



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

"Keeping New York Safe"

Drugs, Weapons Recovered at Wyoming Correctional Facility

Staff Conduct Dorm Searches at Facility

For Immediate Release

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Attica, NY – Staff at Wyoming Correctional Facility conducted several dorm searches for contraband at the medium security prison last week and recovered four make-shift weapons and two unknown drugs.

During the search, one staff member needed to be transported to a local hospital after being exposed to a white powdery substance that was recovered from an inmate's mattress.

The searches were conducted by officers on Wednesday, March 6th. Two separate searches were conducted by staff. One dorm and the inmates assigned to it, were searched and two inmates cubes in another dorm were searched that day.

In the search of the two inmate's cubes, a piece of sharpened metal with a taped handle was located after a cube frisk was conducted. The weapon was hidden inside the radiator cover. A piece of liquid stained paper was located in the second cube. The stained paper is believed to have a liquid drug dried into it.

During a separate dorm search by staff, three weapons and one plastic bundle containing a white substance were recovered. An ice pick type weapon was recovered from an inmate's sock when he was frisked by staff. A sharpened piece of metal was located on the top shelf of the locker in an inmate's cube. The third weapon recovered was a tied off piece of cloth with a bar of soap inside hidden under the inmate's mattress.

The plastic bundle of white substance was found under the mattress in an inmate's cube. When inspecting the powdery substance, a staff member became overcome with dizziness and had

shortness of breath. He was brought immediately to the infirmary and transported to Wyoming County Community Hospital for evaluation.

State Police HAZMAT Team were notified and responded to the facility. They removed the substance from the facility and sent it to Wadsworth Lab in Albany for testing.

The inmates who had the contraband in their possession were placed in Special Housing Units and face internal disciplinary charges.

“Unfortunately drugs and weapons will always find their way into our state prisons despite the best efforts of staff and technology deployed to detect it. It goes without saying, inmate’s armed with weapons pose a serious risk for officers and other inmates every day. With the amount of violence that exists in our prisons it is amazing that an officer hasn’t been killed by an inmate armed with a make-shift weapon or high on some type of drug. There already has been multiple attempts to stab officers, but thankfully no one has had life threatening injuries. That could change any minute as conditions inside our prisons become more and more violent. Will it take one of our members to be killed by a weapon or exposure to Fentanyl for State Legislators to wake up and recognize what staff have to endure every single day? Instead of advocating for inmate rights, those legislators who support them should take a hard look at what staff are subjected to and make the necessary changes to improve their daily safety and well-being inside the walls and fences!”-stated Kenny Gold, NYSCOPBA Western Region Vice President.