



Officer Attacked and Injured by Inmate at Elmira Correctional Facility

Inmate Strikes Officer With Make Shift Karate Sticks

For Immediate Release

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Elmira, NY - An inmate brandishing make-shift karate sticks struck an officer in the left side of the face and nose after running from staff who were escorting him to the shower at the maximum security correctional facility.

On Monday, December 28, at approximately 12:41 p.m., the inmate was being escorted to the shower by an officer. Suddenly he ran from the officer and headed towards one of the outside yards. Officers stopped him and attempted to question him. He took a set of make-shift karate sticks and a bag of dominoes he had hidden on him and struck one of the officers on the left side of the face and nose. Two officers administered two applications of OC spray, which had no effect. The inmate continue to swing the sticks and bag at officers. Officers were able to get him in a body hold and took him to the ground where he continued to struggle. Staff were able to get him into handcuffs and he stopped being combative.

The inmate was removed from the yard and placed in a Special Housing Unit pending disciplinary charges. The 42 year old inmate was convicted of Assault 1st in Suffolk County in 2018 and is serving a eight year sentence.

The karate sticks, which measured 12 inches long, and the bag of dominoes were recovered as evidence.

The officer who was struck in the face sustained contusions to his nose and left cheek. He was treated by facility medical staff and remained on duty. A second officer complained of neck pain sustained during the struggle. He also remained on duty.

“2020 was a record year for assaults on staff. Despite a dwindling inmate population, assaults on staff have increased by 38 percent since 2016. Instead of pushing for further reductions in discipline, our elected officials should make it a priority to find better ways to safeguard staff from these consistent attacks. Our membership, who are on the front lines every day, deserve at least that!” – stated Mark Deburgomaster, NYSCOPBA Western Region Vice President.