



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

“Keeping New York Safe”

Multiple Officers Injured at Collins Correctional Facility

Two Officers Treated at Local Hospital in Eight Separate Incidents at Facility

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Collins , NY – Five days after union officials were joined by State Legislators and family members of staff at Collins Correctional Facility to denounce the “Celebrate Your Family” day for inmates at the facility, NYSCOPBA is reporting eight separate inmate attacks that injured 18 officers, sending two officers to a local hospital for treatment.

The reported incidents occurred between July 29 and September 15 as inmate violence at state prisons continues to skyrocket.

- On Saturday, July 29, an officer was taken to an outside hospital for hand and elbow injuries after he attempted to counsel an inmate and was attacked when the inmate came off the wall during a pat frisk and assaulted the officer. When a second officer responded to the assault, he applied OC spray to the inmate, which had no effect. Both officers grabbed the inmate in a body hold and forced him to the ground where he remained combative. The officers forced his arms behind his back and applied handcuffs. Once in handcuffs, the inmate became compliant.
- On Monday, August 21, seven officers were injured in two separate attacks, sending one officer to a local hospital and two officers to a local urgent care for treatment. The first incident occurred when an inmate covered his cell door window and was unresponsive when staff attempted to contact him. The cell door was opened and the inmate immediately charged at the officers. He was placed in body holds and forced to the ground. On the ground and still combative, he bit one officer in the hand. After a brief struggle he was placed in handcuffs. Three officers were injured in the incident and one officer was transferred to a local hospital for an ankle injury. The second attack

occurred when an intoxicated inmate began running towards two officers and was yelling loudly. He was ordered to submit to a pat frisk. The inmate fell to the floor. The officers assisted the inmate to his feet, where he became combative. He was forced to the wall and then to the floor, where he elbowed an officer in the face. It took four officers to subdue the inmate and apply handcuffs. After becoming compliant, the inmate was brought to the infirmary for evaluation.

- On Tuesday, August 22, five officers were injured during a dorm search for contraband and five make-shift weapons were recovered. During the search, an inmate was ordered to submit to a pat frisk. Staff found a metal shank in his waistband, which fell to the floor. The inmate attempted to pick up the weapon. He was placed in body holds and forced to the floor. On the floor and still combative, handcuffs were applied and the inmate became compliant. A second inmate was ordered to submit to a pat frisk. Initially, the inmate put his hands on the wall. He suddenly came off the wall and attacked two officers who quickly subdued him. The two officers began escorting the inmate down a stairwell when he pushed away from the officers, causing all three men to fall down the stairwell. Once under control again, the inmate was brought to his feet and brought to the infirmary. In the infirmary, he remained combative, attempting to spit at staff and kicking one officer in the groin.
- On Thursday, August 31, two officers were injured in two separate incidents. In the first incident, an officer observed bulges in an inmate's clothing. He ordered the inmate to submit to a pat frisk. The inmate immediately ran from the officer down the facility corridor. A second officer stopped him and placed the inmate in body holds and forced him to the ground. During the incident, one officer sustained an ankle injury. The second incident occurred in a Special Housing Unit. An officer on routine rounds observed an inmate ingesting pills inside his cell. The officer entered the cell and placed the inmate in a body hold to stop him from taking the pills. During the struggle, the inmate elbowed the officer in the face causing the officer to sustain an abrasion to his eye.
- On Wednesday, September 6, an officer sustained a knee injury when an inmate, who was thrashing on the ground in an apparent intoxicated state in one of the facility dorms, kicked the officer in the knee, causing him to fall backwards.
- On Friday, September 15, two officers sustained minor injuries when another inmate in an apparent intoxicated state and laying on the floor, kicked one officer in the shoulder and fought with both officers who were attempting to handcuff him and assist him to his feet.

“Our rally on Friday morning outside of Collins was organized to shed light to the burden our officers and their families are facing every day in our prisons across the state. As you can see in the incidents highlighted above, our officers are under siege every day. Inmate attacks on staff, mandated overtime and long work weeks are pushing the brave men and women who wear these uniforms to the brink. It was a slap to their face to hold a family day for the inmates while our members continue to work long hours away from their families by no choice of their own,

missing monumental family events that they will never get back. The State Legislators who have advocated for inmates with their progressive agenda and only are in session in Albany six months out the year, are lucky enough not to miss those valuable moments with their families and loved ones as our members continue to miss everything with theirs while continuing to keep their communities safe.” – Stated Kenny Gold, NYSCOPBA Western Region Vice President.