



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

“Keeping New York Safe”

***Three Officers Sent to Local Hospital After Attacks at Elmira
Correctional Facility***

Two Separate Inmate Attacks Injure Five Staff

For Immediate Release

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Elmira, NY – With three months left in 2023, the violence at Elmira Correctional Facility continues to surge with the latest two inmate attacks on staff injuring five officers, sending three to a local hospital for their injuries.

On Sunday, September 24, inmates were released from their cells for their morning meal. One inmate exited the cell and ran down the cell block and attacked another inmate. The two inmates began exchanging punches and ignored an officer’s orders to separate. As the fight continued, it pushed towards the officer and the officer station on the cell block. The officer attempted to put the first inmate in a body hold. The inmate turned and struck the officer several times in the head. The inmate then grabbed a coffee pot and swung it at the officer, missing him and striking the door frame, shattering the coffee pot. A second officer responded to the attack and grabbed the inmate in body hold. The two officers forced the inmate to floor, landing on the shattered glass from the coffee pot. Still struggling with the two officers, a third officer arrived and assisted in applying handcuffs to the inmate. Once in handcuffs, the inmate became compliant.

The inmate was escorted to the infirmary for evaluation and after treatment, was placed in a Special Housing Unit pending disciplinary charges.

Three officers in the attacked sustained injuries. The initial officer attacked sustained a lip laceration, ankle and shoulder pain, a laceration to his hand and exposure to blood. He was transported to Arnot Ogden Medical Center for further treatment. The second officer to respond sustained hand abrasions and pain. He remained on duty. The third officer to respond, sustained a laceration to his hand, back and shoulder pain and exposure to blood. He was transported to Arnot Ogden Medical Center for treatment.

The inmate, 36, is serving a one to three year sentence after being convicted in New York County in 2023 for Attempted Assault 2nd.

The second assault occurred on Tuesday, September 26. In one of the facility cell blocks after the morning meal, one inmate attempted to attack another inmate. Staff gave both inmates orders to separate and initially they complied. Two officers gave the first inmate orders to submit to a pat frisk for contraband. Before the officers started the pat frisk, the inmate turned and spit on one officer. He then struck the second officer multiple times in the chest. The officers placed the inmate in a body hold, which he briefly broke free from. The inmate struck the first officer several times in the face before the body hold could be reapplied. The officers forced the inmate to the floor and applied handcuffs. Once in handcuffs, the inmate became compliant.

Both officers were injured in the attack. The first officer sustained hand and chest abrasions and a laceration to his knuckle. He was transported to Arnot Ogden Medical Center for treatment. The second officer sustained facial and hand abrasions and was treated by facility medical staff and remained on duty.

The inmate, who is serving his second stint in state prison, is currently serving an eight year sentence after being convicted in Queens County for Attempted Burglary 1st. Previously, he was incarcerated in 2016 for Rape 3rd and Assault 2nd.

“As we begin the last quarter of 2023, there is no end in sight to the violence in our prisons and clearly no support coming from the State Legislature to stop the violence. In both these attacks at Elmira, the two inmates responsible were just recently incarcerated this year. In the case of the second attack, the inmate just entered Elmira five days before he viciously attacked two officers. If the violence is not addressed in the upcoming legislative session in January, sometime soon one of our members will wind up like the officer in Georgia Department of Corrections, who was attacked and killed Sunday with a make-shift weapon by an inmate. That senseless brutal attack should only shine more light on the dangerous job officers face in correctional facilities across the country and the immediate need to stop the violence rather than make it normal practice like it is in NYS!” - stated Kenny Gold, NYSCOPBA Western Region Vice President.