

FROM THE DESK OF THE CHIEF

TO BE READ AT ALL ROLL CALLS AND POSTED ON ALL BULLETIN BOARDS

Truth & Justice

Last night an opinion program aired commentary that was filled with offensive and misleading conclusions about the January 6 attack. The opinion program *never* reached out to the Department to provide accurate context.

One false allegation is that our officers helped the rioters and acted as "tour guides." This is outrageous and false. This Department stands by the officers in the video that was shown last night. I don't have to remind you how outnumbered our officers were on January 6. Those officers did their best to use de-escalation tactics to try to talk rioters into getting each other to leave the building.

The program conveniently cherry-picked from the calmer moments of our 41,000 hours of video. The commentary fails to provide context about the chaos and violence that happened before or during these less tense moments.

Finally, the most disturbing accusation from last night was that our late friend and colleague Brian Sicknick's death had nothing to do with his heroic actions on January 6. The Department maintains, as anyone with common sense would, that had Officer Sicknick not fought valiantly for hours on the day he was violently assaulted, Officer Sicknick would not have died the next day.

As some people select from 41,000 hours of video clips that seemingly support the narrative they want to push, those of you who were here on January 6, those of you who were in the fight, those of you who ensured that no Member of Congress was hurt, those of you who contributed to the effort to allow this country's Legislative process to continue know firsthand what actually happened.

You fought like hell on January 6 and risked your lives to protect the Constitution and everything this country stands for. You, along with our law enforcement partners, saved every Member of Congress and their staff.

TV commentary will not record the truth for our history books. The justice system will. The truth and justice are on our side.

J. Thomas Manger Chief of Police

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