

Beat: News

Capitol Police Officer Indicted Hit-And-Run Traffic Crash and Cover-Up

Federal Charges for Officer Thomas Smith

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USPA NEWS - U.S. Capitol Police Officer Thomas Smith has been indicted by a federal grand jury on charges of violating a man's civil rights and for obstructing justice. Smith, 44, is expected to be arraigned on these charges in federal court within the next week.

The indictment alleges that on June 20, 2020, Smith drove his police vehicle in a reckless and dangerous manner and was deliberately indifferent to the risk of harm he created, which resulted in Smith crashing his car into the victim and injuring him. Smith then knowingly drove away from the scene of the crash without rendering aid, alerting medical authorities, and taking any other reasonable steps to obtain help for the victim. Following the crash, Smith falsified U.S. Capitol Police records to cover-up his misconduct.

The indictment was returned yesterday and unsealed today in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia.

Assistant Attorney General Kristen Clarke of the Justice Department's Civil Rights Division, U.S. Attorney Matthew Graves for the District of Columbia and Assistant Director in Charge Steven M. D'Antuono of the FBI Washington Field Office made the announcement.

The case is being investigated by the FBI Washington Field Office and is being prosecuted by Trial Attorney Sanjay Patel of the Civil Rights Division and Assistant U.S. Attorney Kendra Briggs. Assistance in the investigation was provided by the U.S. Capitol Police and the Metropolitan Police Department.

The charges contained in the indictment are merely allegations and the defendants are presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

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Wendy writes for the United States Press Agency and is a former columnist with the Fulton County Expositor, Wauseon, Ohio.

Source: Department of Justice, U.S. Attorney's Office, District of Columbia press release June 3, 2022

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