



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

"Keeping New York Safe"

Wende Correctional Facility Officers Injured in Inmate Attacks

One Attack Occurs at Local Hospital

For Immediate Release

December 9, 2022

Three officers from Wende Correctional Facility were injured last week in two separate attacks, one attack occurring at an outside hospital after the inmate received a medical procedure.

On Thursday, December 1, the inmate was at the medical center for a procedure. After the procedure was completed, the inmate was taken to another medical unit escorted by two officers. When one officer attempted to apply handcuffs to the inmate, he turned and punched the officer in the left side of the face.

The second officer ordered the inmate to the back of the room. The inmate grabbed a Sharps Container that held used needles from the wall and began to swallow needles.

A third officer entered the room and was able to stop the inmate and apply handcuffs.

Once in handcuffs, the inmate became compliant.

The inmate was escorted from the unit for further medical evaluation.

The officer assaulted sustained bruising and swelling to the left side of his face. He was treated at the medical facility and remained on duty.

The inmate, 37, is serving a 30 year sentence after being convicted in 2015 in Wayne County for Robbery 1st, Robbery 2nd and Assault 2nd. He was previously convicted in 2005 and 2006 respectively for Escape 2nd.

The second attack occurred on the same day in one of the facility cell blocks. As inmates were returning from the mess hall, one inmate became loud and disruptive. One of the escort officers

ordered the inmate to stop and he refused. He ordered the inmate to the wall for a pat frisk and he suddenly turned and struck the officer in the left side of the face. The officer, along with a second officer, immediately grabbed the inmate in a body hold and forced him to the floor. On the floor and still struggling, the officers applied handcuffs. Once in handcuffs, the inmate became compliant. He was brought to his feet and removed from the cell block.

Both officers were injured in the incident. The officer who was struck in the face sustained pain, swelling, dizziness and instability on his feet. He was brought to an outside hospital for treatment. The officer who assisted, sustained wrist and hand injuries and was taken to a local urgent care for treatment. Both officers did not return to duty.

The inmate, who faces disciplinary charges in the attack, is serving a 12 year sentence after being convicted in Onondaga County in 2021 for Sexual Abuse 1st, Attempted Rape 1st and Assault 2nd.

"As we enter the last month of the year and already have shattered the record for inmate assaults on staff, there is no better time to demand that the State Legislature address the on-going violence and the complete failure of the HALT Act. We have had multiple officers across the state sustain critical and career ending injuries like these assaults at Wende at the hands of inmates since HALT went into effect. Clearly certain elected officials don't care about Officer safety but they fail to see that inmates have also already killed two other inmates and another is still in critical condition after being pummeled in an RRU recently. There is no doubt in my mind if the current lack of discipline continues, that an officer might get killed at the hands of an inmate and every legislator who supported HALT will be responsible for that." - stated, Kenny Gold, NYSCOPBA Western Region Vice President.