



November 13, 2017

For Immediate Release

Multiple Officers Injured in Attack at Coxsackie Correctional Facility

Two Officers Transported to Albany Medical Center with Injuries

Coxsackie, NY – An inmate serving four years for weapons possession and attempted robbery attacked several officers on Sunday, November 5, 2017, at the maximum security prison.

An officer was escorting the inmate, 21 years old, back to his housing unit when the inmate struck the officer in the face. The officer attempted to control the inmate with a body hold, but the inmate resisted, causing the officer and inmate to fall down a flight of stairs. The inmate broke free and two additional officers pursued the inmate back to the housing area.

In the housing area, the inmate charged at another officer, but was quickly detained by multiple officers. The officers placed the inmate in mechanical restraints to escort him to the facility clinic. However, the inmate refused to walk and began to fight the escorting officers, who regained control of the inmate and carried him to the facility clinic. While in the clinic, the inmate again became violent, kicking and striking one of the escorting officers.

After facility medical staff evaluated the inmate, correction staff escorted the inmate to the special housing unit. He faces internal disciplinary charges.

The incident was reported to the New York State Police.

Seven officers were treated at the facility medical clinic for minor injuries. Two officers were transported to Albany Medical Center for treatment, where medical staff determined that one officer sustained a fractured hand caused by the inmate. Both officers were treated and released.

"Sunday's assault shows how dangerous it can be for our members when an inmate becomes combative. Nine officers were injured by an inmate who has a propensity for assaulting officers. He violently attacked a New York City corrections officer at Riker's Island in 2014. The extremely violent assault on Sunday is a perfect example of why we need strict disciplinary measures for inmates who attack staff." – Michael Mazzella, NYSCOPBA Mid-Hudson Vice President.

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