



## ***Officers Injured at Walkill and Sullivan Correctional Facilities***

### ***Two Officers Bitten and Two Have Feces Thrown on Them***

***For Immediate Release  
February 22, 2019***

**Walkill & Fallsburg, NY** – Two officers were injured at Walkill Correctional Facility when an inmate attacked them while they were conducting a search for contraband at the medium security prison this week.

The incident occurred on Tuesday, February 19, at approximately 11:15 a.m. The officers were conducting a search in one of the housing units when they observed an inmate with a green leafy substance. The officers ordered the inmate to turn over the contraband. He refused and suddenly attacked the lead officer, punching him in the face several times. Both officers used body holds in an attempt to stop the attack. The inmate resisted and bit both officers during the struggle. Additional officers arrived on the scene and assisted in getting the inmate under control and into mechanical restraints.

Both officers sustained injuries in the attack and were taken to an outside medical facility for treatment. One was treated for bruising and swelling to his face. He was also bitten on the arm, which broke the skin. The second officer sustained a bite to the back and a minor knee injury.

A third officer sustained minor injuries restraining the inmate.

The inmate, 28 years old, is serving a seven year sentence after being convicted in Orange County for Attempted Burglary 2<sup>nd</sup> in 2013. He was transferred to Sullivan Correctional Facility.

A week earlier, two officers had feces thrown on them by an inmate at Sullivan Correctional Facility. The incident occurred on Sunday, February 10, at approximately 7:35 a.m. A officer was conducting security rounds when he was struck with feces in the face, chest and legs that was thrown by an inmate from his cell.

Minutes later, a second officer, who responded to secure the crime scene, was struck with feces thrown by the same inmate.

A third officer sustained a minor hand injury while trying to gain control of the inmate inside his cell. The inmate continued to struggle with officers while being removed from his cell and transported to a new cell location.

The two officers who had feces thrown on them were treated by medical staff for exposure.

The inmate, 38 years old, is serving 25 years to life after being convicted in Bronx County in 2000 for Murder 2<sup>nd</sup>.

“Governor Cuomo’s prison closure announcement is just another example of being penny wise and pound foolish. While there will be savings closing three prisons, you can never put a value on public safety and that is exactly what he is doing. Year after year the prison population declines yet the amount of violence inside our prisons increases to record levels. Consolidating the prison population will only exacerbate the violence that currently exists and the Governor fails to recognize this. These two incidents at Wallkill and Sullivan were vicious and vile and occur daily in our facilities throughout the state. Instead of looking for ways to cut services and save money our members deserve to work in the safest environment possible.” – stated Michael Mazzella, NYSCOPBA Mid-Hudson Region Vice President.