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**For Immediate Release**

## ***Officers Injured at Orleans & Wende Correctional Facilities***

### ***Illegal Drugs Suspected in Three of the Attacks***

**Albion, NY** - Eight correction officers were injured in four separate incidents at Orleans and Wende Correctional Facilities in which at least three appear connected to inmates using illegal drugs.

The first incident occurred on April 28 at approximately 10:15 PM at Orleans. An officer conducting his count for the evening found an inmate unresponsive in his cell. Officers entered the inmate's cell and it appeared he was on some type of illegal substance. The officers got the inmate to his feet and were escorting him to medical to get checked out when an officer observed the inmate reach into his pocket and place a balloon like material into his mouth.

The officers began to struggle with the inmate as they attempted to get him to spit out the substance. The inmate was taken to the ground. On the ground, the inmate bit an officer's left hand.

A second officer injured his thumb in the struggle.

The inmate was placed in restraints and frisked. He was found with three additional cellophane bags on him that they believe contained synthetic marijuana.

The officer who was bitten was treated at Medina Medical Hospital. He was treated, released and returned to duty.

The inmate, whose name is not being released, is 24 years old and is serving a four year sentence after being convicted of Assault 1<sup>st</sup> in Bronx County in 2016.

The second incident occurred on May 1 at approximately 9:00 PM at Wende. There was a multiple inmate fight in the recreation yard involving razor type weapons which was broken up by officers. As the inmates were brought back into the facility they were processed through the magnetometer.

Inmate Dwayne Dailey became loud and disruptive and started yelling he wanted his personal property back. When a sergeant approached him to explain to him that he would get his property back, Dailey turned and punched him in the face. A struggle ensued and the inmate kicked another officer in the ankle. He punched and elbowed a third officer multiple times to the body. He kicked a fourth officer in the right forearm before he was taken to the ground and put in restraints.

Three of the officers were taken to St. Joseph's Hospital for treatment. They were all treated and released with minor injuries. The fourth injured officer was seen by medical staff at the facility for pain and swelling to the right hip and left shoulder.

Inmate Dailey, 31, was placed in a special housing unit. He is serving an 89 years to life sentence after being convicted in 2009 in Nassau County for Murder 2<sup>nd</sup>, Attempted Murder 2<sup>nd</sup>, Assault 1<sup>st</sup> and Criminal Possession of a Weapon.

On May 7 at approximately 4:40 PM, an officer heard yelling near one of the cubes in the dorm at Orleans. He observed an inmate running to the back of the dorm and fall to the floor. The officer responded and found the inmate unresponsive. He called for medical immediately. Still with the inmate, the officer observed him begin to yell and violently thrash his body. The inmate attempted to get off the floor several times. As the officer attempted to help the inmate, he was violently kicked directly in his face.

Medical personnel arrived on the scene and the inmate became calm and was placed in restraints.

The injured officer was taken to Millard Fillmore Suburban Hospital for treatment of a lacerated lip and bruising on his face. He was treated and released.

The inmate, 22, who was believed to be on synthetic marijuana at the time of the incident, is serving a five year sentence for Attempted Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance, Assault 2<sup>nd</sup> and Attempted Criminal Possession of a Weapon 2<sup>nd</sup> after being convicted in 2014 in Niagara County.

The fourth incident occurred on May 8 at approximately 8:15 AM. Acting on a tip an officer was going to search the living quarters of Inmate Anwar Cohen for illegal drugs. The officer entered the dorm and located Inmate Cohen on the phone. He was ordered to the wall to be frisked. The officer located four baggies that contained synthetic marijuana and Percocet pills in his pocket. The inmate was placed in restraints and additional officers responded to the scene. As Inmate Cohen was going to be removed from the dorm, he kicked backwards and hit an officer in the shin. Three officers attempted to get the inmate under control but he struggled with them. During the struggle the officers and Inmate Cohen fell to the ground where he then became compliant.

Cohen, 38, was removed from the dorm and faces disciplinary charges. He is serving a 10 year sentence for Burglary 1<sup>st</sup> and Robbery 1<sup>st</sup> after being convicted in Suffolk County in 2011.

"Contraband continues to be a serious problem at all state prisons. Since 2010, we have almost doubled the amount of contraband seized in our facilities. Here we have four incidents in which, more than likely, two inmates at Orleans used synthetic marijuana and a fight using razor type weapons started in the Wende recreation yard. Eight officers in all were injured. In the past three months alone at Orleans, we have had 106 inmates fail urine tests because of illegal substances. Obviously, DOCCS Administration must do more to stop the influx of contraband inside the walls or these type of incidents will continue to occur", stated Joe Miano, Western Region Vice President.

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James Miller  
Communications Director  
(518) 469-0379  
[www.nyscopba.org](http://www.nyscopba.org)