



PRESS RELEASE

D.C. POLICE UNION: JUSTICE IS SERVED – ACCOUNTABILITY BEGINS FOR COMMAND STAFF IMPLICATED IN CRIME STAT MANIPULATION SCANDAL

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Contact: Gregg Pemberton, President

Washington, D.C. – The DC Police Union, representing 3,000 active officers of the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD), today welcomes the Metropolitan Police Department’s decision to serve termination papers to multiple high-ranking command staff officials. These actions, tied directly to the department’s completed Internal Affairs investigation into the deliberate manipulation of crime data, mark a long-overdue step toward justice and the restoration of integrity within MPD.

In our December 15, 2025 press release, the DC Police Union stood alone in condemning the systemic pattern of crime data manipulation under former Chief Pamela Smith. We exposed how command staff pressured patrol commanders to downgrade serious violent and property felonies, Assaults with a Dangerous Weapon (ADW), Robberies, Burglaries, and Motor Vehicle Thefts, to fabricate the illusion of falling crime rates while actual crime surged. We cited the damning findings from the U.S. Attorney’s Office for the District of Columbia (USAO-DC) and the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, which confirmed that internal National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) data reported to the FBI showed a 1.72% increase in violent crime for 2024, directly contradicting the D.C. government’s fabricated 28.32% decrease.

We warned that this toxic culture of coercion, fear, and corruption left thousands of cases uninvestigated, denied victims justice, gaslit residents, and endangered public safety. Forensic teams were not dispatched, evidence went uncollected, detectives were never notified, and dangerous criminals walked free. All while the public was fed falsified Daily Crime Report (DCR) numbers.

Today, the department is finally acting on those truths. Multiple top officials implicated in the scandal are now facing termination for their roles in the manipulation scheme. It should not have taken threats from Congress to complete this necessary investigation and deliver accountability.

"Justice is being served," stated Gregg Pemberton, President of the DC Police Union. "The command staff officials responsible for this betrayal must be held accountable, not just for the sake of the thousands of dedicated MPD officers they undermined, but for the residents of the District of Columbia who deserve honest leadership and real public safety. The corruption that endangered lives, eroded trust, and allowed shooters, robbers, and predators to evade justice cannot be tolerated."

The DC Police Union has always prioritized the truth, the safety of our officers, and the well-being of D.C. residents. We stand ready to work with Interim Chief Jeffery Carroll, Mayor Bowser's administration, and federal partners to implement real reforms: accurate crime reporting, restored morale, an end to retaliatory practices, and full staffing of the department.

The DC Police Union will continue to fight for transparency, integrity, and *real* public safety in our city.

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