



United States Capitol Police

Labor Committee

1320 G Street, S.E., Washington, D.C. 20003

Telephone: 202-544-4813

www.uscp-fop.com

PRESS RELEASE



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U.S. Capitol Police Officers Call for Experienced, Trusted New Chief

The U.S. Capitol Police Officers' Union is urging the U.S. Capitol Police Board to select a new Chief of Police from among the experienced and highly qualified senior officers with integrity, who have earned the trust of the front-line officers.

The Chief of the U.S. Capitol Police, J. Thomas Manger, retires in May, sparking the search for a new leader at a crucial time for the United States Capitol Police.

Chief Manger took over as head of the Capitol Police after the attack on the U.S. Capitol on January 6th, 2021, leading the force through sweeping security advances, in an era that has seen escalating threats to members of Congress and their staff.

The U.S. Capitol Police Officers' Union sincerely thanks Chief Manger for his service over these challenging past four years and supports his assessment that much more needs to be done to continue the progress that has been made.

Union Chairman Gus Papathanasiou says, "The task of overhauling this police force has just begun and the advances we've seen must be carried forward by a leader who has the trust and respect of the front-line officers."

Chairman Papathanasiou says, "We need a Chief with an exemplary record in the department, who has deep experience across every division and who has stood beside police officers in their most challenging times of service."

The U.S. Capitol Police Department has grappled with long periods of mandatory overtime, employment conditions that fall well below other law enforcement

bodies and low morale, all leading to difficulty in retaining, and recruiting, police officers.

Chairman Papathanasiou says, “Our officers are an essential force in protecting the United States Capitol and have proven themselves willing to put their own lives on the line to do so.”

“In choosing a successor to Chief Manger, our officers need a leader they can trust to have their back, as we work together to build on the advancements of the past four years, fulfilling our mission to keep the U.S. Capitol safe and secure.”

Chairman Papathanasiou says the union looks forward to providing input into the search and to supporting a qualified senior candidate with integrity, who has the trust and confidence of the front-line officers.

Chairman Papathanasiou says, “Trust and integrity are critical in law enforcement, and we need a Chief who can lead by example. We’re asking the U.S. Capitol Police Board to choose a new Chief of Police who can work with our officers and with Congress as we face this new era of heightened security together.”