



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

Inmate High on Drugs Injures Officers at Green Haven Correctional Facility

Six Officers, Supervisor Hurt Subduing Inmate who was doing Headfirst Flips onto Concrete Floor

For Immediate Release

May 24, 2024

Stormville , NY – An inmate, who is serving his third stint in state prison, injured staff when he attacked one officer inside his cell and injured several others who attempted to subdue him after he did several headfirst front flips and banged his head on the cell wall after smoking an handmade cigarette with an unknown drug in it last Thursday.

On May 16, a medical response was called to one of the facilities cell block when an officer on rounds observed the inmate inside his cell doing several headfirst flips onto the concrete floor. When additional staff arrived at the cell, the inmate refused all orders to approach the cell door so handcuffs could be applied. The inmate proceeded to begin banging his head against the concrete wall. The cell door was opened and officers entered the cell to stop the inmate from hurting himself. When approached, he turned and struck one officer in the chest. He was grabbed in a body hold and violently fought with officers. OC spray was administered with no effect. He was forced to the floor and officers needed to hold his legs and upper body so handcuffs could be applied.

Once in handcuffs, he was brought to his feet. During an escort to the infirmary, the inmate lunged at a lieutenant and had to be placed in body holds again to contain him. Once he arrived at the infirmary, he was placed in a treatment room and attempted to run out of the room handcuffed but was forced to the floor again by staff.

Still combative on the floor, medical staff administered two doses of Narcan. Once the Narcan went into effect, the inmate became compliant.

He was treated at the infirmary and transported to Mid-Hudson Medical Center for treatment of self-inflicted head injuries.

Six officers and a lieutenant were injured in the incident. They sustained knee, hand, elbow, back and wrist injuries. They were treated by medical staff at the facility and remained on duty.

A search of the inmate's cell recovered one unsmoked handmade cigarette and one half smoked cigarette with a brown and green leafy substance inside. The cigarettes were taken as evidence and will be tested for drugs.

The inmate, 37, is serving a two to five year sentence after being convicted in Cortland County for Robbery 2rd in 2023. Previously, he served two stints in prison in 2011 and 2017 for Criminal Mischief 4th and Manufacturing Methamphetamine 2nd.

"Despite staffs best attempts, contraband, including dangerous drugs, are still getting into the hands of inmates. Certainly in this incident at Green Haven, the inmate was clearly intoxicated on a unknown drug that caused him to be extremely violent. We have had numerous incidents in the past where an inmate high on Synthetic Marijuana, commonly known as K2, have attacked and injured staff. Thankfully, none of the officers involved were injured seriously and they did an excellent job from preventing the inmate from injuring himself any further. This is the dangers of being a correction officer. Any given moment, an incident can escalate and put staff in extreme danger of suffering serious injuries. It is and extremely difficult profession that unfortunately doesn't get the recognition it deserves. " –stated, Joe Horacek , NYSCOPBA Mid-Hudson Region Vice President.