

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

"Keeping New York Safe"

More Violence at Elmira Correctional Facility

Inmate Gets Attacked in Fieldhouse by Several Inmates

For Immediate Release August 8, 2022

Elmira, NY – An inmate was slashed with an unknown weapon by other inmates at the facility causing a five inch laceration to his cheek which needed 18 sutures to close at the maximum security correctional facility last week.

On Wednesday, August 3, an officer assigned to the facilities fieldhouse during recreation observed three inmates attack another inmate. Staff gave orders to the inmates to stop the attack, but they were ignored. Another officer in the fieldhouse witnessed a group of inmates begin to approach the fight. Orders were given to stop and ignored. Gas was deployed in the fieldhouse and was effective. The inmates stopped fighting and became compliant.

All inmates were removed from the fieldhouse for decontamination.

The inmate who was initially attacked, was treated by facility medical staff for his injuries.

No staff were injured in the attack.

Staff searched the fieldhouse and the involved inmate's cells for weapons but were unsuccessful. During the investigation, video of the attacked showed one inmate making several slashing type motions at the inmate.

In addition to the on-going violence, a female officer had liquid thrown on her that smelled of urine and feces. The incident occurred on Saturday, July 30. The officer was on the bottom floor of a cell block when she was struck with the liquid from above him. It was determined an inmate in a cell above had thrown the liquid on the officer from a shampoo bottle.

The inmate, 29, is serving a 13 year sentence after being convicted of Escape 2nd and two counts of Burglary 2nd in Bronx County in 2019. He was placed in a Special Housing Unit pending disciplinary charges in the incident.

"These are unprecedented times for our membership with inmate on staff and inmate on inmate assaults at historic levels. Only four short months have passed since the HALT Act went into place, and it is obvious that the legislators who supported this foolish and dangerous legislation have no regard for the men and women who don our uniform every day to keep our communities safe. Not even two weeks ago, multiple members were assaulted at Elmira and here we are reporting more violence again both on our members and inmate on inmate. Nothing will change until the legislature recognize their stance on HALT will lead to someone getting killed." stated Kenny Gold, NYSCOPBA Western Region Vice President.