

Sub-Committee on Oversight RE: Jan 6th DC National Guard Response

Good morning. I am Brigadier General (Retired) Aaron Dean. Let history record this moment as I, in my capacity as the second in Command of the District of Columbia National Guard, entrusted with the sacred duty to advise and assist the Commanding General on matters of operational significance concerning the deployment of the District of Columbia National Guard on January 6th, 2021, address the grave assertions and inaccuracies contained in the Inspector General's report (DODIG-2022-039).

I believe it is my imperative duty and moral obligation to stand before you today and illuminate the truth. I stand resolute, bearing witness to the unwavering readiness and unparalleled dedication of the Service Members of the District of Columbia National Guard.

I will answer questions honestly, as witnessed through the lens of my 34-year career in the District of Columbia National Guard. I rebuff, in the strongest terms, the insidious insinuation that the District of Columbia National Guard faltered in its duty, that it languished in apathy or incompetence when called upon to safeguard the sanctum of democracy.

Today, I will tell the truth to the best of my recollection, unblemished by falsehoods, and in doing so, exonerate the honor of the brave Soldiers and Airmen who stood unwavering in defense of our nation. May my testimony serve as a testament to the indomitable spirit of those who answered the call of duty on that historic day.