



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

“Keeping New York Safe”

Several Inmate Fights Erupt in Recreation Yard at Clinton Correctional Facility

Two Inmates Cut and Slashed

November 4, 2021

Dannemora, NY – Days after two officers sustained lacerations in an inmate attack, multiple fights occurred in the recreation yard at the maximum security correctional facility that resulted in two inmates sustaining multiple lacerations from make-shift weapons.

On Tuesday, November 2, an officer assigned to the recreation yard observed three inmates fighting. During the fight, the inmates ignored several orders to stop fighting. The officer observed one inmate involved in the fight make multiple slashing motions at another inmate. Staff on the ground administered OC Spray and the three inmates became compliant.

The three inmates were handcuffed, removed from the yard, and were brought to the medical facility. Medical staff determined one inmate had been slashed on both sides of his head. He sustained two 10 inch lacerations on each side.

He was transported to an outside hospital for additional treatment.

The other two inmates involved were not injured.

Staff determined that the injured inmate was cut with an unknown cutting instrument during the fight.

After order was restored in the yard, staff observed the remaining inmates grouping up in the yard. Three separate fights with multiple inmates broke out. All orders from officers to stop fighting were ignored. Staff on the ground administered OC Spray to the fighting factions and it had the desired effect and the inmates stopped fighting. All inmates were removed from the yard.

The injured inmates were brought to the medical facility. One inmate sustained a laceration to his head and two puncture wounds to his cheek that were consistent with a make-shift weapon. The injured inmate was treated by facility medical staff and returned to his cell

The remaining inmates involved were returned to their cells and all face disciplinary charges.

A search of the yard did not yield any weapons

“I think one aspect of the violence inside correctional facilities that gets lost on our elected officials and advocates who have pushed for a reduction in discipline is that discipline not only serves as a deterrent for inmates to not attack staff, it also serves as a deterrent against inmate on inmate attacks. The same inmates the legislators want to protect are also the ones that become targets for violent attacks with a disciplinary system that has been severely weakened by their ill-conceived policies. All they have done is created a more dangerous environment for everyone.” – stated, NYSCOPBA Northern Region Vice President John Roberts.