



**New York State Correctional Officers
& Police Benevolent Association, Inc.**
"Keeping New York Safe"

Drugs, Weapons Seized at Marcy, Mid-State Correctional Facilities

Union Calls on DOCCS to Install Secure Vendor Program

For Immediate Release

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Marcy, NY – The on-going battle to stop drugs from getting into the hands of inmates continues at Marcy and Mid-State prisons where the lack of a Secure Vendor Program is allowing dangerous drugs to get to inmates.

Synthetic marijuana and Suboxone were seized from multiple packages mailed to inmates and a Syracuse woman was arrested for Promoting Prison Contraband 2nd when she attempted to smuggle in 33 grams of synthetic marijuana to an inmate during a recent visit at Mid-State.

The woman voluntarily turned over nine latex balloons she had hidden in her pants after she was questioned by officers while at the medium security prison to visit an inmate.

She was transported to the Marcy State Police Barracks where she was processed and released.

Last week at Marcy Correctional Facility, two officers were injured after being attacked by an inmate who appeared to be on drugs and three staff members needed to be treated at an outside hospital for light headedness and dizziness after coming into contact with some type of drug in an inmate's cube.

On Wednesday, June 9, an officer and sergeant were injured after an inmate, who appeared to be on drugs, kicked the sergeant in the head and fought with the officer as they were transporting him to the infirmary for medical treatment. The officer sustained a separated shoulder during the struggle and was treated at an outside hospital. He did not return to duty.

On Tuesday, June 8, an officer making routine rounds found an inmate unresponsive on the floor in one of the dorms. Medical staff was called and a nurse administered four doses of Narcan. The final dose revived the inmate and he was transported by ambulance to a local hospital for further treatment.

Staff searched the inmate's cube and two pens with an unknown white powdery substance on them were located. The pens were placed into evidence. A sergeant and two officers, who came into contact with the pens, all began experiencing light headedness, nausea and dizziness. They were treated by facility medical staff and transported to a local hospital for further treatment. They were treated and later released.

On the same day, an officer was slightly injured when an inmate, who had Suboxone strips on him, ran from the officer and attempted to flush the drugs down the toilet. The officer needed to administer OC Spray and use a body hold to get him to the ground and into handcuffs after the inmate attempted to run away from the officer.

Staff at the facility also recovered two make-shift weapons in inmate cubes following routine searches. An ice pick type weapon was recovered hidden amongst pens. A cutting type weapon was located on shelf inside of an inmate's locker. The weapons were seized and the inmates are subject to disciplinary charges.

Staff recovered a bag of white powder in a plastic bag on the sidewalk outside of an administration building. The powdered tested positive for methamphetamines. It has not been determined who was in possession of the drugs.

"Instead of pandering to the inmate advocates, DOCCS should stop ignoring a program that will significantly reduce the amount of drugs that get into hands of inmates. The reality is, despite the best efforts of staff, drugs are still getting to inmates. With visitations reinstated, there will be even more avenues for inmates to get their hands on drugs and contraband. All this does is make an extremely difficult job that much harder for our members." – stated Bryan Hluska, NYSCOPBA Central Region Vice President.