



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

Multiple Officers Injured at Attica Correctional Facility

Three Separate Attacks Sends Officers to Local Hospitals

For Immediate Release

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Attica, NY – Multiple staff were injured at Attica Correctional Facility in three separate attacks that sent several injured officers to local hospitals for treatment last week at the maximum security correctional facility.

The first attack occurred on Friday, February 9. Initially, inmates were lined up to come back from the recreation yard. One inmate stepped out of line and approached an officer. The officer gave the inmate an order to place his hands on the wall. The inmate ignored the order and punched the officer in the face. A second officer grabbed the inmate in a body hold and forced him to the floor. The inmate began to struggle with both officers on the floor. During the struggle, the inmate attempted to kick one of the officers. Two additional officers responded to the attack and assisted in gaining control of the inmate and handcuffs were applied. Once in handcuffs, the inmate became compliant and was escorted away from the scene.

Two officers were injured in the attack. One officer sustained pain and swelling to both knees. He was treated at the facility infirmary and remained on duty. The officer who was initially punched, was transported to Wyoming County Community Hospital for treatment of a possible fractured or dislocated jaw.

The inmate, 39, is serving a 25 years to life sentence after being convicted in Nassau County in 2011 for Murder 2nd, Robbery 1st and Criminal Possession of a Weapon. He and another suspect, shot a Nassau County man multiple times after robbing him of drugs and money in 2010.

The second attack occurred on Monday, February 12. Officers were attempting to move an inmate from his cell in a Special Housing Unit after he made threats against staff. When the cell door was opened, the inmate immediately charged officers and began making stabbing motions at one of the officers, narrowly missing him. During the attack, he punched the officer in the

face. The inmate was placed in a body hold and forced to the back of the cell, where he continued to attempt to stab staff. Additional officers arrived at the cell and assisted in forcing the inmate to the floor. While on the floor, the inmate remained combative, kicking and fighting with staff. His arms were forced behind his back and handcuffs were applied. Once in handcuffs, all force ceased and the inmate was removed from the cell for evaluation.

A search of the inmate's cell recovered a piece of sharpened plastic that was used in the attack.

Three officers and a sergeant were injured in the attack. The three officers sustained hand, shoulder, knee, ankle and wrist injuries. The officers also sustained significant blood exposure from the inmate. The officers were transported to Erie County Medical Center for further treatment.

The sergeant sustained shoulder, bicep, back and ankle injuries. He was transported to Wyoming County Community Hospital for treatment.

The inmate, 37, is serving a 15 year sentence after being convicted for Assault 1st in New York County in 2015. He previously served five years in state prison after being convicted of Attempted Murder 2nd in Bronx County in 2003.

He was transferred to Auburn Correctional Facility after the attack.

The last attacked occurred the following day, Tuesday, February 13. Seven officers and a lieutenant were injured after an inmate attacked staff when he refused orders to lock his cell during the morning meal. In the attack, one officer sustained a laceration that needed four staples to close the wound.

Initially, inmates were let out of their cell for their morning meal and the inmate refused to lock his cell. When staff ordered the inmate to return to his cell and lock back in, he refused. The inmate proceeded to barricade the front and rear entrances to the cell block with personal items from his cell and from the mop sink and flooded the floor with water and poured baby oil on it. Two cell extraction teams were called and entered the cell block from both entrances. The inmate grabbed a mop handle and began swinging at officers. As both extraction teams converged on the inmate, he charged at them, armed with the broom handle. One officer pushed the inmate back with a shield as staff were able to get the inmate on the floor. Still combative on the floor, the inmate bit two fingers of one officer as staff attempted to get him into restraints. Handcuffs and leg restraints were applied after a brief struggle.

The inmate was brought to his feet and refused to comply with orders and walk out of the cell block. When officers began to carry the inmate, he attempted to kick them, causing one officer to fall, striking his head on a kiosk. The inmate was placed on a gurney and transported to the facility infirmary for evaluation.

The officer who struck his head sustained a two inch laceration to the side of the head. He was transported to Erie County Medical Center where he received four staples to close the

wound. Six officers and a lieutenant sustained hip, shoulder, knee, wrist, rib, back, elbow and hand injuries. They were treated by medical staff at the facility and remained on duty.

The inmate, 32, is serving a 16 year sentence after being convicted in Genesee County in 2020 for Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance 5th and Attempted Criminal Possession of a Weapon 2nd. Previously, he served a three year sentence in state prison in 2010 after being convicted in Monroe County for Attempted Criminal Possession of a Weapon 2nd and Grand Larceny 3rd.

“Two months into the new year and assaults on staff are occurring at a faster pace than last year, which set a record for the number of assaults on staff. Add fourteen more staff to that growing list. These attacks by inmates are a daily occurrence. This time an officer with a possible broken jaw and another with a deep laceration to his head, when is someone going to question why this keeps happening? Already faced with staffing shortages, mandatory overtime and low morale, our members are being pushed to the brink with attacks like this at Attica. We are not punching bags! There aren't too many professions in this country where you go to work expecting to be attacked and injured. That is the reality our members face every day and the State Legislature sits idly by as this occurs. There will come a day, as this violence fails to be addressed, that someone will be killed at the hands of an inmate and that blood will be on the hands of those who have the ability to make changes.” – stated Kenny Gold, NYSCOPBA Western Region Vice President.