

Officers Attacked at Sing Sing Correctional Facility

One Officer Sustains Broken Wrist in Attack

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Ossining, **NY** – Four officers were injured at Sing Sing Correctional Facility in two separate inmate attacks within the last two weeks. One officer sustained a fractured wrist that was broken in two places.

The first incident occurred on Friday, August 5. An officer on routine rounds heard loud music coming from an inmate's cell. He approached the cell and ordered the inmate to surrender his radio. The inmate initially refused. After staff attempted to de-escalate the situation, the inmate appeared to have calmed down. The cell gate was opened and the inmate picked up a plastic bucket and threw it at an officer, striking him in the torso. OC Spray was administered with no effect. The inmate picked up the bucket and began swinging it at staff. OC Spray was administered a second time. The inmate was able to grab one officer in a body hold and grabbed the officer's testicles. He refused to release his grip. Additional staff entered the cell and used force to get the inmate to release his grip. Once he released the officer, the inmate was forced to the ground and handcuffs were applied.

Once in handcuffs, the inmate became compliant.

He was removed from the cell and brought to the infirmary for decontamination.

The inmate, 45, is serving a three to six year sentence after being convicted in New York County for Attempted Assault 2nd in 2021. He was placed in a Special Housing Unit following the incident and faces disciplinary charges.

Three officers sustained injuries in the attack. One officer had hip, shoulder, and back pain. A second officer had leg and elbow injuries. The third officer sustained wrist and shoulder pain. The officers were treated by medical staff at the facility and remained on duty.

The second attacked occurred on Tuesday, August 16. An officer was monitoring inmate movement from their morning meal when he ordered an inmate to submit to a routine pat frisk. Initially the inmate complied. Moments later, he turned off the wall and took a fighting stance against the officer. OC Spray was administered with no effect. The officer grabbed the inmate in a body hold and forced him to the ground. On the ground and still combative, the officer was able to apply handcuffs to the inmate's wrists.

Once in handcuffs, the inmate became compliant.

The officer sustained a wrist injury in the incident. He was transferred to Phelps Hospital where it was determined he sustained two fractured bones in his wrist.

The inmate, 29, is serving a 90 year sentence after being convicted in Monroe County for Murder 2nd and Robbery 1st in 2013. He and a co-defendant shot and killed a 19 year old man in Rochester as the teen waited on line to buy sneakers at a store. They also attempted to rob other customers waiting in line during the shooting.

"Until HALT is repealed or dramatically changed, attacks on staff will continue at a record pace. HALT has stripped any real discipline that deterred inmates from attacking staff or other inmates. Until the State Legislators who supported this ill-advised legislation recognize all they have done is create more violence inside our correctional facilities, the daily attacks will continue. All that does is put our members in extreme danger every time they enter a facility to work and that is unacceptable" – stated Dave Luther, NYSCOPBA Southern Region Vice President.