



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

***Officer Injured at Coxsackie Correctional Facility***  
***Inmate Attacks Officer Inside Cell***

**For Immediate Release**  
**November 2, 2021**

**Coxsackie, NY** – An officer was injured after an inmate suddenly attacked him and struck him several times in the head while inside the inmate's cell at the maximum security correctional facility yesterday.

At approximately 11:38 a.m., inmates were returning to their cell block from their afternoon meal. One inmate entered his cell but refused to close the cell gate. He was given orders to shut the cell gate but refused again. An officer approached the cell to address the situation when the inmate grabbed his uniform shirt with both hands and pulled the officer into the cell.

Inside the cell, the inmate began striking the officer multiple times in the head and body. The officer called for an immediate response. He was able to defend himself and get the inmate in a body hold and force him face first up against the cell wall. Restrained against the wall, the inmate became compliant. Another officer entered the cell and applied handcuffs and removed the inmate from the cell.

The inmate was transferred to a Special Housing Unit pending disciplinary charges. He is serving a three year sentence after being convicted in Onondaga County in 2021 for Criminal Possession of a Weapon 2<sup>nd</sup>, and Criminal Possession of a Firearm.

The injured officer was treated by facility medical staff and transferred to Albany Medical Center for additional treatment. He was treated for swelling to the right side of his face, small laceration underneath the right eye and abrasions to his elbow and shoulder. He did not return to duty.

State police were notified of the attack.

"This was a surprise to absolutely no one that's ever worked in our state correctional facilities. On the very first day that the State officially abolishes the last of our legitimate disciplinary tools, an officer was brutally assaulted. Rather than going home at the end of shift to his children, he was taken to the hospital for injuries sustained in this vicious assault. Instead of sitting down with his family for dinner, he was having stitches put in face. He wasn't the first. He won't be the last. It is time to finally say enough is enough! HALT is awful legislation that's going to yield dire consequences. There is still time for this failed legislation to be amended. I'm calling on those responsible for the passage of this deadly policy to utilize the upcoming legislative session to fix what you've broken, and to take the necessary steps to protect those you've put in harm's way."

– stated, NYSCOPBA Mid-Hudson Vice President Chris Moreau.