



Officers Attacked and Injured by Inmate at Elmira Correctional Facility

Inmate Commits Two Assaults Within Days of Each Other

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Elmira, NY - An inmate serving a seven year sentence for burglary attacked and injured three officers in the course of three days at the maximum security correctional facility.

On Saturday, November 21, at approximately 11:15 a.m., inmates were being released from their cells for afternoon meal. One inmate exited his cell and approached an officer and began striking him in the head. The inmate grabbed at the officer's baton and tried to pull it out of its holder. A second officer arrived to help and the inmate began striking him as well. Both officers grabbed the inmate in a body hold and took him to the ground. The inmate continued to kick and swing at the officers on the ground. OC spray was administered but had no immediate effect. After a brief struggle, the officers were able to get handcuffs on the inmate and under control.

The two officers were treated at a local urgent care. The first officer assaulted sustained bruising to the left side of his face, pain to his ribs and scratches to the face. The second officer sustained pain and swelling to his right hand, hip, arm and groin pain. Both officers were treated and released and did not return to duty.

Three days after the first assault, the inmate was being escorted to a Special Housing Unit. When his cell door opened, he charged at an officer, striking him in the left eye and cheek. Officers on the scene immediately subdued the inmate and handcuffed him. He was removed from the cell block and placed in a Special Housing Unit pending disciplinary proceedings.

The officer who was attacked sustained an abrasion to his face and swelling to his knee. He was treated by medical staff at the facility and remained on duty.

The inmate, 28, is serving a seven year sentence after being convicted for Burglary 2nd in Albany County in 2019. He previously has assaulted staff prior to these two attacks.

“Two unprovoked attacks within three days of each other by the same inmate who has a past record of attacking staff! This is exactly the reason there needs to be strong disciplinary measures and in situations like this, criminal prosecution. There needs to be strong message sent to inmates that attack staff that there will be ramifications for violence like this.” - stated Mark Deburgomaster , NYSCOPBA Western Region Vice President.