



New York State Correctional Officers & Police Benevolent Association, Inc.

“Keeping New York Safe”

Multiple Officers Injured at Greene Correctional Facility

Make-Shift Weapon Recovered From Inmate During Altercation with Officer

May 14, 2021

Coxsackie, NY – Several officers were injured at Greene Correctional Facility during two skirmishes at the medium security prison, continuing the alarming trend of assaults on staff.

On Tuesday, April 27, an inmate approached a female officer in one of the housing dorms. He was yelling and highly agitated. The officer ordered the inmate to return to his cube and he complied. At his cube, the inmate continued to yell across the dorm room. Three officers, hearing the commotion, arrived inside the dorm. The officers, attempting to de-escalate the situation, attempted to escort the inmate out of the dorm. During the escort, the inmate began to be combative and kicked at staff multiple times. He struck the female officer once in the chest. The four officers grabbed the inmate in a body hold as he continued to kick at them. He was able to strike the female officer several times before they were able to get him to the floor. Once on the floor, staff were able to apply handcuffs and the inmate became compliant.

The inmate, 54, was removed from the dorm and placed in a Special Housing Unit pending disciplinary charges. He is serving a three year sentence after being convicted for Attempted Robbery 2nd in New York County in 2019.

The female officer was treated by medical staff at the facility. She was transported to a local urgent care for further treatment. She sustained pain, redness and a burning sensation to her chest, pain and swelling to her forehead, elbow and knee and back pain. She did not return to duty.

Three officers sustained pain and swelling to ankles, shoulders, hip, elbow, hand and wrist. They were treated by facility medical staff and remained on duty.

On Saturday, May 1, an officer was conducting routine rounds inside a bathroom in one of the dorms. He observed an inmate standing inside one of the bathroom stalls. The officer inquired what the inmate was doing. The inmate did not reply. The officer ordered the inmate to put his hands on the wall so he could conduct a pat frisk. The inmate initially complied. When the officer approached him, the inmate came off the wall towards the officer. The officer grabbed him in a body hold and forced him to the bathroom floor. On the floor, the officer observed the inmate begin to reach towards his pant pocket. The officer grabbed the inmate's hand and forced it behind his back. The inmate became compliant. Still on the floor, the officer reached into the inmate's pocket and removed a Plexiglas shank.

Additional staff arrived and stood the inmate up and placed him in handcuffs and removed him from the dorm.

He was placed in a Special Housing Unit pending disciplinary charges. He is serving a four year sentence after being convicted for Attempted Rape 2nd in 2019 in Orleans County.

The Plexiglas shank was four and half inches long, sharpened on one side with a cloth handle. It was placed into evidence.

The officer sustained left shoulder, ankle and hand pain in the incident. He was treated by medical staff and remained on duty.

“Another day, another assault on staff. The narrative doesn't change, and will continue until DOCCs and our elected officials make the necessary policy changes to protect staff. Provide staff with meaningful tools that will deter these violent unprovoked attacks. There is no telling what could have occurred on May 1, as the inmate reached towards his pocket where he had a make-shift weapon. The officer, alone at the time, used his training to quickly subdue the inmate and remove any threat. There is no guarantee that will be the same result next time. Our members deserve much more protection than they are currently receiving.” - stated Chris Moreau, NYSCOPBA Mid-Hudson Region Vice President.