



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

# ***“Keeping New York Safe”***

### ***Two Officers Injured by Inmate at Elmira Correctional Facility***

#### ***Inmate Attacks Staff Who Entered Cell to Check on His Welfare***

October 29, 2021

**Elmira, NY** – Two officer's sustained minor injuries after they were attacked by an inmate inside his cell after they entered the cell to check on his well-being at the maximum security facility.

The incident occurred on Wednesday, October 27. Initially a nurse was distributing medication to inmates on the cell block. The inmate hurled an unknown liquid at the nurse as she approached his cell. The liquid missed hitting her.

Officers immediately responded to the incident the inmate had placed a bed sheet across the cell bars making it difficult to see inside the cell. A supervisor ordered staff to enter the cell to check on his well-being. When the first officer entered the cell, the inmate charged him and attempted to strike him but was unsuccessful. The inmate charged again and struck the officer in the chest, driving him into the cell bars. The inmate attempted to punch a second officer who had entered the cell but was unsuccessful. The two officers grabbed the inmate in a body hold and forced him to the ground. On the ground and still combative, the officers were able to apply handcuffs. Once in handcuffs, the inmate became compliant.

He was removed from the cell and placed in a Special Housing Unit pending disciplinary charges.

Both officers were treated by facility medical staff for their injuries. The first officer sustained pain and swelling to the lower back. The second officer sustained pain and swelling to his knee while subduing the inmate.

Both officers stayed on duty.

The inmate, 27, is serving a 6 to 12 year sentence after being convicted in Bronx County in 2017 for two counts of Attempted Assault 2<sup>nd</sup>.

"Assaults on staff at Elmira Correctional Facility continue to occur daily. On the heels of two attacks earlier in the week that left one officer with puncture wounds, two more officers are injured in a violent, unprovoked attack. This only reinforces the need to have stricter discipline for inmates who chose to attack staff. Yet, our elected officials, who have only weakened those policies, continue to turn a blind eye to the violence against staff." – stated, Mark Deburgomaster, NYSCOPBA Western Region Vice President.