



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

“Keeping New York Safe”

**Officer Intercepts Contraband Package Containing Cellphones and Suspected Drugs
at Correctional Facility; Two Visitors Arrested at Attica**

For Immediate Release

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Collins , NY—An alert officer patrolling the perimeter road at a medium-security correctional facility intercepted a package containing cellphones, cellphone accessories, and suspected drugs before the contraband could reach inmates.

On Friday, May 29, the officer observed suspicious items inside the facility's perimeter fence while conducting a routine patrol. After exiting his vehicle to investigate, he recovered four vacuum-sealed bags and transported them to the administration building for examination. Inside the bags, staff discovered three cellphones, charging blocks, and charging cords concealed within three black Nike socks. The bags also contained a green leafy substance, a yellow waxy substance, and a yellow liquid in a clear bottle, all suspected to be illegal drugs. The contraband was secured as evidence, and the suspected narcotics were submitted for laboratory testing.

At this time, it remains unclear whether the package was dropped into the facility using a drone or thrown over the perimeter fence. An investigation is ongoing.

Just three days later, staff responded to two separate suspected overdose incidents involving inmates at the same facility. A National Guard member discovered one inmate unresponsive in a dormitory hallway, while a second inmate became incoherent and combative in his housing area. A medical emergency response was initiated, and multiple doses of Narcan were administered to both inmates before they regained consciousness. The inmates were subsequently transported to Erie County Medical Center for further treatment and evaluation.

Meanwhile, two visitors were arrested at Attica Correctional Facility on Sunday June 7th after allegedly attempting to smuggle contraband into the prison.

The first arrest occurred shortly after 9:00 a.m., when a body scanner detected abnormalities during the visitor screening process. A subsequent search uncovered two bundles of marijuana concealed in the visitor's bra. After being escorted to the lobby, the visitor voluntarily surrendered a third bundle, and two additional bundles were later recovered in the visitor processing area.

A second arrest occurred later that afternoon when a woman and younger children entered the facility. The Buffalo woman activated the body scanner. The scanner indicated abnormalities near her head. Following a pat frisk, officers recovered four metal razor blades concealed beneath her wig.

Both women were transported to the State Police Barracks in Warsaw and charged with Promoting Prison Contraband in the Second Degree.

"Unfortunately, this seems to be an everyday occurrence within the prison system in New York as shown within the past week or so at Collins, Attica, as well as Elmira where a drone drop on Sunday was caught by alert officers as well," said Kenny Gold, Western Region Vice President. "The public, and many of the lawmakers have no idea what getting bundles of cell phones and drugs is truly worth inside the walls and fences, and more importantly the issues that arise when the inmates use the items smuggled in. The everyday inmate doing his or her time suffer due to staff having to stop facility operations just to assist the inmates

in need of medical attention due to these drugs. All staff involved at Collins, Attica and Elmira should be commended because they more than likely saved a life and aided in maintaining a safer prison. Drone legislation was passed last month and hopefully that becomes a deterrent, but the realization is that when the inmates have no repercussions, they continue to take risks that are lucrative for them. The HALT Committees recommendations need to be implemented as soon as the lawmakers convene next or the public will continue to hear about deaths, assaults, and overdoses for the foreseeable future!"