

Three Officers Injured at Sing Sing Correctional Facility

One Officer Undergoes Surgery for Knee Injury

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Ossining, NY – An inmate serving an 18 year sentence for Assault 1st and who was previously paroled after being convicted for Murder 2nd and Attempted Murder 2nd in 1996, injured three officers at the maximum security correctional facility yesterday during an attack.

At approximately 12:40 p.m., an officer assigned to a cell block observed the 44 year old inmate outside of his cell. She ordered him to return to his cell and to lock in. He refused. The officer called for assistance and a second officer responded. The second officer ordered the inmate to return to his cell and he refused to comply again. The inmate became combative and struck the second officer in the face with his fist. The officer immediately grabbed the inmate in a body hold and forced him to the ground, where he continued to struggle with staff.

Handcuffs were applied and the inmate was brought to his feet.

When additional staff arrived, one of the officers began to escort the inmate to the infirmary for evaluation. During the escort, the inmate kicked backwards, striking the escort officer in the leg, causing both the officer and inmate to fall down a flight of stairs. During the fall, the officer sustained a severe knee injury.

As staff attended to the injured officer, the inmate was secured momentarily in the cell block shower. While in the shower, the inmate was able to maneuver his handcuffed wrists from behind him to the front. When staff entered the shower room, one officer removed the handcuffs so they could be placed on his wrists behind his body. When the handcuffs were removed, the inmate struck the officer in the face. The officer immediately placed the inmate in a body hold, forced him to the shower wall, and was able to apply the handcuffs again.

The inmate was escorted from the cell block shower to the infirmary without further incident.

The officer with the injured knee was treated by medical staff at the facility and transported to Phelps Hospital where he was diagnosed with a ruptured patella tendon. He underwent surgery this morning to repair the injury.

Two of the officers who were struck in the face sustained back, left knee and shoulder pain. Both officers were treated at the facility and remained on duty.

"As we approach Election Day next week, one of the most important topics that concerns voters is the rise of crime and violence in New York. That is no more evident than in our jails and prisons across the state. Since the HALT Act was enacted on April 1, attacks on staff have increased nearly forty percent. Legislators and inmate advocates who supported HALT continue to deny that this ridiculous legislation is the cause of the violence. The statistics tell the true story. Hopefully voters take notice to this next Tuesday and vote out those legislators who continue to turn their backs on law enforcement." – stated Dave Luther, NYSCOPBA Southern Region Vice President.