



For Immediate Release
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Makeshift Handcuff Keys Discovered During Search at Marcy Correctional Facility

Marcy, NY – Correctional Officers at Marcy Correction Facility have discovered several makeshift handcuff keys fabricated from headphone jacks that were capable of opening up wrist and leg restraints at the medium security correctional facility.

Officers in the Residential Mental Health Unit (RMHU) found an inmate to be in possession of one of the keys on January 31, 2018. The discovery led to an investigation that turned up three additional keys in the following two weeks. All three keys were in the possession of inmates who voluntarily turned them over during the investigation.

The inmates were taking the headphone jacks, which were state issued, and hollowing them out so they would fit into the lock of the handcuff. Once in the lock, the makeshift key enabled them to open the restraints.

“This is a pointed reminder that certain inmates will attempt to manipulate and manufacture makeshift weapons and tools that they can use against inmates or staff. The restraints are used to control inmates who are dangerous and possibly will hurt staff or other inmates. It certainly could have created a very dangerous environment for everyone involved, if not for the discovery.” – Scott Carpenter, Central Region VP of NYSCOPBA.