

## What does a Correction Officer do?

The duties of Correction Officer vary from jail to jail, prison to prison, and state to state. Here in Lake County the role of Correction Officer requires great versatility, advanced technological capabilities, an understanding of human nature and interaction, crisis intervention, and physical agility to name just a few of skills.

The primary role of the Correction Officer is to ensure the safety and security of 380+ inmates from the moment they walk through our doors, to the minute they leave our facility. There are 16 assignments during a typical shift that include: processing inmates into and out of the facility; monitoring prisoner movement throughout the facility from security posts, responding to medical and physical confrontation situations within the housing units; data entry into advanced computer systems that record all activity involving an inmate during their stay within the jail confines; facilitating jail programming such a GED; Drug and Alcohol Treatment; AA / NA programming; religious services; and the classification of inmate housing to better maintain safety and order for inmates and officers, responding to the rising issues related to dealing with the mentally ill in the incarcerated population; developing policy and procedures; training; food service; maintenance and housekeeping issues; and other areas too numerous to detail here.

We depend on our exceptional Corrections staff of officers, nurses, cooks, maintenance staff, IT, counselors, and volunteers to prevent escape, insure that the needs of the inmate population are intended to during their incarceration, decrease the liability exposures of the jail, and help return inmates back to society better then when they first arrived at our doors. Whether assisting to help inmates stay off drugs and alcohol, get the mental health care they need, or training those incarcerated with a GED, anger management, or changing their focus away from crime, Corrections Officers are the often forgotten aspect of criminal justice that greatly affect the safety of our citizens, and insure a better life for the children and families whose loved one returns when they leave our jail facility.

If you want to see their duties up close and personal give the Jail Administrator or shift supervisor a call and they will arrange a tour for your group to see the work of our phenomenal jail staff.

*Frank Leonbruno*

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