

Chairs Sollman and Evans, and members of the committee,

I have been a corrections officer at Two Rivers Correctional Institution for five years, but when you add up all the overtime it's more like 6+ years. All of the mandatory overtime equals burnout, mental and physical fatigue, and it makes it hard to want to continue in this career.

If I didn't put in a lot of effort to manage my schedule I would be easily working between 8 to 16 hours of mandatory overtime weekly. I volunteer to work a lot of overtime so that I have some control over my schedule.

I end up missing out on a lot of my home life. I have younger children and they can't understand why their dad has to go back to work when he just got home. They always ask me "can't you just ask your boss to stay home?" That makes me feel terrible.

Overall, it's depressing. Working in a correctional facility is tough enough to begin with, but then to constantly have to volunteer for overtime to manage your schedule or get mandated, is exhausting.

We need more officers. We need help. We can't keep taking on extreme overtime to fill the vacancies in our facility.

George Eddy

Two Rivers Correctional Institution