



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

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***“Keeping New York Safe”***

***Officers Injured in Inmate Assault at Marcy Correctional Facility***

***Staff Recover Mail Saturated in Suspected Drugs in Ten Inmate Correspondence  
in One Day at Mid-State Correctional Facility***

**For Immediate Release**  
**August 24, 2021**

**Marcy, NY** – Four officers and two sergeants were injured by an inmate suspected to be intoxicated on drugs at Marcy Correctional Facility.

The attack occurred on Tuesday, August 17. The inmate, who was in a housing dorm at the time, initially exposed himself to a female officer. She called for a response. A sergeant and officer arrived at the dorm and escorted the inmate into the hallway so he could be frisked for contraband. Initially, the inmate had his hands on the wall. He turned suddenly and punched the sergeant in the face. Additional staff arrived and the inmate punched a second sergeant in the face. Staff attempted to subdue the inmate but he broke free and ran from staff. Additional officers were able to get him in a body hold and force him to the ground. Still struggling on the ground, OC Spray was administered several times with no effect. Staff were able to eventually apply handcuffs and the inmate became compliant.

The inmate was removed from the dorm and brought to the infirmary to be decontaminated. He was placed in a Special Housing Unit pending disciplinary charges. The inmate is serving a three year sentence after being convicted in Suffolk County in 2019 for Assault 2<sup>nd</sup> and Criminal Possession of a Weapon 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Four officers and the two sergeants were treated by medical staff at the facility and transported to St. Luke’s Hospital for further treatment. They were treated for their injuries, released and all returned to duty.

On the same day the assault occurred, staff at Mid-State Correctional Facility recovered ten pieces of mail believed to be saturated in drugs in one day at the medium security correctional facility.

Staff inspecting incoming inmate mail recovered drugs in 10 envelopes mailed to different inmates. The unknown drugs, appeared to have been saturated and dried in a number of different correspondence, ranging from photos, postcards, and letters.

The mail had return addresses from various addresses in New York but as far away as North Carolina and Arkansas as well.

Staff also recovered two cards on August 5 and 6, that were saturated in an unknown drug.

A day before the August 17 seizure, Assemblyman Mark Walczyk and colleagues renewed calls for DOCCS to re-install the Secure Vendor Program in correctional facilities across the state and sent a joint letter to the Acting Commissioner of DOCCS supporting the program.

“Assaults on staff and contraband continue to plague our prisons across the state. Now, four more officers and two sergeants assaulted and injured by one inmate who was believed to be intoxicated on drugs. Many times the assaults and drugs go hand in hand, when inmates become violent and attack staff when they are high on drugs. Now we appear to have a trend of inmate mail that is being saturated in drugs to go undetected when it is inspected by staff. For years, we have been calling for the Secure Vendor Program to be re-installed to put a dent in the amount of drugs hidden and sent in through inmate packages. Inmates will continue to find creative ways to get contraband inside our prison walls and this will be a never ending battle until we have the support of DOCCS and policies in place that help staff keep safe.” – stated Bryan Hluska, NYSCOPBA Central Region Vice President.