



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

“Keeping New York Safe”

Officer Injured at Green Haven Correctional Facility

Inmate Throws Dumbbell, Striking Officer

For Immediate Release

April 12, 2023

Stormville, NY – A 31 year old inmate serving his second stint in prison for weapons possession, injured an officer when he picked up a dumbbell and threw it at the officer’s upper body at the maximum security correctional facility last weekend.

On Saturday, April 8 at approximately 10:45 a.m., an inmate entered a housing unit at the facility from the recreation yard. He was carrying a 25 pound dumbbell from the yard and threw it at an officer. The officer quickly blocked the dumbbell from hitting him in the upper body with his left hand. A second officer on the unit immediately called for a response. After throwing the dumbbell, the inmate immediately ran and sat down at one of the tables in the housing unit.

When the response team arrived at the unit, the inmate was placed in handcuffs without further incident. He was removed from the housing unit and escorted by two officers to the facility medical clinic for evaluation. Upon entering the unit, the inmate continued to be combative, kicking the escort officers.

The officer who was injured by the dumbbell was treated by medical staff at the facility and transported to Vassar Brothers Medical Center for pain, swelling and discomfort to his left hand and finger. He did not return to duty.

The inmate is serving a 12 year sentence after being convicted for Criminal Possession of a Weapon 2nd in Dutchess County in 2019. Previously, he served a five year sentence for Attempted Criminal Possession of a Weapon 2nd in 2013.

“The HALT Act just passed the one year mark with disastrous results. Inmate on staff violence increased a shocking 33% from the previous year and there are no signs that the violence is going to slow down. Cities across this country are plagued with increased street violence as a result of progressive criminal justice policies and calls for defunding the police. It is no different inside our state correctional facilities. The HALT Act, pushed and supported by progressive State Legislators, has had a dreadful impact on inmate violence against staff as well as other inmates. The safety of our facilities is in severe jeopardy. The attack on the officer at Green Haven last Saturday could have been deadly if the dumbbell the inmate threw had struck the officer in the head. What will it take for those legislators to wake up? Have an officer killed at the hands of an inmate? Sadly, I am not even sure if that occurred it would cause the legislators to change their ineffective polices and that is infuriating for all of us” –stated, Chris Moreau, NYSCOPBA Mid-Hudson Region Vice President.