

## Officers Attacked, Injured at Mid-State Correctional Facility

Violence Continues to Surge at Correctional Facilities

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**Marcy**, **NY** – Nine officers were injured in four separate attacks at the medium security correctional facility continuing the trend of assaults on staff by inmates across the state.

On Wednesday, July 21, an officer observed an inmate pass an object to another inmate near the infirmary. The officer ordered inmate to submit to a pat frisk. Prior to officer frisking the inmate, he came off the wall and attempted to punch the officer. The inmate's punch missed and he was grabbed by the officer in a body hold and forced to the ground. On the ground, he continued to violently struggle. As additional staff arrived, the inmate was able to bite one officer on the wrist and kick another officer in the left eye and right shin. Staff were able to get handcuffs on the inmate.

Once in handcuffs, the inmate became compliant.

He was removed from scene and placed in a Special Housing Unit pending disciplinary charges.

On Saturday, July 24, an officer was making rounds in a housing dorm and entered one of the bathrooms. He observed an inmate smoking in one of the stalls. The inmate was ordered out of the stall and to put out the cigarette. The inmate became combative and clenched his fists and swung at the officer. The officer administered OC Spray to the inmate and he immediately became compliant.

He was placed in handcuffs and was being transported in a facility van to be decontaminated when he kicked backwards while entering the van and struck an officer in the left chest and shoulder. Staff grabbed him in body holds and restrained him until he became compliant.

After decontamination, the inmate was transferred to a Special Housing Unit pending disciplinary charges.

The officer who was kicked in the chest, sustained an abrasion to his shoulder and chest. He remained on duty. A second officer sustained minor injuries subduing the inmate and was treated at the facility and remained on duty.

On Friday, August 6, an officer was monitoring inmate movement on a walkway at the prison. He observed an inmate coming from a facility building in an agitated state. The officer attempted to stop the inmate to calm him down. The inmate walked away from the officer. Additional staff arrived on the scene and the inmate was ordered to submit to a pat frisk. Prior to the frisk, the inmate spun around and began throwing punches at the four officers. OC Spray was deployed but it did not have the desired effect. During the incident, the inmate was able to strike a female officer in the face and grab a second officer around the neck in an attempt to choke him. The four officers were able to get the inmate to the ground and apply handcuffs.

Once in handcuffs, the inmate became compliant.

The inmate was removed from the scene and transferred to Auburn Correctional Facility. He faces disciplinary charges in the attack.

Three officers sustained injuries and were treated by facility medical staff and remained on duty. The female officer sustained pain to the left side of her face, both knees, and right wrist. She was transported to an outside medical facility for further treatment.

On Saturday, August 7, an officer noticed an inmate on the facility phone during a time he was not allotted for. The officer ordered the inmate to get off the phone, which the inmate initially ignored. Once off the phone, the inmate was ordered back to his cube in the housing dorm. In his cube, the inmate began to shout at the officer. The officer gave him several orders to stop shouting and to calm down, which he ignored. The officer approached his cube and the inmate took a fighting stance against him. The officer administered OC Spray to the inmate which had no effect. The inmate proceeded to strike the officer in the left side of the face. The officer immediately grabbed the inmate in a body hold and forced him onto the bed. Additional staff arrived and attempted to assist the officer. The inmate was able to force his way off the bed. He was grabbed in another body hold and forced to the ground where handcuffs were applied.

Once in handcuffs, he became compliant and was removed from the housing dorm and placed in a Special Housing Unit pending disciplinary charges.

One officer sustained a swollen right knee, right middle finger, and face. He was treated at the facility and remained on duty.

"The endless attacks on staff, drugs and weapons seized at prisons across the state should be a direct wake up call for our elected officials that their watered down disciplinary policies are only making prisons more dangerous every day. The current system in place does not hold inmates accountable for attacking staff and it provides little or no safety for staff. They simply deserve much more for the dangerous work environment they are put in." – stated Bryan Hluska, NYSCOPBA Central Region Vice President.