

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

"Keeping New York Safe"

Civilian Staff Member Injured During Inmate Attack at Mohawk Correctional Facility

Inmate Attempted to Stab Nurse in Neck

April 14, 2022

Rome, NY – An inmate, serving a 20 years to life sentence for a murder, attempted to stab a nurse several times with a pen at the medium security correctional facility last month.

On Thursday, March 31, in the medical unit, an inmate came out into the hallway from his room and told a nurse his bed wasn't working. The nurse entered the room to check the bed. When she didn't find anything wrong, she turned around and the inmate was standing in front of her. He took a pen and stabbed her multiple times in the neck. She yelled for help. Another inmate, who was assigned to work in the medical unit, entered the room and grabbed the attacker and threw him on the bed. Officers responded to the room and placed the inmate in handcuffs without further incident.

The inmate was removed from the medical unit and placed in a Special Housing Unit before being transferred to Wende Correctional Facility.

The nurse was treated by facility medical staff. She sustained bruising, swelling and abrasions to her neck. The pen did not puncture her skin.

The inmate, 55, was convicted in Queens County in 1997 for Murder 2nd, Attempted Murder 2nd and Robbery 2nd.

State police were notified of the attack and responded to the facility. The investigation is ongoing.

"As assaults have become all too common in our correctional facilities, this attack on a civilian staff member, in itself was alarming. It was a brazen, and appears to be a premediated attack. In what could have been far more serious, thankfully the civilian staff member did not sustain more severe injuries in the attack. The inmate responsible for the attack is eligible for parole next month. Clearly he has not been rehabilitated after spending 25 years in prison and still is a danger to society and should not even be considered for parole after this attack." — stated Bryan Hluska, NYSCOPBA Central Region Vice President.