



Oregon

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February 23, 2024

The Honorable Paul Evans, Co-Chair
 The Honorable Janeen Sollman, Co-Chair
 Public Safety Subcommittee on Ways and Means
 900 Court St NE
 Salem, OR 97301

Members of the Joint Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee on Public Safety,

Below are the questions and responses from the February 20, 2024, Public Safety Subcommittee on Ways and Means hearing.

1. In regards to drug contraband, what are the Department of Corrections' (DOC) administrative sanctions? When was the last time someone was prosecuted for supplying drugs?

At the Department of Corrections (DOC), when contraband drugs are found, there can be both criminal charges and administrative sanctions. Adults in custody (AICs) who are found in possession of drugs will go through the department's hearing process and may receive a sanction to a Disciplinary Sanction Unit (DSU), Loss of Privileges and/or a monetary fine. The Major Violation Grid (from OAR 291-105) has been included to illustrate the level of potential sanctions.

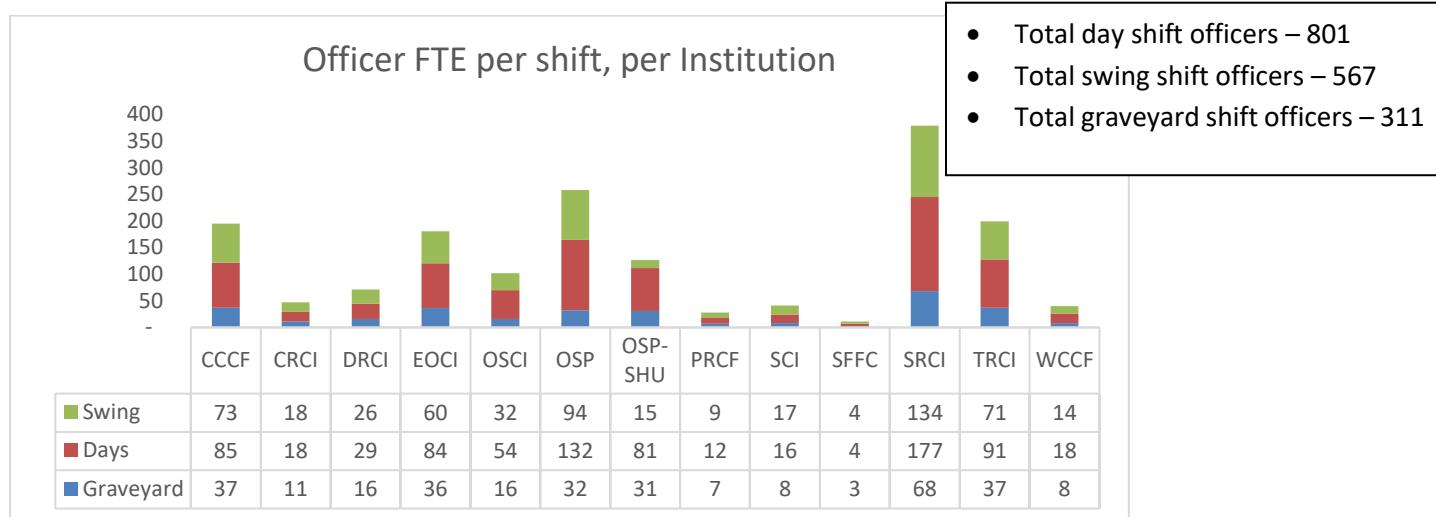
Since the beginning of this year, DOC has submitted four cases to the District Attorneys in Marion, Multnomah, and Malheur Counties for prosecution of "supplying contraband."

Exhibit 1
MAJOR VIOLATION GRID

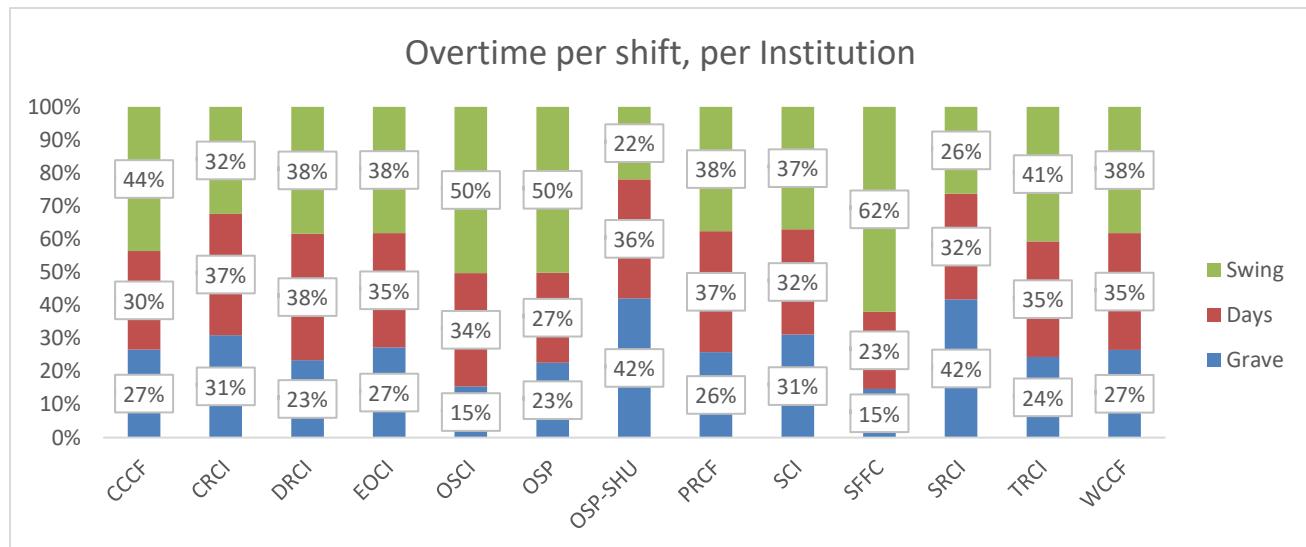
	#	Rule	
I	2.05 1.01 2.03 4.15 4.10 4.05 1.15 4.20 2.15 2.40 4.33 4.25 4.30 4.35 2.20 2.01 4.45	AIC Assault I Arson Assault of the Member of the Public Compromising an Employee Distribution I Disturbance Drug Possession Escape I Extortion I Hostage Taking Possession of an Electronic Device Possession of an Escape Device Possession of a Weapon Racketeering Sexual Assault/Abuse Staff Assault I Unauthorized Organization I	DSU: 60 days max LOP: 28 days max Fine: \$200 max
II	2.06 1.10 4.11 4.21 2.16 4.04 2.25 2.02	AIC Assault II Contraband I Distribution II Escape II Extortion II Leave Violation Sexual Harassment Staff Assault II	DSU: 30 days max LOP: 28 days max Fine: \$100 max
III a	4.01 2.10 4.40	Disobedience of an Order I Disrespect I Unauthorized Area I	DSU: 14 days max LOP: 28 days max Fine: \$75 max
III b	2.07 2.30 1.05 4.46 1.25	AIC Assault III Non-Assaultive Sexual Activity Property I Unauthorized Organization II Unauthorized Use of Info Systems I	LOP: 28 days max Fine: \$75 max
IV	2.45 1.11 4.02 4.01 3.01 3.05 3.15 3.10 1.20 1.26	Body Modification Contraband II Disobedience of an Order II Disrespect II False Information to Employees I Forgery Fraud Gambling Possession of Body Modification Par. Unauthorized Use of Info Systems II	LOP: 14 days max Fine: \$50 max

2. Total overtime hours and employees by shift for security.

Below are the total number of correctional officers required on each shift at DOC's 12 prisons.



The overtime per shift across all institutions is 27% on graveyard, 33% on day shift, and 40% on swing shift. Per DOC's Collective Bargaining Agreements, employees bid for their shift, which can impact overtime usage. The below chart illustrates the 2023 overtime at each facility on each shift.



As you can see, swing shift is where we have the most overtime and graveyard has the least. Day shift is the easiest to manage because institutions can close programming, visiting, etc. Typically, on swing and graveyard, the institution is operating with minimal staffing.

DOC currently manages security employee shifts and days off with the Institution Staff Deployment System (ISDS). Analysis of ISDS data must be done manually. This is an antiquated system and does not communicate with Workday. Replacing ISDS is a priority for the agency and is part of our IT

modernization efforts to increase our efficiencies and to provide quicker and easier answers to this committee.

Unfortunately, Health Services (HS) data cannot be easily pulled and analyzed. The HS timekeeping system is also an antiquated system we are looking to modernize with future efforts.

3. Is there a national standard for the number of hours a correctional officer should work each week?

We will investigate the national standards for working hours of correctional officers. Please note that this will require some time for us to gather; however, upon completion of the study, we will plan to inform this committee in our findings.

4. Incarcerated veterans and the Veterans Services Officer (VSO) positions.

Currently, two Veterans Services Officers (VSO) positions who work for the Oregon Department of Veteran Affairs are assigned to DOC. One VSO is assigned to the Intake Center and DOC facilities in the Willamette Valley; the other VSO is stationed at the Snake River Correctional Facility (SRCI) in Ontario and serves institutions on the East side of the state.

Both VSOs are accredited representatives through the federal Veterans Benefits Administration. They meet with incarcerated veterans to help determine eligibility for veterans' benefits and submit required information through ODVA's secure portal that connects to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs; assist with benefits apportionments to family members during the veteran AIC's incarceration; help AICs upgrade their discharge status; and much more.

The program is very effective and is a critical service component for ensuring AICs, and their family members, receive the benefits to which they are entitled both during incarceration and after release.

5. Is it time to bring in the National Guard to supplement DOC operations?

Deploying the National Guard has been a viable option for other state agencies, and it is something we will actively explore. We will contact the Oregon Military Department to determine how many guard members are qualified to work in a correctional setting. We will also engage the Governor's Office on logistics surrounding declaring an emergency.

Please let me know if you have any additional questions.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Black

Jennifer Black
Communications and Government Relations Assistant Director
Oregon Department of Corrections