



New York State Correctional Officers & Police Benevolent Association, Inc.

“Keeping New York Safe”

Drugs, Inmate Fights Continue at Mohawk Correctional Facility

Two Inmates Cut With Homemade Weapons

July 30, 2021

Rome, NY – Inmate fights and drugs continued to plague Mohawk Correctional Facility during the first two weeks of July at the medium security prison.

Two inmates were cut with homemade weapons and needed outside medical care to treat the wounds after inmate on inmate fights.

On Tuesday, July 6, two inmates were observed fighting by an officer making security rounds in a housing unit. The officer gave the two inmates several orders to stop fighting. Once they complied with the orders, both inmates were brought to the infirmary for examination.

One inmate sustained three lacerations that needed treatment at a local hospital. He was treated and transported back to the facility.

Both inmates were placed in a Special Housing Unit pending disciplinary charges.

On Friday, July 9, an officer conducting routine rounds observed two inmates fighting on the walkway. The officer ordered both inmates to stop. Both complied immediately. The two inmates were brought to the infirmary. One inmate sustained a three inch laceration to the back of his head that was consistent with a cutting instrument.

The inmate was transported to an outside hospital for treatment.

Both inmates were placed in a Special Housing Unit pending disciplinary charges.

No weapons were recovered in either incident.

In addition, on Friday, July 9, an officer needed to apply OC Spray twice to two inmates who were fighting in a housing unit and refused to stop. Once under control, the two inmates were placed in a Special Housing Unit pending disciplinary charges.

Synthetic Marijuana, commonly known as K2 and marijuana were also seized at the facility. On Wednesday, July 14, officers recovered K2 from two inmates after being subjected to a pat frisk. The K2 was secreted inside of cigarettes.

A K9, working inside a housing unit on Friday, July 9, indicated drugs on an inmate. During questioning, the inmate voluntarily surrendered a bundle of marijuana he had hidden on him. The following day an officer recovered 5.2 grams of marijuana in seven balloons that were wrapped in a bed sheet in an inmate's cube.

The drugs were seized as evidence. .

"The reduction in disciplinary measures continues to 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 DOCCS takes real proactive measures. Violent acts committed by inmates must be addressed with discipline that has real teeth. The current system not only makes it dangerous for staff, but inmates as well, as we witnessed here." – stated Bryan Hluska, NYSCOPBA Central Region Vice President.