

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF OPERATING ENGINEERS

Craft-Maintenance Division State of California Unit 12
Locals 3, 39 & 501, AFL-CIO

CalPIA Rejects IUOE Unit 12's Recommendation for Better Skilled Trades Training for Offenders in the GFMR Program Which Would Lessen Impact on CDCR Plant Maintenance Operations Staff – October 17, 2018

On Monday, October 15, 2018, IUOE representatives met again with CalPIA and CalHR to come up with a win-win solution for the GFMR Program. From its inception, the GFMR program has raised doubts in the union's mind about its effectiveness and, of course, its negative impact on our CDCR plant maintenance operations members.

I think we can all agree, that training offenders in a marketable and employable skill is desirable by all elements of society. Unfortunately, CalPIA's GFMR Program is still only half-baked and does not seem to demonstrate its intent.

After having a number of our Unit 12 journey level, skilled trades members review CalPIA's Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for the GFMR program, there are still too many unanswered questions.

We now know where the GFMR program can operate (only in the medical areas) and on what work orders (those over 30 days old), but CalPIA has refused to answer our questions on what type of work the program can perform. They, CalPIA Representatives, talk in generalities and in circles.

What our team (Unit 12 Painters, Plumbers, Electricians, and Carpenters) has recommended is that the GFMR Program be modeled like a Vocational Education Program with elements consisting of carpentry, plumbing, painting, roofing, tile work, and electrical skills. It should be classroom training in an area that is large enough to construct "mock buildings" or "storage buildings" similar to tough sheds. They could even construct tiny house buildings for the homeless. This way they would be getting the necessary skills to enter the job market upon their release and they would not be impacting the work that our CDCR trades members perform.

Unfortunately, CalPIA rejected our proposal and said that they have a mandate from the governor's office to continue the GFMR Program as it is.

The next meeting of the CalPIA Board is on October 25th at 10 am at 2125 19th Street, Suite 100 in Sacramento. Please be there to express your concerns about the program.

UNION STRONG!

Steve Crouch
Director of Public Employees