



Staff Assault Occurs at Mohawk Correctional Facility

Visitor Also Arrested With Drugs

For Immediate Release

Rome, NY – An inmate serving a 11 year sentence for burglary attacked a corrections officer and punched him several times in the face at the medium security prison last week.

The incident occurred on Wednesday, September 4, at approximately 8:34 a.m. The 38 year old inmate was given orders to remove his boots as part of a routine frisk. The inmate became agitated and started yelling at officers. A officer stepped in to assist, and was punched in the right side of the face by the inmate.

The officer, with the assistance of another officer, got the inmate in a body hold. He continued to struggle and throw punches. He struck the officer several more times in the face before he was brought under control.

Once in restraints, the inmate was placed in a Special Housing Unit. He faces disciplinary charges.

Two officers were transported to a local hospital for treatment. One received eight stitches to his hand. Both officers were treated and released and did not return to duty.

In a separate incident, on Saturday, September 7, at approximately 7:30 a.m. a K9 officer and his K9 were at the facility to conduct inspections of the visitor area. The K9 alerted to a backpack belonging to a Brooklyn man. A search of the backpack turned up one yellow pill that was hidden inside a Tic Tac box. The pill tested positive for Ecstasy. The man was turned over to the Oneida County Sheriffs and charged with Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance 7th.

“Staff assaults and contraband continue to be serious problem in our correctional facilities. Visitors on a daily basis attempt to bring drugs into the prisons for inmates despite the best efforts of staff. Members are still being attacked with no real ramifications for the inmates. All of this will continue until the administration recognizes that changes are necessary to protect staff and eliminate the drugs from getting inside. ” – stated Scott Carpenter, NYSCOPBA Central Region Vice President.