



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

“Keeping New York Safe”

Multiple Officers Injured at Gouverneur Correctional Facility

Two Separate Attacks by Inmates on Staff

For Immediate Release
September 29, 2021

Gouverneur, NY – Four officers were injured in two separate attacks at the medium security correctional facility as staff conducted routine frisks of inmates for contraband.

The first attack occurred on Wednesday, September 15. Staff were conducting a dorm frisk for contraband when an officer ordered an inmate to empty his pockets. The inmate complied and placed a latex glove fingertip and orange strip on his locker. The officer ordered the inmate outside of the dorm so a frisk could be conducted. Prior to the frisk, the inmate came off the wall and elbowed one officer in the forehead and kicked a second officer in the knee. The two officers grabbed the inmate in a body hold and forced him to the ground. On the ground, the officers were able to apply handcuffs and the inmate became compliant.

The inmate was escorted to the infirmary for evaluation. In the infirmary, the inmate became aggressive with staff again and handcuffs were reapplied until he became compliant.

Two officers were treated by facility medical staff for injuries in the incident. One officer sustained an abrasion and swelling to his knee. A second officer sustained left eye swelling, and shoulder and knee pain.

Both officers remained on duty.

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

The contraband the inmate was holding was identified as Suboxone.

The second attacked occurred on Saturday, September 18. Staff were conducting a frisk for contraband on an inmate. He was ordered to the wall and ignored the orders. He turned and punched one officer in the face. He was grabbed by two officers in a body hold and forced to the ground, where he continued to be aggressive.

Both officers were able to apply handcuffs and the inmate became compliant.

The inmate, 40, was removed from the area and placed in a Special Housing Unit pending disciplinary charges. He is serving an 11 to 13 year sentence after being convicted for Criminal Possession of a Weapon 2nd, Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance 3rd and two counts of Attempting to Promote Prison Contraband 1st in Onondaga County in 2014.

Two officers were injured in the incident. The officer who was punched in the face, sustained swelling to his chin and right knee pain. A second officer sustained shoulder pain subduing the inmate. Both were treated by facility medical staff and remained on duty.

“Almost on a daily basis, we are reporting another attack on staff in our state prisons, yet despite our calls for more staffing and resources to combat the attacks, there is nothing but silence from DOCCS administration. These attacks, along with the daily seizures of drugs and weapons, will continue until DOCCS addresses the systemic problem that exists.” – Stated Bryan Hluska, Central Region Vice President.