



## PRESS RELEASE

December 26, 2007

On the evening of December 25, 2007, a woman was arrested by the Portland Police Department for domestic violence and transported to the Cumberland County Jail.

The woman, Jessica Blindenbacher 37 of Portland, was charged with domestic violence assault and refusing to submit to arrest. While using the telephone in the intake area of the Cumberland County Jail to arrange for bail, she became verbally abusive to the corrections officers. Blindenbacher was told by the corrections officers to quiet down and when she didn't they told her to hang the telephone up and return to her cell. When Blindenbacher refused to do so, the corrections officers attempted to move her to her cell and while doing so, Blindenbacher stabbed a deputy in the head with a pencil that had been loaned to her to use while arranging for bail.

The Corrections Officer, Richard Ireland, sustained a minor head wound as a result of the stabbing and was treated and released from the Maine Medical Center in Portland.

An additional charge of Aggravated Assault was placed on Ms. Blindenbacher as a result of the altercation.

A booking photo can be obtained from the intake staff at the jail. If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact Chief Deputy Kevin Joyce at 774-1444.