

Officer Attacked at Fishkill Correctional Facility

Inmate Helps Stop Attack on Female Officer

<u>For Immediate Release</u> February 9, 2021

Fishkill , NY – An inmate came to the aid of a female officer who was being attacked inside a housing unit office at the medium security correctional facility.

The incident occurred on Sunday, January 31, at approximately 5:00 a.m. The female officer was inside one of the housing unit offices when she heard an inmate screaming. The officer exited the office and saw an inmate running towards her screaming "knife". The officer ordered the inmate to stop but he refused and kept on running towards her. The inmate grabbed the officer by her uniform shirt and pushed her backwards into the office and barricaded the door. As the inmate continued the attack, the officer was able to call for assistance. Another inmate, who was in the bathroom at the time and heard the attack, pushed his way into the office and pulled the inmate off the officer and out of the office. Additional officers responded to the scene and handcuffed the inmate and removed him from the area.

The inmate, 28, is serving a seven year sentence after being convicted in Queens County on two counts of Burglary 2nd and one count of Criminal Possession of a Weapon 2nd. The inmate faces disciplinary charges and was placed in a Special Housing Unit.

The officer sustained scratches and redness to her chest. She was treated by facility medical staff and remained on duty.

"Far too often we are reporting attacks on staff at the hands of inmates. In this latest attack, because of staffing shortages and our membership already stretched too thin at prisons, another inmate was needed to help stop the attack on the officer before additional staff arrived. There was an indication the inmate who attacked the officer was intoxicated on an unknown substance and the attack could have continued if the inmate had not intervened. While we are thankful that the he took it upon himself to help the officer, if DOCCS would keep staffing was at adequate levels instead of focusing on closing more prisons, the attack might have been averted in the first place." – stated Chris Moreau , NYSCOPBA Mid-Hudson Region Vice President.