

## New York State Correctional Officers & Police Benevolent Association, Inc.

## "Keeping New York Safe"

## More Drugs Seized, Officers Injured at Marcy Correctional Facility

Staff Recover Oxycodone, Fentanyl in Inmate Mail

<u>For Immediate Release</u> September 9, 2021

**Marcy, NY** – Three officers were injured at the medium security correctional facility after an inmate attacked and punched an officer who confronted him after he exposed himself to a female officer.

On Monday, August 9, the inmate was in the kitchen area and disappeared around a corner. The female officer, assigned to the kitchen, went to investigate. When she approached the inmate, he exposed himself to her. She immediately called for a response. The inmate began to approach the female officer. She administered OC Spray which did not have the desired effect. The inmate ran from the kitchen area and was confronted by a responding officer. He immediately punched the officer in the face. With the assistance of a third officer, the inmate was put in a body hold and forced to the ground. On the ground and still combative, the officers were able to apply handcuffs. Once in handcuffs, the inmate became compliant.

The inmate, 35, is serving an eight year sentence after being convicted in New York County for Robbery 2<sup>nd</sup> and Burglary 3<sup>rd</sup>. He was placed in a Special Housing Unit pending disciplinary charges.

The officer who was punched sustained pain and swelling to his face and left shoulder. Two officers sustained minor injuries subduing the inmate. All three were treated at the facility and remained on duty.

Staff also recovered the deadly drug Fentanyl, and Oxycodone from inmate mail on three occasions between August 9 and August 12. The drugs were detected by staff in the mail room and had been saturated and dried on post cards. All three cards were mailed from upstate addresses.

In addition to the mail seizures, staff also recovered Suboxone strips during frisks of three inmates at the facility. Alert staff suspected the inmates were carrying drugs on them and subjected them to pat frisks.

"Staff are going to great lengths to stop contraband from flowing into prisons through inmate mail. But, as we see too often, drugs are still finding their way into the hands of inmates. We need the majority of our elected officials to understand that staff are constantly under siege from inmate assaults and contraband being smuggled in. More resources should be made available to staff to combat this crisis that plagues facilities statewide." – Stated Bryan Hluska, NYSCOPBA Central Region Vice President.