



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

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***“Keeping New York Safe”***

***Inmates Cut, Injured During Dormitory Fights at Mohawk Correctional Facility***

*Broken Broomstick, Make-Shift Cutting Weapons Used in Attack*

**For Immediate Release**

**February 24, 2026**

**Rome , NY –** Three inmate-on-inmate fights took place inside the dormitories of the medium-security Mohawk Correctional Facility, resulting in multiple injuries. Several inmates required additional medical attention and were transported to an outside hospital for further care after staff intervened.

On Friday, January 9, an officer assigned to a dorm observed two inmates fighting in the recreation room. Despite multiple orders to stop, the inmates ignored instructions. OC spray was effective on one inmate but failed on the second. The officer deployed a body hold to bring the second inmate to the floor, where additional staff assisted in securing the inmate and applying handcuffs. A folded metal weapon, consistent with a cutting tool, fell from the inmate’s clothing while he was brought to his feet. Both inmates were escorted to the infirmary for treatment. One inmate suffered a small laceration to his cheek, consistent with being cut during the altercation. The investigation revealed that the fight originated in one inmate’s living quarters before escalating into the recreation room.

On Wednesday, February 4, an officer witnessed a fight between two inmates inside the dorm. One of the inmates armed himself with a broken broom handle and began striking

the other inmate in the head and body. A response was initiated, and upon the arrival of additional staff, both inmates complied with orders and ceased fighting. The inmate struck with the broom handle became unresponsive and exhibited symptoms of a seizure. He was treated in the infirmary and transported to Rome Hospital for further evaluation. He regained responsiveness and was later returned to the facility. The fight was determined to have been motivated by gang-related tensions.

On Tuesday, February 10, during routine rounds, an officer discovered an inmate in the dorm bathroom attempting to clean blood off his upper body. Further inspection revealed another inmate with injuries to his head and body. Both inmates were escorted to the infirmary for treatment. One sustained a deep laceration to his chin, a black eye, and abrasions to his forehead and body, indicative of being kicked in the head. The second inmate had a small laceration to his eyebrow and cheek, consistent with a cutting-type weapon. Both inmates were transported to Rome Hospital for additional treatment. A search of their living quarters for weapons yielded no results.

All inmates involved in the three fights are facing disciplinary charges.

“Staff did an excellent job quickly stopping two of the three fights that occurred inside the dormitories at Mohawk Prison. They also swiftly identified the causes of these altercations through thorough investigations. Far too often, their superb work goes unnoticed, but they deserve credit for limiting the extent of injuries sustained by inmates in these incidents. When weapons, especially makeshift cutting tools, are involved, the consequences could be far worse if the situation isn’t contained quickly. I am grateful that, in all three cases, staff were not injured as well. This is a direct correlation of the failed policies created from the HALT Act . Hopefully, this legislative session the legislatures do the right thing and amend HALT,” stated Bryan Hluska, Central Region Vice President.