

## Convicted Rapist Makes Sexual Advances at Female Officer at Sing Sing Correctional Facility

Incident Follows NYSCOPBA's Calls For More Protection for Female Officers Against Sexual Assault

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**Ossining, NY** – A 42 year old inmate at Sing Sing Correctional Facility serving a 18 year sentence for two counts of Rape 1<sup>st</sup>, attempted to kiss a female officer and continued to advance on her as she fended him off at the maximum security prison.

The incident occurred on Thursday, May 18. The inmate approached the officer and attempted to kiss her but was unsuccessful. The officer struck the inmate, attempting to create space from the inmate. He laughed at the officer and continued to advance. She deployed one application of OC spray which had no effect. The officer called for a response as the inmate continued to advance on her. She applied a second application of OC spray, which had the desired effect, causing the inmate to stop and turn and run.

As additional staff arrived, a second female officer caught the fleeing inmate and grabbed him in body hold and forced him to the ground. The officer applied handcuffs and the inmate became compliant. He was brought to his feet and escorted to a Special Housing Unit to be decontaminated.

The inmate, who has a history of sexual assault, was convicted in New York County in 2017 for a 2013 violent rape of a 28 year old female in New York City's Central Park.

The officer who the inmate initially approached was not injured. The female officer who subdued him sustained minor hand and wrist injuries. She was treated by medical staff at the facility and remained on duty.

"On May 9 two dozen female correction officers were joined by a bi-partisan group of State Legislators at the Capitol to call for additional measures to protect correctional staff from sexually charged incidents. It is well documented that since HALT was enacted, violence inside our prisons has risen sharply with a watered down disciplinary system. Our elected officials in Albany need to take immediate measures to protect staff against unwarranted attacks. Additionally, they need to strengthen the current laws to protect female staff from incarcerated sexual predators. The female officer in this incident did an excellent job warding off this attack. The next time, the victim might not be as fortunate." - stated Dave Luther, NYSCOPBA Southern Region Vice President.