



Female Officer Injured During Inmate Attack at Sullivan Correctional Facility

Convicted Murderer Attempts to Pull Officer Into Cell

**For Immediate Release:
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Fallsburg, NY – A female officer was injured at Sullivan Correctional Facility when an inmate grabbed her and attempted to drag her into his cell as she fought back against the assault.

The incident occurred on Saturday, August 25, at approximately 8:45 a.m. The officer, while making routine rounds, approached the inmate's cell to question him about whether he was going to clean up his cell. The inmate, without warning, grabbed the officer by the forearm and attempted to drag her into the cell. The officer initially broke free and pushed the inmate away. The inmate attempted to grab her again. The officer used OC Pepper Spray on him with no effect. The inmate grabbed the officer again. She was able to get the inmate into body holds and bring him to the floor where she administered a second round of OC Spray.

A second officer arrived on the scene and assisted the officer in getting the inmate to comply and into mechanical wrist restraints.

The injured officer was transported from the facility to Orange Regional Medical Center. She was treated for swelling and abrasions above her left eye, swelling and abrasions to both knees and bruising to her left forearm. She did not return to duty.

The inmate, 42 years old, is serving a 37 year to life sentence at the maximum security facility. He was convicted in 2012 of Murder 2nd and Kidnapping 2nd in Kings County for abducting, killing and dismembering an eight year old boy.

"As assaults on staff continue to occur on a daily basis, we also are seeing a rise in male inmates attacking and assaulting female officers. With a diminished discipline system, the consequences for attacking staff are minimal. We need our local district attorneys to prosecute inmates that attack and injure staff so a firm message is sent that if you attack staff, you will be held accountable. " – Michael Mazzella, NYSCOPBA Mid-Hudson Region Vice President.