



National Capital Region
1100 Ohio Drive, SW
Washington, DC 20242

Phone: 202-619-7266
www.nps.gov/uspp

United States Park Police News Release

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Contact: Sgt. James Dingeldein, james.dingeldein@nps.gov, 202-619-7266 (USPP)

Statement on Scheduled Meeting with Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton and Rep. Don Beyer

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Park Police (USPP) was contacted by Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton’s office last week requesting a meeting with the Congresswoman, Rep. Don Beyer, and USPP Chief of Police Robert D. MacLean to discuss the force’s use of body and dashboard cameras.

The Congressional Representatives later sent the NPS a media advisory that indicated they wished to discuss an ongoing investigation of a November 17, 2017 USPP officer-involved shooting. As we have stated previously, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Washington Field Office, is leading that investigation. In order to ensure the integrity of the investigation, the USPP cannot discuss the investigation at this time.

The Congressional offices also stated in the media advisory that they planned to discuss legislation for Federal uniformed law enforcement officers that Congresswoman Norton is drafting related to body cameras and dashboard cameras in police vehicles. While the USPP is prepared to discuss cameras the USPP is not prepared to take a position on legislation.

For these reasons, it became clear that Chief MacLean could not address the issues in the proposed meeting and offered to meet at a later date after the media session. National Park Service officials are prepared to meet with members of Congress to discuss general policy on body and dashboard cameras in the future.

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About the United States Park Police: USPP supports the mission of the National Park Service by providing law enforcement to safeguard lives, protect national treasures and symbols of democracy, and preserve the natural and cultural resources entrusted to the care of the National Park Service. USPP officers are located in the Washington, New York, and San Francisco metropolitan areas. The force was created by President George Washington in 1791.

About the National Park Service: More than 20,000 National Park Service employees care for America’s 413 national parks and work with communities across the nation to help preserve local history and create close-to-home recreational opportunities. Learn more at www.nps.gov.