

NYSCOPBA Officials Praise Greene County District Attorney for Prosecuting Violent Inmates

As Violence Soars, Inmates from Coxsackie and Greene Correctional Held Accountable for their Actions While Incarcerated

For Immediate Release August 2, 2023

Catskill, NY – As violence continues to plague correctional facilities across New York, the Greene County District Attorney's Office yesterday announced they have charged four inmates and successfully prosecuted three inmates for crimes they committed while incarcerated at Greene and Coxsackie Correctional Facilities.

Four inmates were recently arraigned on charges ranging from Promoting Prison Contraband, Attempted Assault 2nd, and Felony Aggravated Harassment for throwing feces on two officers. Three inmates were successfully prosecuted and each sentenced to an additional 1 ½ to 3 years in state prison for possessing make-shift weapons and attacking another inmate.

Since the HALT Act was passed and went into effect in April of 2022, assaults on staff have risen dramatically with a weakened disciplinary system. Assaults on staff rose 31 percent from 2021 to 2022 and are currently on pace to match last year's level. In addition, inmate on inmate assaults have risen dramatically this year. Currently, after the first seven months of 2023, inmate on inmate assaults have risen 31 percent, on pace for one of the most violence years in the history of DOCCS.

- Dontavious Wiley, 35, was sentenced to 1 ½ to 3 years in prison to run consecutive to the time he is currently serving in the state prison. Wiley possessed three makeshift weapons while serving time at Coxsackie Correctional Facility.
- Jerald Young, 32, was arraigned on the charge of Promoting Prison Contraband in the 1st
 Degree. He is charged with having possessed dangerous contraband consisting of a makeshift weapon while serving a prison sentence at Coxsackie Correctional Facility.

- Treyvor Hines, 23, was arraigned on the charge of Promoting Prison Contraband in the 1st Degree. He is charged with having possessed dangerous contraband consisting of a makeshift weapon described as a black ceramic razor blade inserted into a pen cap while serving a prison sentence at Greene Correctional Facility.
- William Davila, 57, was arraigned on the charge of Promoting Prison Contraband in the 1st Degree. He is charged with having possessed dangerous contraband consisting of a makeshift weapon while serving a prison sentence at Coxsackie Correctional Facility.
- Bakary Camara, 53, an incarcerated individual, entered a plea of guilty to Attempted Assault in the 2nd Degree and was sentenced to 1½ to 3 years State Prison. Camara struck another inmate with a sharpened toothbrush while serving a prison sentence at Coxsackie Correctional Facility.
- Jose Burgos, 33, entered a plea of guilty to Attempted Promoting Prison Contraband in the 1st Degree. He was sentenced to 1 ½ to 3 years State Prison to run consecutive to the state prison time he is currently serving. Burgos possessed a makeshift weapon while serving a prison sentence at Coxsackie Correctional Facility.
- Luis Garcia, Garcia, 41, was arraigned on the charge of Aggravated Harassment of an Employee by an Inmate. He is charged with having propelled liquid feces out of his cell through a window striking two Correction Officers with said feces. This incident occurred while Garcia was serving state prison time at Coxsackie Correctional Facility.

"District Attorney Stanzione stated - "Coxsackie Correctional Facility and Greene Correctional Facility are well run and well organized prisons. It is not easy to run a prison in light of the many moving parts that administration and correction officers are confronted with each day.

Equally, the HALT Act has not been very kind to the administration and officers working those facilities. For this reason, prosecution of crimes in the prisons becomes a necessary line of defense to hold incarcerated individuals accountable for their criminal actions. My office will continue to prosecute crimes in the prisons with the expectation that incarcerated individuals will be deterred from engaging in criminal conduct.

Most all of, our officers go to work to do their job in the hopes that, at the end of their shift, they will return home safely to their families. They should not be subjected to violent acts of incarcerated individuals. They should not be subjected to urine and feces being thrown on them.

Prosecuting crimes in the prisons is the least my office can do to help our officers, administration and staff, as well as inmates, remain safe." said Stanzione.

"The statistics don't lie, this is going to be one of the most violent, if not most violent years in our correctional facility history. Since HALT was enacted on April 1, 2022, every single correctional facility, from medium to maximum prisons, has been plagued with staff assaults and inmate on inmate violence. The HALT Act stripped down what was already a watered down disciplinary system. With staff shortages and mandatory overtime to fill posts, our members are being

pushed to the limit. The only deterrence left for inmates to follow orders is the threat that they will be prosecuted if they commit another crime while incarcerated. Thankfully, we have a district attorney in Greene County who is holding inmates accountable for their actions. District Attorney Joseph Stanzione and his staff have been extremely supportive of our members and willing to hold inmates accountable when they cross the line and attack staff, other inmates or possess weapons. We need more DA's in New York to follow his lead." - said, Chris Moreau, NYSCOPBA Mid-Hudson Region Vice President.