



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

“Keeping New York Safe”

Officers Injured at Elmira Correctional Facility

Two Inmate Attacks Sends Staff to Local Hospital for Injuries

For Immediate Release

September 27, 2022

Elmira, NY – Four officers needed to be treated a local hospital after two separate inmate attacks on staff at the maximum security correctional facility this month.

The first attacked occurred Thursday, September 15. Two officers were about to escort an inmate from a classroom. They removed the inmate’s restraints from his classroom chair. The inmate immediately got out of his chair and attacked another inmate who was seated. The two officers grabbed the inmate in a body hold to stop the attack. The inmate was able to strike one of the officers in the chest. During the continued struggle, the inmate and one officer fell over the chair to the classroom floor, where he continued to fight. A third officer entered the classroom and assisted in getting the inmate under control. The inmate was removed from the classroom and during an escort to the infirmary he bit one of the escort officers on his forearm. Forced was needed to get the inmate to release the bite.

Once under control, the inmate was escorted to the infirmary. During a routine search for contraband, a toothbrush sharpened on one end was found inside the inmate’s pants. The weapon was secured by staff as evidence.

Three officers who were injured in the incident needed to be transported to Arnot Ogden Medical Center for treatment. The officers were not able to return to duty. Two officers, who were injured subduing the inmate, were treated by facility medical staff and remained on duty.

The injuries sustained were knee, hip, elbow and shoulder injuries.

The second attack occurred last week, on Thursday, September 22. An inmate returning to his cell block from medical refused orders to walk to his cell. The officer giving the orders, approached the inmate and the inmate suddenly swung at the officer, missing him. The inmate attempted to run from the officer and was grabbed in a body hold. During the struggle, the inmate struck the officer in the left side of the face.

After a brief struggle the inmate was brought under control and removed from the cell block.

The officer was injured in the attack and was transported to Arnot Ogden Medical Center for swelling to his face and hand. He did not return to duty.

Both inmates face disciplinary charges in the attacks.

“As we move towards the end of the year, it is clearly evident that the HALT Act has failed miserably as attacks on staff have skyrocketed since April 1st. These attacks are not only occurring in state prisons, but county jails as well. The Nassau County Corrections Union and the County Executive assailed the HALT Act and Senator Julia Salazar, one of its most ardent supporters, after an officer was brutally attacked by a gang member in the Nassau County Jail last month. Before an officer gets killed in one of these attacks, the state legislature has to repeal or amend the HALT Act, or they will have blood on their hands when it occurs.” stated Kenny Gold, NYSCOPBA Western Region Vice President.