

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

"Keeping New York Safe"

Officer Injured at Sing Sing Correctional Facility

Inmate High on Synthetic Marijuana Attacks Officer

<u>For Immediate Release</u> September 7, 2022

Ossining, NY — An officer needed to be treated at an outside hospital after an inmate, allegedly high on synthetic marijuana, repeatedly attacked him while returning from the recreation yard at the maximum security correctional facility.

The attacked occurred on Monday, September 5. The inmate was in line with other inmates returning from the recreation yard when he suddenly jumped out of the line and charged at one of the officers who was monitoring the inmates. He began punching the officer repeatedly in the face. The officer attempted to restrain the inmate and place him in a body hold but the inmate grabbed the officer's shirt and pulled him to the ground where he continued the assault. A sergeant in the area heard the commotion and responded with additional staff and pulled the inmate off the officer.

Once under control, the inmate was placed in handcuffs and escorted out of the area.

The injured officer was treated at the facility infirmary by medical staff. He was transported to Phelps Hospital and treated for injuries to his face, hand, shoulder and ankle.

One of the officers who responded to the attack sustained pain to his wrist, lower arm and hand stopping the attack. He was treated at the facility and remained on duty.

During the investigation into the attack, the inmate admitted to smoking K2 and being coerced by another inmate into attacking a member of the staff.

The inmate, 28, is serving a 28 years to life sentence after being convicted in Monroe County for Rape 1st, Strangulation 2nd, and Predatory Sexual Assault in 2014.

He was convicted after being arrested for stalking and choking multiple women until they were unconscious and then raping them over a four year period in Rochester.

"If any legislator who supported the HALT Act continues to deny that there isn't a direct correlation between the increased violence against staff and this ill-advised legislation all they need to do is look at the facts. Prior to HALT going into effect, the average number of assaults on staff averaged 92 per month. Since April 1 (when HALT went into effect), the monthly assaults on staff have averaged 153. There is no doubt that the inmates know the disciplinary system has been completely stripped and there is little or no consequences for attacking staff or other inmates. This will continue until those legislators, who supported HALT, wake up and realize this has been an utter failure from day one." – Stated Dave Luther, NYSCOPBA Southern Region Vice President.