



**For Immediate Release  
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**DOCCS HIGHLIGHTS SAFETY INVESTMENTS FOLLOWING INDICTMENT IN ASSAULT ON  
STAFF AT LAKEVIEW SHOCK INCARCERATION CORRECTIONAL FACILITY**

***Investments Strengthen Safety, Accountability, and Transparency in State Correctional  
Facilities***

***Fixed Camera Installation Instrumental in Producing Critical Footage to Support this  
Investigation and Referral***

The New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision (DOCCS) today acknowledged the Chautauqua County District Attorney's [announcement](#) of a Grand Jury indictment against an incarcerated individual in connection with an alleged violent assault of staff members at Lakeview Shock Incarceration Correctional Facility on February 23, 2026.

According to the District Attorney's Office, defendant J'Kendric Agee was indicted on charges including two counts of Assault in the second degree following an investigation and referral by DOCCS after the alleged assault occurred inside the facility.

On February 23, 2026, Agee attacked a civilian Offender Rehabilitation Coordinator (ORC) and a responding Correction Officer, causing injuries that required medical treatment. The defendant was subsequently transferred to another maximum-security correctional facility.

**DOCCS Commissioner Daniel F. Martuscello III said**, "We appreciate the Chautauqua County District Attorney's Office for pursuing this indictment and sending a clear message that violence against correctional staff will not be tolerated. The safety of our staff, incarcerated population, and visitors remains our highest priority. In addition to working closely with our law enforcement partners to hold individuals accountable, DOCCS has made significant investments to strengthen security, increase transparency, and reduce violence inside our facilities. We thank Governor Kathy Hochul for her continued support and for making these critical investments to enhance safety for everyone who lives and works in our correctional system."

**NYS Correctional Officers & Police Benevolent Association (NYSCOPBA) President Chris Summers said**, "We stand in full support of District Attorney Schmidt for his decision to pursue charges against an incarcerated individual responsible for the brutal assault of an officer and civilian counselor at Lakeview Shock Incarceration on February 23. This violent attack is a stark reminder of the dangers faced daily by both uniformed and civilian staff working within our correctional system. Officers, counselors, educators, and all personnel who enter these facilities do so with the purpose of rehabilitation and service. They should never have to fear for their safety while performing their duties. Holding incarcerated individuals accountable for acts of violence is not optional, it is essential. We also acknowledge the role of DOCCS in assisting efforts to hold this incarcerated individual fully responsible for his actions, and for releasing the video for the public to have a better understanding of what their employees endured in the face of violence."

**New York State Public Employees Federation President Wayne Spence said,** "The PEF member assaulted on Feb. 23 at Lakeview Shock Correctional Facility was just doing her job when she was viciously attacked by an incarcerated individual. Today's indictment starts her pursuit of justice, but it does not fix the systemic problem. PEF calls for these reforms to protect civilian staff from further attacks: Put a security officer in any room where programming is conducted, use video technology when appropriate, and authorize restraint chairs for individuals with a history of violence. Those three commonsense steps can help prevent further assaults."

**Civil Service Employees Association President Mary Sullivan said,** "The brutal assault on a civilian counselor and correctional officer at Lakeview Shock Incarceration Correctional Facility on February 23 was an unacceptable act of workplace violence that cannot be tolerated. Every employee in the NYS Department of Corrections system deserves to come to work without fearing for their safety or risking their life on the job. Protecting workers means holding people accountable for violent actions. CSEA stands united in support of District Attorney Schmidt's decision to pursue charges against the incarcerated individual responsible for this senseless attack. We also recognize DOCCS for taking steps to show employees that their safety matters and that violence in the workplace will have consequences."

**Council 82 Local 2951 President Russell Fox said,** "It is essential to hold incarcerated individuals accountable for their violent acts, to include ensuring additional charges are pursued when appropriate. This not only promotes a safer environment for staff but also reinforces the principle that every action carries consequences."

As part of the Fiscal Year 2026 Enacted Budget, the Governor invested \$400 million to accelerate and continue the installation of fixed cameras in all facilities. These cameras have proven effective in reducing violence, improving safety for staff and the incarcerated population, and ensuring accountability when misconduct occurs. Fixed camera footage was instrumental in supporting this investigation and referral, and the Department appreciates the work of our Office of Special Investigations for their work in collecting this critical evidence.

DOCCS is aggressively working with the Office of General Services to expedite the installation of additional fixed cameras across all facilities. Currently, 11 facilities have completed fixed camera projects, with six of those facilities already under construction for additional upgrades. An additional 29 facilities are in the design and/or construction phase.

Recognizing the importance of transparency and accountability, the Fiscal Year 2026 Enacted Budget also invested more than \$18 million to expand the body-worn camera program. DOCCS now has body-worn cameras in all 41 facilities statewide.

Commissioner Martuscello set clear violence reduction goals, resulting in a 14 percent reduction in assaults on staff and 11 percent reduction in assaults on incarcerated individuals last year, with more aggressive goals set for this year. DOCCS has also seen a 42 percent reduction in excessive force allegations and continues to leverage de-escalation and interpersonal communication skills, expand progressive programs, and support family communication and reunification.

Fixed camera footage is being released in connection with the indictment and is available [here](#).

The Department commends the staff involved for their professionalism and swift response in safely managing this incident. DOCCS remains committed to protecting the safety of staff, incarcerated individuals, and the public, while continuing to modernize security infrastructure and pursue accountability whenever violence occurs inside our facilities.

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