



United States Capitol Police

Labor Committee

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PRESS RELEASE

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UNITED STATES CAPITOL POLICE OFFICERS PENALIZED BY DEPARTMENT

Front-line U.S. Capitol Police Officers are being penalized by their Department for working too hard.

Officers who've been forced to work excessive amounts of overtime are being involuntarily put on leave-without-pay this month, for exceeding the Department's pay cap.

Union Chairman Gus Papathanasiou says, "This is outrageous, and a prime example of mismanagement by the Department and Chief Manger. We don't have enough personnel to meet mission requirements, so the Department forces officers to work excessive overtime, routinely working 6 days a week and pulling double shifts to protect the Capitol complex."

"Now, officers are starting to be furloughed and sent home for the holiday season, on leave-without-pay. The result, is to exacerbate an already acute personnel shortage."

Chairman Papathanasiou says, "We still have to get the job done. All of the daily assignments have to be covered to secure the Capitol complex. The Department will just double down and demand more of those officers who are still under the pay cap."

"This is especially galling for Officers as it's entirely unnecessary. The Department has already received a waiver of the pay cap from the US Capitol Police Board for those officers assigned to protective details, threats, and intelligence this past September. Yet they did not make the same request for the

uniformed officers at that time, who are on the front line in securing the Capitol complex. This made absolutely no sense, as the waiver in previous years was for the entire Department, as we are suppose to be one team.”

The waiver that the Department received from the US Capitol Police Board for officers assigned to protective details, threats, and intelligence will allow those officers to earn up to an additional \$10,000 above the current allocated pay cap. Not included were the uniformed officers in Uniformed Services and Operational Services Bureaus.

Chairman Papathanasiou says, “This problem is entirely of the Department’s making. Our officers have stepped up to fill the demand to work harder and longer and this is the thanks they get? Our Officers are part of a team that is essential to protecting the Capitol, the Members of Congress and all their staff. All Officers should be treated equally – not one should be sent home without pay.”