

Officers Injured at Sing Sing Correctional Facility

Female Officer Pulled Into Inmate's Cell, Assaulted

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Ossining, NY – Four officers were injured last week at the maximum security correctional facility in two separate attacks by two inmates who have served multiple stints in prison.

On Monday, June 5, inmates were returning to their cells from the afternoon meal. An inmate was ordered by an officer to return to his cell and he refused. The officer escorted the inmate to the front of his cell, where he turned and struck the officer in the face. The officer administered OC spray, which had the desired effect. Once compliant, the inmate was escorted from the cell block to be decontaminated.

The injured officer was treated by facility medical staff for a laceration to his lip. He remained on duty.

The inmate, 44, is serving his third stint in prison since 2001. Currently, he is serving a 25 years to life sentence after being convicted in Kings County in 2009 for Murder 2nd.

The second assault occurred the following day. Inmates were returning from their evening meal. One inmate refused to return to his cell and ignored several orders from a female officer. He became agitated and grabbed the female officer by the upper body and head and pulled her into the cell. She used forced to break free and a second officer grabbed the inmate in a body hold and forced him out of the cell and onto the floor. Still combative, OC spray was administered with no effect. A third officer responded and assisted in getting handcuffs on the inmate. Once in handcuffs, the inmate became compliant.

The inmate is serving his second stint in prison since 2000, he currently is serving a seven year sentence after being convicted in Oneida County for Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd and 3rd degrees.

The female officer sustained a laceration to her temple. She was treated by medical staff at the facility and remained on duty.

The two officers who responded to the attack sustained hand, neck, wrist and knee injuries subduing the inmate. They were treated at the facility and remained on duty.

"The latest assaults at Sing Sing highlight the State Legislatures inability to pass legislation to protect female officers from forcible touching by inmates, despite bipartisan support. We stood with female officers and legislators at the Capitol last month and highlighted the need to pass this important legislation with one account after another of female officers who were attacked by inmates. Yet, with the legislative session over, and representatives on their summer vacations, our members continued to get attacked. Thankfully, the female officer in this latest attack was able to defend herself and additional staff arrived to thwart the attack. Next time, we may not be that lucky." – stated Dave Luther, NYSCOPBA Southern Region Vice President.