

**MAY 31, 2019**



Members,

Attached is a letter AZCPOA sent out to Director Ryan yesterday afternoon and not only did we receive a response but a positive response! Sgt Contreras along with four other correctional officers had their disciplinary action rescinded. the affected employees will have the action removed from their personnel file, they will be eligible for promotional opportunities, and they will be reimbursed for any lost wages.

**Director Ryan:**

**During our last press conference, AZCPOA made a public request, via said conference, that an apology for sergeant Gabriella Contreras was in order and that her 40-hour suspension should be rescinded because after all, the only thing she did was bring to the surface a horrific, dangerous condition that cost the lives of two inmates and the severe beating of several staff.**

**She was ignored by deputy warden Travis Scott when she attempted a lower level approach in an attempt to resolve this most atrocious situation by bringing the situation to their attention various times.**

**Once she was ignored, she utilized a more direct method and once that came to light, she was treated like a common criminal by Travis Scott, given a 40-hour suspension with no further action on his behalf as to the travesty witnessed on the evidence that she had previously brought to his attention**

**In short, she was punished for reporting a situation that could potentially lead to the death of a staff member.**

**This is unacceptable. This sergeant had to take the drastic measure of Whistle Blowing just to bring this dangerous situation to light and in return, is now stuck with a disciplinary sanction that should have not occurred in the first place.**

**We are therefore requesting, via this written communication, formally and with respect, that you take this matter as seriously, as is expected, from a director of an agency that promotes a fair, firm and consistent approach when dealing with any problem faced by the correctional professional.**

**We are asking that the 40-hour suspension be rescinded and returned to her, and that she be reinstated to the promotional roster she was removed from following the unwarranted disciplinary.**

Looking forward to your response,

Sincerely, respectfully and in solidarity,

Carlos Garcia

Executive Grievance Coordinator

The Arizona Correctional Peace officers Association

**STAY TUNED FOR THE NEXT UPDATE COMING SOON REGARDING THE RESPONSE TO THIS LETTER!**

As always stay safe and thank you for being a valuable member!

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Arizona Correctional Peace Officers Association | [www.azcpoa.org](http://www.azcpoa.org)