



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

"Keeping New York Safe"

Multiple Officers Injured at Attica Correctional Facility

One Attack Injures Ten Officers and One Sergeant

For Immediate Release
January 26, 2023

Attica, NY – Multiple staff were injured at Attica Correctional Facility during the first week of the year when an violent inmate fought with officers who were attempting to frisk him for contraband outside of the visitor's room.

The incident occurred on Wednesday, January 4, at the maximum security correctional facility. The inmate, 43, was in the visitors room when an officer observed him with his hands inside the pants of his female visitor. The officer ordered the inmate to leave the visitor's room and escorted him to the frisk room. In the frisk room, the officer ordered the inmate to put his hands on the wall. Initially the inmate complied. The officer applied handcuffs to one of the inmate's wrist. When he attempted to apply the handcuffs to the other wrist the inmate resisted and aggressively pulled away. Four officers initially attempted to contain the inmate as he fought and resisted them. OC spray was administered but was not effective. Additional staff arrived as the inmate continued to be combative and resist the officers. During the struggle, the inmate was able to break free and punched one officer in the right eye and nose and a sergeant in the face.

The inmate continued to fight with staff and was able to fight his way back into the visitor's room. Inside the visitor's room, he grabbed a highchair and attempted to strike staff. He was unsuccessful and one officer was able to wrestle the highchair away from him. As staff continued to struggle with the inmate inside the visitor's room, the inmate was able to strike another officer in the face.

As additional staff arrived to assist, officers were able to apply the handcuffs to the second wrist. Once in restraints, the inmate became compliant. He was escorted from the visitor's room and brought to a Special Housing Unit to be decontaminated from the OC spray.

Ten officers and one sergeant were treated by facility medical staff for an assortment of injuries. The injuries included shoulder, back, knee elbow, eye, hand neck and face injuries. One officer also sustained a six inch laceration to his arm.

One of the injured officers who was punched in the face, was later transported to a local hospital for further treatment and did not return to duty.

All remaining staff remained on duty after treatment.

The inmate was placed in a Special Housing Unit pending disciplinary charges. He is serving a 22 to 26 year sentence after being convicted in Monroe County in 2007 for Attempted Murder 2nd, Assault 1st, and Burglary 1st. He previously served two year stint in prison in 1999 for reckless endangerment.

In addition to the attack, on Saturday, January 14, an officer had an unknown liquid thrown on him by an inmate in one of the facility cell blocks. An officer was conducting security rounds when an inmate approached him and began shouting at the officer and was being argumentative during the confrontation, the inmate threw the liquid at the officer, striking him in the face, eyes, mouth and body.

The inmate was immediately contained and was removed from the cell block.

"Two days following the January 4th assault at Attica, an Oneida County Judge sentenced a Mid-State Correctional Facility inmate to an additional six years in prison for his violent attack on a female officer that left her with 70 stitches to her forehead, a concussion and a broken nose. During the sentencing, the judge harshly criticized the New York State Legislature for not taking decisive action to protect staff in the correctional facilities across the state as violence skyrocketed. This latest attack at Attica that left ten officers and one sergeant injured, is another example of why we are demanding that the legislature take immediate action to address the violence and repeal the ridiculous HALT Act. There is simply no reasonable explanation that the supporters of the HALT Act can provide to disprove that the legislation hasn't contributed to the sharp rise in violence inside the prisons. The judge in Oneida County is absolutely correct, the legislators need to do more to curb the violence and it needs to be done NOW!" - stated, Kenny Gold, NYSCOPBA Western Region Vice President.