



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

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## ***"Keeping New York Safe"***

### ***Inmate Attacks, Stabs Officer at Clinton Correctional Facility***

*Two Officers Also Injured During Attack*

*For Immediate Release*

*April 29, 2024,*

**Dannemora , NY** – A convicted murderer stabbed an officer twice, once in the shoulder and once in the face, with a makeshift weapon at the maximum security correctional facility last Sunday.

Two officers were also injured during the attack and were transported to a local hospital for treatment.

On April, 19, an officer observed the inmate with his hands inside of his pants pocket and ordered him to remove his hands. The inmate lunged at the officer, making a stabbing motion, striking him in the shoulder. The officer pushed the inmate towards the wall but lost his balance as the inmate made another stabbing motion, striking him in the left side of his face. Two officers responded to the attack and attempted to grab the inmate in a body hold. The inmate struck one of the officers multiple times in the face. The inmate, still loose, ran back to the officer he stabbed and kicked him in the chest. The inmate then turned his attack on the fourth officer who responded to the attack, striking him the face.

Two of the officers grabbed the inmate in a body hold and forced him to the ground. On the ground and still violently struggling, the inmate was able to place one of the officers in a choke hold and refused to release his grip. Two additional officers responded to the attack and used force to get the inmate to release the choke hold. The two officers then forced the inmate's arms behind his back and applied handcuffs. Once in handcuffs, the inmate became compliant. He was brought to his feet and escorted from the scene.

Staff recovered a plastic icepick type weapon on the floor that the inmate used in the attack on the first officer.

The officer who was stabbed, sustained a laceration to his left shoulder and left side of his face. One of the responding officers sustained left shoulder pain. A second officer sustained head, back and neck

pain from being choked. The three officers were treated at the facility and were transported to Champlain Valley Physicians Hospital for additional treatment and did not return to duty.

The inmate, 38, is serving a 46 years to life sentence after being convicted in Monroe County for Murder 2<sup>nd</sup>, Criminal Possession of a Weapon 2<sup>nd</sup> and Burglary 1<sup>st</sup>. He shot a man repeatedly at a bus stop in Rochester in 2002.

“This was a vicious attack at the hands of an inmate who clearly has no regard for human life. Thankfully, the officer who was stabbed, only sustained minor lacerations, but it could have been much worse without the assistance of his fellow officers. Last week we applauded the Clinton County District Attorney’s Office for prosecuting an inmate who attacked staff, adding onto the inmate’s sentence and sending a message that violence against staff will not be tolerated in Clinton County. Unfortunately in this instance, with the inmate serving a life sentence, pursuing criminal charges in this attack unfortunately might not have as much impact. It is clearly the reason why the current disciplinary system in place as a result of the HALT Act provides no safety for staff. Will it take the murder of an officer at the hands of an inmate for the legislature to wake up and realize that the current system is an utter failure and to amend the law to protect the brave men and women who work in our correctional facilities?”-stated John Roberts, Northern Region Vice President.