



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

***Inmate Attacks, Injures Officers at Greene Correctional Facility***

***Cellphone Also Recovered in Separate Incident***

**For Immediate Release**

***September 27, 2021***

**Coxsackie, NY** – Three officers were injured after an inmate, who originally was being frisked for smoking in the bathroom, attacked them at the medium security correctional facility.

On Tuesday, September 21, an officer making security rounds in one of the dorms, observed an inmate smoking a cigarette in a bathroom stall. The officer ordered the inmate out of the stall and to submit to a pat frisk. Initially the inmate complied. As the officer began to frisk the inmate, he spun off the wall and punched the officer in the chest. The officer grabbed him in body hold and both men fell to the ground, with the inmate on top of the officer.

A female officer responded and grabbed the inmate in a body hold in an attempt to get him off the officer. The inmate turned, and punched the female officer in the chest. The officer on the ground grabbed the inmate and pulled him back to the ground, where he continued to be combative. The inmate began strangling the officer with his hands. The female officer grabbed the inmate to get him to release his grip from around her fellow officer's neck. The inmate released his grip and pulled the officer's shirt over his head and struck him multiple times in the face and head.

A third officer responded to the attack and grabbed the inmate in a body hold. The inmate proceeded to punch the officer in the face and shoulder. A fourth officer arrived and grabbed the inmate in another body hold and forced him to the ground. With assistance from the other three officers, they were able to apply handcuffs to the inmate. Once in handcuffs, he became compliant. He was removed from the dorm and placed in a Special Housing Unit pending disciplinary charges.

The inmate, 30 years old, is serving a three to seven year sentence after being convicted in Herkimer County in 2018 for Criminal Possession of a Weapon 3<sup>rd</sup>.

The initial officer who was attacked, sustained bruising and cuts to his forehead and pain to his ankle. Two officers who responded to help, were also injured. One officer sustained bruising to the left temple, laceration to the thumb, and left shoulder, knee and elbow pain. The second officer sustained swelling to the left hand and knee and shoulder pain.

All three officers were treated by facility medical staff and remained on duty.

Staff also recovered a cell phone from an inmate at the facility after an officer approached him in his cube and began questioning him about acting suspicious. On Sunday, September 19, the officer observed the inmate acting suspicious in his cube. The officer approached him in the cube and found he was hiding a latex glove tip underneath his tablet. The glove tip contained an unknown substance. The officer also witnessed the inmate place something in his pants pocket. He ordered the inmate to empty his pockets. The inmate refused and shoulder blocked the officer and attempted to run away. The officer grabbed him in a body hold and forced him to the ground. While on the ground, the inmate took a cell phone from his pant pocket and threw it towards the officer's station in the dorm.

Additional staff arrived and the inmate was brought under control. An initial search for the cell phone in the dorm was unsuccessful. After expanding the search, the phone was located in a garbage can outside the entrance of the dorm.

The investigation determined another inmate in the dorm immediately grabbed the phone after it was thrown to the ground and he went outside the dorm and threw it in the garbage.

The initial officer in the incident sustained pain in his hand, shoulder and knee. He was treated by facility medical staff and remained on duty.

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

The second inmate, who discarded the phone in an attempt to hide it, was also placed in a Special Housing Unit.

"As assaults on staff continue to climb on a daily basis with a watered down disciplinary system, it is our sincere hope that county district attorneys across the state will follow the lead of Greene County District Attorney Stanzione and will begin to charge and prosecute inmates where it will significantly impact the inmate's current sentence and the date they are released from prison. Without a disciplinary system that has any teeth, this is one of the only ways we have left to send a message that attacks on staff will not be tolerated. " – stated Chris Moreau, NYSCOPBA Mid-Hudson Region Vice President