



Drugs, Weapon Seized at Mohawk Correctional Facility

Paper Coated With Synthetic Marijuana

For Immediate Release

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Rome, NY – Officers continued to recover drugs from inmates at the medium security prison when synthetic marijuana was discovered on three separate occasions last week.

On Wednesday, March 31, a K9 alerted on the living quarters of an inmate. Officers discovered several blunt cigarettes inside a cigarette pack. The homemade cigarettes contained a green leafy substance that tested positive for synthetic marijuana, commonly known as K2.

On Friday, April 2, an officer conducted a frisk of an inmate for contraband. He recovered a cellophane bundle inside his pants pocket that contained several sheets of paper that had been coated with an unknown substance. The officer also recovered a second cellophane bundle and loose paper sheets inside the inmate's sock. Those papers also had been coated.

The investigation determined that the paper had been sprayed with K2.

On the same day in an unrelated incident, staff conducted a frisk of an inmate's living quarters. They recovered an ice pick type weapon hidden inside the inmate's boot. They also recovered a paper bundle inside of the inmate's sock. The bundle contained paper sheets that had been coated with K2.

All three inmates were placed in a Special Housing Unit pending disciplinary proceedings.

The drugs were seized as evidence.

"With the Governor signing HALT legislation into law last week, the continued reduction in disciplinary measures will create an unsafe environment for staff. Weapons and drugs create a dangerous atmosphere for officers and with disciplinary measures that have no real deterrence, our members will continue to be in harm's way until our elected officials recognize more needs to be done to protect them " – stated Bryan Hluska, NYSCOPBA Central Region Vice President.