



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

***Inmate Attack Staff at Mohawk Correctional Facility***

***Two Officers Treated at Local Hospital for Their Injuries***

**For Immediate Release**

**August 4, 2023**

**Rome, NY** – A 44 year old inmate, serving his third stint in state prison, attacked and injured two officers at the medium security correctional facility last week sending both men to a local hospital for treatment.

On Friday, July 28, two officers responded to inmate who was yelling about needing his medication. The inmate was sitting on his bed and continued yelling as staff arrived. One officer approached him. The inmate lunged off his bed and struck the officer multiple times in the head and face. As the attack continued, the second officer entered the room and grabbed the inmate in a body hold and forced the inmate to the ground. The inmate remained combative on the floor. Both officers were able to gain control after a brief struggle, force the inmate's arms behind his back and apply handcuffs. Once in handcuffs, the inmate became compliant.

The inmate was removed from his room and brought to the infirmary for evaluation.

Both officers were injured in the attack. The officer who was initially assaulted, sustained a hand injury, with difficulty closing his hand, multiple scratches to his neck and head and an abrasion to his back. The second officer sustained hand, wrist and elbow injuries from subduing the inmate. Both officers were treated at the facility and were transported to Oneida Hospital for further treatment.

The inmate is serving a 50 years to life sentence after being convicted on two counts of Murder 2<sup>nd</sup>, Arson 1<sup>st</sup> and Burglary 1<sup>st</sup> in Chautauqua County in 2015. The inmate, along with three other men, beat and stabbed a couple in their home, brought them down to the basement before setting it on fire in 2013.

Previously he served two other prison stints in 1996 and 2008.

"This was a violent, unprovoked attack on two officers who were simply responding to the inmate's yelling and were attempting to calm him down. This is another example of the violent

inmate population that exists in our medium security prisons. This inmate will serve the rest of his life in prison for the vicious attack and murder of a couple in 2013. Yet, with no disciplinary system remaining as a result of the HALT Act, there is a little or no deterrent from him attacking staff again. Literally, staff are like sitting ducks when an inmate, like this one at Mohawk, decides to not follow the rules and becomes violent, knowing there are no ramifications for their actions. ” – stated Bryan Hluska, NYSCOPBA Central Region Vice President.