

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

24-18

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

March 2, 2021

To recognize and honor the personnel of the Metropolitan Police Department for their exceptional service and valor on January 6, 2021 during the insurrection at the United States Capitol.

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Police Department coordinated with local and federal agencies in anticipation of demonstrations planned in the federal enclave on January 6, 2021;

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Police Department was in a full deployment status, with all leave cancelled and its personnel working 6 days per week, 12 hours per day;

WHEREAS, on January 6, 2021, the Metropolitan Police Department responded to the Republican National Committee headquarters and Democratic National Committee headquarters, where 2 pipe bombs were discovered, to assist the United States Capitol Police and protect the public and Capitol Hill residents;

WHEREAS, the United States Capitol Police requested immediate assistance from the Metropolitan Police Department in the face of a dire threat to the United States, as a mob of thousands overran the United States Capitol Complex and launched a violent incursion on the Capitol;

WHEREAS, the mob included hundreds, if not thousands, of white supremacists, anti-Semitic extremists, and other domestic terrorists;

WHEREAS, the insurrectionists attempted to halt the counting of electoral ballots – an essential part of the peaceful transfer of power in our nation – harm members of Congress and staff, damage and steal federal property, and overthrow the government;

WHEREAS, approximately 1,100 Metropolitan Police Department officers quickly responded to the scene, stopping many insurrectionists from entering the United States Capitol, removing those who were already inside, securing the perimeter, and allowing Congress to resume the work of the people to demonstrate to our country and the world that our democracy is preserved;

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WHEREAS, Metropolitan Police Department officers courageously held the line for hours in the face of a vicious mob – many of whom were armed – engaging in hand-to-hand combat and enduring physical and emotional trauma from the experience;

WHEREAS, Metropolitan Police Department Officer Jeffrey Smith subsequently passed away, at least 65 officers sustained physical injuries, and many more likely suffered unreported physical and psychological injuries;

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Police Department came to the rescue of the federal government, despite the United States Capitol Police’s primary responsibility to protect the United States Capitol Complex; and

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Police Department defended the hallowed grounds of the United States Capitol, helped preserve the symbols and most essential practices of our democracy, and protected the neighborhoods surrounding the United States Capitol Complex.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the “Metropolitan Police Department Personnel January 6, 2021 Recognition Resolution of 2021”.

Sec. 2. The Council recognizes and honors the personnel of the Metropolitan Police Department for their exceptional service and valor on January 6, 2021 during the insurrection at the United States Capitol.

Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately.