



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

***Officers Injured at Elmira, Five Points Correctional Facilities***

*Two Officers Treated at Outside Hospitals*

**For Immediate Release**

**January 4, 2023**

**Elmira , NY** –Two officers were treated at outside hospitals for injuries and blood exposure after two incidents at Elmira and Five Points Correctional Facilities last week.

The first incident occurred on Thursday, December 29 at Elmira Correctional Facility. An officer, who was conducting routine rounds in a cell block, was spit on by an inmate from inside his cell. The officer notified a supervisor and a sergeant responded to the cell block. The inmate was ordered to the rear of the cell so the cell door could be opened to escort the inmate to a Special Housing Unit. Initially, the inmate complied and moved to the rear of the cell. When an officer entered the cell, the inmate turned and punched the officer multiple times in the face. The officer grabbed the inmate in a body hold and forced him to the ground. Once on the ground and under control, the inmate became compliant. Handcuffs were applied and the inmate was brought to his feet and escorted from the cell to a Special Housing Unit pending disciplinary charges.

The officer who was assaulted was treated initially by facility medical staff and transferred to Arnot Ogden Medical Center for further treatment of right eye swelling and pain.

The inmate is serving a three year sentence after being convicted in Richmond County in 2022 for Criminal Possession of a Weapon 2<sup>nd</sup>.

The second incident occurred Five Points Correctional Facility on Friday, December 30. An officer observed two inmates exchanging punches to the face and body in a cell block. A response was called and orders given to the two inmates to stop fighting were ignored. To prevent the fight from escalating, OC spray was administered. Staff grabbed one inmate and forced him to the wall to separate him from the other inmate. Once on the wall, the inmate became compliant and handcuffs were applied. The second inmate involved attempted to run down the cell block. An officer grabbed him in a body hold and forced him to the floor. Once on the floor and still combative, the officer used force to maintain control of the inmate until handcuffs were applied. Once in handcuffs, the inmate became compliant.

Both inmates were escorted from the cell block to the infirmary for treatment of several lacerations sustained in their fight.

After treatment, both inmates were placed in a Special Housing Unit pending disciplinary charges.

One officer sustained knee pain and swelling. He was treated at the facility and remained on duty.

A second officer had significant blood exposure from one of the bleeding inmates. He was transported to Geneva Hospital for exposure and did not return to duty.

"We ended the year like we began, more staff being injured at the hands of violent inmates. 2022 will go down as the most violent years on record, with inmate on staff and inmate on inmate assaults both eclipsing previous highs. Our elected officials, who just became the highest paid state legislators in the nation, need to start earning their lofty salaries and address the on-going violence. They can begin by immediately repealing or amending the HALT Act, which single handedly contributed to the rise in violence. As legislators begin the new session this should be one of their highest priorities. If they cannot accomplish that, then we will have two more years of extreme violence." - stated Kenny Gold, NYSCOPBA Western Region Vice President.