



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

"Keeping New York Safe"

Four Officers, Sergeant Injured at Five Points Correctional Facility

Multiple Incidents Occur at Facility

For Immediate Release

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Romulus , NY — A sergeant and four correction officers sustained injuries during a series of violent incidents at a maximum-security correctional facility over a four-week period, including two separate weapon attacks by the same inmate, a large-scale recreation yard fight, assaults on staff, and multiple inmate altercations.

Three staff members required treatment at Geneva Hospital for injuries sustained during the incidents.

The first two attacks occurred on May 30 and May 31 and involved the same inmate. On May 30, the inmate attempted to stab a sergeant with a makeshift shank when the sergeant opened the feed hatch to apply handcuffs. The sergeant reacted immediately, closing the hatch and pinning the inmate's arm, forcing him to withdraw it back into the cell before the weapon could make contact. The following day, while the sergeant was removing the inmate's handcuffs through the feed hatch, the inmate again attacked, making repeated slashing motions with a weapon and striking the sergeant in the forearm. The sergeant

immediately closed the hatch, ending the assault. He sustained a laceration to his arm and was transported to Geneva Hospital for treatment.

Staff believe the inmate flushed the weapon used in the first attack down the toilet. The weapon used during the second assault has not been recovered.

On May 31, an officer conducting security rounds was assaulted when an inmate threw a mixture of urine and feces from a cup through the cell door, striking the officer in the face and mouth. The officer was treated at the facility before being transported to Geneva Hospital because of the significant exposure and irritation to his eye.

On June 21, officers responded to a large inmate fight in a fenced recreation area containing inmate telephones. After several direct orders to stop fighting were ignored, officers deployed OC spray, which eventually ended the disturbance. One inmate refused to submit to handcuffs and became combative. Officers placed him in body holds, forced him against a fence and then to the ground. With assistance from a National Guard member, handcuffs were applied and the inmate was escorted from the recreation yard. While being escorted through a hallway, the inmate remained combative, striking one officer in the chest with his shoulder and spitting on another officer.

At the same time, two additional inmate fights erupted near the basketball court and weight area. OC spray was deployed in both incidents and successfully ended the fighting.

Following the disturbances, officers recovered a sharpened toothbrush weapon from the recreation yard and discovered two bundles of marijuana during a frisk of one of the inmates involved in the fights.

On June 22, three officers and one sergeant were injured after an inmate refused to return to his cell following afternoon recreation. Initially an inmate refused to submit to a pat frisk, argued with staff, and ignored orders to return to his cell. When officers attempted to place him in body holds, he struck one officer in the face. As staff attempted to restrain the inmate, three additional inmates rushed toward the incident. One inmate attacked an officer after being taken to the ground, striking her, and climbing on top of her before additional staff pulled the inmate away and forced him against a wall, where he became

compliant. A second inmate was also taken to the ground and restrained, while a third inmate complied with orders before reaching staff.

Three officers sustained knee, hand, elbow, and facial injuries during the incident and were treated by medical staff at the facility. The sergeant suffered hand and knee injuries, was transported to Geneva Hospital with a sprained knee, and did not return to duty.

The final incident occurred on June 23 when two inmates refused orders to return to their cells after recreation and blocked the entrance to a cell block. One inmate was placed in body holds and forced against a wall, where he immediately complied. The second inmate became aggressive and fought with an officer attempting to restrain him. Additional staff responded and forced the inmate to the ground before securing him in handcuffs. No staff members were injured during the incident.

All inmates involved in the incidents face internal disciplinary charges.

"These incidents demonstrate the constant volatility inside our state prisons. Our members were attacked with homemade weapons, exposed to bodily fluids, forced to respond to multiple large-scale inmate fights, and assaulted while simply performing routine security duties. The professionalism and quick response by staff prevented these situations from becoming far more serious. Every day, correction officers and sergeants walk into unpredictable and dangerous environments where split-second decisions protect not only themselves, but everyone inside the facility. These assaults underscore why our members deserve every meaningful departmental disciplinary measure, and district attorneys to prosecute whenever inmates attack staff. Until that occurs on a consistent basis, their safety will constantly be at risk." – said Kenny Gold, Western Region Vice President.