



ALASKA CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

"Walking Alaska's Toughest Beat"

January 27, 2012

Fellow Officers,

First, I should let you all know I am still employed. I know there was a rumor that I was fired, and then another that I was given time off for missing a security check. After Management spent four days reviewing a week's worth of tapes, they think that they caught me missing distro on one night and gave me a week off. When I told them I thought their actions were pathetic, I received one more day off. Rumors aside, I am still here and still fighting.

As you all know by now, the DOC management is once again attacking us by attempting to alter the work schedules we have known for thirty years. They do this knowing how devastating it will be to our lives and our families. It will also be quite a blow to the efficient running of Alaska institutions. There will be burn out due to lack of time away from the institution, increased sick leave usage due to a schedule that disrupts our lives as we now know it, resignations that will create a staffing shortage, families separated because some of us work at distant facilities, costs will increase, safety will decrease, and so on and so on.

DOC management knows full well the hurt they will inflict on those chosen to go to the 8 hour shifts. It is the intent of the DOC management to drive a wedge between us by creating two classes of Correctional Officers (another divide and conquer attempt). Although not all of us will be hurt the same or immediately, I assure you we will all feel the pain. When one of us bleeds, we all bleed! This is also just the first phase; it could be all of us soon. We will stand together and we will fight this together. Obviously the DOC management has underestimated the loyalty we have toward each other and our resolve.

So far, we have won many battles. If we watch each other's backs, we will win this one too.

Stay strong and stay safe,

President Randy McLellan