

STATEMENT FROM GUS PAPATHANASIOU
Chairman of the U.S. Capitol Police Labor Committee
To The Epoch Times.

May 16, 2023

Thank you for reaching out. I wanted to be clear that the union does not support Pittman receiving a “negotiated separation agreement.”

The failure on January 6th was, first and foremost, a failure of intelligence that resulted in a failure to plan and communicate with the front-line officers and lower-level supervisors as Pittman was the USCP’s head of intelligence leading up to January 6th. She has never been held accountable for her failure leading up to that horrific day for USCP.

As you may remember, we had 140 MPD and USCP officers seriously injured during the attack. Some of these injuries were so serious that the injured officers will never fully recover. We lost Officer Sicknick in the line of duty and have had several officers who responded subsequently take their own lives, to include USCP officer Howie Liebengood.

The front-line officers at USCP and MPD paid a horrible price for Pittman’s incompetence, and the failures of USCP leadership at the very top that could have been prevented had we had competent proactive leaders at the very top.

The idea that the department cut her a special deal that allows her to take a job with UC Berkley Police Department that pays a lucrative salary while still on the USCP payroll is scandalous and indicative of why we have a morale problem at the department.

I really hope that the House Administration and Senate Rules Committees look into exactly how this special deal came about and who signed off on it because the optics are horrible.

I spoke to many officers and even supervisors, current and retired after the hearing, and they're all livid. It appeared shady and needs to be looked at.

Our Union vote of no confidence spoke volumes after Jan 6th. Pittman went unscathed after Jan 6th, yet she went after our officers who received harsh discipline. No officer should have been disciplined as a result of Jan 6th as the department’s top leaders hung us out to dry. Pittman should have been fired Jan. 7th.