



Contraband Recovered During Search at Green Haven Correctional Facility

Make-Shift Weapons, Handcuff Keys Among Items Seized

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Stormville, NY – Members of the Corrections Emergency Response Team (CERT) conducted a random search of inmates and their cells on a cell block last week at the maximum security prison and recovered make-shift weapons and plastic handcuff keys.

The search was conducted in the early morning hours on Friday, January 29. During the search process, an officer observed an inmate place something in his waistband. The inmate was frisked and officers recovered two plastic handcuff keys that were inside of a plastic capsule that fell from the inmate's shorts during the frisk. The handcuffs were seized as evidence.

The inmate, 33, is serving a 34 years to life sentence after being convicted in Queens County in 2013 for Attempted Murder 1st, Attempted Murder 2nd, Reckless Endangerment 1st, and Attempted Assault 1st. He fired eight shots at two NYPD officers who were pursuing him in a car after he was involved in a robbery spree in Queens. He was transferred to Great Meadow Correctional Facility following the contraband seizure.

As the search continued, officers found a ceramic scalpel hidden in an inmate's waistband during a frisk. The inmate's cell was searched and officers recovered a plexi-glass type sharpened shank under the inmate's locker. The inmate was placed in a Special Housing Unit pending disciplinary charges.

The remaining search recovered an ice pick type weapon, a flat metal shank and four gallons of homemade alcohol in two additional cells. Both inmates assigned to those cells were placed in a Special Housing Unit pending disciplinary charges.

“CERT teams throughout the state have been, and continue to be, one of the greatest assets this Department has when it comes to maintaining the safety and security of New York state prisons. Despite being criminally under-appreciated, these groups of highly trained officers and sergeants go above and beyond on a daily basis to keep their facilities and their coworkers safe. In this instance, Green Haven’s CERT team not only recovered multiple deadly weapons, but they also found escape paraphernalia which presents an unimaginable risk not just to the facility, but to the public as well. I’d like to thank all NYSCOPBA members for continuing keep me, my family, and our communities safe.” – stated Chris Moreau, NYSCOPBA Mid-Hudson Region Vice President.