



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

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***“Keeping New York Safe”***

***Officer Slashed at Cayuga Correctional Facility***

*Inmate Cuts Officer's Face with Weapon*

**For Immediate Release**

**October 27, 2022**

**Cayuga, NY** – An officer was slashed three times across the face by an inmate who had barricaded himself in his cell at the medium security correctional facility last week.

On Sunday, October 16, an officer on routine rounds noticed an inmate had his cell window covered up. The officer ordered the inmate to remove the covering but he did not respond to several commands. Additional staff were called to the cell and a supervisor again ordered the inmate to remove the covering. Again, staff received no response from the inmate.

Staff opened the cell door and the inmate immediately charged at staff with his mattress in his hands. Staff immediately pushed the inmate back into the cell and four officers entered. The officers were able to get the mattress out of the inmate's hands and put him in body holds as he remained combative. The inmate was forced to the floor where he was placed in handcuffs and leg restraints.

Once the inmate became compliant, he was removed from his cell and placed in a holding cell pending a medical evaluation

During the struggle with the inmate, one officer noticed the inmate making multiple slashing motions at staff. After the incident, one of the officers who entered the cell realized his face had been cut. Medical staff treated the officer for three lacerations to his left cheek, one that went from his cheek underneath his ear to his neck. The officer was transported to Guthrie Cortland Medical Center for further treatment.

He did not return to duty.

Medical staff determined the lacerations were consistent with a cutting type weapon.

No weapon was recovered at this time.

A second officer sustained abrasions to his legs and pain and swelling to his hand while subduing the inmate. He was treated at the facility and remained on duty.

The inmate, 27, was transferred to Auburn Correctional Facility pending disciplinary charges. He is serving a six year sentence after being convicted in Westchester County in 2022 for Burglary 2<sup>nd</sup>.

In addition to the slashing, on Tuesday, October 28, an officer was exposed to bodily fluid that was deemed significant when an inmate threw liquid believed to be urine from a plastic cup on the officer. The officer was struck in the upper body, face, eyes and mouth.

The officer was conducting rounds when he approached a cell to speak with an inmate. While talking to the inmate, his cell mate threw the liquid from a cup through the food slot striking the officer.

The officer was treated by facility medical staff for exposure. He went to an outside medical facility for additional treatment. He did not return to duty.

“Here we are reporting another violent attack on a staff by an inmate that, by all appearances, appears to have been premeditated. The result was an officer with lacerations to his face and an inmate who will face nothing but a slap on the wrist with the current disciplinary system that exists as a result of the ridiculous HALT Act. Our members at Cayuga have been dealing with this more unruly inmate, who knows there are no consequences for assaulting staff daily since HALT was enacted and cannot wait for the legislators that supported this foolish legislation to put a uniform on and see what’s it really like working inside our prisons now that there are absolutely no deterrents for violent behavior. The only option we have left in violent attacks like this is for the county district attorneys to prosecute inmates when it is appropriate. It will send a clear message that inmates, especially those serving short sentences, will be held accountable for their actions.– stated Kenny Gold , NYSCOPBA Western Region Vice President.