



## ***Officers Injured at Wende Correctional Facility***

### ***Several Officers Hurt in Two Separate Incidents***

#### **For Immediate Release**

**May 24, 2018**

**Alden , NY** – Several officers sustained injuries at Wende Correctional Facility in separate incidents at the maximum security prison.

The first incident occurred on Thursday, May 3 at approximately 1:40 p.m. as an inmate was being escorted to a disciplinary hearing. When he entered the hearing room, he immediately attacked another inmate who was sitting on a bench inside the room. The inmate was given several orders by officers to stop fighting but he refused to comply.

A female officer stepped in between the two inmates in an attempt to stop the fight. The inmate struck the officer several times in the head and body. Additional officers were able to restrain the inmate and remove him from the hearing room. In the hallway, he continued to fight with officers until they were able to apply mechanical restraints.

The female officer sustained a concussion and multiple abrasions and swelling. She was treated by medical staff at the facility and transported to a local hospital. Four officers were treated by the medical staff for minor injuries and remained on duty.

The inmate, 31 years old, was transferred to Attica Correctional Facility and placed in a special housing unit. He is serving 46 years to life after being convicted in Bronx County in 2010 for Murder 2<sup>nd</sup>, Manslaughter 1<sup>st</sup>, Attempted Murder 2<sup>nd</sup> and Attempted Assault 1<sup>st</sup>.

The second incident at the facility occurred on Saturday, May 12 at approximately 10:30 a.m. An officer making rounds observed an inmate inside his cell with a shoe string tied around his neck and attached to the cell bars. The officer called for a medical response and immediately cut the inmate down from the bar. On the cell floor, the inmate was unresponsive. As officers entered the cell, the inmate jumped to

his feet and started to attack officers. The officers were able to get the inmate in body holds and under control after a brief struggle.

A makeshift weapon was found tied to the inmates wrist, consisting of a four-inch pen casing with sharpened tweezers melted into the plastic and a taped handle. The weapon was seized as evidence and the inmate, 21 years old, was transferred to Attica Correctional Facility. He is serving a four year sentence after being convicted in Schenectady County in 2016 for Attempted Burglary 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Three officers sustained injuries, including a broken hand.

“Both these incidents are a pointed reminder of the dangerous environment our members face inside our prisons on a daily basis. As this pattern of violence continues, it is simply not acceptable to quietly sit by. We need to continue to advocate for disciplinary measures that will deter inmates from attacking staff as well as criminally prosecute inmates that commit serious acts of violence .” – Joe Miano, Western Region VP of NYSCOPBA.