



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

# ***"Keeping New York Safe"***

### ***Officer Injured at Walkill Correctional Facility***

#### ***Inmate Attacks Officer and Drags Him into Cell***

##### **For Immediate Release**

***September 22, 2021***

**Walkill, NY** – A 35 year old inmate convicted of shooting a three year old in the Bronx in 2013, attacked and injured an officer at the medium security correctional facility on Monday.

The attacked occurred after the inmate began arguing with the officer while he was conducting an inmate count in one of the housing units. The officer ordered the inmate back into his cell. The inmate immediately struck the officer in the mouth and grabbed his shirt and pulled him into the cell. He attempted to put the officer in a choke hold but was unsuccessful when the officer broke free from his hold.

The officer exited the cell as the inmate continued to be aggressive. Another officer responded and administered OC Spray to the inmate, which initially had no effect. The inmate again attacked the first officer, striking him multiple times in the upper torso.

Additional staff arrived and placed the inmate in a body hold and forced him to the ground. On the ground, the inmate continued to be combative and fought with officers. Eventually, staff were able to get handcuffs on the inmate, who then became compliant.

Staff escorted the inmate out of the area and was placed in a Special Housing Unit pending disciplinary charges.

The injured officer was treated at the facility and transported to Vassar Brother's Hospital for swelling to the face, abrasion to the right lip, swelling to his right hand and pain to his arm and shoulder.

He did not return to duty.

The inmate is serving a 15 year sentence after being convicted in 2016 on two counts of Attempted Assault 1<sup>st</sup> and one count of Criminal Possession of a Weapon 2<sup>nd</sup> in connection with a shooting that left one man and a three year old boy with gunshot wounds.

"The simple fact is that staffing levels are not anywhere near the level that is conducive to providing a safe environment for staff inside our state prisons. The ranks are stretched thin and in many instances working double shifts, which creates a very dangerous setting to work in. Coupled with a completely watered down disciplinary system, it is no wonder that assaults on staff are at an all-time high. This is going to continue until our elected officials wake up to the fact that our members are under siege daily and deserve much better. " – stated Chris Moreau, NYSCOPBA Mid-Hudson Region Vice President.