

NYSCOPBA Applauds Greene County District Attorney for Holding Inmates Accountable for their Actions

Individuals from Coxsackie and Greene Correctional Facilities Charged with Various Prison Crimes

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Catskill, NY – Several inmates face outside prosecution of various prison crimes while housed in two State correctional facilities in Greene County. The charges range from assaulting staff to promoting contraband while incarcerated at the medium and maximum-security facilities.

On May 9th, the Greene County District Attorney's Office announced a 35-year-old inmate plead guilty to Attempted Promoting Prison Contraband for having two pieces of sharpened plexiglass on him in 2022 while being housed at Coxsackie Correctional Facility. The inmate, who has been serving a 25-year sentence for manslaughter after being convicted in Monroe County in 2008, faces a consecutive prison term at a later date.

Also on May 9th, the Greene County District Attorney's Office announced a 22-year-old inmate was arraigned on an indictment charging him with Aggravated Harassment of an Employee, after he threw urine and feces at a Correction Officer while being housed at Coxsackie Correctional Facility. The inmate is currently serving a 7-year sentence after being convicted in 2021 in Erie County for Criminal Possession of a Weapon.

On May 12th, The Greene County District Attorney's Office announced a 35-year-old inmate was arraigned on an indictment charging him with Promoting Prison Contraband, after earlier this year, he was caught with a sharpened weapon while being housed at Greene Correctional Facility. The inmate is currently serving a 7-year sentence after being convicted in 2019 in Monroe County for Reckless Endangerment and Unlawful Imprisonment.

"Due to the implementation of the HALT Act in 2022, our prisons have never been more dangerous for both staff and inmates alike. Emboldened inmates are acting more aggressively toward staff and toward one another, which has caused significant tension and unrest. With the skyrocketing prison violence experienced since HALT, we're seeing more and more contraband seizures as the incarcerated population arms themselves against the threat of attack by a fellow inmate. Staff have become targets of worsening lewd behavior and are being assaulted at record levels. Since HALT has gutted the internal disciplinary process, our only recourse is through outside prosecution. I thank Greene County District Attorney Joseph Stanzione and his staff for investing the time and resources to hold these bad actors accountable for their actions and I encourage DA's throughout the State to follow DA Stanzione's lead." – stated Chris Moreau, NYSCOPBA Mid-Hudson Region Vice President.