



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

# ***“Keeping New York Safe”***

### ***Two Officers Injured, Drugs, Weapons Seized at Mohawk Correctional Facility***

#### ***Visitor Also Arrested Attempting to Smuggle Drugs into Inmate***

***September 24, 2021***

**Rome, NY** – Two officers were injured by an inmate after he attempted to attack one of the officers who went to frisk him for drugs at the medium security facility.

On Sunday, September 19, an officer assigned to the visitors room observed an inmate attempting to conceal an item as he exited the bathroom. The officer approached the inmate and ordered him outside of the visitor’s room so he could be frisked. The inmate refused and shoved the officer and attempted to punch him. The officer avoided getting hit and put the inmate in a body hold and forced him to the floor. On the floor, the inmate continued to fight and be combative. A second officer applied OC Spray to the inmate, which had the desired effect. Handcuffs were applied and the inmate was removed from the visitor room.

The inmate was searched for contraband and five plastic bundles were found inside his underwear. The bundles contained a green leafy substance believed to be synthetic marijuana.

The inmate was placed in a Special Housing Unit pending disciplinary charges.

The two officers were treated by medical staff at the facility for arm, knee and elbow pain. Both officers remained on duty.

In addition to the assault, staff recovered drugs and weapons at the facility last week.

An Albany woman was arrested at the facility for Promoting Prison Contraband 2<sup>nd</sup> after investigators discovered four balloons hidden inside her pants that contained synthetic marijuana, commonly known as K2.

The woman was at the facility to visit an inmate on Saturday, September 18. She was questioned by staff and admitted to carrying drugs. She voluntarily turned over the drugs to staff. She was transported to the Marcy State Police Barracks for processing.

Staff also recovered four weapons from an inmate's cube during a routine search on Friday, September 17. Two cutting type instruments and two ice pick type weapons were located hidden inside the cube.

The inmate, was placed in a Special Housing Unit pending disciplinary charges.

“Staff assaults, drugs and weapons are a recurrent theme at Mohawk Correctional Facility. The details of the incidents might be different each time, but they still paint the same picture – a facility plagued with assaults, drugs and weapons that needs to be addressed by DOCCS.” – stated Bryan Hluska, NYSCOPBA Central Region Vice President.