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For Immediate Release

## **Gang Fights, Assaults on Staff Cause Lockdown at Auburn Correctional Facility**

### ***82 Make-Shift Weapons Seized Since March 1<sup>st</sup>***

**Auburn, NY** – Auburn Correctional Facility was locked down after a series of inmate on inmate fights and assaults on staff at the maximum security facility.

Since March 1<sup>st</sup>, four assaults on staff have occurred at the facility and a large number of inmate on inmate fights caused officials to lock down the facility. Over that period of time officers have seized 82 make shift weapons, 37 of which were found during the lockdown. The majority of weapons was ice pick type. In one incident, officers seized a store bought composite type knife that was six and a half inches long from one inmate during a search.

The lockdown occurred on March 18<sup>th</sup> and was lifted yesterday by the administration. The entire facility was in lockdown during that time period.

The inmate on inmate fights appear to be gang related and several involved inmates being cut or slashed.

The four assaults on staff resulted in minor injuries to officers.

“Auburn Correctional Facility remains one of the most dangerous prisons in the state. On a consistent basis staff are assaulted, inmate on inmate fights occur and large numbers of weapons are seized. This is not the first time the facility has been locked down in the last year and it certainly will not be the last based on the violence that exists there. It is an extremely dangerous environment our members have to work in. 82 weapons seized in a one month period speaks volumes to the fact that the administration needs to do more to make the facility safe” – said Joe Miano, Western Region Vice President.