



DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CHARGES SOUGHT FOLLOWING ESCAPE ATTEMPT AT PENITENTIARY

(Sioux Falls) - Charges will be sought against a South Dakota State Penitentiary inmate following an escape attempt that included an assault on a correctional officer December 24th.

Inmate Nick Anderson, 18, pushed a officer against a wall in the West Hall of the Penitentiary and put a handmade weapon to the officer's throat just after 8:00 PM Sunday.

Inmate Anderson continued to hold the weapon to the officer while demanding keys to a car.

Staff who responded to the incident were able to quickly pull Inmate Anderson's arm away from the officer. The weapon was taken away from Inmate Anderson and the officer was freed from Anderson's grasp.

The officer was not injured during the incident.

Inmate Anderson was restrained and taken to the Segregated Housing Unit. He is serving a six-month sentence for Damage to Property out of Aurora County, resulting from the riot at the Juvenile Prison in October 1999.

The Division of Criminal Investigation is investigating the incident.