



Officers Injured at Mid-State and Mohawk Correctional Facilities

Drugs Also Seized From Inmate Package at Mohawk

For Immediate Release

July 29, 2020

Marcy, NY – Several officers were injured in two separate incidents at Mohawk and Mid-State Correctional Facilities last week.

On Friday, July 24 at approximately 7:10 a.m., an inmate approached the officers station in a dorm at Mohawk Correctional Facility. The inmate made several verbal threats at the officer for no known reason. He was given several orders to stop. He refused and advanced towards the officer. The officer administered OC spray to the inmate. It had no effect and the inmate charged the officer. The officer administered a second round of OC spray, which again had no effect. The inmate struck the officer several times in the face. He placed the officer in a body hold. The officer was able to break free. Additional staff arrived on the scene and the inmate stopped the attack. He was placed in mechanical restraints and was removed from the scene.

Two officers sustained injuries in the incident. The officer, who was initially attacked, sustained pain and swelling to his face and back of the head. He also had left shoulder pain. The second officer injured her shoulder while restraining the inmate. Both remained on duty.

The inmate was placed in a Special Housing Unit. He faces internal disciplinary charges.

The same day, an officer assigned to the package room discovered synthetic marijuana hidden inside food cans. The officer noticed the package had been damaged and was leaking. Upon closer inspection, the officer found a clear plastic bag in one of the food cans. A green leafy substance inside the plastic bag tested positive for K2. It weighed 17 grams.

The package was mailed from the Buffalo area.

On Sunday, July 26, five officers sustained minor injuries while trying to subdue an irate inmate at Mid-State. The inmate began arguing with officers in the property room over paperwork. He became agitated and grabbed an officer's arm. Another officer grabbed him in a body hold from behind. He attempted several times to head-butt the officer but failed. Additional staff arrived and helped contain the combative inmate and get him into mechanical restraints.

The inmate was placed in a Special Housing Unit. He faces internal disciplinary charges.

One of the injured officers sought outside medical help. The remaining four officers stayed on duty.

"Thankfully none of the officers in the two attacks sustained serious injuries. The attacks continue a growing trend of unprovoked assaults on staff. Without any real disciplinary measures to take against inmates who attack staff, this unfortunately will become more commonplace at facilities across the state." – stated Bryan Hluska, NYSCOPBA Central Region Vice President.