VyRal

A LeakReceipts Field Guide

LeakReceipts for Corrections Officers

The Field Guide: where the money leaks, how to prove it, and how to close it

For: Corrections

by VyRal Dynasty

LeakReceipts for Corrections Officers The Field Guide: where the money leaks, how to prove it, and how to close it

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How every number in this book is labeled.

- **VERIFIED** means the figure comes from a named, dated source, and the source is printed next to it.
- **CALCULATED** means it is arithmetic on verified numbers or on your own numbers, and the math is shown.
- **ESTIMATE** means a reasoned range, and it is always called one.
- **STRUCTURAL** marks a standing rule of the trade (a law, a contract term, how the paperwork works), not a market figure.
- **STILL BEING MEASURED** means VyRal has not verified a figure yet, so no number is printed.

If a number is not labeled, it is a blank for you to fill from your own paper.

What this book is not. This is education, not legal, tax, accounting or financial advice. Where a fix says a professional decides, a professional decides. Nothing here says that any company, customer or person did anything wrong. The fixes show you how to check your own paper and ask in writing.

About how this book was made. This book was assembled with AI from VyRal's sourced research on this trade and checked against those sources. AI can make mistakes. Before you act on a figure, check it against the source printed beside it. Rules and rates change, and every figure carries its date for that reason.

Before you share any document with anyone, Vera included, black out account numbers, Social Security numbers and anything else you would not hand a stranger.

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The short answer for your trade

This is the one lane tonight where the mechanism isn't a company or a person — it's organized collective action. Real 2026 examples: Blair County PA's AFSCME Local 3157 ratified a new three-year contract with pay raises and more holidays; Oneida County NY added $10,000 to starting pay and eliminated the training-salary period entirely.

Your leak map

Every leak this book covers, biggest first. The size grade is VyRal's research grade for how much money a leak tends to move in this trade. It is a grade, not a dollar figure. Your own paper sets the dollars.

#	Leak	Size grade	Evidence	Fixes
1	Base salary vs. real total compensation	Major	VERIFIED	1
2	Comp time instead of cash — up to 480 hours of it	Major	VERIFIED	1
3	Roll call and the meal period you never actually got	Major	VERIFIED	1
4	Your overtime may not start at 40 hours — the 7(k) work period	Major	VERIFIED	1
5	Federal pay reform context, dated and current	Moderate	VERIFIED	1
6	Uniform and equipment allowance vs. real cost	Moderate	VERIFIED	1
7	Mandatory overtime — what those hours are really worth	Significant	STILL BEING MEASURED	1
8	Pension contribution calculated off base only	Significant	STILL BEING MEASURED	1

Then there is 1 more leak to check, with its own fixes, in the chapter called More leaks to check.

What people in your trade say hurts

Before we built a single fix, we went and read what people in this trade say out loud: forums, trade press, regulators' complaint files and court records. These are the pains that kept coming up, the ones with the most sources first. If one of them is yours, you're not imagining it.

I'm working before I clock in, and nobody pays me for it

Before my shift I clear security screening, pick up keys, radio and gear, walk to my post and sit through briefing. After the shift I turn it all back in. If the clock only runs scheduled start to scheduled end, that time is free labor every single shift. Courts in several states keep certifying classes of officers over it.

Found in 6 public sources; newest dated 2026-06-02. VERIFIED count from VyRal's public research log; the sources are listed at the back.

Same job at a private prison, thousands less a year

Officers at private operators and contractors earn well below state officers for the same posts, and private operators keep settling overtime suits over unpaid screening time. If I don't compare my real total with the state rate, I don't see the gap.

Found in 4 public sources; newest dated 2025-12-04. VERIFIED count from VyRal's public research log; the sources are listed at the back.

The job gave me PTSD, and comp called it normal stress

Workers' comp boards deny officer trauma claims by saying the stress is normal for the job. Corrections officers are often left out of the first-responder presumption laws that cover police and fire. Then therapy and lost time come out of my own pocket.

Found in 3 public sources; newest dated 2026-06-12. VERIFIED count from VyRal's public research log; the sources are listed at the back.

The new payroll system shorted my overtime three checks running

When the state switches payroll software, overtime, holiday pay and deductions come out wrong, and I wait weeks for an off-cycle check. Even without a switch, timesheet coding errors are common, and an error can land on me as an underpayment now or a clawback later.

Found in 3 public sources; newest dated 2026-01-12. VERIFIED count from VyRal's public research log; the sources are listed at the back.

Get your paper together

Every fix in this book starts with paper, not memory. Memory rounds in the other side's favor. Paper doesn't.

Pull the last 90 days. Put it all in one folder, paper or phone, and label each piece with its date. Black out account numbers and Social Security numbers before you share anything with anyone.

The paper that proves each leak:

- Your contracts, invoices, statements, pay records and the messages around them.

My folder checklist

Last 90 days of statements or pay records _____

Every contract or agreement I work under _____

Every invoice, ticket or settlement for the same 90 days _____

The messages that changed a price, a scope or a date _____

Leak 1: Base salary vs. real total compensation

Size grade: Major · Evidence: VERIFIED

What it is. Base salary against real total annual compensation including overtime, differentials, and hazard pay.

Why it leaks. An officer who thinks of 'my salary' as the base number on the offer letter is undercounting their real annual income by a third or more — which matters for loan applications, retirement planning, and knowing whether a transfer or promotion is actually a raise.

The number to hold it against. $58,940/yr — national median pay for correctional officers and jailers, May 2025 (federal government $74,630; facilities support services $46,910). Source: BLS Occupational Outlook Handbook, Correctional Officers and Bailiffs, 27 August 2026.
VERIFIED · Primary — government or regulator

> **Ask yourself:** What's your base pay listed as, and what did your actual W-2 show last year?

1. Base salary vs. real total pay — knowing your true number

Fix approved · leak evidence: Verified

Fix 1 — Do it yourself (free).

1. Find your base pay on your schedule.
2. Find your total gross on last year's final stub.
3. Note what makes up the difference — overtime, differentials, location pay.
4. Use total pay when comparing jobs and base pay when checking pension.
5. Check your grade and step against the published schedule.

Fix 2 — The words to send, under your own name. Fill in the brackets, keep a copy, and send it from your own email or by mail. Nobody sends it for you.

> Message to HR — [DATE]
> Please send me a pay breakdown for [YEAR] showing base pay and each other pay type.
> Thank you,
> [YOUR NAME], [BADGE/EMPLOYEE #]

Fix 3 — Done for you. **LeakReceipts · Offer & Career Compare**

WE DO: break your pay into base and each add-on from your stubs. YOU DO: decide on jobs and transfers.

Keep it closed. Compare offers on total pay and on base pay separately.

What this fix can't decide for you. Recommendations from his own record only.

My receipt for this leak			
Owed by my paper	Paid or billed	Gap (CALCULATED: owed – paid)	Fix 2 sent · answer

FREE FIRST CHAPTER

That's Leak 1 of 8.

The full Field Guide for Corrections Officers walks through every leak on the map you just read: why it happens, the paper that proves it, and three fixes for each one — one you do yourself for free, the words to send under your own name, and what LeakReceipts can do for you while the decision stays yours.

Get the full guide:
leakreceipts.com/ebooks/corrections-officers

Run it on your own numbers:
leakreceipts.com

WE WALK BY FAITH NOT BY SIGHT — 2 Corinthians 5:7