



Drugs & Scalpel Seized at Ulster Correctional as Contraband Continues to Flow into Facilities

Two Inmates Also Revived with Narcan

March 5, 2020

For Immediate Release

Naponach, NY – Drugs and a scalpel were seized at Ulster Correctional Facility during searches conducted by staff as contraband continues to be a large issue for prisons statewide.

- On Wednesday, February 26, an officer was conducting a search of an inmate's cube when he located a small plastic bundle taped inside of a bible. The bundle contained two Suboxone pills.
- On Thursday, February, 27, an officer observed two inmates on the floor in the day room. Both inmates were unresponsive as a result of an apparent drug overdose. Several applications of Narcan had to be administered to the two inmates to revive them. Both were transported to a local hospital for further treatment. It is unclear at this time what drugs the inmates the inmates used.
- On Saturday, February 29, staff conducted a search of one of the inmate dorms and located a white bundle that was taped to the bottom of one of the inmate's locker. The bundle contained three orange strips that tested positive for Suboxone.
- On Sunday, March 1, an officer, while on security rounds in a housing unit, noticed an inmate in the bathroom turn away and reach quickly into his pocket. The officer conducted a pat frisk of the inmate and found a ceramic scalpel with a plastic handle in his pant pocket.
- On Monday, March 2, during a search of an inmate's cube an officer recovered a plastic bundle inside of a locker. Inside the bundle was a green leafy substance that tested positive for amphetamines. A second search of another inmate's cube recovered a clear plastic bundle that contained Suboxone and a non-prescribed antidepressant.

All the drugs were seized as evidence and the inmates face internal disciplinary measures.

“The constant battle to keep contraband from entering the prisons will continue to tie up staff until DOCCS reinstates the Secure Vendor Program statewide and assigns a K9 to every facility. In less than a week staff searches turned up drugs in inmates’ living quarters and a weapon on one inmate. It is quite obvious that under the current system contraband continues to get inside the facilities either through mailed packages or inmate visits. ” – stated Mike Mazzella, NYSCOPBA Mid-Hudson Region Vice President.