



Fraternal Order of Police United States Park Police Labor Committee

1320 "G" Street SE, Washington, DC 20003
Telephone: 202-991-2377 • Website: usppfop.org

June 21, 2022

RE: REQUEST FOR COSPONSORSHIP (HR 3924)

Dear Representative:

I am writing on behalf of the nearly 350 officers of the US Park Police Fraternal Order of Police (USPPFOP) **to request your cosponsorship of H.R. 3924, the US Park Police Modernization Act.**

The Crisis: The US Park Police patrols three massive urban jurisdictions, including all of the federal parks, highways, and monuments right here in Washington, DC and the metropolitan area. We are the primary emergency medevac Aviation Unit throughout the Washington metro region and provide Presidential and VP motorcade escorts. According to the National Park Service, the department requires *at least* 639 officers to effectively meet its mission (many studies suggest the number is actually much higher). As of today, we have 509 sworn officers and we're losing more officers every single month. It's only a matter of time before we aren't able to respond effectively to a major crisis at one of our nation's most iconic visitor destinations. Paying overtime and requiring officers to work double shifts is an unsustainable and dangerous band-aid solution. Please remember that *each day* the US Park Police protects over 150,000 visitors to our national parks like the Washington Monument/Lincoln Memorial, the Statue of Liberty, and the Golden Gate NRA.

The Solution: H.R. 3924 is a bipartisan and effective response to the crisis. It mirrors a bill passed by unanimous consent in 2010 and signed into law by President Obama that condensed the retirement step system for officers of the United States Secret Service. By condensing the retirement steps, Congress will be leveling the recruitment/retention playing field, giving officers who love serving the public reasonable incentive to stay on the job as a career, and not just as a steppingstone to other law enforcement agencies. It's a simple, affordable, and 100% urgently necessary fix.

Supporters: *H.R. 3924 has been enthusiastically endorsed by the National Fraternal Order of Police and the United States Capitol Police Labor Committee.* We would be honored to include your name to the list!

Questions: Please feel free to reach out to our Legislative Counsel, Gary Gallant, with any questions about the staffing crisis. His number is [REDACTED] or you can email him at [REDACTED]

To Cosponsor: Please contact Nathan Barker at Representative Hice's office. His number is [REDACTED] and his email is [REDACTED]

Thank you for demonstrating your commitment to law enforcement by cosponsoring H.R. 3924 today.

Respectfully,

Kenneth Spencer, Chairman
United States Park Police
Fraternal Order of Police