



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

"Keeping New York Safe"

Inmate Attacks Staff at Fishkill Correctional Facility

Officer Receives 13 Stitches to Close Two Lacerations

For Immediate Release
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Fishkill, NY – A 42 year old inmate in a Residential Rehabilitation Unit (RRU) for discipline, attacked staff who came to escort him to his daily program, sending one officer to a local hospital to close lacerations to his lip after the attack.

On Saturday, June 17, the two officers went to the cell in the RRU to escort the inmate to a facility program. The cell door was opened and the inmate, who was not restrained, stepped out of the cell and immediately punched one officer in the mouth, knocking him to the ground. The inmate proceeded to kick the officer while he was on the ground. The officer was able to block the kicks and get to his feet. The inmate again struck the officer, in the upper body, knocking him to the ground a second time. The second officer applied OC spray, which had no effect. The inmate ran from the attack and was confronted by responding staff. Initially, staff gave the inmate several orders to place his hands on the wall, which he refused. With his back turned, staff put him in a body hold and forced him to the floor. On the floor and still combative, four officers were able to get his arms behind his back and apply handcuffs.

Still combative in restraints, the inmate was escorted from the cell block for decontamination.

The injured officer was treated at the facility for two lacerations to his lip. He was transported to St. Luke's Hospital and received 13 stitches to close the two wounds. The officer did not return to duty.

Three officers who subdued the inmate sustained shoulder, knee and leg injuries. They were treated at the facility and remained on duty.

The inmate was transferred to Green Haven Correctional Facility and placed in a Special Housing Unit. He is serving a 28 years to life sentence after being convicted of Murder 2nd and Criminal Possession of a Weapon 2nd in 2022 in Monroe County. In 2001 he shot a man multiple times after a street fight in Rochester.

The RRU was created after the HALT Act was passed and inmates by law are not restrained in the unit.

“This latest attack is a perfect example of how the HALT Act provides little deterrence to not attack staff. This inmate, who was already in the RRU for extended discipline and is serving a life sentence for murder, knows there are no ramifications to attacking and injuring staff. That, coupled with the staffing crisis that exists with officers physically and mentally exhausted from working mandatory overtime, makes the work environment extremely dangerous for staff every single day. The record level of violence in the past year is a clear indication that prison reform has failed miserably, yet our elected officials remain silent. This situation is not going away and is only going to get worse. Those men and women who leave their families every day to go to work in our prisons deserve so much more than silence. They deserve to know that have the backing of our elected officials who should be doing everything in their power to protect these brave men and women. – stated Chris Moreau , NYSCOPBA Mid-Hudson Region Vice President.