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For Immediate Release

Officer Injured in Inmate Assault at Riverview Correctional Facility

Inmate Head Butts Officer During Frisk

Ogdensburg , NY – An inmate serving a three year sentence at Riverview Correctional Facility injured an officer when he head-butted him when the officer went to frisk him.

The incident occurred at 11:40 AM on Thursday, October 5 at the medium security prison. The inmate, 39 years old, was being loud and argumentative near the mess hall entrance. He was told several times by an on-duty sergeant to calm down. The inmate refused the orders and became louder and more argumentative.

The sergeant ordered an officer to frisk the inmate. The inmate was ordered several times to put his hands on the wall so the officer could frisk him. He eventually complied and put his hands on the wall. When the officer approached him, the inmate came off the wall and head butted the officer with the back side of his head. The officer was struck on the left side of his head and temple knocking off his glasses.

After being assaulted, the officer was able to grab the inmate's right arm and force it behind his back. A second officer grabbed the inmate by his left arm and got it behind his back. Both officers then forced the inmate to the ground where restraints were applied.

The inmate, who was convicted of Attempted Burglary 2nd in New York County in 2016, was placed in a special housing unit following the incident. He faces disciplinary measures following the incident.

Both officers were examined at the infirmary. The officer who was head butted sustained an abrasion and swelling to his left forehead, bruising to his left cheek and pain to his middle and lower back. The second officer did not sustain any injuries.

The incident at Riverview shows how quickly a situation can escalate and how dangerous it is for our members when they have to restrain an inmate who refuses to follow the rules of the facility. The sergeant did everything he could to get the inmate to calm down, but the inmate refused to comply with the orders given him and assaulted an officer attempting to frisk him ", said John Roberts, Vice President of NYSCOPBA's Northern Region.