

Officers Injured at Greene Correctional Facility

Inmate Attacks Officer in Recreation Room

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Coxsackie, NY – Three officers were injured at Greene Correctional Facility last week as a result of an attack by a disruptive inmate at the medium security facility.

The incident occurred on Thursday, January 28, at approximately 4:31 p.m. An officer reported that the inmate started to act erratic in one of the dorms. The inmate went into the recreation room of the dorm and the officer followed him. Still acting erratic, the inmate picked up the officer and slammed him to the ground and jumped on top of him. He began striking the officer in the right side of the face and upper body. As additional staff arrived, the inmate jumped off the officer and ran into a dorm area with two officers chasing behind him. The inmate began throwing punches at both officers but was unable to strike them. The inmate was grabbed in a body hold by one of the officers but still violently struggled to get away. OC spray was administered and the inmate fell to the ground. On the ground, officers used body holds to restrain the inmate while handcuffs were applied. Once in handcuffs, the inmate stopped struggling.

He was removed from the dorm area and placed in a Special Housing Unit pending disciplinary charges.

The inmate, 34, is serving a 10 year sentence for Assault 2nd after being convicted in Warren County in 2012.

The officer who was initially attacked sustained pain and swelling to the right side of his face, both shoulders, nose, jaw, back of the head and back. Two officers sustained injuries to their knee, lower back, ankle and wrist while subduing the inmate. All staff were treated by facility medical staff and remained on duty.

"This was an unprovoked and violent assault on a senior officer that was forced to fight for his life until back-up arrived. However, with an inmate disciplinary system that's been completely gutted, and when staff is forced to work by themselves supervising 40-60 inmates in a dorm, what do you think is going to happen? The Governor's efforts to close prisons is only increasing the density of the most violent inmates. If he's going to continue down this reckless path he should be increasing staffing levels at the remaining facilities." – stated Chris Moreau, NYSCOPBA Mid-Hudson Region Vice President.