

May 17, 2023

To: Employees of the United States Capitol Police (Current and Former)

From: Former United States Capitol Police Lieutenant Tarik K. Johnson

Subject: United States Capitol Police Assistant Chief Yogananda Pittman

Like a lot of people, I watched the hearing on May 16, 2023, and was in utter shock to get confirmation that Yogananda Pittman is in fact still an assistant chief employed by the United States Capitol Police (USCP). Although most people outside the department won't immediately understand that even though she is in a Leave Without Pay status (LWOP), USCP employees know what a significant benefit that is and I'm sure some former USCP employees would have loved to be given that opportunity. Chief J. Thomas Manger said that it was in the best interest of the Department for Pittman to be relieved of her responsibilities. I do agree with that but I do not agree with her receiving preferential treatment.

I have reason to believe that Pittman had knowledge that officers working on January 6, 2021 (J6), would be subjected to violence and I believe she took certain actions in the days leading up to J6 to eliminate liability for herself **knowing** officers could potentially get hurt that day. If this accusation is proven, officers may have a clearer-line-of-sight to civil liability against her or the Department. I also have reason to believe that the Department (under Pittman's control) gave the Department of Justice (DOJ) misleading information. If this accusation is true that could be legally and judicially problematic as the USCP is the primary agency assisting the DOJ with J6 prosecutions. Pittman also provided misleading information during her previous testimony to Congress. This is yet another example of her lack of integrity and shows the depths she will go to in order to cover and eliminate liability for herself. I believe it is widely known that my career and reputation was torpedoed by her even after everything I did on J6. Other USCP officers and civilians have faced major life altering effects from her actions before, during, and after J6 to include but not limited to the loss of life, injuries to physical/mental health, and damage to their careers. She has set a narrative that serves her purpose and not the good of the men and women of USCP. In short, everyone on the ground that day was put in a horrible situation and I believe if an effective investigation was conducted and an atmosphere was created where USCP employees did not feel they would be subjected to retaliation, the accusations I made could be properly investigated.

I am not an expert when it comes to the best positional organizational hierarchy that the Department should be placed in after what was recently uncovered but the current chief is in the best position to assist Congress to conduct needed investigations of the leadership failures on J6 and cases of retaliatory actions taken against USCP employees (past and present) from J6 and the information disseminated to the DOJ and Congress from USCP should be cross referenced to ensure it is true and accurate. I believe Chief Manger could accomplish this even if

some things occurred while he was in command (as long as he was unaware of the misconduct) as oversight would not be confined to just the USCP, which would allow for an unbiased review.

Time is critical as we now know Pittman is rapidly approaching age 50 and is set to retire. The fact that she will have the ability to retire and draw her pension is not my primary concern. What I am concerned with is that when she does reach the age of 50, she will immediately apply for her retirement benefits. When she is no longer an employee of the USCP she will not be required to participate in any administrative investigation and her retirement may make it difficult for Congress to subpoena her to testify in a timely manner, but that is not the case now.

Regardless of any negotiated agreement I believe Chief Manger can still order her to return to work where she can easily be subpoenaed to testify before a committee and if she does not return to work as ordered, she could then be terminated. In short, we need Pittman in a chair to answer questions about J6 whether it's during a congressional hearing or a courtroom. We need her back here with immediate speed and I believe the person who could do that the soonest is Chief J. Thomas Manger because he is the current chief. Thank you all for listening.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'TKJ', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Tarik K. Johnson