



PRESS RELEASE

DC Police Union Statement on the Retirement of Chief Pamela Smith

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Gregg Pemberton, Chairman

This morning, Metropolitan Police Department Chief Pamela A. Smith announced her resignation, effective December 31, 2025.

The DC Police Union extends its respect for Chief Smith's dedicated service in law enforcement. With a distinguished 24-year career prior to joining MPD, culminating in her historic role as the Chief of Police for the Nation's Capital, she has served the District with commitment and resolve. Chairman Pemberton stated, "On behalf of the rank-and-file, we wish Chief Smith all the best in her future endeavors. We are grateful for her leadership during a pivotal time."

However, the Union questions the timing of this announcement, which comes amid active investigations by the House Oversight Committee and the Department of Justice into allegations of manipulation of crime statistics and mismanagement within the MPD. These inquiries demand transparency and accountability, and we urge full cooperation to ensure the integrity of our department is upheld.

The Union calls for a comprehensive and deliberate search for the next permanent Chief of Police, in close collaboration with Mayor Bowser and her team. The ideal candidate must demonstrate proven leadership qualities that prioritize respect for the rank-and-file officers, foster trust within our communities, and commit to reforming broken policies lingering from the misguided "defund the police" era, which resulted in laws and regulations that have undermined effective policing and officer morale.

Ultimately, the DC Police Union's goals remain clear: to restaff the MPD to full capacity and repair its foundational structures, enabling us to deliver the world-class public safety our residents deserve. We stand ready to support this vital work and build a stronger department for the future.

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