



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

“Keeping New York Safe”

Inmate Stabs Officer at Green Haven Correctional Facility

Officer Stabbed in Hand, Sergeant Injured in Attack

For Immediate Release

February 9, 2024

Stormville, NY – A 38 year old inmate serving a 19 years to life prison sentence for murder, fought with staff at the maximum security correctional facility, stabbing one officer in the hand with an icpick type weapon.

On Friday, February 2, a sergeant and officer were observing inmates during a medication run when they noticed a state issued pen in the inmate’s hand. The inmate was ordered to turn over the pen, which he refused. He was given orders to put his hands on the wall and to submit to a pat frisk for contraband. He refused the orders and ran down the cell tier. The officer gave chase and caught the inmate and grabbed him in a body hold and forced him to the floor. On the floor, the sergeant attempted to gain control of the inmate’s legs as he struggled to break free. During the struggle, the inmate used the pen to stab the officer in the hand and attempted to throw the weapon away. When additional staff arrived, they assisted in subduing the inmate. Handcuffs were applied and the inmate was brought to his feet and escorted off the cell tier.

The weapon was recovered and placed into evidence.

The inmate was placed in a Special Housing Unit following a medical evaluation. He was convicted in Westchester County in 2019 in the shooting death of a truck driver in 2018. He was convicted on Murder 2nd and Criminal Possession of a Weapon 2nd charges. He previously served two prison stints in 2014 and 2006.

The officer and sergeant were treated by facility medical staff. The officer sustained minor puncture wounds to his finger and knuckle. The sergeant sustained pain and swelling to both knees. Both remained in duty.

“As we await the State’s decision on what prisons to close and the number of closures, the violence against staff continues on a daily basis with no end in sight. When three quarters of the prison population are violent felons, closing facilities and increasing the inmate population in the remaining prisons is only going to make it more dangerous for an overwhelmed staff who face mandatory overtime amid staffing shortages. The statistics on prison violence over the last two years have reached historic levels and will only continue to increase unless staff are provided relief in the near future. Instead of closing prisons to save what amounts to a few dollars, the State should invest in recruiting new officers, compensating the existing ones accordingly, providing incentives to retain officers and making resources available to improve safety. The current state of the prison systems is not sustainable and “Right Sizing” the system is not the solution. ” –stated, Joe Horacek , NYSCOPBA Mid-Hudson Region Vice President.