

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

May 13, 2021

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Republican Leader
United States House of Representatives
H-204, Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Leader McCarthy:

National Police Week is a time to reflect on police officers' tireless work to keep us safe. This morning, you said that this "this has been a rough year" for police officers and you "wanted to be with" police officers during this week of recognition.¹ In that spirit, we respectfully request that during National Police Week, you meet with Washington, D.C. Metropolitan Police Officer Michael Fanone, who was seriously injured on January 6, 2021, while defending the United States Capitol against a violent and armed mob. Officer Fanone has made multiple requests to your office that have yet yielded a meeting.

Officer Fanone is a veteran police officer who has dedicated his life to protecting and serving the public. He has served nearly twenty years and currently combats violent crime and narcotics with the First District's Crime Suppression Team. On January 6, Officer Fanone responded to calls for backup at the U.S. Capitol, where police officers were overwhelmed by violent protesters attempting to enter the building. Inside the Capitol, Congress was assembled to certify Americans' votes in the 2020 election. When he arrived, Officer Fanone observed police using their bodies as barricades to hold back the mob. Officer Fanone sprang into action to aid his fellow officers, who were beaten, bloodied, injured, and outnumbered. In a matter of moments, Officer Fanone became both a hero and a victim.

While protecting Members of Congress, our staff, and everyone who works in the Capitol, Officer Fanone was brutally attacked by the mob. He was grabbed by the head, dragged down a staircase, and Tasered in his neck until he suffered a heart attack. The mob attempted to get Officer Fanone's sidearm, and Officer Fanone recalls at least one violent protester shouting, "Kill him with his own gun."² Body camera footage released yesterday shows Officer Fanone lying on the ground pleading, "I got kids," as the mob continued to brutalize him.³

Officer Fanone and the other police officers who put their lives on the line to protect the Capitol from the violent mob on January 6 deserve our gratitude. Many of them suffered physical and mental injuries that may never subside. On May 5, Officer Fanone wrote to every Member of

¹ Kevin McCarthy (@GOPLLeader), Twitter (May 13, 2021, 7:34 A.M. EDT), <https://twitter.com/GOPLLeader/status/1392820667582754824>.

² Peter Hermann, *D.C. Police Officer who Fought Capitol Rioters Pens Letter to Officials: 'The time to fully recognize these Officers actions is NOW!'*, WASH. POST (May 5, 2021, 8:49 P.M. EDT), https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/public-safety/capitol-riot-fanone-police/2021/05/05/1ce0404c-edef-11eb-ab4c-986555a1c511_story.html.

³ Tim Elfrink, *Body-Cam Footage Shows Capitol Rioter Celebrating as D.C. Cop is Beaten and Tasered: 'I Got One'*, WASH. POST (May 13, 2021, 4:55 A.M. EDT), <https://www.washingtonpost.com/nation/2021/05/13/michael-fanone-body-camera-capitol-riot/>.

Congress, describing the trauma he suffered on January 6 and expressing his disappointment that some elected officials have shown indifference toward police officers' experiences that day.

On May 9, at the start of National Police Week, you said that you "will be commemorating the week by sharing stories of officers and their families."⁴ For weeks, Officer Fanone has requested to speak with you. During National Police Week, he again called your office to request a meeting and was hung up on. Officer Fanone has been unable to speak with you or schedule a meeting.

Officer Fanone's story and the experiences of police officers who were attacked at the Capitol on January 6 are worth commemorating. As you have said, "Law enforcement is our essential line of defense in protecting civil society[,] and they deserve Congress's support." During National Police Week, we respectfully request that you honor and support Officer Fanone's request to meet with you about police officers' on-the-ground experiences, injuries, and ongoing suffering from their defense of the U.S. Capitol on January 6, 2021.

Respectfully,



Eric Swalwell
Member of Congress

/s/
Alma Adams
Member of Congress

/s/
Peter Aguilar
Member of Congress

/s/
Nanette Diaz Barragán
Member of Congress

/s/
Earl Blumenauer
Member of Congress

/s/
Jamaal Bowman
Member of Congress

/s/
Brendan F. Boyle
Member of Congress

/s/
Anthony G. Brown
Member of Congress

/s/
Tony Cárdenas
Member of Congress

/s/
Kathy Castor
Member of Congress

/s/
Joaquin Castro
Member of Congress

/s/
David N. Cicilline
Member of Congress

/s/
Katherine Clark
Member of Congress

⁴ Kevin McCarthy, "Honoring National Police Week," May 9, 2021, <https://www.republicanleader.gov/honoring-national-police-week/>.

/s/
Steve Cohen
Member of Congress

/s/
Gerald E. Connolly
Member of Congress

/s/
Jim Cooper
Member of Congress

/s/
J. Luis Correa
Member of Congress

/s/
Jim Costa
Member of Congress

/s/
Madeleine Dean
Member of Congress

/s/
Diana DeGette
Member of Congress

/s/
Rosa L. DeLauro
Member of Congress

/s/
Suzan DelBene
Member of Congress

/s/
Mark DeSaulnier
Member of Congress

/s/
Ted Deutch
Member of Congress

/s/
Mike Doyle
Member of Congress

/s/
Veronica Escobar
Member of Congress

/s/
Adriano Espaillat
Member of Congress

/s/
Dwight Evans
Member of Congress

/s/
Ruben Gallego
Member of Congress

/s/
John Garamendi
Member of Congress

/s/
Sylvia R. Garcia
Member of Congress

/s/
Mary Gay Scanlon
Member of Congress

/s/
Jimmy Gomez
Member of Congress

/s/
Raúl Grijalva
Member of Congress

/s/
Jim Himes
Member of Congress

/s/
Eleanor Holmes Norton
Member of Congress

/s/
Steven Horsford
Member of Congress

/s/
Chrissy Houlahan
Member of Congress

/s/
Jared Huffman
Member of Congress

/s/
Sheila Jackson Lee
Member of Congress

/s/
Pramila Jayapal
Member of Congress

/s/
Hakeem Jeffries
Member of Congress

/s/
Eddie Bernice Johnson
Member of Congress

/s/
Hank Johnson
Member of Congress

/s/
Mondaire Jones
Member of Congress

/s/
Kai Kahele
Member of Congress

/s/
Marcy Kaptur
Member of Congress

/s/
Robin Kelly
Member of Congress

/s/
Ro Khanna
Member of Congress

/s/
Derek Kilmer
Member of Congress

/s/
Raja Krishnamoorthi
Member of Congress

/s/
James R. Langevin
Member of Congress

/s/
John B. Larson
Member of Congress

/s/
Al Lawson
Member of Congress

/s/
Susie Lee
Member of Congress

/s/
Barbara Lee
Member of Congress

/s/
Mike Levin
Member of Congress

/s/
Ted Lieu
Member of Congress

/s/
Zoe Lofgren
Member of Congress

/s/
Alan Lowenthal
Member of Congress

/s/
Tom Malinowski
Member of Congress

/s/
Carolyn B. Maloney
Member of Congress

/s/
Sean Patrick Maloney
Member of Congress

/s/
Kathy Manning
Member of Congress

/s/
A. Donald McEachin
Member of Congress

/s/
James P. McGovern
Member of Congress

/s/
Grace Meng
Member of Congress

/s/
Seth Moulton
Member of Congress

/s/
Stephanie Murphy
Member of Congress

/s/
Jerrold Nadler
Member of Congress

/s/
Joe Neguse
Member of Congress

/s/
Marie Newman
Member of Congress

/s/
Frank Pallone, Jr.
Member of Congress

/s/
Jimmy Panetta
Member of Congress

/s/
Bill Pascrell, Jr.
Member of Congress

/s/
Donald M. Payne, Jr.
Member of Congress

/s/
Ed Perlmutter
Member of Congress

/s/
Scott Peters
Member of Congress

/s/
Stacey E. Plaskett
Member of Congress

/s/
Mark Pocan
Member of Congress

/s/
David Price
Member of Congress

/s/
Mike Quigley
Member of Congress

/s/
Jamie Raskin
Member of Congress

/s/
Deborah K. Ross
Member of Congress

/s/
Lucille Roybal-Allard
Member of Congress

/s/
C.A. Dutch Ruppersberger
Member of Congress

/s/
Linda T. Sánchez
Member of Congress

/s/
John P. Sarbanes
Member of Congress

/s/
Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress

/s/
Adam Schiff
Member of Congress

/s/
Bradley S. Schneider
Member of Congress

/s/
Terri A. Sewell
Member of Congress

/s/
Albio Sires
Member of Congress

/s/
Darren Soto
Member of Congress

/s/
Jackie Speier
Member of Congress

/s/
Marilyn Strickland
Member of Congress

/s/
Mike Thompson
Member of Congress

/s/
Norma J. Torres
Member of Congress

/s/
Lori Trahan
Member of Congress

/s/
David Trone
Member of Congress

/s/
Juan Vargas
Member of Congress

/s/
Nydia M. Velázquez
Member of Congress

/s/
Debbie Wasserman Schulz
Member of Congress

/s/
Bonnie Watson Coleman
Member of Congress

/s/
Peter Welch
Member of Congress

/s/
Frederica S. Wilson
Member of Congress

/s/
John Yarmuth
Member of Congress