



Officer Injured During Inmate Attack at Elmira Correctional Facility

Officer Sustained Nasal Fracture during Assault

For Immediate Release:

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Elmira, NY – An officer was attacked by an inmate after he found a ceramic scalpel in the inmates pant pocket during a search at Elmira Correctional Facility.

The incident occurred on Thursday, May 23rd, at approximately 11:00 a.m. The officer was conducting a routine pat frisk of the inmate and discovered the scalpel in his front pants pocket. As the officer was securing the scalpel, the inmate elbowed him in the head. The officer immediately grabbed the inmate in a body hold and took him to the ground. The inmate continued to violently struggle with the officer on the ground and was able to break free and get back on his feet. He took an aggressive stance towards the officer. The officer administered OC Spray to the inmate, which had no initial effect. After a short period of time the inmate became compliant and was placed in mechanical restraints.

The officer sustained abrasions to his face, left and right elbows and back pain. He was transported to a local hospital where it was determined he sustained a left nasal fracture. He did not return to duty.

The scalpel was recovered and placed into evidence.

The inmate, 22 years old, was placed in a special housing unit pending disciplinary measures. He is serving a five year sentence after being convicted of Attempted Aggravated Assault of a Peace Officer in 2017 in Bronx County.

“Staff attacks continue to be one of the most troubling issues we deal with inside our correctional facilities. With changes in the disciplinary system, there is no real deterrent for inmates not to brazenly attack staff. In 2018 attacks on staff once again reached record levels and the first part of 2019 continues in the same direction. Our members will continue to be put in harm’s way unless there are significant repercussions for inmates like this who continue these unprovoked attacks.” – Joe Miano, NYSCOPBA Western Region Vice President.