

Weather: Partly cloudy, 70/49

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Rikers riot inmates sue city for 240M

BY ROBERT F. MOORE
DAILY NEWS POLICE BUREAU

FIFTEEN INMATES allegedly beaten by jailers on Rikers Island during a bloody melee last fall will file a lawsuit today seeking \$240 million in damages from the city.

"What happened in there is egregious," said Leo Glickman, one of the inmates' lawyers. "Quite frankly, it's not adequately monitored by the city."

Part of the Oct. 5 melee was captured by a surveillance camera, leading to the arrest of two Correction Department officers, a captain and an inmate.

The clash erupted when an inmate, Kenneth Robinson, allegedly used the sharpened face of a watch to slash jailer Alan Gold's chin.

A witness told the Daily News that Gold chased Robinson into a dorm designated for inmates with mental health problems, and Robinson — who is not one of the plaintiffs in the lawsuit — hid under a bed.

Dozens of officers then stormed the area and inmates alleged they were dragged from the sleeping area in handcuffs before they were punched and kicked. Many said they were denied medical treatment.

Officer Nicholas Zito was charged with official misconduct, after allegedly turning off surveillance equipment. Officer Joseph Collins was charged with official misconduct, assault and falsifying business records after allegedly punching an inmate and lying about it. Capt. Anastasia Henderson also was charged with falsifying records.

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