



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

"Keeping New York Safe"

Seven Officers Injured in Two Separate Incidents at Auburn Correctional Facility

For Immediate Release

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AUBURN, N.Y. — Seven officers were injured in two separate incidents involving combative inmates at Auburn Correctional Facility on August 10, highlighting the dangers correctional staff face while maintaining safety and security at the maximum-security facility.

The first incident occurred during the morning recreation period when two officers assigned to the recreation yard observed two inmates on the ground exchanging punches. The officers approached the inmates and ordered them to stop fighting. While one inmate complied, the second inmate, who appeared to be under the influence of drugs, remained combative.

The two officers placed the inmate in body holds and pulled him away from the other inmate before forcing him to the ground. The inmate continued to resist, kicking one officer in the chest and striking another officer in the face.

As the officers struggled to gain control of the inmate, two additional inmates began approaching the altercation. Fearing for the safety of the officers, the tower officer

deployed chemical agents toward the area where the inmates were approaching. The chemical agents were effective and stopped the inmates from advancing.

After a brief struggle, officers were able to place the combative inmate in handcuffs and bring him to his feet. He became compliant once restrained.

Three officers sustained injuries in the incident, including knee, facial and elbow swelling and abrasions. All three officers were treated by facility medical staff and remained on duty. The inmate was placed in a Special Housing Unit pending disciplinary charges.

The second incident occurred during the evening meal. An inmate entered the meal line carrying a personal food container. Officers escorted him from the line for a pat frisk, at which point the inmate initially pulled away from the officers.

Officers placed the inmate in body holds, but he continued to resist, kicking one officer in the knee and punching a second officer in the eye. Officers forced the inmate to the ground, where he continued to resist and kick at staff. Officers were eventually able to secure his arms behind his back and apply handcuffs. Once handcuffed and brought to his feet, the inmate became compliant.

During the incident, eight additional inmates in the mess hall began approaching the officers while yelling and attempting to incite other inmates. A response was called, and when additional staff arrived, the inmates stopped advancing and stood down.

All involved inmates were removed from the mess hall and placed in Special Housing Units pending disciplinary charges. A subsequent search of the inmates' cells recovered gang-related materials from one inmate's cell.

Four officers were injured during the incident. One officer sustained cuts to both hands, while three other officers suffered knee and facial injuries. All four officers were treated by facility medical staff and remained on duty.

“Once again, Auburn Correctional Facility officers were faced with violent and unpredictable situations and responded professionally to protect themselves, their fellow staff and the safety and security of the facility,” said Kenny Gold, Western Region Vice President. “Seven officers were injured in these two incidents, yet all remained on duty after receiving medical treatment at the facility. These incidents demonstrate the risks correction officers face every day and the importance of having trained staff to respond quickly and appropriately when violence erupts.”