



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

“Keeping New York Safe”

Unsettling Incidents Reported at Southport Correctional Facility

Five Disturbing Instances of Unprovoked Attacks by Inmates Aimed at Officers over a 4-Day Period

October 14, 2021

Pine City, NY – Inmates hurled feces, urine and spit at unsuspecting officers and a civilian employee, for no reason at all, totaling 5 reported incidents over a four-day stretch inside the maximum security facility.

The first incident occurred on the morning of October 4th, where an inmate had to be removed from a hearing due to his disruptive behavior and refusal to comply with procedures. After being removed from the hearing room, the inmate refused to return to his cell and decided not to walk, to which the officers began carrying him by his arms and waist. While being carried back to his cell, the inmate attempted to spit at one of the escorting officers. The inmate was taken to the ground with body holds, yet continued to struggle and resist with officers until ultimately becoming compliant. A spit net was placed on the inmate and he was returned to his cell.

The inmate, 26, is serving a 6 year sentence after being convicted of Strangulation 2nd, Attempted Robbery 2nd and Burglary 3rd, in 2018 in Westchester County.

The second incident also occurred on the morning of October 4th, where an officer assigned to C Gallery was delivering lunch. As the officer walked by an inmate's cell, the inmate reached into his toilet and hurled its contents at the officer, striking him in the head, face and body. The contents smelled like urine and feces and the officer exited the gallery to be examined by medical staff, where he reported no injuries from the incident.

The inmate, 25, is serving a 12 year sentence after being convicted of Assault 2nd in Orange County in 2016 and is currently being held pending charges.

The third incident happened on the morning of October 5th, where a civilian employee was making rounds on D Block when he was asked by an inmate to stop and discuss some of the issues he was facing. The inmate stated he was tired of being “disrespected” and threw a liquid filled cup at the civilian employee, striking him the upper thigh and torso. During the investigation, the liquid was determined to be Levity, a nutrition formula. The civilian employee was examined by medical staff and remained at work.

The inmate, 36, is serving a 15 year sentence after being convicted of Manslaughter 2nd in 2014 in Monroe County.

The fourth incident occurred in the afternoon of October 6th, where an officer who was bringing an inmate to a program observed he was wearing unauthorized beads around his neck. The officer instructed the inmate to return the beads to his cell and the inmate told the officer he was going to “Stick it up” and be disruptive so no one could go to the program. The inmate, who was already in rear fastened restraints, dropped to the floor in an attempt to get his restraints from the back to the front, to which he was partially successful by getting his right foot through the process. Before he could continue further, the officer and 2 other responding officers used body holds to restrain the inmate while they placed leg restraints on the inmate. As the officers lifted the inmate off the floor to stand him upright, the inmate spit an object out of his mouth, onto the floor and kicked it away. An officer retrieved the object which was initially identified as a small, pen-like ceramic scalpel blade.

The inmate was examined by medical staff which reported a scratch on his wrist. The officers were all examined by medical staff, reported no injuries and remained on duty.

The inmate, 28, is serving an 18 year sentence after being convicted of Manslaughter 1st in 2014 in the Bronx.

The fifth incident happened on the afternoon of October 7th, when an officer was conducting rounds on the B Gallery. As the officer was passing by an occupied cell, an inmate threw an unknown liquid out of his cell from a Styrofoam cup. The liquid struck the officer in his face and body. The liquid smelled like urine and the officer removed himself from the gallery to be examined by medical staff, where he reported no injuries and remained on duty.

The inmate, 25, is serving an 8 year sentence after being convicted of Attempted Robbery 1st and Grand Larceny of an Automobile 4th in 2020 in Genesee County.

“Sadly, these unruly actions by brazen inmates against our officers are becoming all too common in our facilities. Five incidents in four days? Enough is enough. To me, it’s completely unacceptable and is a direct reflection of the continued failures of our elected leaders. Because

of Albany's progressive policies, these inmates have the green light to act like this with little to no deterrents or punishments. We need an administration in Albany that cares about our members and doesn't tolerate behavior like this. These unprovoked and disgusting actions by inmates against our officers must stop." – **Stated Mark DeBurgomaster, NYSCOPBA Western Region Vice President.**