

Drugs Seized at Marcy Correctional Facility

Female Officer Assaulted by Inmate

<u>For Immediate Release</u> January 20, 2021

Marcy, **NY** – Officers seized nine ounces of synthetic marijuana and Suboxone from mailed packages to inmates as well as hidden inside the medium security correctional facility.

A female officer also sustained injuries when a 72 year old violent inmate slammed and pinned a gate door on her arm as he was being escorted into a holding cell.

On, Thursday, January 7, an officer processing packages of chicken fajitas noticed abnormities in the packages. The packages were opened and they discovered 10 bundles inside that contained synthetic marijuana, commonly known as K2. The packages were mailed from Buffalo. The drugs weighed 52 grams.

On Friday, January 8, an officer performing a routine frisk of an inmate's locker discovered five orange film strips hidden inside the locker. The strips were identified as Suboxone.

On Tuesday, January 12 recovered K2 and Suboxone in three incidents at the prison.

An officer processing a book mailed to an inmate found Suboxone wrapped inside of cellophane and hidden inside the book. The book was mailed from Hancock, NY.

Officers processing packages of fruit snacks mailed to two inmates recovered 211 grams of K2 hidden inside the packages. Both packages were mailed from Rochester.

An officer conducting a frisk of an inmate located 10 Suboxone pills hidden inside a secret pocket sewn into his underwear. The inmate was placed in a Special Housing Unit pending disciplinary proceedings.

The same day, a female officer was processing an inmate at the facility. The inmate became belligerent with the officer and refused orders. The inmate was escorted by two officers to a holding pen. As he entered the holding pen, the inmate grabbed the gate and slammed it and pinned the female officer's arm. The second officer administered OC spray to the inmate which had no effect. Additional staff grabbed the inmate in a body hold and forced him to the ground. They applied handcuffs to the inmate who continued to struggle and kick at officers. The inmate was removed from the area and was placed in a Special Housing Unit pending disciplinary measures.

The inmate is serving a six year sentence after being convicted in Queens County in 2017 for Assault 1st and Criminal Possession of a Weapon 2nd.

The female officer sustained pain and swelling to her right arm, knee and leg. She was treated by medical personnel at the facility. Two officers who assisted in subduing the inmate sustained minor injuries and remained on duty.

"Legislators and inmate advocates continue to call for the compassionate release of inmates 55 and older during this pandemic. As we can see, even older inmates, can be extremely dangerous and suddenly attack staff. Contraband continues to be an extremely serious problem. Officers routinely discover drugs hidden in mailed packages to inmates but drugs can still make their way into the hands of inmates despite their good work. It is why we need a Secure Vendor Program. Until DOCCS takes a serious look at the violence against staff and contraband, this will continue to be an issue in 2021." – stated Bryan Hluska, NYSCOPBA Central Region Vice President.