



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

“Keeping New York Safe”

Inmate Attempts to Attack Staff at Wyoming Correctional Facility

Incident Occurs When Weapon is Found Hidden in Cell Radiator

[For Immediate Release](#)

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Attica, NY – A 27 year old inmate who is serving his second stint in state prison, attempted to kick and spit at officers as they were escorting him back to his cell after a weapon was recovered inside the radiator cover of his assigned cell.

The incident occurred on Wednesday, January 25. Initially, the inmate was on a contraband watch inside his cell. Staff observed him begin to smear feces with his hands on the cell wall. The inmate was removed from the cell and placed in a holding pen so the cell could be cleaned. Upon searching the cell, staff found that the radiator had been tampered with. The radiator cover was removed and a tape wrapped bundle was recovered hidden inside the radiator. Inside the bundle was a make-shift type weapon that had a handle and a sharpened piece of plastic on the other end.

After the weapon was recovered and the cell cleaned, officers were escorting the inmate back to his cell when he became combative. He attempted to kick officers several times and spit at them, striking one officer on the arm. He was placed in body holds and forced to the ground where he remained combative. After staff were able to gain control of the inmate, he became compliant. He was placed in handcuffs and removed from the incident scene.

Three officers were injured subduing the inmate. They sustained knee, shoulder, hip, arm and groin pain. They were treated at the facility and remained on duty.

The inmate is currently serving a six to eight year sentence after being convicted in New York County in 2023 for Robbery 1st and Criminal Possession of a Weapon 2nd. Previously, he served a four year sentence in 2018 after being convicted of Attempted Gang Assault 1st.

“The State’s announcement to close up to five correctional facilities is another example of putting as stated by a DOCCS retiree, a band aid on a wound that is as large as Niagara Falls! The stark reality is, violence is at all-time record levels. Staffing has decreased dramatically since January of 2023 as a result of mass retirements and officers leaving the job because they are being pushed to the brink, not seeing their families and being assaulted daily. Inmate population increased by 1400 last year, the first year that it has increased in several years. With courts catching up to criminal caseloads post COVID there is a real chance that number will continue to increase. The way the current correctional system is being operated is not sustainable for the future. You can’t expect officers who face mandatory overtime and the level of violence they are subjected to, continue to do more with less. We can’t keep pretending that what goes on inside the prisons doesn’t exist. It is time for the State to stand up and recognize the difficult job our members perform and provide them with the tools to improve their safety and compensate them fairly. Closing one prison will not correct the problems that exist, it will only exacerbate it, but we already know that certain members of legislature only care about the convicted that live in jails, not the taxpayers that work there!”-stated Kenny Gold, NYSCOPBA Western Region Vice President.