



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

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

***Violent Attack by Inmate Injures Six Officers at Elmira Correctional***

***Unprovoked Attacks by an Inmates on Staff Continue at a Record Pace***

*October 20, 2021*

**Elmira , NY** – An inmate attacked and injured six officers after exiting his cell and ignoring staff orders at the maximum security facility this past weekend.

On Saturday, October 16, the inmate exited his cell and initially walked away from staff. He ignored staff orders and continued to walk down the cell gallery. One officer on the scene ordered the inmate back into his cell, which he ignored. Two officers responded to the incident and approached the inmate. The inmate punched one officer in the arm. Staff grabbed him in a body hold and forced him to floor. The inmate broke free from staff and stood up and struck another officer underneath the chin. Staff again grabbed him in a body hold and forced him to the floor. On the floor, the inmate was still was combative and kicked one officer in the knee and attempted to bite and head butt other staff. OC Spray was administered by two officers, which had no effect.

As additional staff arrived, they were able to force the inmate's arms behind his back and apply handcuffs. As staff escorted the inmate off the cell gallery, he continued to be combative and attempted to kick, head butt and spit at staff.

The inmate was brought to the medical facility for evaluation and was transferred to a Special Housing Unit pending disciplinary charges.

The inmate, 37, is serving a three-year sentence after being convicted in Monroe County in 2021 for Attempted Criminal Possession of a Weapon 2<sup>nd</sup>.

The officer who was struck in the chin sustained a one-inch laceration and was transported to Arnot Odgen Medical Center for treatment. He received three stitches to close the wound. Five other officers sustained injuries ranging from shoulder pain, swollen knee and hand swelling. The five officers remained on duty.

Two days following the October 16 incident, two officers sustained minor injuries when an inmate fought with them after he violated visiting room policies and refused to submit to a pat frisk.

The inmate, 29, who is serving 33 years to life, after being convicted for Murder 2<sup>nd</sup>, Attempted Murder 2<sup>nd</sup>, Assault 1<sup>st</sup> and Criminal Possession of a Weapon 2<sup>nd</sup>, became aggressive with the two officers after they terminated his visit. The two officers grabbed the inmate in a body hold when he wouldn't comply and forced him to the floor.

After a brief struggle, handcuffs were applied, and the inmate became compliant.

He was convicted in 2017 in New York County for the execution style shooting of a man in a Manhattan subway.

The two officers were treated at the facility for hand and wrist swelling. They remained on duty.

“Our disciplinary system is broken and will only continue to get worse with the implementation of HALT in 2022. Two more vicious, unprovoked assaults of staff continue to add to the growing statistics of staff assaults. Until our elected officials in Albany begin to recognize that our members are under siege daily, this will be a daily theme across the State. Our membership, who are on the front line 24/7, deserve to have policies that keep them safe and hold inmates accountable for their actions.” – **stated Mark Deburgomaster NYSCOPBA Western Region Vice President.**