

**STATEMENT OF INSPECTOR GENERAL RONALD P. RUSSO  
UNITED STATES CAPITOL POLICE  
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL**

**Committee on House Administration  
United States House of Representatives  
July 19, 2023**

Good afternoon. My name is Ronald P. Russo, and I was appointed as the Inspector General for the United States Capitol Police in January 2023. Thank you for this opportunity to appear before you, the Committee on House Administration, to discuss the status of recommendations made by the Office of Inspector General concerning the events of January 6, 2021.

In accordance with our statutory authority (Public Law 109-55), the Office of Inspector General began a review of the operations and programs in place prior to, and during, the events of January 6, 2021. Our objectives were to determine if the Department established adequate measures for ensuring the safety and security of Members of Congress, their staff, and the Capitol Complex, and if there were adequate internal controls and processes that complied with Department policies and procedures, laws, and regulations. Our scope included reviewing the controls, processes, and operations surrounding the security measures in place prior to the planned demonstrations and the response to the events on January 6, 2021. Our recommendations were

developed by conducting interviews, reviewing documents, and identifying best practices by other federal agencies performing similar functions.

Over a 10-month period ending October 2021, our reviews resulted in 7 specific flash reports containing 103 recommendations. The areas reviewed included (1) Operational Planning and Intelligence, resulting in 8 recommendations; (2) Civil Disturbance Unit and Intelligence, resulting in 26 recommendations; (3) Counter-Surveillance and Threat Assessment, resulting in 10 recommendations; (4) Containment Emergency Response Team and First Responders Unit, resulting in 21 recommendations; (5) Command and Coordination Bureau, resulting in 12 recommendations; (6) Hazardous Incident Response Division and Canine (K-9) Unit, resulting in 15 recommendations; and finally, (7) Dignitary Protection Division and Human Capital, resulting in 11 recommendations.

Overall, of the 103 recommendations, the Department has remediated 86 percent, closing 89 of the 103 and is actively working toward closing the remaining 14 recommendations. The remaining open recommendations include (9) nine related to updating or creating policies and procedures, (2) two concerning reorganizing operational units, (2) two regarding compliance with existing policies, and (1) one related to training.

In addition to our oversight efforts concerning the events of January 6, 2021, our office has conducted several other Department reviews aimed at enhancing operations in areas such as policies and procedures, USCP field offices, career progression and rotation, the MP7 rifle program, Training Services Bureau, and the processes of the Intelligence and Interagency Coordination Division.

Since my appointment, I have also worked closely with the Capitol Police Board and the Department to increase transparency by providing public access to Inspector General reports for the first time ever. We recently published two reports with several under review pending release.

Finally, I commend the dedicated officers of USCP for their tireless efforts to protect the U.S. Capitol Building, Members of Congress, and visitors. I'd also like to recognize the Capitol Police Board and Congressional Committees for their oversight and leadership.

Thank you again for the opportunity to appear before you today. I would be happy to answer any questions the Committee may have at this time.