



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

"Keeping New York Safe"

Nearly 30 Inmates Involved in Seven-Hour Long Melee at Groveland Correctional Facility

Multiple Weapons Recovered, Five Inmates Hospitalized

For Immediate Release

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Groveland, NY – A series of coordinated inmate-on-inmate assaults involving approximately 30 inmates erupted over a seven-hour period at Groveland Correctional Facility, resulting in eight separate fights, the recovery of numerous homemade weapons, five inmates being transported to outside hospitals, and one correction officer sustaining injuries while restoring order.

The violence began at approximately 2:55 p.m. on July 8 and continued until the final incident at 10:40 p.m. According to the investigation, each time correction officers and National Guard personnel responded to break up one fight, another erupted in a different inmate dormitory. Investigators determined that the eight separate fights were all interrelated, requiring repeated emergency responses throughout the day and evening.

Despite the coordinated violence, correction officers and National Guard members successfully restored order after each disturbance, preventing the unrest from spreading throughout the facility.

Searches of the involved dormitories uncovered an alarming cache of improvised weapons used during the assaults, including:

- Five weighted socks containing state-issued padlocks
- A ceramic razor blade
- A broken walking cane
- A shattered broom handle
- An intact broom handle
- An ice pick-type shank
- A sharpened metal rod
- Single walking crutch

All the weapons recovered are believed to have been used the attacks except the ceramic razor blade and walking crutch.

More than two dozen inmates were treated by medical staff for lacerations, puncture wounds, and abrasions sustained during the attacks. Five inmates required transportation to outside hospitals for additional treatment, including one inmate who briefly lost consciousness after suffering a puncture wound just below his ribs with blood pooling near his heart. . Due to the volume of injured inmates, several were transferred to nearby correctional facilities because of limited bed space in the Groveland infirmary.

Inmates identified as initiating the assaults and using weapons were immediately placed in Special Housing Units or transferred to other correctional facilities pending disciplinary action.

All staff members involved in responding to the incidents were evaluated by medical personnel. One correction officer suffered injuries to his knee and wrist while subduing a combative inmate but remained on duty.

"This was not a spontaneous fight—it was a coordinated series of violent assaults that unfolded over seven hours and involved nearly 30 inmates armed with dangerous weapons," said NYSCOPBA Western Region Vice President Kenny Gold. "Every time our members responded to restore order in one dorm, another fight erupted somewhere else in the facility. Their professionalism, courage, and determination prevented these incidents from escalating into an even more dangerous situation. It is remarkable that only one officer sustained injury in breaking these violent fights up.

Gold added, "The recovery of multiple homemade weapons, including weighted padlocks, sharpened metal, and ceramic blades, underscores the constant dangers correction officers face every day. Our members continue to respond to these violent incidents with professionalism despite persistent staffing shortages and an increasingly dangerous prison environment."