further PC processing at the receiving institution, take PC staff time, thoroughness and sensitivity. The importance of the presence of sufficient staffing for assessment, activities and close supervision, cannot be overstated.

Having a PC unit itself is such a primary mission and responsibility, that some SOCF staff have the opinion that SOCF is not the best location for such a unit, particularly in the midst of their maximum security population with the largest percentage of gang members of any Ohio prison. Many PC inmates signed out of PC at Warren and Marion Correctional Institutions after learning that the PC unit would be relocated to SOCF. It is not known by CIIC how many have been able

to be safe after release from PC, where even the knowledge that they were once in PC could create danger from other inmates. Inmates know that to gain PC status, the inmate must “snitch”, and staff who conduct PC investigations by interviewing those accused of threats, extortion and/or assault, contribute to the inmate’s danger by announcing that the PC inmate has told on them. When the accused are gang members, that word is easily and quickly spread throughout the prison system to fellow gang members.

Though PC inmates face a permanent stigma from the inmate population, they also face the same from some staff, even though some PC inmates have done the right thing by reporting actual or planned events to staff, preventing harm to staff and/or inmates. Determining if an inmate warrants PC placement is supposed to be, per DRC policy and administrative rule, solely based on whether he faces a verified risk of serious physical harm. Still, some staff deny PC based on a determination that the inmate contributed to or caused his own danger, for example, by unpaid drug or gambling debts, which in fact have resulted in stabbings and murders in Ohio prison history, including at SOCF. Such thinking could be used to blame most PC inmates for their own danger, such as leaving a gang or informing staff, doing the right thing, even though their past decisions and actions were wrong. The PC placement criteria appropriately and solely rests on the extent to which there is a verified risk that the inmate faces serious physical harm in general population.

A common problem faced from the inmate’s perspective, is an inability to provide sufficient proof to PC Committee staff to satisfy their understanding of verification requirements. While some apparently are placed in PC, of those who have contacted the CIIC regarding their personal safety in the past six years, not one that can be recalled has obtained protective control placement at SOCF. From an inmate’s perspective, the standard of proof is unreasonable and appears to be impossible for any inmate to meet. The standard of evidence needed to convince staff that you face serious danger appears to be on the farthest end of the pendulum, the extreme opposite of the “some evidence” needed to convict an inmate of any rule violation. System-wide, there appears to be a tendency on the part of staff to view the person seeking safety as the problem. In truth, they are doing exactly what they are supposed to do, bringing such matters to staff instead of taking matters into their own hands.

It has been suggested at Warren Correctional Institution with a segregation overflow in the infirmary and Residential Treatment Unit, and with 25 percent of those in segregation refusing to lock in population due to safety problems, that consideration be given to converting a general population pod to use by those refusing population for safety reasons. As long as PC placement is based on the inmate’s ability to verify the danger, another option other than committing a rule violation by refusing to lock, should be provided for those who are simply seeking safety.

The Mentally Ill

The presence of the mentally ill at SOCF puts an equal if not greater strain on the SOCF staff, and also negatively impacts the inmate population. There has been a growing recognition on the part of enlightened DRC and SOCF staff that SOCF has received mentally ill inmates whose rule violations and inability to function at other institutions stems from their mental illness, which can and should be treated by mental health staff at lesser security institutions. At SOCF, just as it is

at the other prisons, the primary consequence of rule violations is isolation, including security control, disciplinary control, local control and at SOCF, there is 4B, akin to the former administrative control. Although SC, DC and LC are typically considered “segregation” and 4B is considered a “privilege level” and “classification”, in reality, 4B is segregation, in which inmates are confined in their cells except for brief periods for showers, and if they choose, “recreation.” Their meals are brought to them on trays using inmate porters that are supposed to be supervised by officers. Alleged lack of supervision of such porters and alleged conspiracies to deny food or to otherwise harass the mentally ill, continue to prompt great concern, although it seems that all such reports typically result in a finding of no or insufficient evidence to substantiate the claim.

Follow-Up Communication from the Warden

In response to the opportunity to preview this report and to provide feedback on any perceived errors, inaccuracies or needed clarification, information provided on May 27, 2009 from the Warden through the DRC Assistant Director included the following regarding the previous sections on Protective Control and The Mentally Ill.

Since mid March 2009, all mental health inmates now attend all three meals at the inmate dining room (IDR). The only exception to this is an inmate on mental health level 1 who is inappropriate to walk to the IDR. This group is escorted and now has an additional 1.5 hours out of their cell for meals. The benefit of moving these inmates to chow can be witnessed in their personal hygiene improvements and attitudes.

All PC inmates are now moved to chow as are the mental health inmates. Again, this movement is under escort and the PC inmates eat at a given time and are not subject to having general population inmates in there during chow. Numerous thank you notes have been received by the Warden’s office for allowing the PC more time to leave the cell block on a daily basis plus the security has been maintained with no incidents or issues.

A secondary benefit of having the RTU K5 and the PC units K7 and 8 inmates walking to chow can be measured in the cost savings. The situation prior to this improved feeding process caused SOCF to hire two Food Service Coordinators on overtime for both first and second shift. The cost of this overtime was approximately \$5,824.00 weekly or \$302,848.00 annually. Along with this cost savings came reduced waste of food products through the disposal of unused food.

Lockdown and Mental Health Monitoring

A greater number of staff is necessary to accommodate a locked down population, than staff needed in a general population that is not totally dependent on others for necessary goods and services. Long term isolation has been proven to cause mentally healthy people to become dysfunctional, and to experience medical, mental health and behavioral problems. It has proven

to be even more detrimental to the mentally ill whose problems are exacerbated by the confinement itself. For that very reason, in *Austin*, the OSP litigation, it was determined that no seriously mentally ill inmates should be placed at OSP solely due to the lockdown conditions of confinement, regardless of the misconduct, such as serious assault, which would otherwise prompt a level five placement at OSP. Even with their mentally stable population, OSP was required to put in place mental health staff responsible for monitoring the mental health status of every inmate in every block to detect signs of mental health deterioration. No such safeguards have been put in place at SOCF.

On the day of the inspection, 218 inmates in 4B were on the mental health caseload, including those diagnosed with serious mental illness. Length of time in 4B is based on one's conduct. Any rule violation lengthens the stay in 4B. J-4 "Intensive Mental Health Treatment Unit" was a *good faith* effort to identify certain inmates in 4B with significant mental problems, and move them to one block where they could have increased access to mental health staff and services, and the advantage that officers would know and consider their mental illness. Recent efforts have been made by SOCF staff to try to provide in J-4 what is expected of the Residential Treatment Units scattered throughout the prison system. Efforts were made to incorporate the mental health RTU levels (one through four) in which inmates progress from the most restrictive level one to the least restrictive level four, based on mental health treatment decisions. However, the physical limitations of J-4 prohibited the expected graduated freedoms that are part of the very definition of the mental health levels. They also are incompatible with 4B lockdown restrictions. Admirable efforts on the part of staff were made to increase monitoring and expedite 4B privilege reviews to enable release of those in J-4 to K-5 RTU when deemed appropriate. Even better, a joint effort on the part of central office and underutilized Oakwood Correctional Facility staff, resulted in the creation of two specialized units which will benefit SOCF staff and inmates. The newly created "Bridge Program" will serve all prisons, by providing a temporary transfer of chronic "cutters" and other "self-mutilators" who will learn proven and better ways to cope with their stress and frustrations. The first candidates will be those from SOCF, followed by level three, level two, and level one inmates with such problems. Another OCF unit has been created to provide an RTU for level four and level three inmates, many who are among the most chronic of the mentally ill, some with little or no prospect of progressing through other RTUs and successfully adjusting in any general population.

Mentally Ill: New Direction

These efforts on the part of DRC are major and are applauded. They could be the beginning of creating a model for other prison systems who share the mammoth challenges of the large numbers of mentally ill who have been sentenced to prison. In the case of SOCF, the total solution requires participation of the whole prison system, for SOCF has no control over who is sent there.

The other prisons, if not already doing so, need to identify their own inmates who have developed and who suffer from mental illness, violated rules, demonstrated an inability to adjust to general population, or posed a threat to the safety and security of the institution. The mentally ill are among those who see the Rules Infraction Board for rule violations, who see the Local Control Committees for up to six months more of isolation, and who are assessed for increased

security levels due to their maladjustment. All decision makers need to focus attention on directing appropriate candidates to their mental health resources, whether outpatient mental health caseload monitoring and counseling, RTU placement, or psychiatric hospitalization at Oakwood CF, which in fact is based on behavior due to mental illness that poses danger to self or others.

Effective treatment of the mentally ill requires the mental health system to accept those who are disciplinary problems, those inmates who are unpleasant and uncooperative. It requires mental health staff to be strong advocates for the mentally ill. It requires security and unit staff's persistent efforts to connect the mentally ill to mental health staff, resources and treatment. Otherwise, they will continue to be sent to SOCF and continue to be placed in 4B, with expected deterioration in coping skills and mental health.

SOCF has always had the largest number of urine/feces throwers, and even SOCF staff have acknowledged that most are mentally ill. For them, prosecution for harassment does little if anything in deterrence. Like the chronic cutters, they need intensive intervention. DRC has relayed the intent to find more appropriate alternatives for the truly mentally ill at SOCF who find themselves in 4B. Some have been removed from the mental health caseload due to their lack of cooperation with treatment staff. These are the inmates that need added efforts of the treatment staff, for without treatment and with continued isolation due to their words and/or behavior, they will continue to tax the security staff by involvement in incidents of use of force, disturbances, cell extractions and movements back and forth to J2 security control.

Frequency of Meaningful Rounds

Frequent rounds in 4B for the purpose of identifying those with mental health problems are essential for the security of the institution. They must be as meaningful and purposeful as those required at OSP for mental health purposes. The original purpose of what evolved into J-4 was to segregate the mentally ill from the other inmates so that mental health staff could more easily and more frequently monitor their mental health needs. That option remains for the 200+ in 4B who are on the mental health caseload, but that would not negate the need to identify those who have been removed from the caseload or who have never been on the caseload who are in 4B now suffering from mental illness. The renewed focus on the effective, appropriate management of the mentally ill who are also disciplinary problems is a huge challenge, which when successful, will drastically reduce the staff's stress and strain from "putting out fires."

Frequency of 4B Reviews and Monitoring Length of Stay

For the non-mentally ill in 4B, consideration should be given to the reported ineffectiveness of long term confinement as punishment for rule violations. Due to the growing body of evidence regarding such ineffectiveness, there is considerable merit to more frequent reviews of 4B inmates. Monitoring of the length of stay in 4B should be mandatory and assigned to specific staff. Such monitoring will identify those who need special management and treatment plans targeted at the underlying reasons for their continued inability to adjust and appropriate guidance, counsel and intervention to address problems.

Security Proof Activities

OSP, with its level five, death row, and level four inmates, and MANCI with its mentally ill death row inmates, have had to be creative in finding activities which pass the security tests for their populations. If not already done through the Best Practices Institute, SOCF may benefit from on-going communication with staff of the two institutions to maximize the sharing of information on what has proven to be safe and effective in keeping their inmates busy mentally and physically.

The Matter of Mace

The use of pepper spray has been applauded by officers and others at SOCF in its effectiveness in reducing staff injuries from hands on use of force incidents. While it has been referenced as a “non-violent” alternative to use of force, inmates consider it an aggressive, violent act against them. While it has been attributed to preventing and stopping violence on the part of inmates, it has also been frequently cited by inmates as an instrument of taunting and harassment that angers and enrages the target and observers. It is, then, both a problem and solution.

The key to its effectiveness as a solution is to have clearly established and detailed policies, procedures and training on when mace can be used. CIIC can locate nothing in writing on the subject, not in DRC policy nor in Administrative Rule. Another key to its effectiveness as a solution is careful monitoring and taking swift corrective action when warranted to ensure proper use. The method for determining if force is authorized and the minimum necessary based on the inmate’s conduct, is through use of force investigations. Investigations have decreased with changes in administrative rules on use of force, perhaps to decrease the burden on dwindling staff resources system-wide. SOCF was reportedly the first Ohio prison to authorize widespread carry of OC spray among officers, compared to the former practice of restricting access to certain security supervisors. The data verifies that the increased officer access to such spray coincides with reduction in days off for staff injuries. However, the number of allegations of misuse of OC spray relayed by inmates at SOCF is larger than any other institution. In fact, it is the only prison in which a pattern of such complaints to CIIC have emerged, though all prisons have had similar expansion in the authority of staff to carry and use OC spray. Such complaints to CIIC have not been made from inmates at level five OSP, nor level three prisons.

It is important for staff to understand how critical it is to not tolerate misuse of mace because without this understanding, the safety and security of the institution can and will be negatively affected. Unnecessary or excessive force on inmates inflames emotions and hostility, further damaging the respectful staff/inmate relationship upon which a safe and secure environment depends. OC spray, coupled by pre-existing medical conditions can be lethal, so much so that an SOCF practice used to require a check with medical staff before such spray was authorized. The serious potential consequences necessitate restraint.

Some mistakenly believe that because OC spray is no longer listed in the administrative rules on use of force, that it is no longer a use of force. It is a use of force, must be reported, and must be limited to use to those criteria cited in which force is authorized. Six to nine months prior to the riot, there was a surge of complaints from SOCF inmates about alleged unnecessary and/or

excessive use of force in J complex. A recurring communication in the inmate letters was, "If they are going to treat us like animals, then we're going to act like animals." The same letters relayed their belief that the only way they could earn the "respect" of staff was through "violence." One of the triggering events was said to be the planned use of force on Muslims refusing a TB test for religious reasons. The consequences of unchecked use of force are known and cannot be overstated.

Follow-Up Communication from the Warden

In response to the opportunity to preview this report and to provide feedback on any perceived errors, inaccuracies or needed clarification, information was provided by the Warden through the Assistant Director on May 27, 2009 regarding the above section on the Matter of Mace as follows:

All staff that carries OC is trained in the Use of Force policy and sign for such training. Along with reviewing the Use of force policy, all staff is exposed to OC via either a direct burst of OC or by walking through an exposed area.

When a staff member uses OC, a use of force is prepared and the incident is saved on video. A Use of force committee may or may not be warranted but this is determined by the Warden. If a Use of Force committee be warranted due to improper use, the staff member will lose the privilege of carrying OC for a determined amount of time. Should a second incident occur, the staff member is likely to lose the privilege permanently!

It should be noted that the number of use of forces year to date for 2009 are pacing around 200 less than 2008. New expectations have been cascaded to all supervisors and line staff.

The above also addresses that ALL forces will be reported as use of force whether the force was slight or substantial. Anything other than this will result in disciplinary action against the employee.

Lesson of OSP

Ohio State Penitentiary, which at one time created and perpetuated an extremely hostile environment of officers vs. inmates, was able to transform itself to attain a safer environment for all by teaching officers how to communicate with and interact with inmates in their charge, in order to obtain the desired cooperation. Dominance and intimidation gave way to more effective methods of human interaction.

SOCF staff acknowledged their hard work in changing the perception of their treatment of inmates. Through their efforts, the facility has evolved increasingly over time to a place that has benefited from positive leadership. It continues to evolve with the benefit of dedicated staff from custody, unit management and treatment backgrounds and expertise, who work more as a team.

Inappropriate Supervision, Discrimination and Racial Issues

The writings of *Taylor v. Perini* at Marion Correctional Institution cited the need for the grievance procedure to become effective in verifying and correcting cases of inappropriate supervision. Therefore, an administrative rule on the subject was created, which today merges Discrimination and Racial Issues with Inappropriate Supervision. The predominant Caucasian, rural staff at SOCF in charge of predominantly African American, inner city inmates, has impacted staff/inmate relations from the time the facility opened in the early 1970s. Allegations of inappropriate supervision, including harassment, abusive language and racial slurs have long been among the largest groups of complaints.

The data on the grievances contained in this report indicate that many will not and do not use the grievance procedure to report what they have reported to the CIIC as problems, issues and concerns. SOCF staff expressed after the riot that staff and inmates both lost faith in the system. It is vital to have a grievance procedure in place that all feel free to use without fear of retaliation, and with confidence that the reported problem will be resolved. Many relayed on site that they will not use the grievance procedure because they believe that retaliation will result. Others relayed frustration in obtaining responses to kites and informal complaints. Any such non-response is a threat to the safety and security of the institution. Lines of communication between inmates and staff must be open.

The grievance data shows that only a small number of grievances are filed each month compared to the problems reported to CIIC, and a very small percentage of the grievances that are filed, are “granted” or resolved. System-wide, the grievance procedure would be more effective to serve the purpose for which it was created, and if there was a renewed focus on solving the reported problems. If inmates could see other inmates being helped after seeking help through the grievance procedure, more inmates would use the grievance procedure. This is in the Department’s best interests. An informal complaint or grievance should not be viewed by staff as a threat. Any such view can be changed with providing accurate information. Until and unless all inmates see the grievance procedure as a safe and effective way to receive help with problems, problems will fester unaddressed and can result in violence.

Inmate Access to Unit Staff

Unit staff have embraced the role of problem solvers system-wide. Staff shortages and adoption of the social services model instead of the unit management model has taken its toll system-wide. Many if not most inmates have learned to confide in unit staff about problems, situations and concerns faced in the prison environment. Removing or decreasing access to such unit staff has caused outrage, even panic among inmates at some institutions. Frequent access to unit staff with time to listen and to talk to in private is critical to maintaining a safe, secure environment.

Responsiveness to kites and informal complaints is equally critical. Years ago, an Assistant Chief Inspector relayed that the idea of creating informal complaint forms was in response to the problem of staff system-wide not really being thorough and responsive to problems relayed via kite communication. Kites continue to have that potential to actually address a concern, eliminating the need for an inmate to file an informal complaint.

Sanitation

The inspection found deficiencies in sanitation back in the blocks, though plenty of idle inmates are available to sweep, scrub and disinfect. Attention to sanitation promotes a healthy environment for staff and inmates. Procedures have long been in place to ensure cleanliness, but all must do their part to achieve the desired result. There was concern that block officers in numerous areas were either not checking cells or not enforcing long standing rules regarding door coverings and hanging lines. Any such laxity can have dire consequences impacting the safety and security of the institution.

SOCF Staff Changing the Culture and Instilling Hope

The SOCF staff that spoke to CIIC during the inspection were as impressive as any in the prison system. Their dedication and concern were evident. They have a unique and extraordinary mission and deserve acknowledgment and appreciation for their hard work in changing the culture of the institution, and in instilling hope where it has been lost. They are applauded for the progress that has been made, and urged to continue on the positive path.

SOCF staff spoke of the visible difference in the inmates when they enter an environment that is free of harassment. Such an environment is conducive to corrections, one that can be created in any cellblock through the words, actions, demeanor and responsiveness of staff. The ADAPT Cognitive Behavioral Treatment Program, the staff who operate it, and the graduates provide evidence of the good works that are in progress at SOCF. The staff dedication and good will are apparent. The staff group of administrators, unit staff, security supervisors and officers, as well as medical, mental health, food service and maintenance staff were an impressive reflection of SOCF staff as a whole. Their openness about concerns, appreciation of each other, and genuine caring about their ability to meet the needs of the population and the institution in order to keep it safe and secure for all, made a powerful impact on the CIIC.

The infusion of activities and programs to eliminate idleness, resulting in less incidents and misconduct, requires staff presence at a time when staff shortages are undisputed.

The Warden's enthusiasm and vision of the potential that exists at SOCF have inspired his staff. He could not have received a higher compliment than to be cited repeatedly by his own staff as one of the most positive aspects of the institution. He has earned their respect. They are proud of him and of all that he represents. SOCF is evolving to yet another level for which they deserve to feel extremely proud.

GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

From January 1, 2009 to March 6, 2009, the SOCF Inspector's office received 318 kites, 525 Informal Complaint Resolutions (ICR), and 77 Notifications of Grievances (NOG). A breakdown of the SOCF grievance activity for the month of February 2009 is provided below.

Staff relayed that disciplinary action has been taken in cases of verified inappropriate supervision. Administrative Rule 5120-9-04, titled "Appropriate Supervision, Discrimination and Racial Issues," defines "inappropriate supervision" as "Any continuous method of annoying or needlessly harassing an inmate or group of inmates, including, but not limited to, abusive language, racial slurs, and the writing of inmate conduct reports strictly as a means of harassment. A single incident may, due to its severity or egregiousness, be considered inappropriate supervision for purposes of this rule."

Administrative staff relayed that inappropriate supervision is not tolerated. It was further relayed that it is the duty of the court to punish, not the institutional staff, and that staff are reminded that their attitude reflects how their day will go.

**Table 10. SOCF Institution Grievances Statistics
February 2009**

| Grievance Numbers | | | | |
|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Total Number of Grievances filed during year (January and February) | 77 | | | |
| Total number of inmates who filed grievances during year (January and February) | 61 | | | |
| Highest number of grievances filed by single inmate | 4 | | | |
| | | | | |
| Grievances on hand at beginning of this period | 11 | | | |
| Grievances received during this period (February) | 34 | | | |
| Total | 45 | | | |
| | | | | |
| Grievances completed during this period | 38 | | | |
| Grievances on hand at end of this period | 7 | | | |
| Total | 45 | | | |
| | | | | |
| ICR Summary | | | | |
| Number of Informal Complaints Received | 231 | | | |
| Number of Informal Complaint Responses Received | 194 | | | |
| Number of Informal Complaint Responses Untimely | 29 | | | |
| | | | | |
| Dispositions | | | | |
| Granted | White | Black | Other | Total |
| Granted – Problem corrected | 1 | 8 | 0 | 9 |
| Granted – Problem noted, correction pending | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Granted – Problem noted, report/recommendation to the Warden | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Subtotal Granted | 1 | 8 | | 9 |
| | | | | |
| Denied | | | | |
| Denied – False claim | 3 | 8 | 0 | 11 |
| Denied – Staff action was a valid exercise of discretion | 4 | 6 | 0 | 10 |
| Denied – No violation of rule, policy, or law | 3 | 2 | 0 | 5 |
| Denied – Insufficient evidence to support claim | 0 | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| Denied – Not within the scope of the grievance procedure | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Denied – Failure to use informal complaint procedure | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Denied – Not within the time limits | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Subtotal Denied | 10 | 19 | 0 | 29 |
| | | | | |
| Withdrawn | | | | |
| Withdrawn at inmate's request | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Pending | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Pending Disposition | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | | | |
| TOTALS | 11 | 27 | 0 | 38 |
| Percent | 28.9% | 71.1% | | 100% |
| | | | | |
| Extensions | | | | |
| 14-Day Extensions | 0 | | | |
| 28-Day Extensions | 0 | | | |
| Total | 0 | | | |

The following table provides data on the number of grievances granted and number denied in 2007 and 2008 for all Ohio prisons. In the two year period, 847 grievances were decided at SOCF, with 85 percent of the grievances denied, and 15 percent granted. In all, 12 prisons denied from 85 percent to 100 percent of their grievances.

Table 11. Outcome of Grievances in 2007 and 2008 by Institution with Number and Percent

| Institution | Number Granted | Number Denied | Total | Percent Granted | Percent Denied |
|---|-------------------|------------------|--------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Montgomery Education Pre-Release Center | 0 | 8 | 8 | 0% | 100% |
| Warren Correctional Institution | 21 | 234 | 255 | 8% | 92% |
| Noble Correctional Institution | 10 | 80 | 90 | 11% | 89% |
| Lebanon Correctional Institution | 68 | 532 | 600 | 11% | 89% |
| Lake Erie Correctional Institution | 30 | 236 | 266 | 11% | 89% |
| Chillicothe Correctional Institution | 66 | 542 | 608 | 11% | 89% |
| Lorain Correctional Institution | 7 | 55 | 62 | 11% | 89% |
| London Correctional Institution | 58 | 368 | 426 | 14% | 86% |
| Madison Correctional Institution | 38 | 222 | 260 | 15% | 85% |
| Trumbull Correctional Institution | 37 | 205 | 242 | 15% | 85% |
| Southern Ohio Correctional Facility | 123 | 724 | 847 | 15% | 85% |
| Ohio State Penitentiary | 182 | 994 | 1,176 | 15% | 85% |
| North Coast Correctional Treatment Facility | 12 | 57 | 69 | 17% | 83% |
| Oakwood Correctional Facility | 7 | 31 | 38 | 18% | 82% |
| Correctional Reception Center | 21 | 85 | 106 | 20% | 80% |
| Allen Correctional Institution | 97 | 393 | 490 | 20% | 80% |
| Grafton Correctional Institution | 116 | 425 | 541 | 21% | 79% |
| Ross Correctional Institution | 72 | 273 | 345 | 21% | 79% |
| Mansfield Correctional Institution | 135 | 434 | 569 | 24% | 76% |
| Marion Correctional Institution | 110 | 350 | 460 | 24% | 76% |
| North Central Correctional Institution | 137 | 443 | 580 | 24% | 76% |
| Dayton Correctional Institution | 1 | 3 | 4 | 25% | 75% |
| Northeast Pre-Release Center | 3 | 8 | 11 | 27% | 73% |
| Southeastern Correctional Institution | 11 | 30 | 41 | 27% | 73% |
| Belmont Correctional Institution | 87 | 224 | 311 | 28% | 72% |
| Toledo Correctional Institution | 97 | 248 | 345 | 28% | 72% |
| Richland Correctional Institution | 66 | 158 | 224 | 29% | 71% |
| Pickaway Correctional Institution | 112 | 266 | 378 | 30% | 70% |
| Hocking Correctional Facility | 16 | 38 | 54 | 30% | 70% |
| Franklin Pre-Release Center | 5 | 9 | 14 | 36% | 64% |
| Ohio Reformatory for Women | 107 | 187 | 294 | 36% | 64% |
| Corrections Medical Center | 31 | 42 | 73 | 42% | 58% |
| Total | 1,883 | 7,904 | 9,787 | 19.23% | 80.8% |
| | Granted | Denied | Total | Granted | Denied |

A review of monthly grievance reports for 2009 shows that the SOCF Inspectors' office received 38 grievances in January, 34 in February, and 33 in March, for a total of 105 grievances in the three month period. Of the 110 grievances in the three month period, 92 were denied comprising 83.6 percent, and only 18 were granted, comprising 16.4 percent. Of those denied, the largest group, 41 of 92 or 45 percent of the denied grievances, were reportedly "false claims." In regard to the second largest group of denied grievances, 26 of the 92 denied grievances or 28.3 percent, it was reported that "staff action was valid exercise of discretion."

The Inspectors' office also received 249 informal complaints in January, 231 in February and 264 in March, with a total of 744 informal complaints.

Table 12. Number of Grievances Granted or Denied with Reason from January through March 2009 at the Southern Ohio Correctional Facility

| Grievance Disposition | Number | Percent |
|---|------------|--------------|
| Denied: False claim | 41 | 37.3% |
| Denied: Staff action was valid exercise of discretion | 26 | 23.6 |
| Denied: No violation of rule, policy or law | 15 | 13.6 |
| Denied: Insufficient evidence to support claim | 9 | 8.2 |
| Denied: Not within scope of grievance procedure | 1 | .9 |
| Denied: Failure to use informal complaint | 0 | |
| Denied: Not within time limits | 0 | |
| Total Denied | 92 | 83.6% |
| Granted: | | |
| Problem corrected | 17 | 15.5 |
| Granted: Problem noted, correction pending | 1 | .9 |
| Granted: Problem noted, report/recommendation to the Warden | 0 | |
| Total Granted | 18 | 16.4 |
| TOTAL GRIEVANCES | 110 | 100% |

The monthly report of grievances received in March 2009 shows that of the 36 total grievance dispositions, 30 were denied comprising 83.3 percent, and six were granted, comprising 16.6 percent of grievances.

The largest number of grievances in March 2009 pertained to health care, with 11 grievances or 30.5 percent of the grievances. All medical grievances were denied. Grievances regarding health

care included four “Other”, three regarding improper or inadequate medical care, and one each regarding eye glasses, medical transfer and diagnosis.

Personal Property is the second largest category, with nine grievances comprising 25 percent of the grievances. Seven of the nine pertained to lost, damaged or property taken by staff. Five of these grievances were denied, but two were granted.

The third largest group of grievances pertained to staff supervision, with six grievances, comprising 16.6 percent of the grievances. All were denied. The group consists of two grievances alleging intimidation/threats, and one each alleging unprofessional conduct, abusive language, racial/ethnic slurs, and harassment.

**Table 13. Grievances by Subject, March 1, 2009 through March 31, 2009,
Southern Ohio Correctional Facility**

| Grievance Subject | Granted | Denied | Total |
|---|-----------|-----------|-------|
| Health Care: | | | 11 |
| Other | | 4 | |
| Improper/Inadequate medical care | | 3 | |
| Eye glasses | | 1 | |
| Medical transfer | | 1 | |
| Disagree with diagnosis | | 1 | |
| | | 1 | |
| Personal Property: | | | 9 |
| Lost, damaged, confiscated by staff | | | |
| Denied permission to receive/possess | 2 | 5 | |
| | 1 | 1 | |
| Supervision: | | | 6 |
| Intimidation/threats | | 2 | |
| Unprofessional conduct | | 1 | |
| Abusive language | | 1 | |
| Racial/ethnic slurs | | 1 | |
| Harassment | | 1 | |
| Force: | | | 3 |
| Reported use of force | | 3 | |
| Mail/Package: | | | 2 |
| Delay/failure in delivery | | 1 | |
| Handling of legal mail | 1 | | |
| Dental Care: | | | 1 |
| Other | | 1 | |
| Facilities Maintenance: | | | 1 |
| Water Temperature | 1 | | |
| Laundry/Quartermaster(State Clothing/bedding): | | | 1 |
| Clothing lost/ not returned | 1 | | |
| Visiting: | | | 1 |
| Visitor denied access | | 1 | |
| Institutional Assignment: | | | 1 |
| Transfer or denial | | 1 | |
| TOTAL | 6 Granted | 30 Denied | 36 |
| PERCENT | 16.6% | 83.3% | 100% |

CONTACTS AND CONCERNS

In the four month period from January 1, 2009 to May 4, 2009, the CIIC received 200 contacts regarding the Southern Ohio Correctional Facility, reporting 1,057 problems, issues or concerns, the largest volume of communication of any Ohio prison. SOCF has the largest number of contacts, and largest number of concerns of all Ohio prisons, comprising 28.8 percent of the total reported concerns system-wide.

**Table 14. Number of Contacts and Number of Reported Concerns Received by CIIC
January 1, 2009 to May 4, 2009 by Prison**

| PRISON | CONTACTS | CONCERNS | PERCENT OF CONCERNS |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|--------------|---------------------|
| Southern Ohio CF | 200 | 1,057 | 28.8% |
| Toledo CI | 56 | 297 | 8.1 |
| Mansfield CI | 59 | 250 | 6.8 |
| Lebanon CI | 44 | 202 | 5.5 |
| Pickaway CI | 46 | 186 | 5.1 |
| Chillicothe CI | 49 | 160 | 4.4 |
| Marion CI | 36 | 151 | 4.1 |
| Ohio Ref for Women | 24 | 145 | 4.0 |
| London CI | 29 | 140 | 3.8 |
| Trumbull CI | 27 | 134 | 3.7 |
| Ohio State Penitentiary | 25 | 105 | 2.9 |
| Warren CI | 21 | 105 | 2.9 |
| Allen CI | 27 | 101 | 2.8 |
| Madison CI | 21 | 99 | 2.7 |
| Grafton CI | 22 | 76 | 2.1 |
| Lake Erie CI | 15 | 58 | 1.6 |
| North Central CI | 13 | 55 | 1.5 |
| Ross CI | 14 | 49 | 1.3 |
| Other | 14 | 47 | 1.3 |
| Belmont CI | 14 | 45 | 1.2 |
| Northeast Ohio Corr Center | 7 | 43 | 1.2 |
| Oakwood CF | 5 | 27 | .7 |
| Hocking CF | 7 | 26 | .7 |
| North Coast Corr TF | 10 | 25 | .7 |
| Richland CI | 7 | 22 | .6 |
| Lorain CI | 8 | 19 | .5 |
| Southeastern CI | 4 | 19 | .5 |
| Noble CI | 3 | 10 | .3 |
| Corr Reception Center | 6 | 7 | .2 |
| Montgomery Educ PR Cent | 2 | 6 | .2 |
| Franklin PR Center | 1 | 2 | .1 |
| Dayton CI | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Corr Medical Center | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Not Categorized | (11) | | |
| TOTAL PRISONS | 829 | 3,670 | 100% |

Southern Ohio Correctional Facility – Breakdown of Reported Concerns

In the approximate two month period from January 1, 2009 through March 4, 2009, CIIC received 70 contacts from 36 different persons who relayed a total of 439 reported problems, issues or concerns pertaining to the Southern Ohio Correctional Facility. The largest group of concerns pertained to *staff accountability* with 89 concerns. The *staff accountability* category includes problems with access to staff, failure to respond to communication, failure to perform job duties, and failure to follow policies. The second largest category of concern pertained to *supervision*, with 73 reported concerns, followed by *health care, grievance procedure and inmate relations*. The *supervision* category includes abusive language, racial or ethnic slurs, harassment, intimidation/threats, conduct report for no reason, retaliation for reporting complaints, and privacy violations. The *inmate relations* group includes security threat groups, inappropriate sexual behavior and other.

Table 15. Number and Type of Reported Concerns Received by CIIC regarding the Southern Ohio Correctional Facility from January 1 through March 4, 2009

| Concerns | Number of Concerns | Percent |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| Staff Accountability | 89 | 20.3% |
| Supervision | 73 | 16.6 |
| Health Care | 50 | 11.4 |
| Inmate Grievance Procedure | 42 | 9.6 |
| Inmate Relations | 27 | 6.2 |
| Non-Grievable | 17 | 3.9 |
| Force | 15 | 3.4 |
| Institution Assignment | 15 | 3.4 |
| Housing Assignment | 14 | 3.2 |
| Food Service | 11 | 2.5 |
| Inmate Account | 10 | 2.3 |
| Discrimination | 10 | 2.3 |
| Personal Property | 9 | 2.1 |
| Special Management Housing | 9 | 2.1 |
| Psychological/Psychiatric | 7 | 1.6 |
| Mail/Package | 7 | 1.6 |
| Safety and Sanitation | 6 | 1.4 |
| Other | 6 | 1.4 |
| Protective Control | 4 | .9 |
| Facility Maintenance | 4 | .9 |
| Commissary | 3 | .7 |
| Visiting | 2 | .7 |
| Telephone | 2 | .7 |
| Laundry/Quartermaster | 2 | .7 |
| Security Classification | 2 | .7 |
| Educational/Vocational Training | 1 | .2 |
| Job Assignments | 1 | .2 |
| Legal Services | 1 | .2 |
| Inmate Groups | 0 | 0 |
| Records | 0 | 0 |
| Library | 0 | 0 |
| Recovery Services | 0 | 0 |
| Recreation | 0 | 0 |
| Religious Services | 0 | 0 |
| Dental Care | 0 | 0 |
| TOTAL | 439 | 100% |

Table 16. Breakdown of Top Categories of Concerns Reported to CIIC Regarding the Southern Ohio Correctional Facility, January 1, 2009 through March 4, 2009.

| Staff Accountability | Number of Concerns |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| <i>Failure to perform job duties</i> | 30 |
| Failure to follow policies | 21 |
| Failure to respond to communication | 17 |
| Other | 11 |
| Access to staff | 10 |
| Total | 89 |

| Supervision | Number of Concerns |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| <i>Unprofessional Conduct</i> | 24 |
| Harassment | 9 |
| Intimidation/threats | 7 |
| Other | 7 |
| Conduct report for no reason | 6 |
| Retaliation for filing grievance | 6 |
| Retaliation for voicing complaints | 5 |
| Abusive language | 5 |
| Retaliation for filing lawsuit | 3 |
| Racial or ethnic slurs | 1 |
| Privacy violations | 0 |
| Total | 73 |

| Health Care | Number of Concerns |
|---|---------------------------|
| <i>Access/delay in receiving medical care</i> | 15 |
| Improper/inadequate medical care | 12 |
| Delay/denial of medication | 11 |
| Medical records | 3 |
| Medical co-pay | 3 |
| Disagree with diagnosis/treatment | 3 |
| Other | 2 |
| Medical restriction | 1 |
| Eye glasses | 0 |
| Forced medical testing | 0 |
| Medical transfer | 0 |
| Prosthetic device | 0 |
| Total | 50 |

| Inmate Grievance Procedure | Number of Concerns |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Inspector | 18 |
| Informal Complaint | 13 |
| Chief Inspector | 6 |
| Other | 5 |
| Total | 42 |

| Inmate/Inmate Relations | Number of Concerns |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Assaults | 12 |
| Other | 8 |
| Security Threat Groups (STG) | 7 |
| Inappropriate Sexual Behavior | 0 |
| Total | 27 |

Inmate Relations

From January 1, 2009 to May 18, 2009, the CIIC received 122 contacts and 126 reported concerns system-wide pertaining to *inmate relations*. The largest number of contacts and reported concerns in the category pertained to the Southern Ohio Correctional Facility, with 41.8 percent of all contacts and 41 percent of all reported concerns in the category of *inmate relations*. The number of reported concerns regarding inmate assaults at SOCF, comprises 42.4 percent of such concerns system-wide. The number of reported concerns regarding security threat groups at SOCF comprises 35.2 percent of such concern system-wide.

Table 17. Number of Concerns Reported to CIIC Regarding Inmate Relations with Breakdown by Institution from January 1, 2009 to May 18, 2009

| Prison | Assaults | Security Threat Groups | Other | Inappropriate Sexual Behavior | Number of Contacts | Total Number of Concerns |
|--|-----------|------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Southern Ohio Correctional Facility | 28 | 19 | 13 | 4 | 51 (41.8%) | 64 (41%) |
| Mansfield CI | 15 | 13 | 1 | 1 | 21 | 30 |
| Toledo CI | 4 | 8 | 2 | 2 | 13 | 16 |
| North Central CI | 3 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 5 |
| Warren CI | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 5 |
| Lebanon CI | 2 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 4 | 5 |
| Marion CI | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 4 |
| Ohio State Penitentiary | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 4 |
| Pickaway CI | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 4 |
| Allen CI | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 3 |
| Other | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Grafton CI | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| Lake Erie CI | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| Oakwood CF | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| Ross CI | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| Lorain CI | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| North Coast CTF | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Ohio Reformatory for Women | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Richland CI | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| TOTAL | 66 | 54 | 25 | 11 | 122 Contacts (100%) | 156 Concerns (100%) |

In the 2007-2008 biennium, 4,221 contacts were received by the CIIC regarding the prisons. The contacts range from a low of two contacts regarding the Montgomery Education and Pre-Release Center to a high of 733 contacts regarding the Southern Ohio Correctional Facility, comprising 17.4 percent of all contacts regarding the prisons.

Table 18. Number of Contacts Received by CIIC Regarding the Prisons in 2007 and 2008 by Institution

| INSTITUTION | NUMBER OF CONTACTS |
|---|---------------------------|
| Southern Ohio Correctional Facility | 733 |
| North Central Correctional Institution | 236 |
| Marion Correctional Institution | 234 |
| Mansfield Correctional Institution | 227 |
| Warren Correctional Institution | 215 |
| Chillicothe Correctional Institution | 201 |
| Grafton Correctional Institution | 190 |
| Ross Correctional Institution | 181 |
| Allen Correctional Institution | 173 |
| Madison Correctional Institution | 164 |
| Ohio State Penitentiary | 160 |
| Lebanon Correctional Institution | 158 |
| London Correctional Institution | 146 |
| Trumbull Correctional Institution | 129 |
| Lake Erie Correctional Institution | 127 |
| Pickaway Correctional Institution | 121 |
| Toledo Correctional Institution | 112 |
| Ohio Reformatory for Women | 110 |
| Other | 104 |
| Richland Correctional Institution | 87 |
| Noble Correctional Institution | 71 |
| Belmont Correctional Institution | 64 |
| Hocking Correctional Facility | 41 |
| Correctional Reception Center | 40 |
| Lorain Correctional Institution | 35 |
| Northeast Ohio Correctional Center | 35 |
| Oakwood Correctional Facility | 33 |
| North Coast Correctional Treatment Facility | 26 |
| Southeastern Correctional Institution | 26 |
| Corrections Medical Center | 16 |
| Franklin Pre-Release Center | 12 |
| North East Pre-Release Center | 9 |
| Dayton Correctional Institution | 3 |
| Montgomery Education and Pre-Release Center | 2 |
| TOTAL | 4,221 |

Of the 3,315 reported concerns regarding the Southern Ohio Correctional Facility during the last biennium, the two largest categories were Force/Supervision with 571 concerns, followed closely by Staff Accountability with 548 reported concerns. In 2009 the Force/Supervision category was changed, in part to mirror the change made in the DRC categories used to report the subject of grievances. The 2009 database has a separate use of force category, and a separate supervision category. Under the 2007-2008 system, the Force/Supervision category included use of force as well as abusive language, racial or ethnic slurs, conduct report for no reason, intimidation/threats, Retaliation for complaints, privacy violations and harassment.

**Table 19. Southern Ohio Correctional Facility
2007-2008 Breakdown of Reported Concerns Relayed by Contacts Received by CIIC**

| CONCERNS | NUMBER OF CONCERNS | PERCENT |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| Force/Supervision | 571 | 17.2% |
| Staff Accountability | 548 | 16.5 |
| | | |
| Health Care | 241 | 7.3 |
| Inmate Grievance Procedure | 216 | 6.5 |
| Non-Grievable Matters | 216 | 6.5 |
| | | |
| Protective Control | 197 | 5.9 |
| Institution Assignment | 146 | 4.4 |
| Other | 139 | 4.2 |
| | | |
| Food Services | 93 | 2.8 |
| Special Management Housing | 89 | 2.7 |
| Security Classification | 86 | 2.6 |
| Personal Property | 80 | 2.4 |
| Psychological/Psychiatric | 78 | 2.4 |
| Mail/Packages | 77 | 2.3 |
| Inmate Account | 71 | 2.1 |
| Housing Assignment | 66 | 2.0 |
| Discrimination | 62 | 1.9 |
| Facilities Maintenance | 53 | 1.6 |
| | | |
| Visiting | 42 | 1.3 |
| Commissary | 40 | 1.2 |
| Safety and Sanitation | 38 | 1.2 |
| Telephone | 27 | .8 |
| Legal Services | 21 | .6 |
| Recreation | 19 | .6 |
| Job Assignment | 18 | .5 |
| Education/Vocational Training | 12 | .4 |
| Dental Care | 11 | .3 |
| Inmate Groups | 11 | .3 |
| Records | 10 | .3 |
| Recovery Services | 10 | .3 |
| Laundry Quartermaster | 10 | .3 |
| Religious Services | 9 | .3 |
| Library | 8 | .2 |
| Total | 3,315 | 100% |

Table 20. Southern Ohio Correctional Facility
Breakdown of Top Five Categories of Reported Concerns in 2007-2008: Use of Force/Supervision, Staff Accountability,
Health Care, Non-Grievable Matters, Inmate Grievance Procedure

| Use of Force/Supervision | Number of Concerns |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Harassment | 115 |
| Use of force | 93 |
| Intimidation/threats | 75 |
| Other | 74 |
| Abusive language | 47 |
| Retaliation for voicing complaints | 45 |
| Conduct report for no reason | 35 |
| Retaliation for filing grievance | 35 |
| Racial or ethnic slurs | 15 |
| Privacy violations | 10 |
| Retaliation for filing lawsuit | 5 |
| TOTAL | 571 |

| Staff Accountability | Number of Concerns |
|--|--------------------|
| Failure to follow policies | 146 |
| Failure to perform job duties | 137 |
| Other | 122 |
| Failure to respond to communication | 101 |
| Access to staff | 42 |
| TOTAL | 548 |

| Health Care | Number of Concerns |
|---|--------------------|
| Access/delay in receiving medical care | 86 |
| Improper/inadequate medical care | 73 |
| Delay/denial of medication | 37 |
| Other | 25 |
| Medical aide/device | 6 |
| Medical/records | 6 |
| Medical co-pay | 5 |
| Medical transfer | 2 |
| Medical restriction | 1 |
| Prosthetic device | 0 |
| Eye glasses | 0 |
| Forced medical testing | 0 |
| TOTAL | 241 |

| Non-Grievable Matters | Number of Concerns |
|----------------------------|--------------------|
| RIB/Hearing Officer | 92 |
| Court | 44 |
| APA | 28 |
| Other | 23 |
| Separate appeal process | 17 |
| Legislative | 11 |
| Transitional control | 1 |
| TOTAL | 216 |

| Inmate Grievance Procedure | Number of Concerns |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| Institutional Inspector | 78 |
| Informal Complaint | 76 |
| Chief Inspector | 37 |
| Other | 25 |
| TOTAL | 216 |

LETTERS OF INQUIRY

From July 2008 through December 2008, CIIC wrote 136 letters of inquiry to Wardens, relaying reported concerns, seeking careful review to determine the facts, and follow-up communication in that regard. The Southern Ohio Correctional Facility received the largest number of CIIC inquiries with 32 in the six month period, ranging from only one in November to the high of 11 in October. In all, the inquiries to SOCF comprise 23.5 percent of all inquiries system-wide. The Warren Correctional Institution received the second largest number of inquiries in the period, with 16.

The SOCF Warden has always been responsive to the inquiries. Without exception, SOCF responses have been thorough, and have frequently included interview of the inmate by staff. From all indications, the inquiries are well-received. Inquiries ensure that the Warden is aware of a significantly serious reported problem, issue or concern relayed to CIIC, thus also ensuring that he or his staff have the opportunity to determine the facts, and take corrective action when found warranted. In all cases, CIIC inquiries are considered to be necessary communication as well as a courtesy to the Warden and to key central office staff. In spite of the facility staff reductions and the volume of inquiries, the communication relayed in responses has continued to reflect a positive attitude toward the CIIC and its inquiries.

Table 21. Number of CIIC Letters of Inquiry to Prison Wardens from July through December 2008 with Breakdown by Prison and Month

| PRISON | JULY | AUGUST | SEPTEMBER | OCTOBER | NOVEMBER | DECEMBER | TOTAL |
|------------------------------------|-------------|---------------|------------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Southern Ohio CF | 7 | 2 | 7 | 11 | 1 | 4 | 32 |
| Warren CI | 1 | 6 | 2 | 5 | 0 | 2 | 16 |
| Chillicothe CI | 0 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 8 |
| Ohio Reformatory for Women | 0 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 8 |
| Lebanon CI | 0 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 7 |
| Mansfield CI | 1 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 7 |
| North Central CI | 3 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 7 |
| Ross CI | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 7 |
| Allen CI | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 5 |
| Belmont CI | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 4 |
| Grafton CI | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 4 |
| London CI | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4 |
| Lorain CI | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 4 |
| Lake Erie CI | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| Marion CI | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 3 |
| Madison CI | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Noble CI | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 |
| Toledo CI | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| Corrections Medical Center | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Hocking CF | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Montgomery Educational Pre-Release | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| NE Ohio CC | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Northeast Pre-Release Center | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Oakwood CF | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Ohio State Penitentiary | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Pickaway CI | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Richland CI | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| S Eastern CI | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Trumbull CI | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| TOTAL | 17 | 29 | 21 | 37 | 12 | 20 | 136 |

Summary of the Content of Inquiries

The following provides excerpts from letters of inquiry to the Southern Ohio Correctional Facility by date of inquiry from July 2008 through December 2008. The reported concerns are both serious and disturbing. Most pertain to use of force incidents coupled with inciting and abusive verbal communication. Some allege staff warnings of retaliation for reporting complaints. The accounts counter the efforts being made by other SOCF staff with whom CIIC met during the inspection, who expressed that they are working hard to change the image of the institution regarding the treatment of inmates.

1 July 31, 2008

- “This is regarding a matter of the **police beating me down while I was in handcuffs...I got found not guilty on causing bodily harm but guilty on resisting for which was wrong cause what does resisting have to do with COs kicking you in the face...** They split my chin open. My whole face was swelled up **and no one here will get back with me on my informal complaint... Now they’re saying they’re going to do it again. Round two, they said, and are still harassing me...** On Sunday June 1, 2008 when I got through eating and coming back...CO...told me to get on the wall and he started to shake me down. I turned my head to see what everyone was doing and he told me to turn back around. I did and **CO...hit me hard on my right side...He then threw me to the ground and I instantly put my hands behind my back while him and the other COs repeatedly stomped my face and spraying me with mace... When they told me to get up I did and couldn’t see where we was going and then CO...threw me forward. I fell and him and another gray shirt started punching me and kicked me in the face and split my chin open... They stand at the metal detector during chow and I will not go to chow on weekends because that’s the main time they do their dirt and I am in fear of my life...**”

2 July 30, 2008

- “**There was a hit placed on my life and I do not want to die because of a foolish mistake that I have made. I let my unit staff know of everything that was going on, but they don’t care...** I am having **problems with one of the biggest gangs...** I have made my unit staff aware of my problem, but they refused to put me somewhere safe... I don’t leave my cell because I don’t want to lose my life here... I am currently on a **death hunger strike...** I went from 178 pounds to 133 pounds and I am still losing weight. **I don’t trust the food I am given because the (gang) run everything.**”

3 July 24, 2008

- “It’s become a very common practice of the SOCF RIB to place inmates on full recreation restriction and **allow these inmates no recreation time outside of their cells whatsoever...Inmates in 4B housing** are commonly placed on this illegal punishment... It **builds a deep sense of anger and hostility when cheated out of the one hour a day of recreation.** It’s very frustrating to me when that is unjustly taken away...”

4 July 22, 2008

- Inquiry regarding receipt of six letters from inmates who described a **use of force** incident on another inmate...It was an incident on...where the correctional officers jumped on inmate...After the incident, several inmates **asked for statements to fill out, and we were refused...** He [referring to inmate involved in alleged use of force] has been **without water, the correctioal officers have not been feeding him and they stopped his outgoing mail...** I witnessed CO...**repeatedly hitting inmate...in the face and head with their PR-24**

- sticks. That is a demonstration of deadly force, these COs beat this inmate to unconsciousness and still continued to kick him and punch him several times in the head and face while he was laid out on the ground unconscious until he gained consciousness, then they picked him up. There was blood everywhere... I did hear other inmates telling COs to quit hitting him.”
- 5 July 21, 2008
- “...A little over a week ago, I found out that two inmates in this unit, with known gang affiliations, were trying to ‘hire’ other inmates to stab me and another inmate....Nothing has been done nor have I been interviewed... I am sending...copies of the informal complaints that I have filed regarding being assaulted and harassed with no action taken but overlooked and covered up by the Administration at SOCF. This harassment has turned into assault by an officer, and my safety is at risk everyday that I am here at SOCF... Officer...is asking inmates to cause me injury and he has offered to pay them when they took care of me.”
- 6 July 18, 2008
- “...This is a life threatening situation and it has been going on almost one year, the whole time I’ve been in Lucasville...I am in constant fear for my life because of inmates and staff... COs and administration workers have established relationships with inmate and some of these staff and inmates are part of the same gang being (six gangs named)... They are working together to try to commit serious body harm to me any way possible... I’m threatened on daily basis by inmate and staff... I was assaulted with a deadly weapon while handcuffed behind my back walking to shower... I hope I get helped before they kill me or cripple me. Please tell me why somebody has to die or be severely hurt on deathbed before central office speaks up or takes action.”
- 7 July 17, 2008
- “...Right now in...Officer...favors an inmate that is also a high-ranking (gang member). He is allowed slight favors here and they’re in the form of *light or no shakedowns, visits to other cells, choice work assignments, etc.* They frequently speak together alone in hushed tones like a couple in a committed relationship would do... It allows the (gang named) an advantage because in looking out for particular inmates’ interest, the *black and least favored are left at risk.*”
- 8 August 14, 2008
- “...Two weeks ago inmate...was being *sexually harassed by CO... When he told CO...to stop, he was taken into the shower by Sgt...handcuffed and assaulted.*”
- 9 August 12, 2008
- “...From the start of my disciplinary control various correctional *officers have been threatening me with bodily harm, denied this writer of prescribed medications (by mental health), denied me the right of grooming (showers) at least five times each seven week days...* Officer...and Officer...has shook my...lock... down *tearing up personal property throwing legal documents all over the cell floor inside cell toilet!*”
- 10 September 26, 2008
- Conduct report unnecessarily included **names and information of inmates that could be a threat to the safety and security of the institution.**
 - “...STG (security threat group) staff here at SOCF are out of control...This has to stop now before someone gets seriously hurt again...”

- 11 September 25, 2008
- “I’m writing in regards to a **very serious threat on my life from a CO...** There was a **‘hit’ placed on me by inmates...** I brought this to the attention of unit staff and administration, but nothing was done... I...was paying several inmates for protection... I don’t come out of my cell for rec., shower, anything at all because I know...these threats are serious... I don’t know what else to do and it’s starting to effect me both mentally and physically... There are also threats from the (gang) coming back to PC because they said I snitched on one of their members...”
- 12 September 19, 2008
- Inmate reports allegations that **staff tried to create a conflict between him and another inmate.** Staff allegedly told inmate “A” that inmate “B” wrote an Informal Complaint against an officer using inmate “A’s” name. Inmate “B” denies writing ICR and inmate “A” believes that it was an attempt by staff to “incite violence.”
- 13 September 19, 2008
- “...Since the incident...I wrote *informal complaints, which were read and laughed about and thrown away...* He [referring to a CO] had my door opened and told me that the letter (to CIIC) and the informal complaint did not make it to Columbus or to the Institutional Inspector. Since... *I have been told by Correctional Officers, Sergeants, and Lieutenants that they will kill me here in Lucasville...* I should not have to do my time like this, *my life is in danger, and my out-going mail is being stopped.*”
- 14 September 19, 2008
- “You should not be surprised if no other inmates involved *write to tell you what is going on. Staff have let it be known that retaliation will come to anyone who does.*” Inmate reportedly has been **promised by staff that he will be made level 4A within a few days...** “**Inmates had attempted to hire inmates to stab me...**”
- 15 September 18, 2008
- “...I need for you and your office to *never make any phone calls or send any letters to the staff here at SOCF in regards to me (Please!). I’m on these people’s bad side because I went outside these walls... I would rather lose my life than to keep going through this shit...*”
- 16 September 3, 2008
- “**My life is in danger.** I wrote a complaint and grievance regarding Sergeant...trying to *loosen a prisoner’s handcuffs and get him to stab me* after we got into a fight. I was handcuffed, so if he stabbed me, I could do nothing. Then Sergeant...tried to get a prisoner to shoot me with a blowgun... He [referring to staff] *threatened to kill me, called me bitches then said, ‘This is for...’ and maced me. Then he wrote a false fabricated conduct report to justify force used.*”
- 17 October 29, 2008
- Inmate states that he is having difficulty performing job assignment because of his medical issues. Staff has reportedly informed the inmate that they will not renew his **pain medications.** Inmate also reports that he was **denied the opportunity to shower or be provided with a washtub to perform hygiene in his cell.**

18 October 24, 2008

- Inquiry regarding request for transfer because inmate **states that those who killed his brother are at his same institution.**

19 October 23, 2008

- “CO...came to my cell, opened the security hatch and **as soon as I put my hand up on the food hatch to get my meds which this CO had in his possession (illegally), CO...then stuck his mace to and/or in my food hatch and began to spray me with mace... CO sprayed me with mace unprovoked and unjustified! ... The prison staff/employees constantly abuse the use of mace in SOCF... Is there any information you can provide me with that describes ‘the exact criteria’ that has to be presented in order for these COs to utilize their mace?”**

20 October 22, 2008

- “**I feel like they are going to kill me. I fear for my life. They will not let me talk to anyone. So please I would like to talk to someone.... They called me racial words and made me do stuff... I really need help. I will kill myself. I would like some help.**”

21 October 20, 2008

- “...I have been having **problems from an officer** down here who is the regular in... This officer has **turned the inmates against me in that cellblock and while I was over there I received death threats by inmates.... I hung myself... I mutilated my body in order to get out of the cell block because inmates were going to come in my cell and jump me... Officer found me in my cell bleeding from self-harm. He called me a coward and a pussy and said ‘if I had a can of mace I would spray the fuck out of you... At this time an officer that came down handed him a can of mace, I was cuffed behind my back with no shirt on just blue state pants and a pair of state boots. On seeing this officer hand him a can of mace, I retreated to the back of my cell. At this time he reached his hand into my food hatch and began to spray me all of my back with mace while saying, ‘how does that feel you fucking pussy... This officer then said to the officer that handed him the mace, ‘We’ll say he spit on us.’ On...I was sleeping. This officer made rounds **about 4 a.m. When he got to my cell he kicked my cell door and woke me up.** I remained in my bed until he got on the...range, then I went to my door to see who was on the range. At this time this **officer extended his arms while looking at my cell and said ‘I got you bitch.’ He then returned to my cell with a can of mace and said to me ‘you got a fucking problem. You want to harass me by jacking on me while I walk down the range. I’ll pop your hatch and spray the fuck out of you... I tried everything I could to leave the cellblock. I showed this officer a six inch knife and he said, ‘oh that’s nothing,’ then I mutilated my left arm. He did nothing but leave me there until first shift and commenting before he went home, ‘Fuck you bitch, I hope you die in the morning.’**”**

22 October 17, 2008

- “**The COs that work here do stuff like call me names and hit me for nothing...The COs tell the other inmate’s to put shit in my food and they do it.. And I am scared for my life. I need to go to PC. These other inmates tell me they will kill me...**”

23 October 16, 2008

- “**Two weeks ago a CO jumped on me and attacked me simply because I guess he was frustrated and has problems with me because I was doing my job in the kitchen too slow for him... I am not trying to play victim or nothing but I had COs call me niggers and threaten me plenty of times down here. I never got called a nigger until I came to SOCF...**”

I had COs tell me they can't wait until I get out the hole so they can kick my ass, etc... They didn't even give me my writing paper and envelopes when I came to the hole. They even threw some of my incoming mail away."

24 October 9, 2008

- **"I was almost killed at SOCF... I fear for my life down here at SOCF. Also the administration down here at SOCF is trying to cover this incident up... I was beat up, Myself and two other inmates were in a fight. However, when the COs came to stop us from fighting, we was hit with seven things of OC after we had stop fighting. I was also hit with the night stick two times... I also was hit with OC while a 250 pound man sat on my head. I told medical about what was wrong with me. Nothing was done... Anyway, I have been putting in paperwork about all of this ever since. So I have been getting retaliation from the COs ever since. I've been told to stop putting in paperwork or something bad will happen to me. My mail has not been sent out (or) lost. My money orders have come up missing... Once inmate...received his meds, he walked all the way back to his cell then turned back around and waited on me by the trash can... As I came down the stairs the inmate came at me with a knife... I was stabbed three times, once above my right eye, once above my face, which caused my teeth to come out, then once in my right elbow... Anyway, the COs let this inmate try to kill me...I was told by a CO that I was being punished for the paperwork...I am scared to eat my food, so I only eat one time a day. If I do get killed down here, please know I did not kill myself."**

25 October 2, 2008

- **"There was an inmate...who received a note from inmate...and inmate...that explained they would pay inmate...to assault me... A Corrections Officer...was doing a cell search and found this note and asked inmate...what it was all about and returned the letter to inmate...When I returned...I was paying for protection from several inmates and they promised nothing would happen to me... I was already speaking to my unit staff before I returned...about threats from inmate...and inmate...but nothing was done. I was only mocked and told I was a liar. I stopped going on the rec. chain. I also don't come out to shower or any other reason only to speak with unit staff because I was threatened I would be assaulted....There is no logical explanation why I should be forced to stay in an environment where clearly my life is in danger."**

26 October 2, 2008

- **"She [referring to staff] did not see a reason why I should stay in PC... Me having a hit put on my life from (gang)... I still feel that my life is still in danger... So I feel like I will end up dead or really hurt badly..."**

27 October 1, 2008

- **"The problem is STG put my name and comments in this inmate's ticket as a 'confidential statement' as if it was factual...thus attempting to put me in danger and falsely convicting someone... This could have been serious. This is not proper procedure. I feel the STG Dept. tried to have me assaulted or stabbed by using my letter as a factual statement..."**

28 November 10, 2008

- **"...A CO...causing deadly serious problems in this block with and between all of us, except for a few chosen pets! ...[referring to staff] opens up and reads all incoming kites and ICRs that come back... Not too long ago they put in computers for legal research only. But inmates can and do look up what other inmates are in prison for. It causes a lot of**

- problems, fights, and extorting!** ...[referring to *staff*] *has...pets check out what every guy that moves in this block is in prison for. If it's for rape, sex offenses of any kind, she has her pets rob their cell, plant a shank, or fuck the guy up. (stab or beat him) something!*
- “We never receive recreation, even the mandatory minimum amount of time. Well, once again, they cancelled our entire library period, three times in exactly a seven day period... The true reason we keep getting cheated on our rec. and library time, and why our entire periods keep being cancelled, is that *staff are in the library, sleeping, playing cards, but mostly, gambling!... Other staff are tired of having no help, but worst of all, scared to death that something could jump off or staff badly hurt with such a lack of coverage.*”
 - “They also **stopped providing free state soap, which many of us use for our bodies, as well as for doing our laundry...** We just had to go one and a half weeks on one roll of toilet paper.”
- 29 December 30, 2008
- “I placed **informal complaints in and this one person tells me to contact someone else, and no results!** ... I went to segregation...and the very next day, the **head of the (gang) and two other (gang members) went to segregation. So I was made out to look like a snitch... I really need PC, my life is in serious danger... The (gang) here and at ManCI are writing all prisons, spreading the word about the price over my head...**”
- 30 December 23, 2008
- “...SOCF has *stopped all my chronic care medications, pain medications, and acid reflux medications, and other convicts citing budget costs and stating to some: Don't come to prison if you want medical attention...* [referring to medical staff] **take a month-and-a-half or three months to respond or address sick call slips... SOCF will not prescribe us medications from CMC or OSU... Discusses our medical conditions and problems with COs inside the rooms when we finally do get to see [medical staff member]... Nurses sick call is conducted in cell blocks without any privacy... There's no privacy, no confidentiality at all. We have to discuss our medical problems in front of five to six other inmates and the CO...The...**[referring to medical staff] *do not take vitals or actually examine inmates when you see them. Sick call is conducted as going through the chow line... My condition is getting worse I'm in so much pain... Convicts who have permanent damage due to...*[referring to medical staff member] **malicious practice...** [referring to medical staff member] **without prior consultation discontinued the medication...** [referring to medical staff] *advised me that if I refuse to accept my... medication after three times it can be 'forced' on me. (strapped down and injected with medication).*”
- 31 December 15, 2008
- Inmate has allegedly experienced **frequent delays in receiving medication.** Inmate comments that **staff do not respond until hours expire and he experiences extreme pain, nausea, and blurred vision.**
- 32 December 15, 2008
- “...We all...observed an inmate...who was **handcuffed and shackled being dragged down the hall while being kicked in the face and punched by several officers and sprayed with chemical mace...** This inmate's **whole face and head was orange from the canister being sprayed into his face at point blank range while officers held his face and head up** whereas it would go directly in his face. **Someone needs to come down here and see if this inmate is O.K. or not.**”

PROGRAMMING

Religious Programs

Staff stated that they currently have 26 inmates in the Kairos program, which has conducted multiple charity fundraisers to assist with community service projects. They worked on a donation project giving coats and gifts to kids as well as work on a garden at a homeless shelter. It was noted that a Kairos graduation was scheduled for March 29, 2009.

Table 22. Religious Programs Weekly Schedule

| Day of Week | Time | Name of Program |
|--------------------|--|---|
| Sunday | 9:00 a.m.-9:40 a.m. 9:50 a.m.-10:20 a.m. 12:30 p.m.-1:30 p.m. 2:15 p.m.-3:15 p.m. 6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. 7:15 p.m.-8:15 p.m. | Catholic Worship L1-8 Catholic Worship K5-6/K7-8 Protestant Worship K7-8 Protestant Worship K5-6 Protestant Worship L1-4 Protestant Worship L5-6 |
| Monday | 8:30 a.m.-10:15 a.m. 6:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m. | Stewardship Committee K5-6 Jehovah's Witness 4B (J1 Booths) |
| Tuesday | 1:20 p.m.-2:15 p.m. 1:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m. | Catholic Education K7-8 Bible Study PC (K8 dayroom) Protestant Worship 4B (J1 Booths) |
| Wednesday | 6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. 7:15 p.m.-8:15 p.m. | Prayer and Share L1-8 Prayer and Share K7-8 |
| Thursday | 8:30 a.m.-9:15 a.m. 9:30 a.m.-10:15 a.m. 6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. 7:15 p.m.-8:15 p.m. | Taleem K5-6 Taleem L1-8 P3/Hodgepodge K5-6//L1-4 P3/Hodgepodge K7-8//L5-8 (alternates weekly between L and K) |
| Friday | 1:15 p.m.-2:00 p.m. 2:15 p.m.-3:15 p.m. 5:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m. 6:45 p.m.-7:45 p.m. | Jummah K5-6/K7-8 Jummah L1-8 Prison Fellowship K5-6/K7-8 Prison Fellowship L1-8 |
| Saturday | 8:15 a.m.-9:15 a.m. 9:25 p.m.-10:20 a.m. 1:15 p.m.-2:10 p.m. 2:25 p.m.-3:20 p.m. 4:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m. 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. | Jehovah's Witnesses L1-8 Jehovah's Witnesses K5-6/K7-8 Christian Bible Study L1-8 Christian Bible Study K5-6/K7-8 Kairos Advisory Board – ODR Kairos Reunion *(3 rd Saturday of month) |

Recovery Services Programs

Alcoholics Anonymous Big Group – This is an inmate fellowship group. The goal of this group is to stay sober and support each other. Recovery Services provides staff supervision. This is a recovery services program with outside A.A. guests providing support and assistance to inmates as needed. This program is available to all general population inmates who have alcohol abuse histories. It also teaches the inmate to work the “steps” to recovery in alcohol addiction.

Narcotics Anonymous Big Group – This is an inmate fellowship group. The goal of this group is to stay drug free and support each other. Recovery Services provide staff supervision. Outside N.A. guests provide support and assistance to inmates as needed. This program is available to all general population inmates who have drug abuse histories.

Mandatory Drug Program – This is a program that any inmate found guilty of a rule 39-43 must attend. Recovery Services provide staff coverage. This program runs Monday through Friday for a total of 36 hours of programming.

Rule 39-43 violations per DRC Administrative Rule 5120-9-06

- (39) Unauthorized possession, manufacture, or consumption of drugs or any intoxicating substance.
- (40) Procuring or attempting to procure, unauthorized drugs; aiding, soliciting, or collaborating with another to procure unauthorized drugs or to introduce unauthorized drugs into a correctional facility.
- (41) Unauthorized possession of drug paraphernalia.
- (42) Misuse of authorized medication.
- (43) Refusal to submit urine sample, or otherwise to cooperate with drug testing, or mandatory substance abuse sanctions.

ADAPT Program – This is a recovery services day treatment program. Inmates are re-classed to this twelve week formalized program, with a maximum group size of 20. Inmates receive earned credit and are referred to aftercare programming upon completion. This program is also re-entry approved. (More information regarding this program is provided later in the report).

“Stopping For Life” Smoking Cessation Program – This is an eight week, one hour per week behavioral modification program. Participants reduce their intake levels of nicotine until “quit day” and then positive behaviors are put in place of tobacco-using behaviors. (Due to the recent ban on tobacco, it was relayed that this program is no longer being offered. However, when inmates expressed the need for help with smoking withdrawal, SOCF staff relayed that a smoking cessation program is available.)

SAMI (Substance Abuse/Mentally Ill) Groups – SOCF Recovery Services offers several programs for those with mental health issues. Programs offered include Active Treatment and Motivational Enhancement Therapy (MET).

Recovery Services Video Programs for 4B Inmates – SOCF has developed three quality video-format programs for those inmates who are classified as 4B. Each program is six weeks long and workbooks and assignments are included as part of the program(s). Titles include:

- Commit to Change
- Anger Management, and
- Drug and Alcohol Education.

Educational Programs

Adult Basic Education (ABE) – Placement for Adult Basic Education is determined by standard scores for the Comprehensive Adult Student Assessment System (CASAS) test. Admission is on a voluntary basis with the exception of inmates who are mandatory students (inmates under 22 years of age without a GED or high school diploma). Inmates are enrolled with a maximum of 20 students per classroom in the Learning Center. The average tested reading level of SOCF inmates is approximately eighth to ninth grade. Pre-GED students are those students who grade level scorers are between 6.1 and 9.0.

General Education Development (GED) – The criteria for GED is the same as above, except standard scores ranging from 9.1 to 12.0 are required for entry.

**Table 23. SOCF Ohio Central School System Monthly Enrollment Report
February 2009**

| Program | For Month | < 22 | YTD | Waiting List | # of Certificates | | % Attained Goals | |
|---------------------------------|-----------|------|-------|--------------|-------------------|-----|------------------|------|
| | | | | | Month | YTD | QTR | YTD |
| Literacy | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |
| ABLE | 34 | 3 | 65 | 141 | 0 | 31 | 0% | 100% |
| Pre-GED | 33 | 8 | 61 | 85 | 0 | 24 | 0% | 100% |
| GED | 29 | 6 | 56 | 74 | 3 | 16 | 0% | 100% |
| GED Evening | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |
| HS/HS Options | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |
| Academic Total | 96 | 17 | 182 | 300 | 3 | 71 | 0% | 100% |
| | | | | | | | | |
| Special Education | 5 | 5 | 8 | 0 | 0 | 0 | – | – |
| | | | | | | | | |
| Total GEDs Given | 12 | – | 51 | – | – | – | – | – |
| Total GEDs Passed | 3 | – | 22 | – | – | – | – | – |
| Children served in Reading Room | 115 | – | 1,210 | – | – | – | – | – |

Staff Community Service Projects

Ohio Reads – This project involves coordinated book drives and the tutoring of students at Wilson Elementary School in Portsmouth, Ohio.

Domestic Violence Shelter – This project involves donation drives and fund-raising activities for the local domestic violence shelter. (More information is provided under SOCF Fund-Raising Initiatives)

Adopt-A-Veteran Program – This project involves an annual donation drive for Christmas gifts for local veterans residing in local assisted living and veteran facilities. (More information is provided under SOCF Fund-Raising Initiatives)

Angel Tree Program – This project involves an annual donation drive for Christmas gifts for local foster children. (More information is provided under SOCF Fund-Raising Initiatives)

Inmate Community Service Projects

Teaching Aids – This project involves Residential Treatment Unit inmates making teaching aids for the Crayons to Computer program.

Nursing Home Crafts/Decorations – This project involves Residential Treatment Unit inmates making crafts/decorations which are distributed to area nursing homes.

Storage Buildings – This project involves assembling storage buildings for Habitat for Humanity.

Bus Paint Preparation – This project involves preparing/sanding a school bus for painting for a local church.

Christmas Card Recycling – This project involves Residential Treatment Unit inmates recycling used Christmas cards into new cards/decorations which are utilized by the Africentric School in Columbus, Ohio.

Ohio Penal Industries

Shoe Shop – This industrial shop has a maximum of 51 inmates producing belts and shoes.

SOCF Fund-Raising Initiatives

The following information was provided by SOCF regarding their fund-raising initiatives.

- **Scioto County Children Services Angel Tree Program** – Each year at Christmas SOCF employees decorate a tree with over 50 names. Employees may remove a name and donate a gift to Children Services. In all, 135 gifts were donated, plus 120 gifts to needy children in the Scioto County area.
- **Annual Adopt a Veteran Program** – Sponsored by the American Legion, and supported by SOCF, the facility has been the largest contributor. The program assisted veterans in local VA facilities, as well as purchased over 180 gifts at Christmas.
- SOCF employees through contributions donated \$1,500 to the Scioto County **Homeless Shelter** and \$1,500 to the **Scioto County Women’s Domestic Violence Shelter**.
- **SOCF Coat Drive** – Over 90 coats were collected and donated to local schools for distribution to those students identified by school officials.
- **SOCF Garden** – A garden is maintained with seeds donated by the Scioto County Homeless Shelter. The garden is cultivated by inmates from the Ross Correctional Institution Camp, and it is under the supervision of SOCF Farm employees. Crops include corn, peppers, tomatoes, green beans, cabbage and other produce. Once ready, all proceeds are donated to the Homeless Shelter in Portsmouth, Ohio. Last year SOCF and the Scioto County Homeless Shelter partnered to make a difference in the community. SOCF had some land available, and in the spirit of community service wanted to use it to serve the local community. The Scioto County Homeless Shelter learned of the land and purchased some seeds. Honor inmates from Chillicothe (Ross Correctional Institution level one offenders) were utilized to farm the land. Last year was the first year that the garden was operational, the garden yielded more than was envisioned, so the harvest was not only used by the shelter, but was given to pantry clients as well. Additionally, the food was shared with other social service providers in the community. This year, the garden is much larger and has begun yielding harvest already. The extremely large magnitude of harvest will again be given to pantry recipients and shared with the local agencies in need of assistance. With food prices escalating, this initiative will benefit many hungry families in need. The inmates who donate their labor are giving back to the community and are indeed making a difference. Community service definitely works and together the partnership can continue to make a difference.

MENTAL HEALTH

Mental Health Services as of December 4, 2008

On December 4, 2008, CIIC received a requested update on SOCF Mental Health Services which included the following:

- During 2008 SOCF allocated Mental Health Liaison coverage in a zone concept that ensures a Mental Health presence consistently in each area of the prison.
- The number of Psycho-Educational groups offered by the Psychology Assistants and Social Workers were increased.
- Renewed emphasis on involving all areas involved in the care of the offender in the Treatment Team process, i.e. Physician, Mental Health Liaison, Nursing, Activity Therapists, Unit Staff and Correctional Officers.
- SOCF staff have been working with the Warden to recommend those 4B offenders who are ready and will benefit from the RTU level care for an early reduction to 4A and placing them in the RTU.
- The J4 Intensive Mental Health Treatment Unit was freshly painted and a renewed emphasis placed on improving offender hygiene by attention from all involved on those whose illness places them most at risk to struggle in this area.
- A leveling system was implemented in J4 IMHTU with the goal to shorten the offenders need for 4B placement.
- Cards are being posted with the inmate's picture and level on the outside of the cells in K5 and J4 to assist with proper identification for those walking the ranges and interacting with offenders.
- Work continued on implementation of a "Bridge" program in concert with Oakwood Correctional Facility to better treat those offenders who habitually self injure.
- An SOCF goal is to work with Oakwood Correctional Facility to transfer 10 of SOCF's most chronically ill offenders no later than May 2009. The goal is that they will receive a security decrease from there to Level 3. If this process works well, the ultimate goal is to transfer our 20-30 most chronically ill SOCF offenders to OCF where they can receive the intensive care needed.
- The transfers to OCF will enable SOCF to be able to reallocate SOCF staff in a manner to better serve the SOCF population.
- In the RTU, staff were increasing activities on the range, i.e. table games, arts and crafts, and other appropriate activities. Appropriate incentives for complying with treatment, i.e. extra coffee, movies, etc. continue to be used.

Oakwood Correctional Facility

In the discussion with SOCF staff during the inspection, they were hoping to implement a plan to transfer their most serious and chronically mentally ill inmates to Oakwood Correctional Facility (OCF), which will provide a much improved treatment environment than the 4B lockdown blocks. Staff also noted that they plan to use J4, which has been termed an Intensive Mental Health Treatment Unit (IMHTU), as an orientation block after the mentally ill are transferred.

Staff relayed that they recently painted J4 and they are conducting programs in the K-5 Residential Treatment Unit (RTU) for mentally ill in need of such placement.

On May 11, 2009 DRC information was received on the new multi-mission approach at the Oakwood Correctional Facility, designed to maximize the use of beds, and to serve more needs of the whole system as well as multiple populations. Oakwood Correctional Facility still has 48 acute crisis care beds that are Joint commission approved for psychiatric hospitalization, but the stay will shorten. Hospital beds are reserved for truly acute psychiatric needs. Such admissions require a Vitek hearing.

Apple Glen RTU: Apple Glen is a unit for co-morbid mental health and medical conditions that require special attention due to the interplay between that physical and mental health condition. Admission begins with the Medical Doctor and Psychiatrist at the sending institution coordinating with Central Office Medical and Mental Health staff. Offenders who reside at Apple Glen tend to be less transient than offenders who engage in treatment in the other Oakwood units.

Buckeye Creek RTU: The two newest additions are the Bridge Program and Buckeye Creek Residential Treatment Unit. With the closure of the privately operated Residential Treatment Unit at the Trumbull Correctional Institution, Buckeye Creek provides a 30 bed, civil service operation described as a scaled down Residential Treatment Unit for Close Security individuals with Chronic Mental Illness. The unit also houses some chronically mentally ill offenders who have previously been housed at the Southern Ohio Correctional Facility. Admission is the same as other Residential Treatment Units. There needs to be a check for space availability, then a request for transfer. DRC recommends close coordination with the Mental Health Administrator at Oakwood Correctional Facility, because this will likely have a step-down function for the other units, and may have limited availability.

Bridge Program: The Bridge Program is a behavioral program for offenders who habitually self-injure and have a personality disorder. These individuals do not always do well in RTUs and tax resources. The bridge uses a model that has been more successful in the community. Also, a severe mental illness is not a necessary prerequisite. There is no need for a Vitek hearing regarding admission to the Bridge Program. Admission requires a check for availability, and coordination between sending and receiving mental health departments. Mental health staff are to work with Wardens or leadership. The Bureau of Mental Health Services at the DRC central office should be aware of all transfers to the Bridge Program. Such transfers are administratively similar to transferring someone to a Residential Treatment Unit, in which the parent institution remains the same, and the transfer is temporary.

Suicides

There were 17 suicides in Ohio prisons in the biennium, with 11 in 2007, and six suicides in 2008. The following table shows the number and location of suicides in the last biennium. The largest number of suicides (three each) occurred at the Chillicothe Correctional Institution

**Table 24. Number of Suicides in Ohio Prisons in 2007 and 2008
with Change by Facility**

| Institution | Suicides | | | |
|--|-----------|----------|-----------|-----------|
| | 2007 | 2008 | Total | Change |
| Chillicothe Correctional Institution | 3 | 0 | 3 | -3 |
| Southern Ohio Correctional Facility | 1 | 2 | 3 | +1 |
| Ross Correctional Institution | 2 | 0 | 2 | -2 |
| Correctional Reception Center | 1 | 0 | 1 | -1 |
| Grafton Correctional Institution | 1 | 0 | 1 | -1 |
| Marion Correctional Institution | 1 | 0 | 1 | -1 |
| Noble Correctional Institution | 0 | 1 | 1 | +1 |
| Oakwood Correctional Facility | 0 | 1 | 1 | +1 |
| Ohio State Penitentiary | 1 | 0 | 1 | -1 |
| Southeastern Correctional Institution | 0 | 1 | 1 | +1 |
| Toledo Correctional Institution | 0 | 1 | 1 | +1 |
| Warren Correctional Institution | 1 | 0 | 1 | -1 |
| Total | 11 | 6 | 17 | -5 |

Staff noted that SOCF has not had a suicide since the last two on March 1, 2008 and March 19, 2008. The Warden attributes progress to staff proactively solving issues before they occur and mental health increasing rounds. Both suicides were by hanging. One of the inmates was in K-4, level 4B. The other inmate was in J-4, level 4B.

Suicide of March 1, 2008

Regarding the suicide of March 1, 2008, in response to a CIIC inquiry, it was relayed that he was *housed in J-4 Intensive Mental Health Treatment Unit at the time of his suicide. He was on the mental health caseload and receiving treatment for his illness.* Though he had been on suicide watch multiple times throughout his incarceration, there was no record of any previous suicide attempt. He was not under care for any medical conditions. *He was 44 years of age, serving a 5-15 year sentence. His maximum sentence would have been served on March 4, 2009.* Although DRC records listed him as being in Local Control Segregation, in the response to the CIIC inquiry, it was relayed that a review of his housing assignments while at SOCF show no occasion where he was housed in Local Control.

Suicide of March 19, 2008

The inmate who committed suicide on March 19, 2008 wrote to the CIIC on January 25, 2008. In response to extremely disturbing allegations, a letter of inquiry was sent to the Warden on January 28, 2008. According to the reply, the inmate was interviewed by the Administrative Assistant. It was noted that since April 2007, the inmate had five fire related incidents in which he reportedly held his food tray and set fire to it to melt the plastic food tray into a shank. When asked about the fire incidents, he replied, "Everyone is out to get me because of my case." The

inmate relayed that he “would really like a transfer to O.S.P.” The Unit Management Administrator had already placed his name on the transfer list, but the inmate had *not yet been seen and interviewed by mental health staff for the required pre-screening for OSP. The inmate was not on the mental health caseload or being seen by mental health. However, he was seen and treated by mental health staff at SOCF in the past, while serving time on a previous incarceration.*

It was relayed that, “When asked about these allegations of abuse, beatings, starvation and ridicule, *(he) couldn’t recall the exact dates and times when the supposed allegations had taken place* except for one incident that occurred 12/14/07 on Third Shift.” In the December 14, 2007 incident in which he was reportedly charged with an outside case, the inmate reportedly assaulted staff by *throwing an unknown substance on an officer as range checks were being conducted in K4.* On escort to security control, the inmate reportedly began to resist and a use of force occurred. The inmate reportedly *“slung” an officer into the chapel crash gate and attempted to head butt a lieutenant.* He reportedly refused medical attention. The use of force was investigated and found to be a justified use of force by the Deputy Warden of Operations and Warden.

It was relayed that the inmate *did not report to any Recreation Supervisor that he was being forced on a recreation chain, nor did he send any kites or informal complaints* to the Inspector’s office concerning the matter. It was relayed that although the inmate alleged that he has never been seen by medical staff at SOCF, he reportedly refused treatment on December 14, 2007 after the use of force incident, and was seen by the doctor on January 4 and 7, 2008.

As to gang members who were reportedly harassing him, he *did not provide any names*, but alleged that staff and inmates call him “baby raper.” Regarding the inmate’s allegation that he was being threatened by a gang, staff relayed that there are no records in the STG office that the inmate *ever kited or wrote an informal complaint to the office about the gang, so therefore, no investigations or interviews were ever conducted.* However, it was relayed that the inmate *started once again sending kites to the Inspector’s office reporting threats from the gang, without providing names or details. It was relayed that the inmate was placed on informal complaint restriction by the Chief Inspector for not following proper procedures, making threats to staff, and flooding the Inspector’s office with several kites and 51 informal complaints since August 2007.*

He filed an informal complaint to the Inspector on November 7, 2007 but never provided specific information such as dates, times, who, when, etc. regarding the gang threats, being called “baby raper,” taking money from him and giving it to another inmate, and giving away his commissary. The Inspector attempted to interview him at his cell but he became very disrespectful and made an attempt to spit on her. The grievance was denied with no further action.

As to staff allegedly harassing, abusing or not feeding him, it was relayed that *no factual evidence can be pursued on his behalf to prove the allegations because there is no video to review and no actual persons to interview.* Also on November 7, 2007, the inmate filed an informal complaint about food services, not about being starved or denied food, but about the portion size and condiments. The grievance was *denied because he did not attempt to resolve it*

at the informal level. The Inspector made him aware of the new “Heart Healthy” diet menu for inmates that was recently implemented and put into policy by DRC. On his allegation that officers and inmates were ejaculating in his food, he told the staff person who interviewed him that he is not making it up, yet he did not recall the officers or inmates by name or the dates and times when this reportedly took place. Without dates and times of allegations, the staff person relayed that no video could be reviewed.

Suicide Attempts

The table below provides data on the number of suicide attempts in Ohio prisons in the last biennium, a total of 228. Chillicothe Correctional Institution and Ohio Reformatory for Women rank first and second respectively in number of suicide attempts in the period. *The Southern Ohio Correctional Facility and Ross Correctional Institution rank third highest, with 18 suicide attempts each.*

From January 1, 2009 to May 1, 2009, there were *no suicide attempts at SOCF according to the data provided by the DRC Bureau of Mental Health. However, on the day of the inspection, an inmate in J2 relayed that he hung himself in a suicide attempt the night before in the Protective Control Unit, because he would rather die that way than by the gang that will reportedly kill him when he is forced out of the Protective Control Unit. Administrative staff verified the attempt during the closing and noted that he was placed on suicide watch following the incident. If this did not get reported as a suicide attempt, there are questions about the extent to which other suicide attempts may not be reported.*

Several years ago, an annual DRC Bureau of Mental Health meeting for all prisons was held which included an announcement that a system would be developed to accurately tally suicide attempts. In the further discussion about the lack of a clear definition of a suicide attempt, some expressed the belief that for a self injury to be a suicide attempt there should be evidence of intent to commit suicide. It became clear that the discussion opened the door to a variety of perspectives, attitudes, and beliefs regarding inmates and mental illness. It is the CIIC staff’s understanding that all such incidents are to be reported, and central office staff determine which are or are not suicide attempts. *It is recommended that a standard definition be provided to ensure accurate reporting.*

**Table 25. Number of Suicide Attempts in Ohio Prisons in 2007 and 2008
with Change by Institution**

| Institution | Suicide Attempts | | | |
|---|------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| | 2007 | 2008 | Total | Change |
| Chillicothe Correctional Institution | 14 | 15 | 29 | +1 |
| Ohio Reformatory for Women | 9 | 10 | 19 | +1 |
| Ross Correctional Institution | 10 | 8 | 18 | -2 |
| Southern Ohio Correctional Facility | 10 | 8 | 18 | -2 |
| Correctional Reception Center | 8 | 7 | 15 | -1 |
| Madison Correctional Institution | 7 | 7 | 14 | 0 |
| Southeastern Correctional Institution | 9 | 2 | 11 | -7 |
| Trumbull Correctional Institution | 7 | 4 | 11 | -3 |
| Warren Correctional Institution | 7 | 4 | 11 | -3 |
| Allen Correctional Institution | 2 | 8 | 10 | +6 |
| Mansfield Correctional Institution | 4 | 5 | 9 | +1 |
| Noble Correctional Institution | 8 | 1 | 9 | -7 |
| Toledo Correctional Institution | 5 | 2 | 7 | -3 |
| Marion Correctional Institution | 2 | 4 | 6 | +2 |
| Oakwood Correctional Facility | 5 | 1 | 6 | -4 |
| Belmont Correctional Institution | 2 | 3 | 5 | +1 |
| Lorain Correctional Institution | 5 | 0 | 5 | -5 |
| Pickaway Correctional Institution | 3 | 2 | 5 | -1 |
| Corrections Medical Center | 4 | 0 | 4 | -4 |
| Grafton Correctional Institution | 1 | 3 | 4 | +2 |
| Lake Erie Correctional Institution | 0 | 3 | 3 | +3 |
| Franklin Pre-Release Center | 2 | 0 | 2 | -2 |
| Lebanon Correctional Institution | 1 | 1 | 2 | 0 |
| Dayton Correctional Institution | 0 | 1 | 1 | +1 |
| London Correctional Institution | 1 | 0 | 1 | -1 |
| North Central Correctional Institution | 0 | 1 | 1 | +1 |
| Ohio State Penitentiary | 0 | 1 | 1 | +1 |
| Richland Correctional Institution | 1 | 0 | 1 | -1 |
| Hocking Correctional Facility | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Montgomery Education Pre-Release Center | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| North Coast Correctional Treatment Facility | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Northeast Pre-Release Center | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | 127 | 101 | 228 | -26 |

Mental Health Caseload

The table below shows 2008 data on the number of inmates on the mental health caseload at each Ohio prison, the end of 2008 population, and the percentage of inmates at each institution that are on the mental health caseload. As expected, the Oakwood Correctional Facility has the highest percentage of their inmates on the mental health caseload, because the facility serves as a mental hospital and residential treatment unit for the mentally ill.

The three facilities for female inmates have from 41 to 50 percent of their population on the mental health caseload. The Southern Ohio Correctional Facility has the highest percentage of their inmates on the mental health caseload of all Ohio prisons for men, with 30 percent of SOCF inmates on the mental health caseload.

Table 26. Percent of Prison Population on the Mental Health Caseload by Institution

| Institution | Percent of 2008 Total Population on MH Caseload | End of 2008 Institutional Population | Monthly Average on the MH Caseload In 2008 |
|---|---|--------------------------------------|--|
| Oakwood Correctional Facility | 56 % | 133 | 75 |
| Franklin Pre-Release Center (Females) | 50 | 455 | 229 |
| Northeast Pre-Release Center (Females) | 49 | 551 | 269 |
| Ohio Reformatory for Women (Females) | 41 | 2,470 | 1,004 |
| Southern Ohio Correctional Facility (Maximum Security Males) | 30 | 1,406 | 428 |
| Trumbull Correctional Institution (Minimum Camp Females) | 26 | 1,363 | 348 |
| Allen Correctional Institution | 24 | 1,323 | 317 |
| Corrections Medical Center | 24 | 134 | 32 |
| Hocking Correctional Facility | 21 | 486 | 101 |
| Chillicothe Correctional Institution | 20 | 2,923 | 592 |
| Mansfield Correctional Institution | 20 | 2,452 | 487 |
| Toledo Correctional Institution | 20 | 1,088 | 220 |
| Grafton Correctional Institution | 18 | 1,507 | 270 |
| North Coast Correctional Treatment Facility | 18 | 661 | 116 |
| Southeastern Correctional Institution | 17 | 1,642 | 274 |
| Pickaway Correctional Institution | 17 | 2,409 | 413 |
| North Central Correctional Institution | 17 | 2,335 | 406 |
| Warren Correctional Institution | 17 | 1,393 | 243 |
| Marion Correctional Institution | 16 | 2,237 | 360 |
| Correctional Reception Center | 16 | 1,754 | 286 |
| Belmont Correctional Institution | 15 | 2,784 | 422 |
| Lebanon Correctional Institution | 15 | 2,669 | 403 |
| Noble Correctional Institution | 15 | 2,456 | 379 |
| Richland Correctional Institution | 14 | 2,571 | 349 |
| London Correctional Institution | 14 | 2,563 | 351 |
| Madison Correctional Institution | 14 | 2,222 | 307 |
| Ross Correctional Institution | 13 | 2,613 | 345 |
| Lake Erie Correctional Institution | 12 | 1,493 | 181 |
| Lorain Correctional Institution | 7 | 1,999 | 144 |
| Ohio State Penitentiary | 7 | 548 | 39 |
| Dayton Correctional Institution | 0 | 475 | 1 |
| Montgomery Education and Pre-Release Center | 0 | 333 | 1 |
| Totals | 17.7% | 51,448 | 9,113 |

The table below shows that the Southern Ohio Correctional Facility ranks fourth among the Ohio prisons in number of inmates on the mental health caseload, based on the 2008 monthly average caseload data. Of the 428 inmates on the mental health caseload at the Southern Ohio Correctional Facility, 232 inmates had a diagnosis of Serious Mental Illness (SMI), comprising 54.2 percent of those on the caseload.

According to DRC policy, inmates with a C1 classification are on the psychiatric caseload, and have a Serious Mental Illness (SMI) designation with a “*substantial disorder of thought or mood which significantly impairs judgment, behavior, and capacity to recognize reality or cope with the ordinary demands of life within the prison environment, and which is manifested by substantial pain or disability. Serious Mental Illness requires a mental health diagnosis, prognosis and treatment, as appropriate, by mental health staff.*”

Table 27. Monthly Average on Mental Health Caseload by Institution and Mental Health Classification in 2008

| Institution | 2008 Monthly Average Number on Mental Health Caseload | C1* | C2* | C3* |
|---|---|--------------|--------------|------------|
| Ohio Reformatory for Women | 1,004 | 466 | 401 | 137 |
| Chillicothe Correctional Institution | 592 | 312 | 245 | 35 |
| Mansfield Correctional Institution | 487 | 192 | 223 | 72 |
| Southern Ohio Correctional Facility | 428 | 232 | 175 | 21 |
| Belmont Correctional Institution | 422 | 257 | 118 | 47 |
| Pickaway Correctional Institution | 413 | 174 | 196 | 43 |
| North Central Correctional Institution | 406 | 85 | 248 | 73 |
| Lebanon Correctional Institution | 403 | 184 | 193 | 26 |
| Noble Correctional Institution | 379 | 219 | 106 | 54 |
| Marion Correctional Institution | 360 | 184 | 138 | 38 |
| London Correctional Institution | 351 | 140 | 186 | 25 |
| Richland Correctional Institution | 349 | 107 | 179 | 63 |
| Trumbull Correctional Institution | 348 | 97 | 194 | 57 |
| Ross Correctional Institution | 345 | 100 | 170 | 75 |
| Allen Correctional Institution | 317 | 170 | 136 | 11 |
| Madison Correctional Institution | 307 | 143 | 132 | 32 |
| Correctional Reception Center | 286 | 163 | 107 | 16 |
| Southeastern Correctional Institution | 274 | 136 | 136 | 2 |
| Grafton Correctional Institution | 270 | 185 | 62 | 23 |
| Northeast Pre-Release Center | 269 | 146 | 101 | 22 |
| Warren Correctional Institution | 243 | 167 | 72 | 4 |
| Franklin Pre-Release Center | 229 | 101 | 104 | 24 |
| Toledo Correctional Institution | 220 | 66 | 116 | 38 |
| Lake Erie Correctional Institution | 181 | 83 | 83 | 15 |
| Lorain Correctional Institution | 144 | 50 | 84 | 10 |
| North Coast Correctional Treatment Facility | 116 | 15 | 62 | 39 |
| Hocking Correctional Facility | 101 | 40 | 54 | 7 |
| Oakwood Correctional Facility | 75 | 58 | 15 | 2 |
| Ohio State Penitentiary | 39 | 3 | 23 | 13 |
| Corrections Medical Center | 32 | 20 | 10 | 2 |
| Dayton Correctional Institution | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Montgomery Education and Pre-Release Center | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Totals | 9,113 | 4,172 | 3,954 | 987 |

*C1 Psychiatric Caseload (SMI) – SMI designation is made for a substantial disorder of thought or mood which significantly impairs judgment, behavior, capacity to recognize reality or cope with the ordinary demands of life within the prison environment and which is manifested by substantial pain or disability. **Serious Mental Illness** requires a mental health diagnosis, prognosis and treatment, as appropriate, by mental health staff.

*C2 Psychiatric Caseload (non-SMI) – Inmate is on psychiatric caseload but does not meet the criteria for SMI. Inmate is receiving mental health care and supportive services, which include medication prescription and monitoring, individual and group counseling and therapy, crisis intervention and behavior management.

*C3 General Caseload – Inmate is receiving group or individual counseling, therapy and skill building services. He/she has a mental health diagnosis and treatment plan and is being treated by mental health staff other than the psychiatrist.

USE OF FORCE

According to some facility staff, rather than “wrestle” with inmates, they use OC (mace) as a way to prevent physical altercations. Staff relayed that mace remains a form of use of force, which must be reported, and every report is reviewed. The Southern Ohio Correctional Facility was reportedly the first to allow Correctional Officers to carry and use the OC pepper spray (mace). The practice was reportedly started under the previous SOCF Warden.

Staff relayed that the pepper spray has been taken away from some officers who have misused it. Reportedly, the first time an officer misuses OC, pepper spray is taken away for 30-90 days. On a second offense, the pepper spray is taken away for good, and a third offense reportedly warrants suspension. According to the institution, *SOCF lost 905 working days in 2005 for assaults, time off, etc., but that number has significantly been improved to only 101 lost working days in 2008 due to assaults. The dramatic reduction was attributed to the practice of officers carrying and using pepper spray.*

Staff reported that they had 821 use of force incidents in 2008 of which, 25 percent were referred to the use of force committee to “conduct a review of the use of force incident and an investigation into the matters surrounding the incident” upon referral, per the Administrative Rule (AR) 5120-9-02. At the time of the inspection, SOCF staff were looking into a three day delay in filing a use of force report. The Administrative Rules on the subject of use of force, including unreported use of force, provide procedures to ensure that practices are in accord with requirements cited in the Administrative Rules, that allegations of non-compliance are investigated, and that the Warden is advised of findings and recommendations. There is also a provision for monitoring use of force at the DRC central office level. There is a separate Administrative Rule regarding unreported use of force which directs all such complaints to the Inspector for investigation and report to the Warden.

Table 28. Use of Force Incidents

| | Use of Force Packets sent to Committee | Slight Use of Force Packets Non- Committee | Total | Increase |
|----------------|--|--|--------------|-----------------|
| 2006 | 244 | 194 | 438 | N/A |
| 2007 | 465 | 220 | 685 | +247 |
| 2008 | 160 | 661 | 821 | +136 |
| Total | 869 | 1,075 | 1,944 | N/A |
| Percent | 44.7% | 55.3% | 100% | |

As shown above, use of force incidents have *increased from 438 in 2006 to 685 in 2007 to 821 in 2008* at the Southern Ohio Correctional Facility. The number of use of force incidents referred to the *use of force investigating committee increased from 244 in 2006 to 465 in 2007, then plummeted to only 160 in 2008.* The number of incidents of *slight force increased slightly from 194 in 2006 to 220 in 2007, then increased threefold to 661 in 2008.*

As shown in the table below, use of force incidents with *chemical agent used increased from 116 incidents in 2006 to 353 in 2007, but decreased by 69 to 284 incidents in 2008*. The inmate population increased from 1,087 in 2006 to 1,327 in 2007 to 1,469 in 2008. *Data on assaults on staff show that staff assaults totaled 340 in 2006, 344 in 2007, then plummeted to 218 in 2008*. As referenced above by SOCF staff, *there was a major drop in days of work lost due to assaults on staff, from 803 in 2006 to 146 in 2007, and slightly lower in 2008 with 101 lost days*.

Table 29. Breakdown of Use of Force Incidents

| Use of Force | 2006 | Change +/- | 2007 | Change +/- | 2008 |
|--|--------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| Use of Force Incidents Not Sent to Use of Force investigating Committee | 193 | +27 | 220 | +441 | 661 |
| Use of Force Incidents Sent to Committee | 244 | +221 | 465 | -305 | 160 |
| Total Use of Forces for the Year | 458 | +227 | 685 | +136 | 821 |
| Use of Force Incidents with Chemical Agent Used | 116 | +237 | 353 | -69 | 284 |
| Inmate Population | 1,087 | +240 | 1,327 | +142 | 1,469 |
| Type of Assaults on Staff | | | | | |
| Harassment (Throwing substance) | 177 | -7 | 184 | -28 | 156 |
| Attempted | 53 | +12 | 65 | -38 | 27 |
| Inappropriate | 20 | 0 | 20 | -2 | 18 |
| Physical | 98 | -24 | 74 | -57 | 17 |
| Sexual | 1 | 0 | 1 | -1 | 0 |
| Total Staff Assaults | 340 | +4 | 344 | -126 | 218 |
| Lost Days of Work due to Assaults | 803 | -657 | 146 | -45 | 101 |

Follow-Up Communication from the Warden

On May 27, 2009, information was received from the Warden through the Assistant Director in response to the opportunity to preview the report and to identify any perceived errors, inaccuracies or needed clarification. Regarding the above section on Use of Force, it was noted that “ALL forces will be reported as use of force whether the force was slight or substantial. Anything other than this will result in disciplinary action against the employee.” (See also the Warden’s communication regarding the related section on The Matter of Mace on page 97.) In addition, in response to an inquiry, information dated May 20, 2009 was received from the SOCF Investigator which includes the following:

Responding to your questions about stats, use of chemical agents are included in the use of force report monthly figures. Each use of a chemical agent requires the

employee to complete a DRC 1000 incident report. The normal procedure applies. The only change that occurred was it is not mandatory to send a use of a chemical agent to a use of force committee for review. In instances such as this where only a short burst of mace was used, the event can be classified as slight force and not require a full committee review.

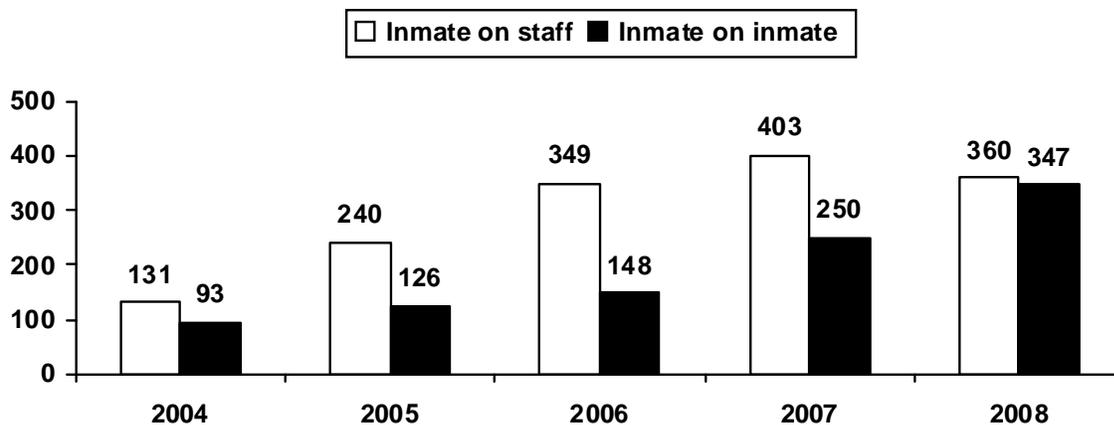
The authorization and use of chemical agents can be found in policy 63-UOF-03 appendix 1 “Response to Resistance Continuum.” It is the next level of force authorized after verbal command. The same safe guards exist against misuse of chemical agents as any other form of force. Additionally, mace canisters are weighted each day to safeguard against a discharge of mace without reporting such.

**Table 30. SOCF Report of Racial Breakdown and Use of Force
February 2009**

| | Black | White | Other | Total |
|---|-----------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| 1. Use of Force Incidents during the month | 54 | 22 | 2 | 78 |
| 2. Number of those reports (from #1) above that were: | | | | |
| Logged as “No Further Action Required” | 47 | 19 | 2 | 68 |
| Assigned to a Use of Force Committee | 7 | 3 | 0 | 10 |
| Referred to the employee disciplinary process | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| Referred to the Chief Inspector | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| 3. Number of those reports (from #2) where the investigation was not completed in 30 days and were extended | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 4. Number of extended investigation(s) from previous months that were: | | | | |
| Completed | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| Not Completed | 0 | 0 | 0 | |

According to the above table, in February 2009, there were 78 *use of force incidents involving 54 black inmates (69.2 percent), 22 white inmates (28.2 percent), and two “other” inmates.* Of the 78 use of force incidents, 68 (87.2 percent) were logged as “no further action required.” *Only ten use of force incidents (12.8 percent) were assigned to a use of force committee.* No incidents were referred to the employee disciplinary process and none were referred to the Chief Inspector.

Chart 1. Inmate on Staff and Inmate on Inmate Assaults 2004 to 2008



According to the above chart, *inmate on inmate assaults have increased from 93 in 2004 to 126 in 2005 to 148 in 2006 to 250 in 2007 to 347 in 2008* at the Southern Ohio Correctional Facility.

Inmate on staff assaults increased from 131 in 2004 to 240 in 2005 to 349 in 2006 to 403 in 2007, but *decreased to 360 in 2008*.

INMATE POPULATION

On February 2, 2009, the Southern Ohio Correctional Facility had a population of 1,379, with 778 black inmates, and 590 white inmates. Eleven inmates were classified as American Indian, Asian/Pacific Islander or other. A breakdown of the inmate population is provided below:

| <u>Race/Ethnicity</u> | <u>Number</u> | <u>Percent</u> |
|------------------------|---------------|----------------|
| Black | 778 | 56.42% |
| White | 590 | 42.78 |
| Other | 8 | .58 |
| Asian/Pacific Islander | 2 | .15 |
| American Indian | <u>1</u> | <u>.07</u> |
| TOTAL | 1379 | 100% |

SECURITY LEVELS AND REVIEWS

As of March 11, 2009, the inmate population consisted of 1, 209 level four (maximum) security, 86 level three (close) security inmates, 43 level two (medium) security inmates, six level one (minimum) security inmates, and one level five (Administrative Maximum or High Maximum).

Staff relayed that the Warden is conducting special security reviews for inmate's security levels. The administration also explained that 120 inmates have received security classification reductions in the last four or five months and there are no delays for security reviews. It was relayed that an inmate may receive their security review three or four months early if the inmate is attending the appropriate programs and there is confidence that the inmate meets the qualifications to have their classification reduced. In regard to new arrivals, staff reported that they move inmates from privilege level 4B to 4A fairly quickly based on a careful review of the facts.

In regard to the mentally ill in 4B, there was also indication that effort is being made to transfer the most chronic of the seriously mentally ill to Oakwood Correctional Facility. J-4, termed Intensive Mental Health Treatment Unit was scheduled to close. On the day of the inspection, staff reported that there were 218 inmates in 4B who are on the mental health caseload. Updated information on the new mission of Oakwood Correctional Facility which will benefit the Southern Ohio Correctional Facility and its inmates, is provided later in the report.

The attention to timely security reviews and special reviews when warranted to expedite reductions from level 4 (maximum) security to level 3 (close) security is a significantly positive

effort that deserves recognition and praise. It is closely linked to their effort to instill hope in their population which ultimately benefits the whole environment, including staff.

As shown in the table below, the Southern Ohio Correctional Facility has 21 cell blocks with 80 single cells per block. All blocks on L side are for general population, level 4A inmates. K side, specifically K1 through K4 are for level 4B inmates. K-5 is the Residential treatment Unit for eligible mentally ill. K-6 is referred to as the STG unit, separation unit, and step-down unit for level 4A inmates. K-7 and K-8 are used for the inmates who have been placed in Protective Control status due to facing a verified risk of serious physical harm in population. J Complex includes J2 for security control, suicide watch and disciplinary control, and J1 (formerly called J-1 Supermax) is used for local control placements for up to six months. Although local control per the Administrative Rule on the subject, speaks of local control placement for demonstrating a chronic inability to adjust in general population. However, at the Southern Ohio Correctional Facility, J-1 was re-opened under the previous Warden for those demonstrating a chronic inability to adjust to level 4B.

Facility Capacity

On the day of the inspection, the institution's population was 1,329, which is 90.7 percent of the institution's reported rated capacity of 1,465. According to information provided, the institution's entire capacity is 1,638, which includes all beds in the infirmary and segregation, which are in fact temporary placements.

Table 31. Rated Capacity of Cellblocks

| Cellblock | J Complex | K Side | L Side | D (Medical) |
|--------------------|------------------|---------------|---------------|--------------------|
| 1 | 20 | 79 | 80 | 20 |
| 2 | 80 | 80 | 80 | 80 |
| 3 | 79 | 80 | 80 | – |
| 4 | 80 | 80 | 80 | – |
| 5 | – | 80 | 80 | – |
| 6 | – | 80 | 80 | – |
| 7 | – | 80 | 80 | – |
| 8 | – | 80 | 80 | – |
| Total 1,638 | 259 | 639 | 640 | 100 |

The following table is a breakdown of population, rated capacity, and extent of crowding for all DRC institutions as of December 29, 2008. The rated capacity for SOCF was reported to be 1,540, which according to the DRC Central Office, based on the number of beds in the initial design plus modifications from remodeling/renovation.

**Table 32. Prison Rated Capacity with Population
as of December 29, 2008 and Extent (Percent) of Crowding**

| PRISON | Rated Capacity | Population Count, December 29, 2008 | Percent of Crowding |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|--|----------------------------|
| Lorain CI Reception | 756 | 1,985 | 263% |
| Ohio Ref for Women | 1,246 | 2,458 | 197 |
| Correctional Reception Center | 900 | 1,640 | 182 |
| Lebanon CI | 1,481 | 2,661 | 180 |
| Chillicothe CI | 1,673 | 2,897 | 173 |
| Warren CI | 807 | 1,391 | 172 |
| Allen CI | 844 | 1,371 | 163 |
| Hocking CI | 298 | 485 | 163 |
| Grafton CI | 939 | 1,500 | 160 |
| Mansfield CI | 1,536 | 2,447 | 150 |
| Ross CI | 1,643 | 2,588 | 158 |
| Belmont CI | 1,855 | 2,702 | 146 |
| Trumbull CI* | 902 | 1,321 | 146 |
| Richland CI | 1,855 | 2,511 | 135 |
| Marion CI | 1,666 | 2,215 | 133 |
| Noble CI | 1,855 | 2,442 | 132 |
| North Central CI | 1,855 | 2,314 | 125 |
| Southeastern CI | 1,358 | 1,628 | 120 |
| London CI | 2,290 | 2,531 | 111 |
| Madison CI | 2,167 | 2,201 | 102 |
| Pickaway CI | 2,465 | 2,437 | 101 |
| North Coast Corr TF | 660 | 653 | 99 |
| Lake Erie CI | 1,498 | 1,482 | 99 |
| Dayton CI | 482 | 471 | 98 |
| Franklin PRC | 480 | 457 | 95 |
| Montg. Educ PRC | 352 | 334 | 95 |
| Southern Ohio CF | 1,540 | 1,410 | 92 |
| Toledo CI | 1,192 | 1,075 | 90 |
| Northeast PRC | 640 | 553 | 86 |
| Ohio State Penitentiary | 684 | 539 | 79 |
| Oakwood CF* | 191 | 135 | 71 |
| Corr Medical Center* | 210 | 133 | 63 |
| Total | 38,320 | 50,887 | 133% |

* Indicated institutions where both male and female inmates are housed

Note: Rated Capacity according to the ODRC Central Office, based on the number of beds in the initial design plus modifications from remodeling/renovation.

**Table 33. Prison Crowding Percentages from December 31, 2007
and December 29, 2008 with Change**

| PRISON | Rated Capacity | Percent Crowding December 31, 2007 | Percent Crowding December 29, 2008 | Change in Percent of Crowding from 2007 to 2008 |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|---|---|--|
| London CI | 2,290 | 93% | 111% | + 18% |
| Ohio Ref for Women | 1,246 | 181 | 197 | + 16 |
| Lebanon CI | 1,481 | 169 | 180 | + 11 |
| Lorain CI Reception | 756 | 254 | 263 | + 9 |
| Southeastern CI | 1,358 | 112 | 120 | + 8 |
| Noble CI | 1,855 | 125 | 132 | + 7 |
| Allen CI | 844 | 158 | 163 | + 5 |
| Pickaway CI | 2,465 | 95 | 99 | + 4 |
| Chillicothe CI | 1,673 | 169 | 173 | + 4 |
| Ohio State Penitentiary | 684 | 75 | 79 | + 4 |
| Ross CI | 1,643 | 155 | 158 | + 3 |
| Marion CI | 1,666 | 131 | 133 | + 2 |
| Corr Medical Center* | 210 | 61 | 63 | + 2 |
| Belmont CI | 1,855 | 144 | 146 | + 2 |
| Richland CI | 1,855 | 137 | 135 | - 2 |
| North Central CI | 1,855 | 125 | 125 | 0 |
| North Coast Corr TF | 660 | 99 | 99 | 0 |
| Lake Erie CI | 1,498 | 100 | 99 | 0 |
| Montg. Educ PRC | 352 | 95 | 95 | 0 |
| Grafton CI | 939 | 161 | 160 | - 1 |
| Trumbull CI* | 902 | 148 | 146 | - 2 |
| Dayton CI | 482 | 100 | 98 | - 2 |
| Warren CI | 807 | 173 | 172 | - 1 |
| Hocking CF | 298 | 164 | 163 | - 1 |
| Northeast PRC | 640 | 89 | 86 | - 3 |
| Southern Ohio CF | 1,540 | 96 | 92 | - 4 |
| Toledo CI | 1,192 | 94 | 90 | - 4 |
| Mansfield CI | 1,536 | 154 | 150 | - 4 |
| Madison CI | 2,167 | 106 | 102 | - 4 |
| Franklin PRC | 480 | 100 | 95 | - 5 |
| Corr Reception Center | 900 | 191 | 182 | - 9 |
| Oakwood CI* | 191 | 93 | 71 | - 22 |
| Total | 38,320 | 130% | 133% | +3% |

* Indicated institutions where both male and female inmates are housed

Note: Rated Capacity according to the DRC Central Office, based on the number of beds in the initial design plus modifications from remodeling/renovation.

SECURITY THREAT GROUPS

As of November 24, 2008, of the 32 correctional institutions in Ohio, Southern Ohio Correctional Facility ranks first, with 40 percent of its population classified as a member of a security threat group. Mansfield Correctional Institution ranks second, with 28 percent of its population profiled as STG members. The statewide average of profiled STG members for all 32 prisons is 15 percent.

According to DRC staff, when an inmate has been identified as an STG member, they are assigned a participation level ranging from one through three. All inmates that have been profiled that come into the system are automatically assigned to level one or passive. The level system is behavior based, and in order to be increased, an inmate must do something to get there. Those classified as level two or active, have engaged in some sort of security threat group activity. In order to be labeled as a level three or disruptive, an inmate would have had to hurt other inmates and/or staff.

**Table 34. Number and Percentage of STG Profiled Inmates by Institution
as of November 24, 2008**

| Institution | Total Population | STG Profiled Inmates | Percentage of Population STG Profiled |
|-------------------------|------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Southern Ohio CF | 1,442 | 583 | 40% |
| Mansfield CI | 2,461 | 678 | 28 |
| Toledo CI | 1,089 | 290 | 27 |
| Warren CI | 1,374 | 322 | 23 |
| Trumbull CI | 1,357 | 303 | 22 |
| Lebanon CI | 2,663 | 531 | 20 |
| Grafton CI | 1,514 | 306 | 20 |
| Richland CI | 2,555 | 482 | 19 |
| Ohio State Pen | 544 | 105 | 19 |
| Belmont CI | 2,776 | 497 | 18 |
| Ross CI | 2,613 | 480 | 18 |
| Lake Erie CI | 1,503 | 268 | 18 |
| Noble CI | 2,510 | 437 | 17 |
| North Central CI | 2,351 | 394 | 17 |
| Allen CI | 1,290 | 214 | 17 |
| Marion CI | 2,272 | 313 | 14 |
| Pickaway CI | 2,481 | 315 | 13 |
| Correctional Recept | 1,937 | 222 | 11 |
| Chillicothe CI | 2,931 | 294 | 10 |
| Southeastern CI | 1,682 | 175 | 10 |
| Oakwood CI | 134 | 14 | 10 |
| London CI | 2,559 | 239 | 9 |
| Madison CI | 2,251 | 212 | 9 |
| Dayton CI | 487 | 46 | 9 |
| North Coast Corr | 657 | 54 | 8 |
| Lorain CI | 2,159 | 149 | 7 |
| Hocking CF | 490 | 8 | 2 |
| Corrections Medical | 131 | 2 | 2 |
| Montgomery Educ | 324 | 8 | 2 |
| Ohio Ref Women | 2,529 | 28 | 1 |
| Northeast Pre-Rel | 582 | 4 | 1 |
| Franklin Pre-Releas | 492 | 5 | 1 |
| TOTAL | 52,140 | 7,978 | 15% |

BUDGET

Staff relayed that they are trying to finish below their annual budget. A breakdown of the institution's FY (Fiscal Year) budget is provided below:

Table 35. Breakdown of 2008 Annual FY (Fiscal Year) Budget

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Annual Budget (FY 2008) | \$55,004,939 |
| Salaries | \$47,236,489 |
| Maintenance, Supplies, and Utilities | \$3,328,087 |
| Food/Farm Service | \$4,480,139 |

Table 36. Breakdown of 2007 Food Service FY (Fiscal Year) Budget

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------|
| Number of Meals Served | 1,693,618 |
| Total Cost of Meals | \$1,983,139 |
| Average Cost per Meal | \$1.17 |

Capital Improvements

Information provided on the day of the inspection details several capital improvement plans for FY 2009-2014. The following outlines a brief description of the plans.

Cell Door/Gate Control System – Install new network control system for all cell doors and gates. The Southern Ohio Correctional Facility has 21 cell blocks with 80 cells per block. The current system was installed in 1994. A new system with common manufactured parts would reduce the cost and improve parts availability and system reliability. Original door components are now requiring frequent replacement and have high purchase and repair cost. The amount requested to complete this project is \$300,000 for FYs 2009-2010.

New Digital Recording Camera Matrix Upgrade – Request for new matrix switcher with digital recording that will allow the facility to combine all cameras throughout the institution. It will also allow them to view and control any camera throughout the facility by different designated satellite locations. It also records all events on all cameras with a 15-day backlog. Any critical incidents can be stored indefinitely. The institution requests that all cameras be upgraded. This system is becoming old and antiquated and has very limited recording capabilities. In 1999 the facility started adding additional cameras throughout the institution, which are totally separate from the old matrix system. The institution would like to combine the new and old equipment into one system with greater capabilities. The matrix switcher will allow the combination of all cameras throughout the institution. The amount requested to complete this project is \$550,000 for FYs 2009-2010.

Water Distribution Upgrade – Southern Ohio Correctional Facility is requesting that all underground main water lines and valves be replaced. Southern Ohio Correctional Facility has approximately one and a half miles of 8-10" water lines that have been buried underground since 1968. Recent line breaks have revealed decaying condition of the main water line system. At

this current age they have already succumbed to massive rust pits that can only diminish the wall thickness of these originally constructed ductile iron pipes. The majority of this system's valves also show signs of corrosion that prevents the valve from holding which extremely hinders the ability to isolate breaks while making emergency repairs. The deteriorating conditions will only steadily increase with each passing year, unlike our budget. Annual expenditures to operate a facility are a major concern. Replacing these steel ropes with lines will reduce the unexpected costs of paying for lost water and needed repair parts often associated with main water line breaks. Each line break severely impacts the operation of the facility. Maintaining uninterrupted water supply for the facility is imperative to provide good health and proper hygiene. The amount requested to complete this project is \$1,500,378 for FYs 2009-2010 and \$511,500 for FYs 2011-2012.

Generator/Switch Gear Replacement Project – Remove old powerhouse generator and replace it with a new efficient model. The Southern Ohio Correctional Facility is set up to automatically handle power failures. Power is supplied to the power plant from two outside sources. In the event of a power failure from these substations, the facility must totally rely on the emergency generator. The reliability of the generator is very critical to the security of the institution. A total power failure at SOCF is a situation that must be prevented. The (Caterpillar D398 w/ GE-550kw) emergency generator at SOCF is original equipment that was installed during construction in 1969. Even though it has been well maintained, it has reached the end of its service life. Replacement of this original equipment with a modern generator would be a cost savings because of new electronic fuel consumption system and improved parts availability. The need to have a reliable generator during power outages is required to ensure a safe and secure environment. The amount requested to complete this project is \$2,525,161 for FYs 2009-2010.

Cost Saving Initiatives

According to information provided, the institution has initiated and implemented several cost saving initiatives. The following cost savings initiatives and their implementation will reportedly generate an overall savings of \$236,361.63.

- With the implementation of the new Laundry Water System this institution is expecting a \$39,361.63 annual savings. On July 9, 2008 the steam was removed from the Laundry Water System and since this date clothing has been washed in cold water. The actual steam in the power plant has been recorded on the SCADA system. A comparison has been completed being six days prior to the steam removal and six days after the steam removal. *The findings show that SOCF used 56.4 thousand cubic feet (MCF) of natural gas less as a result of the steam removal.* Determining formula is provided below:
 - SOCF is billed \$11.47235 per MMBTU
 - One MMBTU = One MCF
 - 56.4 MCF * \$11.47235 = \$ 647.04 (six day period)
 - \$647.04 / 6 = \$107.84 per day
 - \$107.84 * 365 = \$39,361.60 Savings per Year
- Under the new Water Contract agreement this institution will generate a \$48,000.00 annual savings.

- As a result of opting not to renew the Accent Communication maintenance agreement this institution will gain an annual savings of \$27,000.00
- Utilization of inmate labor for the SOCF window project results in a \$100,000.00 overall savings.
- The reported cost of toothpaste issued is \$8,880 and cost of OPI bar Soap issued is \$20,000. With the implementation of a new method of delivery on inmate hygiene items the annual cost savings is expected to be \$22,000.00

Additional Cost Saving Initiatives

- Latex Examination Gloves – Current usage is 92 cases per month at a cost of \$3,950.00. An SRT style puncture resistant glove is being considered to reduce usage.
- Inmate clothing – Lost/Theft reports totaled \$19,000 last year. Goal is to cut this figure in half.
- Utilities – The new energy efficiency project completed last year has resulted in a savings of approximately \$60,000.00.
- Johnson Controls – Controls for roof fans to improve efficiency.

INTRODUCTION TO QUESTIONNAIRES

Two questionnaires were developed by CIIC for use on 2009-2010 inspections. One of the questionnaires is based on selected sections of *Expectations*, which contain inspection criteria used by the British Inspectorate. These *Expectations* were the subject of one of the presentations at an international conference on effective prison oversight in 2006. They are reported to be consistent with international standards. The purpose of gathering information on the extent to which Ohio correctional institutions are similar or different from selected sections of *Expectations* is twofold: *To identify possible areas in need of improvement, and to identify possible means of addressing reported areas of concern.*

The second questionnaire is based on the 16 recommendations of the *Ohio Correctional Faith-Based Initiatives Task Force*. *The purpose of the questionnaire is merely to gather information on the extent to which progress is being made in implementing the recommendations.* Brief, handwritten responses to the questions by any staff person knowledgeable of the subject, were requested.

To avoid burdening any one staff person at the facility with the task of responding to the entire questionnaire, sections and subsections identified by topics were separated and stapled, ranging from one to three pages each. The Warden could choose to give each section or subsection to a different staff person who is knowledgeable in the particular area. Very brief responses, such as “yes,” “no” and/or explanations, indicating the extent to which the facility’s practices are similar or different from *Expectations*, were requested. Completed questionnaires were requested to be returned to the CIIC office within ten days of the inspection.

ADULT EXPECTATIONS

According to *Expectations*, it is a tool for examining every aspect of prison life, from reception to reentry. The expectations draw upon, and are referenced against, international human rights standards. The Inspectorate’s four tests are:

- **Safety**
- **Respect**
- **Purposeful activity**
- **Reentry**

These are increasingly accepted internationally as the *cornerstones of a “healthy” custodial environment*, providing consistent criteria in a system that is increasingly under pressure and subject to conflicting demands. *Expectations* has been used as the basis for an independent and evidence-based assessment of conditions in prisons. Its content and approach have proven to be helpful to those who are monitoring and examining prisons in other jurisdictions. *Expectations* consists of eight sections and subsections. Sections included in the questionnaire are provided below:

Environment and Relationships

- Residential Units
 - Clothing and Possessions
 - Hygiene
- Staff – Prisoner Relationships

Duty of Care

- Complaint/Grievance Procedure
- Bullying and Violence Reduction
- Self-Harm and Suicide

Activities

- Learning and Skills and Work Activities
- Library

Good Order

- Security and Rules
- Rules

Services

- Food Services

QUESTIONS AND RESPONSES TO EXPECTATIONS**Environment and Relationships****Residential Units**

1. Do prisoners live in a safe, clean and decent environment within which they are encouraged to take personal responsibility for themselves and their possessions?

Yes

2. Are cells and communal areas (blocks, dorms, dayrooms) light, well decorated and in a good state of repair?

Yes

3. Do all prisoners occupy accommodation that is suitable for the purpose and for their individual needs?

Yes

- a. Are there cell sharing risk assessments?

Single Cell

- b. Are cells sufficiently warm in winter and cool in summer?

Yes

- c. Are cells ventilated and do they have sufficient daylight?
Yes
- d. Do prisoners have their own bed, corkboard, lockable cupboard/locker box, and use of a table and chair?
Bed, locker box and desk/chair
- e. Are older prisoners in shared cells with bunk beds given priority for lower bunks?
Single Cell
- f. Do shared cells have screened toilets?
Single Cell
4. Are reasonable adjustments made to ensure that prisoners with disabilities and those with mobility problems can access all goods, facilities, and services?
Yes
- a. Do prisoners with disabilities and those with mobility problems have ease of access to different locations and services?
Yes
- b. Are older, infirm and disabled prisoners assigned to landings, which hold most of the communal facilities?
Yes
5. Is there a system whereby nominated volunteer prisoners on each residential unit are trained to help less able prisoners and they are paid for this work?
No
- a. How are volunteers identified, trained and assigned?
N/A
6. Are residential staff aware of prisoners within their care with disabilities and their location?
Yes
- a. Are safe evacuation procedures in place to assist those prisoners who may need help in an emergency?
Yes
- b. Are there visible markers on cell doors?
No
- c. What system is in place to highlight to other staff that any prisoners with disabilities and/or mobility problems may need assistance in an emergency?
All handicap cells are the first cell on the range

7. Do prisoners have access to drinking water, toilet and washing facilities at all times?

Yes drinking water, et al

a. Is water in the cells certified as drinking water, if used in this way for prisoners?

Yes

8. Are age-appropriate risk assessments in place to ensure the safety of young adults from any other prisoners?

No

a. Are there single cell risk assessments?

No, all cells are single

b. What are procedures in any case where young adults are identified as posing a risk to others?

Disciplinary process

9. Do all prisoners have access to an in-cell emergency call button/bell that works and is responded to within five minutes?

No

10. Do observation panels in cell doors remain free from obstruction?

Unless inmates violate policy and cover them. Policy states they are to be uncovered.

11. Is there a clear policy prohibiting offensive displays, and is it applied consistently?

Yes. However, inmates constantly violate policy.

12. Are prisoners' communal areas (activity and shower areas) clean, safe, meet the needs of the prisoner population, and effectively supervised by staff?

Yes

a. Are there adaptations for older, infirm and disabled prisoners?

Yes

13. Do prisoners feel safe in their cells and in communal areas of the residential units?

It is our goal that all inmates are safe.

a. Is there a suitable design of residential units e.g. good sightlines, and supervision in high-risk areas?

Yes

14. Are notices displayed in a suitable way for the population?

Yes

a. Is adequate provision made for any prisoners who cannot read notices because of literacy, language, or eyesight problems or any other disability?

Yes

15. Are residential units as calm and quiet as possible both to avoid incidents and to enable rest and sleep, especially at night?

Yes

Clothing and Possessions

1. Do prisoners have enough clean prison clothing of the right size, quality and design to meet their individual needs?

Yes

- a. Are older prisoners provided with additional clothing and bedding, if required, without the need for medical permission?

No

2. Do prisoners have at least weekly access to laundry facilities to wash and iron their personal clothing?

Yes

- a. Do they have access to laundry/exchange facilities outside the weekly rotation?

No

3. Is prisoner property held in secure storage, and can prisoners access their property within one week of making a request?

Property is stored and inmates can make request for property through their unit Sgt.

4. Are prisoners fairly compensated for clothing and possessions lost while in storage?

Yes

5. Is there a standard list detailing the possessions that women prisoners are allowed to keep, and used across all women's prisons?

N/A

- a. Is there a standard list also employed for male facilities of the same security category?

Yes

6. Are suitable clothes and bags available to discharged prisoners who do not have them?

Yes

7. Are facilities available before discharge to launder clothes that have been in storage for long periods?

No

Hygiene

1. Are prisoners encouraged, enabled and expected to keep themselves, their cells and communal areas clean?
Yes
 - a. Are older and disabled prisoners enabled to keep themselves and their cells clean?
Yes

2. Do prisoners have ready access to both communal and in-cell toilets, baths and showers in private?
Yes
 - a. Are screened toilets in shared cells?
N/A – Single cell

 - b. Is there a shower cubicle adapted for use by older, less able or disabled prisoners as well as baths with grab handles?
Yes

3. Are prisoners able to shower or bathe daily, and immediately following physical activity, before court appearances and before visits?
Level 4A, 3, 2, 1 can shower every day. Level 4B and segregation shower five days per week.
 - a. Is there access at any time during the day?
No

 - b. Are older, less able or disabled prisoners helped to have a bath or shower every day?
No

4. Do prisoners have access to necessary supplies of their own personal hygiene items and sanitary products?
Yes

5. Is fresh laundered bedding provided for each new prisoner on arrival and then on at least a weekly basis?
Yes
 - a. Is there a system for the replacement of mattresses in operation?
Yes

 - b. Are clean pillows available for new prisoners as well as other bedding?
Mattresses are made with a built in pillow.

6. Is a prisoner's valuable property routinely security marked before it is issued?
Those items designated to be titled.

Staff-Prisoner Relationships

1. Are prisoners treated respectfully by all staff, throughout the duration of their custodial sentence, and encouraged to take responsibility for their own actions and decisions?
Our goal is that everyone is treated respectfully.
2. Is there a well-ordered environment in which the requirements of security, control and justice are balanced and in which all members of the prison community are safe and treated with fairness?
Yes
3. Are all prisoners treated with humanity, and with respect for the inherent dignity of the person?
Yes
 - a. Is staff aware that the prison has a duty of care for all prisoners, to ensure no prisoners are at risk of physical or emotional abuse by staff or prisoners, and that prisoners are to be held in decent and humane conditions?
Yes
4. Are staff aware that they should set a personal example in the way they carry out their duties at all times?
Yes
5. Are staff always fair and courteous in their day-to-day working with prisoners?
Our goal is that all staff are fair with inmates.
6. Do staff positively engage with prisoners at all times?
Not at all times, but the majority of the time.
7. Is interaction between staff and prisoners encouraged by the senior management team?
Yes
 - a. Does staff help and encourage older and less able prisoners to participate in and access all facilities offered across the prison?
Yes
8. Does staff routinely knock before entering cells, except in emergencies?
Yes

9. Are prisoners encouraged by staff to engage in all activities and routines, promoting punctuality, attendance and responsible behavior?

Yes

- a. What methods are used to encourage prisoners to get involved?

(Blank)

10. Is inappropriate conduct on the part of prisoners challenged?

Yes

- a. Do staff demonstrate skill in confronting low-level disputes without using official disciplinary measures?

Yes

11. Are prisoners encouraged and supported to take responsibility for their actions and decisions?

Yes

Duty of Care

Complaint/Grievance Procedure

1. Are there effective complaint procedures in place that are easy to access, easy to use, and provide timely responses?

Yes

2. Do prisoners feel safe from repercussions when using these procedures and are they aware of an appeal procedure?

Yes

3. Is information about the grievance procedure reinforced through notices and posters that are produced in English and other languages and displayed across the prison?

Yes

- a. Are there posters in prominent places on all residential units, including for those with literacy problems and those with disabilities so that they can understand and are able to access the procedures?

Yes

- b. Since some prisoners, e.g. foreigners, may need to be specifically told about the whole process, is there a single channel of contact or clear information on how to make a complaint?

Yes

- c. Is information on the units/blocks always displayed and do prisoners understand it?

Yes

- d. What are the procedures for blind prisoners?
ADA coordinator determines a plan of action for the individual needs.
4. Are prisoners encouraged to solve areas of dispute informally, before making official complaints?
Yes
5. Can prisoners easily and confidentially access and submit complaint forms?
Yes
- a. Are forms required to access complaint forms?
Yes
- b. Are there forms, and at least one kite box on each block/dorm?
Yes
- c. Are the boxes emptied daily by a designated officer?
Yes
- d. Are form dispensers always stocked with forms?
Yes
- e. Are informal complaints and grievance files secured on a limited access basis?
Yes
6. Do prisoners make use of the procedures, and are they free of pressure to withdraw any complaints or grievances?
Yes
- a. What are the procedures for prisoners with learning or other disabilities?
ADA coordinator and unit staff assist the inmate
7. Are all complaints and grievances, whether formal or informal, dealt with fairly and answered within three days, or 10 days in exceptional circumstances, with either a resolution or a comprehensive explanation of future action?
Yes
- a. Are complaints resolved?
Yes
- b. Are complaints answered within three working days, or within 10 days in exceptional circumstances?
ICRs are answered within seven days.
- c. Are forms sent back to prisoners because of technicalities in procedure?
No

- d. Are such complaints referred to the relevant staff member, not back to the prisoner?
Back to the prisoner
 - e. Are target return times recorded?
Yes
 - f. Are letters of complaint/concern from third parties, such as legal representatives, family or voluntary organizations, logged and answered?
Yes
8. Do prisoners receive responses to their complaints/grievances that are respectful, legible, and address the issues raised?
Yes
9. Are formal grievances signed and dated by the respondent?
Yes
- a. Regarding the quality of responses, is there a quality assurance system in place?
Yes
 - b. Does the staff member who dealt with the complaint clearly print their name on the response?
Yes
 - c. Are staff responses to confidential complaints returned in sealed envelopes?
Yes
10. Do prisoners feel able to ask for help in completing their complaint or grievance form and in copying relevant documentation?
Yes
- a. Are staff responsive to requests for help with forms?
Yes
 - b. Are translation services provided for those who need them?
Yes
 - c. What are the arrangements for prisoners with literacy problems, and for those who are blind?
ACA coordinator and unit staff assist the inmate
11. Is any declaration of urgency by prisoners fully assessed and answered?
Yes

- a. Are staff responsive to requests for urgent help?

Yes

12. Are prisoners who make complaints against staff and/or other prisoners protected from possible recrimination?

Yes

- a. What protection measures are in place and put into practice?

Employee Code of Conduct

- b. Are responses objective and factual, and conclusions based on evidence rather than supposition?

Yes

- c. What are the adverse effects of filing complaints?

None

- d. Do prisoners know that there are protection measures if they complain about staff or other prisoners?

Yes

13. Do prisoners know how to appeal grievance decisions?

Yes

- a. Are appeals dealt with fairly, and responded to within seven days?

Yes

- b. Are prisoners reminded of their appeal option on the relevant forms?

Yes, an appeal is always sent to the inmate.

- c. How many have appealed in the last six months?

(Blank)

- d. What was the outcome, and how promptly were they answered?

(Blank)

14. Do all prisoners (and staff) know how to contact members of the Ohio General Assembly's Correctional Institution Inspection Committee, and can they do so in confidence?

Yes

- a. Is CIIC contact information posted in dorms, blocks, library and other areas to ensure that staff and inmates are aware of how to contact CIIC?

Yes

- b. Are there any difficulties with access to the CIIC?

No

15. Do prisoners receive help to pursue complaints and grievances with unit managers, prison administrators, or other central office staff, if they need to?

Yes

16. Do all prisoners know how to contact the Inspector and Chief Inspector?

Yes

a. Do blocks/dorms have contact details and information?

Yes

17. Do prisoners receive help to pursue grievances with external bodies if they need to?

Yes

a. Do they also receive help in contacting legal advisers or making direct applications to the courts?

Yes, legal services

b. In the last month, how many original grievances and appeals were sent to the Chief Inspector?

(Blank)

c. What do they tend to be about?

Property and medical

d. What proportion are generally resolved?

(Blank)

18. Do prison managers analyze complaints (both granted and denied) each month, by ethnicity, disability, block/dorm/unit, prisoner type, etc., and if necessary, make any appropriate changes?

Chief Inspector affirms or modifies.

a. Is data studied and is action taken when strong patterns/trends emerge?

Yes

Bullying and Violence Reduction

1. Does everyone feel safe from bullying and victimization (which includes verbal and racial abuse, theft, threats of violence and assault)?

This is a broad question that can't be sufficiently answered by one person. However, it is our goal. Inmates have grievance options.

2. Are active and fair systems to prevent and respond to violence and intimidation known to staff, prisoners and visitors?

Yes

3. Has the prison developed an effective strategy to reduce violence and intimidation, which has earned the commitment of the whole prison and has drawn on multi-disciplinary consultation including feedback from prisoners?

(Blank)

- a. Is the violence reduction strategy widely publicized?

The grievance procedures are publicized

- b. Is monitoring part of the strategy and as a minimum, does it cover feelings of safety among prisoners, incidents of bullying (verbal and physical), number of assaults, number of racist incidents, location of incidents and action taken?

(Blank)

- c. Do staff understand their duty to maintain a safe environment and what they do to promote this?

Yes

- d. Are staff alert to threats to a safe environment, and do they confront all forms of victimization?

Yes

- e. Are prisoners consulted as part of the strategy development and maintenance?

No, but they are interviewed regarding their complaints.

- f. How effective is the strategy in promoting safer custody and violence reduction?

Considering our high security level, it is extremely effective.

4. Are prisoners consulted and involved in determining how their lives in the prison can be made safer, how bullying, verbal and physical abuse, racial abuse and threats of violence are confronted, how conflicts can be resolved and what sanctions are appropriate?

No

- a. Has there been any consultation in the last six months?

No

- b. Has an annual confidential survey to all prisoners about bullying been undertaken?

No

- c. Are there wing representatives?

No

5. Do staff supervise and protect prisoners throughout the prison from bullying, verbal and physical abuse, racial abuse and threats of violence?

Yes

6. Are staff consistent in challenging these behaviors?

Yes

- a. How many incidents occurred in the last six months?

(Blank)

- b. Are there particular areas where prisoners feel vulnerable to bullying?

No

- c. What policies provide protection of vulnerable prisoners?

Protective Control policy

- d. Do staff lead by example in the way they treat their colleagues/prisoners, and understand that their duty is to foster a safe environment, by confronting unacceptable behavior quickly and fairly?

Yes

- e. What are the arrangements for movement, exercise, mealtimes and discharge, especially for those who are considered vulnerable?

PC inmates are given special arrangements

- f. Is particular attention given to prisoners who have asked for protection from other prisoners or those who may be victimized because of the nature of their offense or other individual circumstances?

Yes

7. Are prisoners' families and friends encouraged to make suggestions about how the prison could better protect prisoners from victimization and to provide information to help identify those prisoners likely to be at risk?

No

- a. Are prisoners' families encouraged to come forward if they feel they are being bullied to bring drugs into prison?

Yes

- b. Is a visitors' survey distributed systematically?

No

- c. Do visiting families know about reporting procedures and do they think that visiting staff are approachable and sympathetic?

Yes

d. Are there posters in visiting rooms?

No

8. Is an effective strategy in place to deal with bullying which is based on an analysis of the pattern of bullying in the prison and is applied consistently throughout the prison?

Inmate Rules of Conduct

a. Has a strategy been formed by systematic consultation with prisoners across the prison?

No

b. Is a central log of bullying kept, and are incidents of bullying reviewed regularly by a multidisciplinary committee?

No

c. Are staff alert to potential bullying and do they confront all forms of victimization?

Yes

d. Are all sources of information including security reports, accidental injuries etc. used for evidence of bullying/intimidation?

Yes

e. How do staff contribute to the strategy?

Following policies, rules, and regulations.

f. Is there a coordinated approach by all departments?

All departments submit written reports (DRC 1000) to report any significant incidents.

9. Are allegations of bullying behavior treated consistently and fairly?

Yes

a. Are they investigated promptly?

Yes

b. Are outcomes of investigations recorded and is the prisoner who reported the bullying supported?

Yes

10. Are prisoners made aware of behavior that is unacceptable through a well-publicized policy and are made aware of the consequences of bullying?

Yes

11. Is inappropriate behavior consistently challenged?

Yes

- a. Are there bullying posters throughout the prison?
No
 - b. What information is distributed to new arrivals?
Inmate handbook and sexual assault information
 - c. Is bullying clearly defined to prisoners?
Yes through the Inmate Rules of Conduct 5120-9-06
 - d. Are staff aware of both direct and indirect forms of bullying?
Yes
12. Do anti-bullying measures support the victim and take the victim's views about their location into account?
Yes
- a. Do staff understand the link between bullying and aggressive and disruptive behavior generally?
Yes
13. Are appropriate interventions in place to deal with bullies and support victims?
Yes
- a. What interventions are available to challenge bullies and to support victims of bullying?
The disciplinary process for bullies and PC process for victims
 - b. Are interventions aimed at achieving sustained and agreed changes in behavior?
Yes
 - c. Do prisoner records contain comprehensive updates on how bullied and bullying prisoners have been supported and/or challenged?
Typically in DOTS portal-notes.

Self-Harm and Suicide

- 1. Does the prison work to reduce the risks of self-harm and suicide through a whole-prison approach?
Yes. Offenders are encouraged to exercise their belief system as a part of more healthy and hopeful outlook. Where appropriate the Chaplain is asked to see the offender.
- 2. Are prisoners at risk of self-harm or suicide identified at an early stage, and is a care and support plan drawn up, implemented and monitored?
On the initial screen entering the institution offenders are assessed as suicidality risk and referred for more detailed screening and evaluation if an elevated risk is identified.

3. Are prisoners who have been identified as vulnerable encouraged to participate in all purposeful activity?
(Blank)
4. Are all staff aware of and alert to vulnerability issues, appropriately trained, and have access to proper equipment and support?
Yes. Issues of self-harm and suicide are covered in annual in-service training. Mental health staff carry a radio for quick access when a crisis arises.
5. Is there a safer custody strategy in place that recognizes the risks to prisoners, particularly in the early days in custody, and sets out procedures, which help to reduce the risk of self-harm?
The aforementioned initial screen is the immediate step upon an offender's entering the institution.
 - a. Are the specific needs of different prisoner groups recognized, as are the levels of risk in different areas of the facility?
Offenders being placed into segregation are screened by a questionnaire for suicidality.
 - b. Does the strategy recognize the specific needs of the population e.g. women and minority groups, those with substance misuse problems, and those not on normal location?
Aside from screening mechanisms at entry and segregation placement response is and follow-up is based on demonstrated risk and or need.
 - c. Is staff training appropriate?
Yes – Annual in-service and two specialized mental health training.
 - d. What is the availability and use of safer cells, particularly in areas of the prison where risks of self-harm are higher?
We have “safer” cells in various locations throughout the institution for observation, close, and constant watch.
 - e. Does the protocol in place recognize the need for continued interaction, and avoid an over reliance on the safer cell as a preventative measure?
The person on a watch status must be assessed by an independently licensed staff person daily.
6. Does a multi-disciplinary committee effectively monitor the prison's suicide prevention policy and procedures?
Yes – Suicide prevention and reduction team consists of DWSS, Major, UMA, MHA, HCA, and Clinical Director.

7. Is the committee chaired by a manager responsible for the policy and does membership include prisoners, staff representatives from a range of disciplines, and a member of the local community mental health team?

Yes. It does not include prisoners or community members.

8. Are prisoners' families, friends and external agencies encouraged, through local arrangements, to provide sources of information which may help identify and support those prisoners likely to be bullied or who have a history of self-harming behavior?

(Blank)

- a. Are there posters in the visiting room about who to contact with concerns and is that information sent out with visiting orders alerting families to the help available?

(Blank)

9. Is there a detailed care and support plan prepared with input from the prisoner, which identifies needs, as well as the individuals responsible including a key worker?

There is a crisis treatment plan developed for all offenders who go on watch status incorporating the above.

10. Are personal factors or significant events that may be a trigger to self-harm identified?

Yes – On initial crisis note and treatment plans.

11. Do regular reviews take place involving staff from a range of disciplines and family and friends as appropriate, which provide good support and care for all prisoners at risk?

Yes with multiple staff disciplines. Input from family and friends is accepted and encouraged when offered.

12. Are arrangements in place for following up after a care and support plan has been closed?

Follow up as assigned by independently licensed mental health professional.

- a. Do unit officers have knowledge of policy and support plans?

In crisis stabilization unit, yes.

- b. What level of training have they received?

Annual suicide prevention awareness and two day specialized mental health training.

13. Are prisoners at risk of suicide and self-harm held in a supportive and caring environment with unhindered access to sources of help including peer supporters?

(Blank)

- a. Is a care suite available to support the work of Listeners?

(Blank)

- b. Is there access to counselors, the chaplaincy team, Listeners and Samaritans at all times?

(Blank)

- c. Are appropriate free telephone help lines/interventions available, in particular, to address specific aspects of women's prior victimization such as rape crisis, domestic violence and others?
(Blank)
14. Are prisoners encouraged to express any thought of suicide and/or self-harm, and encouraged to take part in all purposeful activities as part of the support plan?
Yes by showing suicide prevention videos on institutional TV. Access through staff rounds.
- a. Are prisoners given the opportunity and assistance to make a written contribution to their review?
No – Plan is discussed with offender and input solicited.
- b. Are prisoners encouraged to identify their own support needs and are they able to draw on opportunities for informal support from other prisoners if they wish?
No – not in this environment.
15. Are all staff, including night staff, fully trained in suicide prevention and clear on what to do in an emergency?
Yes
- a. Is there a program of refresher training in place?
Annual in-service and monthly drills on each shift.
- b. Do staff have access to first aid kits and shears?
Yes
- c. If facility does not have a first night center, do night staff know where first night prisoners and those at risk are located?
Yes – for those identified at risk by watch status.
16. Are incidents of self-harm closely monitored and analyzed at regular intervals to establish any trends and to implement preventive measures?
Yes – Suicide Prevention and Reduction Team (SPART) and clinic meeting.
17. Are serious incidents properly investigated to establish what lessons could be learned and to promote good practice?
Yes – SPART and CQI.
18. Where appropriate, are family or friends of the prisoner informed through a family liaison officer?
(Blank)

19. Is an action plan devised and acted upon promptly as a result of an investigation into an apparent self-inflicted death?

Yes

a. Is this reviewed following subsequent findings of an investigation?

Yes

b. Are there attempts to understand underlying causes and/or trends?

Yes

c. Have there been any reviews of recommendations from previous deaths in custody?

Yes

20. Is all information about prisoners at risk of self-harm or suicide communicated to people who are able to offer support in the community?

We do not regularly communicate this information to the community.

Activities

Learning Skills and Work Activities

1. Are prisoners encouraged and enabled to learn, and do they have access to good library facilities?

Yes per policy

2. Is sufficient purposeful activity available for the total prisoner population?

We provide services to all areas with a very limited staff.

3. Are all prisoners assessed to provide a clear understanding and record of their learning and skills needs including literacy, math, and language support, employability and vocational training, and social and life skills?

Yes, during intake.

4. Is the learning and skills and work provision in the prison informed by and based on the diverse needs of prisoners and provides prisoners with both the opportunity of and access to activities that are likely to benefit them?

We provide the necessary learning skills that are in compliance with state needs.

a. Does provision meet the needs of older, younger adult, and disabled?

Education services are available to all eligible inmates per policy 57-EDU-01.

5. Are there sufficient activity places to occupy the population purposefully during the core working day?

N/A

- a. How many prisoners are locked up during the day?
N/A
 - b. How many are formally registered as unassigned?
N/A
 - c. What is the rated capacity compared with current population?
N/A
 - d. How easy is it for a prisoner to get a job?
N/A
6. Are activities that fall outside the learning and skills provision purposeful and designed to enhance prisoners' self-esteem and their chances of successful reentry?
Alcohol, family and drug programs are provided by other departments.
7. Are facilities and resources for learning and skills and work appropriate, sufficient and suitable for purpose?
? The facilities are resources provided by the education department meet requirements
8. Are all prisoners able to access activity areas?
? General Population and PC inmates attend classes in the learning center. RTU inmates and Level 4B inmates are provided services in their area.
- a. Is there access for older and disabled prisoners?
Handicapped elevator needs repair.
 - b. Are there any inaccessible areas because of poor mobility and insufficient help to get to them?
No
9. Is every prisoner who wishes to able to engage fully with all prison activities offered, and is no one excluded from participation, other than as a result of a disciplinary punishment?
(Blank)
- a. Is a full schedule of activities available to all prisoners?
We offer to all security levels, first to mandatory then to non-mandatory students.
10. Is allocation to activity places equitable, transparent, and based on identified reentry planning needs?
No, policy 57-EDU-01 mandatory students Ohio law.
11. Can prisoners apply for job transfers and are they given written reasons for any decisions?
(Blank)

- a. Does case management link with the reentry planning process?
Yes
- b. Do prisoners with identified learning needs work in low-skilled, production line work, rather than relevant classes?
Lesson plans are based on individual ability.
- c. How are unit-based jobs (cleaners, painters, food service workers etc.) allocated, as these often bypass formal procedures?
Education students is based on policy 57-EDU-01
- d. Is there any favoritism or line jumping?
No – inmates are assigned to school per policy 57-EDU-01
12. Do local pay schedules provide disincentives for prisoners to engage in education or training activities?
(Blank)
- a. Do unskilled jobs with no links to learning offer more pay than education and training activities?
Yes, Rec. 7
13. Do prisoners who do not work because they are exempt (Long-term sick, etc.) receive sufficient weekly pay?
Every inmate receives at least \$9 a month
14. Do prisoners who are unemployed through no fault of their own or who are exempt from working unlocked during the day, provided with access to the library and other activities?
Yes, they have no restrictions.
15. Does the prison have an effective strategy to ensure that learners are able to regularly and punctually attend those activities that meet their needs and aspirations?
The education department offers a full range of learning activities to all inmates in compliance with 57-EDU-01.
- a. What systems are in place for managing punctuality and encouraging attendance at prison activities?
Daily attendance sheets, which allow for tardiness.
16. Are all prisoners given accurate information, advice and guidance about prison activities, which support their learning and sentence plans and link to their reintegration into the community?
Explain GED process, after receiving a GED they get a (-1) security review, and a GED helps receive a job in the community.

17. Does the assessment and provision of individual learning and skills form an effective part of prisoners' reentry plans and are they used effectively to record and review overall progress and achievement?

We record all test scores and any certificates awarded for achievement. Ultimately the GED would allow for a better job opportunity.

18. Do work placements provide purposeful and structured training for prisoners?

(Blank)

- a. Wherever possible, can vocational qualifications be obtained alongside their work?
There is no vocational training at our facility.

- b. In the absence of such qualifications, are developed skills recognized and recorded?
No

19. Are prisoners helped to continue on their courses when transferred or to progress to further education, training or employment on release?

Yes, they are offered career enhancement through the education department.

20. Does the prison accurately record the purposeful activity hours that prisoners engage in, excluding non-purposeful activities in their calculations?

The education dept. records a daily attendance.

Library

1. Does the prison have an effective strategy for maximizing access to and use of a properly equipped, organized library, managed by trained staff?

? The library/legal services department is staffed by two Paralegals and a library assistant.

- a. How do prisoners with mobility problems get access?
Handicapped elevator

2. Are the library materials broadly reflective of the different cultures and needs of the prison population, including Braille, talking books, and foreign language books?

Available through inter library loan

3. Do all prisoners have access to a range of library materials, which reflect the population's needs and support learning and skills?

Yes, this is reflected in our annual inmate survey "library assessment"

4. Does this include:

- a. Literacy?
Yes

b. Math?

Yes

c. Language?

Yes

d. Employability?

Yes

e. Vocational training?

Yes

f. Social and life skills?

Yes

5. Do library materials include a comprehensive selection of up-to-date legal textbooks and DRC Administrative Rules and DRC Policies?

Yes

Good Order

Security and Rules

1. Are security and good order maintained through positive staff- prisoner relationships based on mutual respect as well as attention to physical and procedural matters?

Yes

2. Are rules and routines well publicized, proportionate, fair and encourage responsible behavior?

Yes

3. Are categorization and allocation procedures based on assessment of a prisoner's risks and needs?

Yes

4. Are they clearly explained, fairly applied and routinely reviewed?

Yes

Security

5. Are there any obvious weaknesses or anomalies in the physical and procedural security of the facility?

No

6. Are the elements of "dynamic security" in place:

- a. Are staff-prisoner relationships positive?
Yes
 - b. Do prisoners receive personal attention from staff?
Yes
 - c. Is there constructive activity to occupy prisoners?
Yes. However, security levels determines what activities are permitted.
 - 1. Do staff cluster during association?
(Blank)
 - 2. Are there enough staff in dorm/block areas to facilitate good officer work?
Yes
7. Does effective security intelligence safeguard prisoners' well-being?
Yes
- a. Do staff comply with security requirements in terms of filing reports?
Yes
 - b. Are there recent incidents where security reports have led to action?
Yes
8. Is prisoners' access to prison activities impeded by an unnecessarily restrictive approach to security?
No. Inmates are impeded by their behavior and security level.
9. Is strip and squat-searching of prisoners carried out only for sound security reasons?
Yes
10. Are prisoners strip or squat searched only in the presence of more than one member of staff, of their own gender?
Yes
- a. If squat searches are used, does their incidence and authorization need to be logged and regularly checked?
No
 - b. Are squat searches only used in exceptional circumstances?
No
11. Is the criteria to ban or otherwise restrict visitors visible and unambiguous, with an appeal process available?
Yes

- a. Are the visitors subject to bans or restrictions reviewed every month?

Yes

Rules

1. Are local rules and routines publicized prominently throughout all residential and communal areas?

Yes

- a. Are rules and routines posted/distributed on units/blocks/dorms?

Yes

- b. Are they accessible to those with language and literacy needs?

Yes

2. Are rules and routines applied openly, fairly and consistently, with no discrimination?

Yes

3. Does staff use only the level of authority necessary to ensure a prisoner's compliance with the rules?

Yes

4. When rules are breached, does staff take time to explain how and why to the prisoner concerned?

Yes

5. When decisions are conveyed to prisoners, are appeal arrangements explained and made available?

Yes

Services

Food Services

1. Are prisoners offered varied meals to meet their individual requirements?

Yes

2. Is food prepared and served according to religious, cultural and prevailing food safety and hygiene regulations?

Yes

3. Do all areas where food is stored, prepared and served, conform to the relevant food safety and hygiene regulations?

Yes

4. Are religious, cultural or other special dietary requirements relating to food procurement, storage, preparation, distribution and serving, fully observed and communicated to prisoners?
Yes
- a. Are Halal certificates displayed where prisoners can see them?
No
 - b. Are appropriate serving utensils used to avoid cross-contamination?
Yes
 - c. Do kitchen staff make special arrangements for different types of food, and special dietary requirements for e.g.
 - Pregnant inmates?
N/A
 - Specific religions?
Yes
 - Prisoners with disabilities?
Yes
 - d. Do prisoners who are on special diets have confidence in the preparation and content of the meals?
Yes
5. Are all areas where food is stored, prepared and served properly equipped and well managed?
Yes
6. Are prisoners and staff who work with food, health screened and trained, wear proper clothing, and prisoners are able to gain relevant qualifications?
Yes
7. Do medical clearance forms exist on food service workers, and are training courses offered?
No
8. Are prisoners' meals healthy, varied and balanced and always include one substantial meal each day?
Yes
- a. Are prisoners encouraged to eat healthily and are they able to eat five portions of fruit or vegetables a day?
Yes
 - b. Do prisoners on transfer miss out on their main meal?
No

9. Do prisoners have a choice of meals including an option for vegetarian, religious, cultural and medical diets?

Yes

a. Are all menu choices provided to the same standard?

Yes

b. Are options for religious or cultural groups open to all, and not just those who practice their religion officially?

No

10. Are prisoners consulted about the menu, and can they make comments about the food?

Yes

a. If logs of comments are kept, how frequently are they consulted?

Yes, as needed.

b. Is there a food comments book?

No

11. Is the breakfast meal prepared on the morning it is eaten?

Yes

12. Is lunch served between noon and 1:30 pm and dinner between 5 pm and 6:30 pm?

Yes

13. Do prisoners have access to drinking water (including at night time), and the means of making a hot drink after evening lock-up?

Yes

14. Are prisoners able to eat together (except in exceptional circumstances)?

Unless in level 4B or segregation.

15. Does staff supervise the serving of food in order to prevent tampering with food and other forms of bullying?

Yes

16. Where prisoners are required to eat their meals in their cells, are they able to sit at a table?

Yes

17. Do pregnant prisoners and nursing mothers receive appropriate extra food?

N/A

QUESTIONS AND RESPONSES TO CORRECTIONAL FAITH-BASED INITIATIVES TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATIONS

Infrastructure

1. Is DRC/DYS being encouraged, wherever practical, to use faith-based and community programs that address documented criminogenic needs? How? By whom?
Yes; through programs such as specific Bible studies, that target behavioral changes. This is done by volunteers.
 - a. Is DRC/DYS in conjunction with the Governor's Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives, making available to the faith community, examples of evidence-based programming shown to impact offenders' lives? What examples? How are they being made available?
Commonly, volunteers come with their own programs and do not seek the input of the institution staff.
 - b. Is information being used and disseminated to faith-based and community organizations so that they provide programs that are evidence based and can truly impact the lives of ex-offenders and their families?
Depending on the nature of information needed, our institution is willing to make it available to them. But most of the time volunteers pursue their and carry out their own agendas.
 - c. What is in place to ensure that the recommendation is implemented?
Time and space and proper supervision including staff support.
 - d. What methods of program evaluation are being explored to further document program success? What methods are in place?
DRC has plans to develop tools for program evaluation. This has been mentioned in the House Bill 13 in-service training power point.
2. Is the DRC/DYS Director working with wardens/superintendents to develop programs that will facilitate a cultural change in institutions to encourage collaboration with faith-based and community service providers? How? What programs have been developed?
?
 - a. Is the culture within the institution continuing to evolve to encourage community volunteers? Explain.
New opportunities for volunteers are being identified.
 - b. How is the warden/superintendent supporting and encouraging a cultural shift and institutional change as a day-to-day practice to encourage community volunteers?
Warden encourages the use of volunteers and facilitates the development of guidelines that breaks down own roadblocks to their entrance.

- c. How is the DRC/DYS administration working with wardens/superintendents to collaboratively develop protocols that will proactively assist with changing the culture?
(Blank)
- d. Have such protocols been developed?
(Blank)
- e. What are they?
(Blank)
- f. Have policies been reviewed to determine if they might inhibit use of community volunteers, and have necessary changes been made accordingly?
Yes
- g. What policies have been reviewed? By whom?
Volunteer policy by volunteer coordinator and Chaplains.
- h. What policies have been changed so that they do not inhibit use of community volunteers?
Application/Background checks streamlined and social security numbers deleted from application.
3. Has DRC/DYS developed a marketing plan to assist in recruiting volunteers from the community and faith-based institutions?
Yes. A video presentation and website and phone numbers for volunteer recruitment are made available.
- a. Does the plan discuss educating volunteers about the justice system?
Materials in the volunteer training curriculum need to be expanded to address those needs in detail.
- b. Is there a need to increase programming for incarcerated offenders to improve the likelihood they will be reintegrated into the community successfully upon release from prison?
It is not so much of the quantity of programs, but focus should be placed on the quality. Volunteers have a willing heart to serve, but the majority lack the needed skills to develop quality programs. They need training.
- c. Is the faith community being encouraged to volunteer to provide programs and services to assist offenders in both the institutions and the community?
Yes. They are provided with supportive and welcoming attitude and appreciation. There is a volunteer appreciation program every year to demonstrate that.
- d. Has a marketing plan been developed to overcome the public's misperceptions of offenders?
A PR video. Website

- e. Has DRC developed an educational program to motivate the faith community to get involved in volunteering, including a video to educate volunteer groups about offenders and their needs in institutions?

A PR video. Website

- f. Is information provided on how individuals and groups can volunteer in the prisons?

A PR video. Website

- g. Does the marketing campaign include information on the needs of the adult/youthful offenders, information on how the justice system works, and information on the different ways to volunteer?

Yes

4. Has DRC/DYS developed a standard training program for staff, volunteers, and the community to facilitate working in institutions together?

Training outline in volunteer policy. Chaplains are involved in providing in-service training program to the staff on HB 113.

- a. Does the program include information on:

- Ethics of working with offenders?

Yes

- Confidentiality issues?

Yes

- Ensuring safety and security of volunteers?

Yes

- Working with volunteers?

Yes

- Rules and regulations for volunteers?

Yes

- b. Does the program include information to volunteers on the security requirements for the institution, why the requirements are in place, and how to properly work with offenders?

Yes

- c. Has a standardized training program been developed for volunteers to facilitate their work in institutions?

Yes – in policy

- d. Has DRC/DYS established an orientation program for volunteers, held at preset intervals to allow community organizations to plan for the training as part of their program planning?

No to my knowledge

5. Has Ohio law been revised to remove unnecessary and unreasonable collateral sanctions that inhibit offenders' successful reentry?

(Blank)

6. What improvements have been made regarding communication about programs and services between:

- Staff and volunteers?

In-service – HB 113

- Staff and the community?

In-service – HB 113

- Other parts of the criminal justice system and the community?

(Blank)

- a. What improvements have been made in effectively communicating among staff within the facilities, as well as with the community?

In-service – HB 113

- b. Has an improved communication mechanism been developed in order to ensure these efforts?

HB 113 in-service training for staff.

- c. Has the system been developed collaboratively with staff and volunteers to address observed problems?

No

Alternatives to Incarceration

7. Has the statute been revised to increase judicial use of community options for non-violent offenders so prison space can be reserved for violent offenders?

(Blank)

- a. Working with faith-based and community service providers, have programs been developed in the community to effectively provide treatment while protecting public safety?

(Blank)

- b. Has the Ohio Criminal Sentencing Commission reviewed additional options to encourage judges to use these community options rather than sending non-violent offenders to limited prison space?
(Blank)
 - c. Have local probation departments prepared a listing of community options currently available for judicial use?
(Blank)
 - d. Have faith-based and community programs contacted local probation departments through the Juvenile Court, Common Pleas Court, and Municipal Courts to inform them of programs and services available? Explain.
(Blank)
8. Are faith-based and community programs being encouraged to supplement existing community and diversionary programs for offenders and to provide services that are not currently available? How?
(Blank)
- a. Is DRC/DYS working with community organizations and probation departments to expand services available for offenders? How?
(Blank)
 - b. Has a community model been created that will help meet the basic needs of offenders within the community? Is it being created? Explain.
(Blank)
9. Has DRC/DYS taken a more active role in linking with the faith-based community to develop programs to meet the gaps in services to adult and juvenile offenders? How?
(Blank)
- a. Has DRC/DYS reviewed current grant or subsidy programs to determine eligibility for faith community programs, in order to increase the number of faith-based and community programs available to judges for sentencing?
(Blank)
 - b. Following identification of funding sources, is DRC/DYS actively working with the Governor's Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives to provide information to these organizations on funding availability? How? What is in place?
(Blank)
 - c. Is the Governor's Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives providing technical assistance to the faith community to assist them in developing competitive applications for state and federal funding?
(Blank)

10. Has DRC/DYS, and Job and Family Services expanded efforts in partnership to work with employment centers and the faith community to increase practical employment opportunities for offenders in the community? Explain.

(Blank)

a. Has a job placement program been implemented?

(Blank)

b. Does it provide:

- Information on job fairs to ex-offenders?
(Blank)
- Education of businesses/employers on the benefits of hiring ex-offenders?
(Blank)
- Incentives for employers to hire ex-offenders (i.e., tax breaks)?
(Blank)
- Increased involvement of faith-based and community groups?
(Blank)

c. Is there collaboration between the DYS, DRC and Job and Family Services who started the employment centers in Ohio? In what way?

(Blank)

d. Has a program been implemented with the goal to get jobs for offenders upon release, and also to match them up with jobs of interest to the offenders, specifically ones at higher wages and skill levels, if possible? Explain?

(Blank)

e. Has the DRC Omnibus Reentry legislation been enacted to reduce unnecessary sanctions in the law and thus made training more relevant?

(Blank)

Institutional Programming

11. Is DRC/DYS working with the faith community and faith volunteers to develop and expand programs within the institutions?

Yes

a. Do current programs include the following? Are they being developed? Are they being expanded?

(Blank)

- Life skills?
(Blank)
- Financial management and budgeting?
(Blank)
- Personal hygiene
(Blank)
- Family programs including:
 - o Family and community-based orientation?
(Blank)
 - o Family mediation?
(Blank)
 - o Family education and orientation program?
(Blank)
 - o Transportation and video conferencing for visitation?
(Blank)
 - o Parenting?
(Blank)

b. Dynamic risk factors that impact offender behavior and risk of reoffending include: antisocial personality, companions, interpersonal conflict, social achievement, substance abuse, and criminogenic needs. Treatment programs can influence and change offender behavior during the time they are in an institution. Programs that address criminogenic needs are programs designed to change offender attitudes, cognitions, behavior toward authority, employment instability, education, housing, and leisure time.

Is DRC/DYS working proactively with faith-based and community groups in the development of programs that will meet the criminogenic needs of offenders in institutions? How?

(Blank)

c. Have specific life skills programs been developed in the following areas?

- Budgeting?
(Blank)
- Parenting?
(Blank)

- Job searches?
(Blank)
 - Anger management?
(Blank)
 - Appropriate leisure-time activities?
(Blank)
- d. Is emphasis centered on using a mentor-type relationship for such training?
(Blank)
- e. Has legislation created a new community-based reorientation program whereby non-violent offenders could be released to the community up to 30 days prior to the expiration of their sentence to arrange for suitable employment, housing, treatment services, etc.?
(Blank)
- f. Have video-conferencing opportunities for the families, particularly children of offenders, been expanded? Are they used as an incentive program?
(Blank)
- g. Do volunteers facilitate the improvement of family relations through coaching in basic relational skills or involvement in family mediation programs?
Yes, but they too need training to be effective in this area of specialized skills. Some volunteers have good heart to help, but they need training to make a quality contribution.
12. Has DRC/DYS expanded partnerships with national organizations including faith-based and community organizations to provide programming in state institutions? Explain.
Yes, Kairos, prison fellowship.
- a. Does DRC/DYS have a stated plan for the extent of their involvement in prison programming that specifies any limitations seen as necessary? What is it?
(Blank)
13. Does DRC/DYS involve the faith community when appropriate, in the development of release plans for the offender that flow from the institution to community reentry? Explain.
(Blank)
- a. Are community actors and organizations a part of reentry planning for those offenders who will shortly be returning home? Explain.
Yes. Some of them have developed a transitional housing program and job placement efforts.

- b. The best ideas and programs will serve no purpose in helping offenders live out productive lives after their release if there is no effective community follow-through. Is there effective community follow-through?
(Blank)
- c. Is there a mentorship program for offenders at your facility?
Through DRC
- d. Are faith-based and community volunteer groups actively developing such a program for participation by offenders at your facility? Explain.
(Blank)

Reentry Programming

14. Have methods been developed to increase and encourage the involvement of the faith community in various reentry efforts, and to encourage collaboration among faith groups? What are they?
Chaplains speaking at churches. DRC – PR video, website.
- a. What has been done to make the faith community aware of programs and training for the faith community's involvement?
Chaplains speaking at churches. DRC – PR video, website.
- b. What has been done to create awareness among the faith community of the needs of ex-offenders and the avenues to get involved?
Chaplains speaking at churches. DRC – PR video, website.
- c. What effort has been made to inform the faith community of the needs of ex-offenders and volunteer opportunities available?
Chaplains speaking at churches. DRC – PR video, website.
- d. Have leaders among the faith community been identified? How? When?
Pastors at churches.
- e. Have staff been used to accomplish this, using existing organizations, groups and established relationships? Explain.
(Blank)
- f. Has this educational opportunity been extended to faith groups of all kinds?
Yes
- g. Has an easily visible section been added to the DRC (or DYS) web site for the faith community that identifies different programming opportunities for volunteers?
Yes

- h. Does the section contain volunteer opportunities linked to specific communities in Ohio, including contact information for volunteer coordination within each department or institution as needed?

(Blank)

15. Are offenders informed of various housing options before leaving prison or immediately upon release? How is this done?

Yes. Chaplains give them a list of known (halfway houses) housing options and their address that inmates can contact workout possibilities. Unit staff are more involved in this effort.

- a. Although the offender is no longer in prison, he/she is still subject to housing restrictions due to the crime committed (i.e. sex offenders), which creates more difficult circumstances and specialized needs. Are seminars, with free legal or consultation services provided, along with increased involvement of the faith community?

(Blank)

- b. Is legal advice in these situations available? Have partnerships been formed with local law schools to achieve this end?

(Blank)

- c. Are presentations by the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development provided to ex-offenders to provide information on their options upon leaving prison, and knowing how to navigate through the many restrictions placed on them?

(Blank)

- d. How has DRC/DYS made better use of existing federal programs that aim to address the issue of housing?

(Blank)

16. Has DRC/DYS partnered with grassroots and community organizations in an educational effort towards the general public aimed at decreasing the negative stigma of ex-offenders and making the public aware of the needs involved in the process of reentry? What has been accomplished and how?

(Blank)

- a. What educational efforts have been made to:

1. Assure the public that their best interest is at hand, that public safety is not at risk, but will improve with these efforts, and to

(Blank)

2. Inform the public of the many needs of ex-offenders to help them transition successfully back into society?

(Blank)

- b. Are grassroots agencies and advocacy groups being made aware of and sold on this effort, so that they can help to market the increased public safety and reduced criminal justice costs associated with effective offender reentry? How?

(Blank)