



## ***Officers Injured at Walkill Correctional Facility***

### ***Inmate Attempts to Attack Officer***

***April 16, 2021***

**Walkill , NY** – Four officers were injured at Walkill Correctional Facility when an unruly inmate attempted to attack an officer in the mess hall of the medium security prison.

On Tuesday, April 6, at approximately 12:15 p.m., an inmate assigned to clean the mess hall refused orders from an officer to complete his job. Several times the officer ordered the inmate to continue working and he refused. The officer ordered the inmate to the wall so he could be frisked for contraband. Initially, the inmate refused but eventually complied and put his hands on the wall. When the officer approached him, the inmate pushed the officer with his back and attempted to turn and strike the officer with his elbow. He began to struggle with the officer as a response team was called.

Three officers arrived at the scene and attempted to gain control of the inmate with body holds. During the struggle, the inmate was able to strike one of the officers in the face with an open hand and push him back. Additionally, he kicked a second officer in the shoulder, knocking him to the ground and kicked the third officer in the knee. OC spray was administered but had no effect. The officers eventually were able to gain control of the inmate and force him to the ground. Still struggling, the officers were able to get handcuffs on the inmate. Once in handcuffs, the inmate became compliant.

The inmate was removed from the mess hall. He was transferred to Ulster Correctional Facility and faces disciplinary charges. He is serving a 25 year sentence after being convicted in 2007 in New York County for Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> and Conspiracy 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Three officers were treated by facility medical staff for pain and swelling to their knees. They remained on duty. A fourth officer sustained pain and swelling to his neck and knee and received outside medical treatment. He did not return to duty.

“As assaults on staff continue at a rapid pace, it is my sincere hope that the legislators that hastily pushed through HALT legislation start to understand how dangerous it is for our officers on a daily basis. For years we have been vocal on the rising violence in prisons and that staff needed more protection. It is quite obvious that the violence that exists is not a priority for those who supported that legislation and that is very disheartening.” – stated Chris Moreau , NYSCOPBA Mid-Hudson Region Vice President.