



Officers Cut at Mohawk Correctional Facility

Inmate Slashes Officer in the Forehead with Make-Shift Weapon

For Immediate Release

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Rome, NY – An officer was cut with a make-shift weapon by an inmate in the facilities vocational building after two officers were counseling the inmate and he pulled out the weapon and began slashing at the officers at the medium security correctional facility last week.

The attack was among a number of incidents over the past several months at the prison that included several inmate on inmate fights, a female officer attacked by an inmate and drugs and weapons being confiscated.

On Tuesday, June 18, two officers assigned to the vocational building were counseling an inmate when he became argumentative. The officers ordered the inmate to submit to a pat frisk and he refused. He reached into his pocket and pulled out a make-shift weapon and began making slashing motions at the officers. The officers ordered him to drop the weapon and he refused. OC spray was administered with no effect. As the inmate continued the attack, he slashed one officer in the forehead with the weapon. The two officers grabbed the inmate in a body hold and forced him to the floor where he remained combative. The officers were able to force the weapon out of his hand and forced his arms behind his back and applied handcuffs. Once in handcuffs, the inmate became compliant. He was brought to his feet and escorted out of the building.

The officer who was cut, sustained a two inch laceration to his scalp. The second officer sustained knee, back, chest and leg injuries subduing the inmate. Both officers were transported to Oneida Hospital for further treatment and did not return to duty.

The inmate, 41, is serving a 7 to 20 year sentence after being convicted in Queens County for Manslaughter 2nd and Leaving the Scene of an Accident in 2022. He stole a box truck in Queens and struck

20 vehicles in Queens and Brooklyn during a driving rampage before running a red light and hitting and killing a 25 year old man who was driving his car through an intersection.

The inmate was transferred to Auburn Correctional Facility after the attack.

The make-shift weapon, a toothbrush with a sharpened piece of metal taped on one end, was seized as evidence. State police responded to the facility after the attack and are investigating the attack.

On the same day of the weapon attack, a female officer had to be transported to Rome Hospital after an inmate punched her in the jaw after went to investigate a disturbance in one of the dorms and the inmate charged at her and punched her. The officer sustained pain and swelling to her jaw, blurred vision and a headache.

The inmate was transferred to Five Points Correctional Facility after the attack.

In recent months, there have been at least four inmate on inmate fights and five make-shift weapons recovered during searches for contraband. In addition, staff have recovered several bundles of saturated paper that contained Synthetic Marijuana, commonly known as K2, during inmate and cube searches and a female visitor was arrested after a K9 alerted to her and she turned over three bundles of Synthetic Marijuana, 95 pills and 8.5 grams of a white powdery substance that both tested positive for Oxycodone.

The female was transported to Marcy State Police Barracks and charged with Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance 3rd and Promoting Prison Contraband 1st.

“Despite the best efforts of staff, drugs and weapons still end up in the hands of inmates and that not only makes the jobs of officers more difficult but certainly more dangerous. We have seen how violent inmates become when they are high on K2, and when they are armed with weapons, it can result in the situation that occurred last Tuesday with the officer getting slashed in the forehead. Fortunately for him, the laceration was small. That might not be the case in the future. The inmate violence is exploding each day and now with up to five more prisons to be closed by the State, it is only going to make matters worse as inmates are crowded into the remaining prisons. The safety and well-being of our members certainly isn’t a priority of our elected officials as their progressive policies have only made matters worse!”-stated Bryan Hluska, Central Region Vice President.