



Officers Assaulted, Injured at Sing Sing Correctional Facility

Inmate Attacked Two Officers During Contraband Search

***For Immediate Release
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Ossining, NY – Two correction officers were injured at Sing Sing Correctional Facility when they were attacked by an inmate during a cell search at the maximum security prison.

The incident occurred on Sunday, April 21, at approximately 10:35 a.m. An officer was conducting a search of an inmate's cell. The inmate was outside of the cell while the officer conducted the search. During the search the officer found a green leafy substance wrapped in cellophane hidden inside of a pack of cigarettes. He emptied the contents onto the inmate's bed. The inmate suddenly rushed into the cell and punched the officer several times in the back of the head. He grabbed the contraband and flushed it down the toilet. A second officer heard the commotion and rushed into the cell. He ordered the inmate to stop the assault, which he refused. He utilized his OC Spray which initially had no effect on the inmate. The inmate grabbed the second officer by his shirt and pushed him into the cell bars. The first officer, who was able to get to his feet, grabbed the inmate in a body hold as the second officer applied OC Spray a second time. While he continued to struggle with both officers, the inmate was forced onto his bed. With the assistance of a third officer they applied mechanical restraints to his wrists.

The inmate, 42 years old, is currently serving a 25 year to life sentence after being convicted for Murder 2nd and Reckless Endangerment 1st in Oneida County in 1997. He was placed in a Special Housing Unit following the incident and faces additional charges.

Both officers sustained injuries and were treated at the facility infirmary and later transferred to Phelps Hospital for further treatment. Both were later released from the hospital. They did not return to duty.

"The seriousness of this assault cannot be understated. Simply put, this was a vicious, brazen attack by a violent felon who showed no regard for staff or for discipline. Regardless of the length of the inmate's sentence, we strongly encourage the Westchester County District Attorney's Office to prosecute this unprovoked attack. We need stronger internal discipline measures; and inmates that choose to attack staff, must be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law. Short of that, our members will continue to be targets." – stated Dave Luther, NYSCOPBA Southern Region Vice President.