Sergeant Overcome by Drugs Mailed to Inmate at Mid-State Correctional Facility

Medical Staff Administered Narcan to Combat Effects of Exposure to Heroin and Fentanyl

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Marcy, NY – A sergeant who was investigating a suspicious letter sent to an inmate needed to be administered Narcan by medical staff at the prison and was brought to an outside hospital for treatment of exposure to Heroin and the deadly drug Fentanyl.

The incident occurred on Wednesday, April 21 at approximately 10:00 a.m.   Staff were processing inmate mail when an officer noticed a letter with three pages inside had been saturated with some type of liquid. The sergeant removed the pages and suspected they had been soaked with some type of drug. The sergeant began to feel light headed from the exposure. Medical staff were called to the mail room and a nurse administered Narcan to the sergeant. He became alert after receiving one dose. He was transported to a local hospital for treatment.

The Hazmat Team from the Utica Fire Department were called to the prison and decontaminated the area of the mail room. They tested the pages of paper and they tested positive for Heroin and Fentanyl.

State police were called to the facility and seized the evidence.

The letter was sent from an address in the Bronx.

" We have been calling on DOCCS to reinstall the Secure Vendor Program for over two years now and not one step has been taken by the administration as drugs continue to flow into prisons despite the best efforts of staff.   While this incident might not have been avoided, having a Secure Vendor Program would eliminate a large portion of drugs sent in by inmate

packages. These were two deadly drugs the sergeant was exposed to and we need to start holding those individuals attempting to send in the drugs through mail accountable and prosecute them to the fullest extent of the law" – stated Bryan Hluska, NYSCOPBA Central Region Vice President.