



Inmates Brawl at Mohawk Correctional Facility

OC Pepper Spray Needed to Quell Several Fights, Make Shift Weapons Recovered

May 19, 2020

Rome, NY – Several inmate on inmate fights broke out during the evening meal run that resulted in OC Pepper Spray being deployed to stop the fighting at the medium security correctional facility.

On Sunday, May 10 at approximately 4:47 p.m., multiple fights broke out during the evening meal run. Officers gave the inmates several orders to stop fighting but they were ignored. Several separate fights broke off and continued until officers deployed OC Pepper Spray at different fight locations and the fighting ceased.

All of the inmates were removed from the area and decontaminated. Several inmates, who were involved in fights, were placed in Special Housing Units and face internal disciplinary charges.

A search of the fight areas, after the inmates were removed, recovered five make shift weapons, all with sharpened ends. They were taken as evidence.

Several inmates sustained minor injuries and were treated by facility medical staff.

No staff were injured in the fights.

In addition, on Monday, May 4, an officer working in the package room processing inmate mail discovered four orange strips in a large envelope. The strips were tested and it was determined to be Suboxone. The envelope was mailed to the inmate from the Syracuse area.

“This incident at Mohawk was extremely scary. Multiple inmates, apparently some armed with make-shift weapons, fighting amongst each other and ignoring officers commands to stop. Thankfully the OC Pepper Spray the officers deployed had the desired effect and stopped the fights from continuing. It could have been a much different outcome otherwise.” – stated Bryan Hluska, NYSCOPBA Central Region Vice President.