



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

"Keeping New York Safe"

Two Officers Credited with Saving Inmate at Five Points Correctional Facility

Quick Actions Rescue Inmate from Hanging Himself

For Immediate Release

February 28, 2024

Romulus, NY – Two veteran officers are being credited with saving the life of an inmate who was attempting to hang himself inside his cell using a bed sheet that was tied around his neck at the maximum security correctional facility.

The incident occurred on Sunday, January 28, 2024. The two officers, heard another inmate calling for help in the cell block. The officers immediately responded and when they arrived at the cell they observed an inmate unresponsive, with a bed sheet tied around his neck on one end and the other end tied to the doors of his cell locker. The inmate was sitting on a desk stool and was leaning forward, creating significant pressure on the sheet. The inmate did not respond to the officers and was not moving. They immediately called for a medical response and entered the cell. The officers cut the garrote from around the inmate's neck and carried him out onto the cell block floor. Medical staff arrived at the cell block within minutes. The inmate had labored breathing and a pulse. He was placed on a stretcher and escorted to the infirmary.

At the infirmary, medical staff determined that the inmate had ligature marks and abrasions around his neck and blood coming from his nose. The inmate, 37, was transported to a local hospital where he recovered from his injuries.

During the investigation into the suicide attempt, staff found a suicide note in the inmate's pocket prior to him being transported to the hospital.

The Officers are 24 and 20 year veterans of DOCCS who are currently assigned to Five Points.

“Despite the on-going violence in our state prisons, there are heroic acts that our members perform daily that go unnoticed or unrecognized. The quick actions of these officers at Five Points on that day in January more than likely saved the life of the inmate. Their actions exemplifies the duty and professionalism of all the staff who work in state prisons.

Unfortunately, there are many times those acts of heroism go unseen and unreported behind the prison walls. Despite that, these two officers and every other member of NYSCOPBA has our admiration for the dangerous and difficult job they perform amidst the climate that currently exists, and lack of support from the majority of legislators in New York.” - Stated Kenny Gold, Western Region Vice President.