



**New York State Correctional Officers
& Police Benevolent Association, Inc.**
“Keeping New York Safe”

Officers Injured at Green Haven Correctional Facility

***Inmate Attacks Staff in Recreation Yard as Large Group of Inmates
Attempt to Interfere with Officers***

For Immediate Release

May 21, 2024

Stormville, NY – Four officers were injured when they confronted an inmate in the recreation yard after he had attacked another inmate and he began to kick and punch at officers who were trying to subdue him.

Initially, on May 1, an officer observed the inmate slapping another inmate and picking up an object in the yard. When officers approached him, they ordered him to put his hands on the wall for a pat frisk. The inmate refused and took a fighting stance and lunged towards one of the officers. The officer administered OC spray, which had no effect. The inmate attempted to punch and kick at the officers, who quickly placed him in a body hold and forced him to the ground. Still combative and fighting with officers, two other officers responded and assisted in placing the inmate in handcuffs. Once in handcuffs, all forced ceased. The inmate was brought to his feet and brought to the wall to be searched for contraband.

As officers were searching the inmate, nearly two dozen inmates in the yard began running towards the officers in a threatening manner. Chemical agents were introduced into the yard near the inmates and it had its desired effect. The inmates complied with staff orders and went to the ground.

Once order was restored, the inmates were removed from the yard. The inmate who attacked the officers, was brought to a Special Housing Unit to be decontaminated.

During the investigation of the incident, staff identified the inmates who attempted to interfere in the incident and they were placed in Special Housing Units pending disciplinary charges. Another inmate, who tried to block staff from responding to the attack, was also placed in a Special Housing Unit.

During a search of all inmates involved, staff recovered a metal shank with a taped handle on one inmate who had the weapon in his pants pocket.

Four officers sustained elbow, shoulder, hand and back injuries. They were treated by facility medical staff and remained on duty.

The inmate involved in the initial attack, is serving a five year sentence after being convicted in Erie County in 2022 for Attempted Robbery 2nd and Attempted Criminal Possession of a Weapon 2nd. He is scheduled for a parole hearing in July.

“The officers involved in the incident in the recreation yard acted quickly to quell what could have been a much more violent situation if the two dozen inmates who came running to the inmate assault had been able to get to staff. It shows you how quickly things can escalate, especially when you have over 100 inmates in the yard and only a handful of officers to keep order. With a watered down disciplinary system in place, hopefully this inmate who attacked staff will be denied parole in July as a result of his actions. At least in his case, he might think twice about attacking staff again when his freedom is on the line.” –stated, Joe Horacek , NYSCOPBA Mid-Hudson Region Vice President