



For Immediate Release
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Multiple Officers Injured at Collins Correctional Facility

Two Incidents Leads to Ten Officers Hurt

Collins, NY – Multiple officers were injured when two inmates, who were both threatening to harm themselves, attacked officers at the medium security prison this month.

On Friday, March 5, four officers sustained injuries when an inmate violently fought with them after they had removed him from his cell when he showed signs of wanting to hurt himself. After officers initially removed him from his cell, he was escorted to a room to be frisked for contraband. When officers removed his handcuffs, he punched one officer in the head. Several officers grabbed him a body hold and forced him to the ground. He continued to struggle with officers before they were able to get handcuffs and ankle restraints on.

One officer sustained pain and swelling to his knee and lower back. Two officers sustained pain and swelling to their right shoulder and elbow. A fourth officer sustained pain to his left shoulder, knee and ankle. All staff were treated by facility medical staff and remained on duty.

The inmate, 27, is serving a 16 year sentence after being convicted in Queens County in 2013 for Gang Assault 1st and Manslaughter 1st.

On Thursday, March 11, an inmate was threatening to harm himself and was refusing to come out of his cell. He climbed to the upper part of the cell bars and tied a bed sheet on the bars and started to wrap the other end around his neck. Five officers entered the cell in an attempt to remove him from the bars. The inmate attempted to jump on the officers. The officers grabbed the inmate in body holds as he attempted to spit on them and bit one officer on his thumb. OC spray was administered but it had no effect. The inmate continued to struggle with officers until they were able to get handcuffs on and extract him from the cell.

During the struggle, six officers were injured. Two officers needed outside medical attention for a left shoulder and wrist swelling and a small laceration to a thumb. They were treated and released. Four officers were treated by facility medical staff for a number of abrasions, bruising and swelling. They remained on duty.

The inmate, 33, is serving a eight year sentence after being convicted for Criminal Possession of a Weapon 2nd and Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance 3rd in New York County in 2018.

“ In less than a weeks’ time ten officers injured, two needing outside hospital treatment, in two separate attacks. The circumstances may vary, but the fact remains that with a diminished disciplinary system these attacks on staff will continue. It will only be a matter of time before we have a member critically injured, or worse, killed in one of these incidents. Simply put, DOCCS has failed miserably protecting its staff. ” – said Mark Deburgomaster , Western Region Vice President.