



Drugs, Weapon Seized at Marcy Correctional Facility

NYSCOPBA Once Again Calls on DOCCS to Install Vendor Program

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Marcy, NY – Since the beginning of the year attempts to smuggle drugs into the medium security prison through inmate mail continue at a rapid pace. NYSCOPBA once again is calling on DOCCS to install the Secure Vendor Program at all correctional facilities to minimize these attempts.

Since January 12 officers have confiscated synthetic marijuana, commonly known as K2, and Suboxone that have been hidden inside packages mailed to inmates on 12 different occasions. Officers processing packages have found up to 100 grams of K2 hidden inside a wide variety of food packages. In addition, Suboxone strips have been recovered hidden inside book bindings that were mailed to inmates.

Despite the best efforts of officers, drugs are still getting inside prisons and into the hands of inmates. One inmate was found to have Suboxone hidden inside his pants during a pat frisk. Two inmates, who appeared to be heavily intoxicated on unknown substances, attempted to attack officers who came to their aid. OC spray needed to be administered to get the two inmates under control.

In addition, an officer conducting a frisk of an inmate found a make-shift weapon on him. A metal shank sharpened on one end was found inside the inmate's pants in the groin area. The weapon was recovered and the inmate was placed in a Special Housing Unit pending disciplinary charges.

"Officers at Marcy prison battle daily to stop drugs from coming in through mailed packages. They do an excellent job detecting and recovering drugs hidden inside a wide variety of packages. Invariably, they cannot stop all of the drugs flowing in as witnessed in the two incidents in which inmates high on drugs attempted to attack officers who were attempting to help them. Drugs like K2 can cause individuals to become very violent and DOCCS has a duty to protect officers and keep them safe. Reinstalling the Secure Vendor Program would help put a significant dent in the amount of drugs that get inside prisons and minimize any violence related to them. There is simply no justification not to put this program into effect." – stated Bryan Hluska, NYSCOPBA Central Region Vice President.