



## ***Eight Officers Injured at Five Points Correctional Facility Multiple Staff Assaults Continue at Prison***

For Immediate Release

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Romulus, NY – Eight officers were injured at the maximum-security correctional facility during four separate attacks by inmates. The latest attacks continue the alarming trend of assaults on staff at Five Points and other prisons across the state.

On Friday, September 13, three officers were injured, including one who was kicked in the groin multiple times by an inmate who initially refused staff orders to sit on a bench in a holding cell. When the inmate ignored the orders, the officers entered the cell and put the inmate in a body hold and forced him into the corner of the cell. The inmate was able to get his leg free and kick one officer multiple times in his groin, thigh, and knee. The officers forced the inmate to the cell floor where he remained combative. After a brief struggle, staff were able to apply handcuffs and leg restraints. Once in restraints, all forced cease and the inmate became compliant. The other two injured officers sustained shoulder and elbow injuries. All three were treated at the facility.

On Wednesday, September 25 an officer conducting security rounds had urine smelling water thrown on him, hitting him the chest, legs, and head. After the throwing incident, the officer was treated for exposure.

On Thursday, September 26, two officers sustained injuries when an inmate pushed off the wall during a pat frisk and became combative with the two officers. The officers immediately put the inmate in a body hold and forced him to the ground. Still fighting and combative on the ground, the officers were able to apply handcuffs not before sustaining elbow and knee injuries.

On Friday, October 18, two officers were injured during an inmate escort to the frisk room. The inmate lunged at one officer and spit at him. The officer immediately forced the inmate to the wall and with assistance, forced the inmate to the ground. The inmate continued to fight with the two officers until they were able to apply handcuffs. Once in handcuffs, the inmate became compliant. The two injured officers were treated at the infirmary for lower back and knee injuries.

On Wednesday, November 6, one officer was injured during a cell extraction after the inmate refused to exit his cell for a routine search for contraband. When the inmate refused to exit the cell, chemical agents were introduced into the cell with no effect. The cell door was opened and the inmate charged at the extraction team. The officers forced the inmate to the back of the cell and then to the floor. He continued to kick at officers before restraints were applied. One officer sustained an elbow injury subduing the inmate.

“After NYSCOPBA issued a press release when assaults on staff reached a single year record at the end of October, DOCCS and legislators attempted to downplay the assaults claiming that between a three-month period in the summer, only three percent of assaults resulted in serious injuries. Since that statement, we have had officers slashed in the face, sustained concussions, broken elbow, broken foot, and officers thrown on. They can attempt minimize the statistics all they want, the true picture is staff are being assaulted daily and sustaining a wide variety of injuries, both serious and minor. Regardless of the nature of the injury, all those officers need some type of medical attention, and many were forced out of work because of the extent of the injuries. Equally troubling are the comments from Assemblyman Dilan, who stated, “Democrats don’t have an appetite to repeal, or tweak, the law (speaking on the HALT Act)” and that he is more concerned about programming for the incarcerated. Since the HALT Act took effect in 2022 officers have been assaulted at record levels and the individuals in charge of keeping us safe continue to turn their backs on our members in favor of the incarcerated that live there. This is the environment all corrections officers must live with right now and it is a travesty they receive no support from the majority leaders in this state.”-stated Kenny Gold, NYSCOPBA Western Region Vice President.