

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

"Keeping New York Safe"

Sergeant, Two Officers Injured at Sing Sing Correctional Facility

Inmate Attacks Staff Inside Cell

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Ossining, NY – A sergeant and two officers were injured Wednesday when they entered an inmate's cell and he jumped off his bed and attacked them at the maximum security correctional facility.

During routine security rounds, an officer observed a bed sheet on the cell bars, blocking the view to cell. The officer called out to the inmate several times and received no response. The officer called for assistance and a sergeant responded. Both men entered the cell and observed the inmate on his bed. The officer began to remove the sheet from the cell bars when the inmate jumped up from the bed, and struck the officer in the face. The officer immediately grabbed the inmate in a body hold and forced him back onto the bed. Struggling the with officer and sergeant, the inmate was able to strike the officer again in the face. The inmate was able to free himself and get off the bed. He shoved the officer into a locker and attacked a second officer who entered the cell to assist. The two officers and sergeant placed the inmate in a body hold a second time and forced him to the floor.

On the floor, the officers were able to get his arms behind his back and applied handcuffs. Once in handcuffs, the inmate became compliant.

The inmate was removed from his cell and escorted to the infirmary for evaluation. He is serving a 34 to 40 year sentence after being convicted of two counts of Robbery 1st and one count each of Grand Larceny 2nd and 3rd in Monroe County in 1997.

The sergeant sustained swelling to his hand and ankle and was transported to Phelps Hospital for treatment.

The two officers sustained wrist, elbow, knee, rib and facial injuries. They were treated by facility medical staff and remained on duty.

"Six months after the HALT Act went into effect it is very apparent that the legislation is a complete failure. All it has accomplished is make every prison more dangerous as inmate on staff and inmate on inmate assaults have skyrocketed. Ardent supporters of the legislation like Senators Sepulveda and Salazar fail to acknowledge or recognize the violence that exists inside the correctional facilities and that the HALT Act has been one of the sole reasons attacks have increased. The legislature needs to take immediate action and amend or repeal the HALT Act before someone actually gets killed. They created this mess and now they need to clean it up!" – Stated Dave Luther, NYSCOPBA Southern Region Vice President.