



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

***"Keeping New York Safe"***

## ***Staff Assaulted at Greene Correctional Facility***

*Three Officers Injured after Inmate Attack*

### **For Immediate Release**

**September 18, 2023**

**Coxsackie, NY** – A 25 year old inmate serving a three year sentence for weapons possession attacked two officers and injured a third who responded to the assault at the medium security correctional facility last week.

On Thursday, September 14, two officers were monitoring the walkway outside of the housing dorms. One inmate, who was on the walkway, threw down his bags and refused to enter the dorm he was transferred to. The two officers gave the inmate several orders to pick up his bags and enter the dorm. He refused all orders and was verbally abusive to the two officers. The officers approached the inmate and he was ordered to turn around and place his arms behind his back. Instead of complying with the officer's orders, the inmate grabbed the officer's arm and attempted to punch him in the head, but missed. The two officers immediately grabbed the inmate in a body hold and forced him to the ground. On the ground and still combative, the inmate threw several more punches, striking the female officer in the face. A third officer responded to the assault and assisted in containing the inmate's legs. The inmate's arms were forced behind his back and handcuffs were applied. Once in handcuffs, the inmate became compliant.

The inmate was brought to his feet and escorted to the medical facility for evaluation. After evaluation, the inmate was placed in a Special Housing Unit pending disciplinary charges.

The inmate was convicted in Erie County in 2021 for Attempted Criminal Possession of a Weapon 2<sup>nd</sup>.

The two initial officers sustained hand, elbow, shoulder and facial injuries. They were treated by medical staff at the facility and required further treatment at an outside medical facility.

The officer who responded to the attack, sustained a hand injury. He was treated at an outside medical facility as well.

All three officers did not return to duty.

“As we enter the last three months of 2023, nothing has changed from the previous year. Assaults on staff are still at an all-time high, staffing levels are stretched thin, officers are being mandated to work long hours as a result of overtime and morale is at an all-time low. The policy changes the State Legislature have made that have stripped any level of discipline, have had a disastrous impact on the safety in all of our facilities. Thankfully, in Greene County at least, we have a district attorney who supports the men and women who work at Coxsackie and Greene. This latest attack was committed by an inmate who is going to be released in March of 2024. There is no doubt that District Attorney Stanzione will pursue additional charges against this inmate for attacking the two officers if it is warranted. While other district attorney’s across the state refuse to prosecute incarcerated inmates for crimes committed while in prison, District Attorney Stanzione has been steadfast in his commitment to holding inmates accountable for their actions. Last week, he announced the successful prosecution of three inmates for crimes committed while incarcerated at Coxsackie and Greene and announced the arraignment of two other inmates for their crimes. Other district attorney’s across the state should have the same resolve when it comes to holding inmates accountable for their actions. It certainly would be a step to making our facilities safer. - said, Chris Moreau, NYSCOPBA Mid-Hudson Region Vice President.