



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

"Keeping New York Safe"

Multiple Violent Incidents Occur at Five Points Correctional Facility

Four Officers Injured, Two Weapons Seized

For Immediate Release

September 29, 2023

Romulus, NY – Four officers sustained minor injuries after being assaulted by inmates and two weapons were seized after an inmate on inmate fight at the maximum security correctional facility.

- On Monday, August 21, officers observed a two inmate on one inmate fight inside the recreation pen. One inmate made several slashing motions during the fight. Initial orders to stop fighting were ignored. OC spray was utilized and was effective. Once the inmates stopped fighting, they were separated and escorted from the pen. One inmate was taken to a local hospital with a laceration consistent with a cutting weapon. Staff recovered two weapons, a metal shank and a sharpened toothbrush, from the floor of the recreation pen.
- On Friday, August 25, one officer was injured after staff attempted to stop an inmate fight in the cell block corridor. Initially, two inmates were observed fighting. They both ignored orders to stop. OC spray was utilized and was effective. Staff ordered all inmates to be searched for contraband. One inmate, unrelated to the initial fight, refused orders to put his hands on the wall for a pat frisk. He was put in body holds and forced to the ground. On the ground, he was able to get one arm free and elbow one officer in the eye. During the struggle, he also attempted to grab one officer's baton and bite another officer in the leg.
- On Tuesday, August 29, one officer sustained a knee injury when an inmate attacked him inside his cell. Initially, the officer attempted to bring a new mattress to the

inmate. When the cell door was opened, the inmate grabbed the officer's arm and attempted to pull him into the cell. A second officer responded to the attack and assisted the first officer in pulling the inmate from the cell and forcing him to the ground. On the ground and still combative, handcuffs were applied and the inmate became compliant.

- On Thursday, September 7, two officers were injured after an inmate attack near one of the facility kiosks. Initially, the inmate was agitated and ordered back to his cell by the officer. He refused. Staff approached him and placed one handcuff on his wrist. He began to fight and was forced to the ground. On the ground, and with one arm free, he grabbed one of the officer's arms and pulled it under his body. Force was used to break free his grip. The second handcuff was applied and all force ceased.
- On Wednesday, September 13, an inmate refused to leave his cell to be transferred to another facility. A sergeant and four officers attempted to get the inmate to exit his cell. The inmate opened the hatch to his cell door, and propelled liquid from a cup, striking the sergeant and four officers.
- On Sunday, September 17, an inmate spit on a sergeant who was attempting to interview him in a holding pen. After the incident, the inmate attempted to spit on two officers who were escorting him from the holding pen. He was forced to the wall and continued to spit at staff. A spit net was applied and the inmate became compliant.

"Last week our membership overwhelmingly voted down a three year contract proposal from the state. The rejection of the contract speaks volumes to the frustration our members feel about the dangerous working conditions, mandated overtime, low morale and lack of time with their families. This is not simply about contractual raises, it is about receiving support and recognition from the State for the dangerous job they perform day in and day out. The attacks at Five Points and the violence everywhere all over the summer are clear indications that we are losing the battle with the inmates and something needs to change immediately. Our members feel underappreciated and a step in the right direction would be to right the wrongs of the past and the horrible policy decisions the State Legislature has made when it comes to inmate discipline. Until that occurs, any contract that is put forward will be hard pressed to pass."-stated Kenny Gold, Western Region Vice President.