

## Suboxone Seized at Mohawk Correctional Facility

## **Drugs Hidden in Rice Krispy Treats**

For Immediate Release
August 24, 2020

**Rome, NY** – Officers processing inmate mail recovered Suboxone strips from boxes of Rice Krispies mailed to two inmates at the medium security prison.

On Saturday, August 1, an officer processing boxes of the treats mailed from the Buffalo area noticed several of the boxes were tampered with. He opened the boxes and noticed the seals on the individual packages were also tampered with. The officer opened the packages and recovered 24 plastic bundles that contained orange strips. The strips tested positive for Suboxone, a prescription drug used to treat opioid addiction.

On Wednesday, August 12, an officer processing boxes of Rice Krispies noticed inconsistencies in the boxes. He opened the boxes and found 40 orange strips inside the individual packages of treats. The strips tested positive for Suboxone. The package was mailed from the Bronx area.

The drugs were seized as evidence.

"We have made our concerns very clear to DOCCS that the flow of drugs coming in through mail was increasing as visitations were suspended. We have long advocated the need for a Secure Vendor Program to stem the flow of drugs coming into prisons but it has fell on deaf ears. Now with visitations started again, staff is going to have to combat attempts to smuggle drugs into prisons on two fronts. Until DOCCS takes proactive measures this is continually going to be a problem." – said Brian Hluska, Central Region Vice President.