



## **Fraternal Order of Police United States Park Police Labor Committee**

1320 "G" Street SE, Washington, DC 20003  
Telephone: 202-991-2377 • Website: [usppfop.org](http://usppfop.org)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Tuesday, August 22, 2023

CONTACT: GARY GALLANT  
[gary@gallantlawgroup.com](mailto:gary@gallantlawgroup.com)

### **USPPFOP: MIGRANT SHELTER PROPOSAL "IRRESPONSIBLE, UNCONTROLLABLY DANGEROUS, AND A SLAP IN THE FACE TO STATEN ISLAND AND BROOKLYN"**

Kenneth Spencer, the Chairman of the United States Park Police Fraternal Order of Police (USPPFOP), said today that the federal government's proposed idea to shelter tens of thousands of migrants at federal parks in New York City as "irresponsible, uncontrollably dangerous, and a slap in the face to the Staten Island and Brooklyn communities, not to mention to the federal law enforcement officers who serve and protect these family neighborhoods."

The USPPFOP represents the nearly 350 officers who serve in one of the three urban jurisdictions of the US Park Police. Much of Staten Island, including the parks of Fort Wadsworth, and Brooklyn's Floyd Bennett Field, are protected by the US Park Police.

"The proposed migrant communities within these parks present dozens of serious policing problems. While we understand and appreciate that our brothers and sisters in the NYPD might be called upon to help secure the housing areas, the migrants are not prisoners and will be free to come and go as they please. As a result, the surrounding community will be vulnerable to an influx of new problems and potentially dangerous situations," said Spencer.

"Our officer staffing levels are already far too low. Adding tens of thousands of migrants, most of whom we know nothing about, is irresponsible and uncontrollably dangerous," added Spencer.

The USPPFOP cited several independent studies that indicate that the USPP is understaffed by at least 200 officers. "The National Park Service knows full well that they are putting the Staten Island community, and our officers, in undue danger with this proposal. This migrant program demonstrates, once again, the incompetency of the Park Service and its outright disdain for urban Americans. At the end of the day, it's a slap in the face to the Staten Island and Brooklyn communities," concluded Spencer.