



*The Arizona Correctional Peace
Officers Association*

Check and Mate Newsletter No. 23



*A bi-weekly newsletter to
inform Union members on
important grievance results,
trends, procedures and
important information
relevant to a better quality of
work life.*

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A.D.O.C.**



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Regaining Our Lost Power in A.D.O.C.

As most of you are already aware, AZCPOA has decided to initiate a campaign, within the department of corrections, that will focus on addressing the broken locks that are plaguing Lewis Complex, and as we

are learning, other complexes as well. We are also focusing on security breaches, staffing levels violations, classifications violations, staff assaults and other administrative errors that has endangered our staff and convicts alike.

The cat is out of the bag!

There is something terribly wrong with the Arizona department of corrections, isn't there?

You have no doubt watched us make a televised statement at the state capital along with other coverage from ABC Channel 15.

The gloves have come off. No more Mr. nice guy.

We have made our intentions clear to this director and to Governor Ducey that we are no longer going to sit idly by while policies are being violated and crimes are being committed by this administration.

An officer was severely beaten by inmates because this administration will not fix the broken locks.

One inmate was murdered by other inmates because this administration will not fix the broken locks and the inmates were able to let themselves out to commit the crime.

An officer was nearly killed yesterday when a convict from Buckley Unit, who should have been max, stabbed him in the chest with a sharpened stinger.

Yeah! We've had enough and are doing something about it.

We have exposed the issue nationally and folks are responding.

Governor Ducey has ordered outside agencies to come in and bring to light the travesties being exposed.

Our campaign is a coordinated effort that has involved AZCPOA officials, ABC News Investigator Dave Biscobing and you!

That's right!

We have been receiving information, daily, from the most important source we have: our line staff. You!

For that we thank you!

We are absolutely regaining back the power that was slowly being suppressed by this administration.

And that suppression was subtle!

It all began when they first started, little by little, mutating our policies, like the grievance policy, to take away our power to speak out in a fair platform, thus giving all the power to this administration.

Other changes soon followed like the unapproachable manner that this administration started to exhibit by not engaging staff as other directors have in the past.

Gone were the days when directors walked amongst their staff and even joked with them.

Most of our staff have not even met this director because of his lack of presence or commitment.

And when staff did meet him, it was cold and clinical, followed with a prompt handshake and a Directors

coin as if it was a treasure to be cherished.

His leadership brought nothing but fear to our realm.

Fear.

Fear that spread like a fire through the ranks and many, still today, believe, that they can't speak out against agency travesties as if they were the C.I.A. or some Black ops organization.

That fear affected even our chain of command and some, not all, allowed that fear to cloud their judgement and bowed down to the suppression.

And then came the leak.

Videos of our staff being beaten by inmates, after letting themselves out because the locks on their doors were broken, were made public.

Staff then realized that they had been placed in danger by an uncaring administration and a fear ridden chain of command.

And then, the suppression fell apart! Staff realized that there is power in the freedom of speech and the right to be free from danger.

And so, here we are today.

We are again united and forcing the hand of this uncaring administration to take action, by force, if necessary.

Not physical force.

Righteous force! We have been placed in danger and we will not tolerate it any longer.

And so, Morey is being emptied because, as staff have been insisting for years, the locks are broken and administration is at fault.

They will pay for this dearly.

We at AZCPOA, haven't even commenced this campaign. What we have been doing is just a warm up!

So, hang on tight and join the fight because the days of spending money on useless "director coins" is fast approaching and staff will once again, as it should have always been, have

*the power to run a penitentiary the
way penitentiaries, should be run!*

Yours in Solidarity,

Carlos Garcia

*Executive Grievance
Coordinator*

Deeds not words!



