



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

“Keeping New York Safe”

Sergeant, Officer Injured at Cape Vincent Correctional Facility

Visitor Arrested Attempting to Smuggle Drugs into Facility in Separate Incident

For Immediate Release

December 18, 2023

Cape Vincent , NY – A sergeant needed to be transported to a local hospital for injuries he sustained when a 44 year old inmate attacked him and attempted to stab him with a pen at the medium security correctional facility.

On Tuesday, November 28, the inmate was in a discipline room for unrelated misbehavior. He was being loud and disruptive and the sergeant attempted to counsel the inmate. The inmate stood up and charged the sergeant with his arm raised and a pen in his hand. The sergeant initially pushed the inmate away. Hearing the commotion, additional staff entered the room and observed the inmate making stabbing motions towards the sergeant. OC spray was administered with no effect. Another officer entered the room and observed the sergeant on the floor struggling with the inmate. He utilized body holds to pull the inmate away from the sergeant. A third officer entered the room and assisted applying handcuffs to the inmate.

Once in handcuffs, the inmate became compliant. He was escorted from the room and placed in a Special Housing Unit pending disciplinary charges.

The injured sergeant was transported to River Hospital for treatment of a laceration to his upper and lower hip, laceration to his nose, and a neck injury. His eyeglasses were also broken during the attack. He was treated and released and did not return to duty.

An officer who helped subdue the inmate injured his shoulder, wrist and elbow. He was treated by facility medical staff and remained on duty.

The inmate, who is serving his second stint in state prison, is currently serving a six year sentence after being convicted in Richmond County in 2022 for Attempted Criminal Possession of a Weapon 2nd. Previously, he served twelve years in 2002 for Manslaughter 2nd.

Unrelated to that incident, a Rochester resident was arrested for two counts of Promoting Prison Contraband 2nd after a K9 alerted to him as he attempted to visit an inmate at the facility. On Sunday, December 10, the K9 alerted to the visitor. He was questioned by investigators and voluntarily turned over two latex glove fingertips and five cellophane bundles he had hidden in the front and back of his pants. The latex fingertips contained 32 grams of marijuana. The cellophane bundles contained 320 pieces of paper saturated with an unknown drug. The visitor was transported to the local state police barracks and processed.

“With two weeks left in the calendar year, the statistics do not lie. 2023 will go down as the most violent year in our correctional facilities history since DOCCS was mandated to provide violence stats by the State Legislature. Inmate on staff assaults on are pace to increase 15 percent from 2023, a year in which assaults had increased by 36 percent from 2022. Inmate on inmate assaults will surpass 2000 by years end and have increased by over 35 percent from last year. In the past year, our consistent message has loud and clear that the State Legislature needs to address the violence and or it will continue at record levels in 2024. A first step would be to amend or repeal the HALT Act and re-institute fair disciplinary measures that will deter inmates from attacking staff or other inmates. If these measures aren’t addressed, the next year will very much the same and our fear is that one of these incidents is going to result in someone getting killed by an inmate attack.” – stated, Bryan Hluska, Central Region Vice President.