

# Capitol Police Investigating Possibly Offensive Facebook Activity by Officers

CQPOLITICS

By Bennett Roth, CQ Staff  
Fri Apr 24, 4:57 pm ET

The U.S. Capitol Police has opened an internal investigation into a report that a number of its officers have posted on Facebook material allegedly offensive to women and touting excessive alcohol consumption.

The department received an anonymous complaint that officers participated in two sites on the popular social interaction network, one called "Make-it-Rain Foundation for Underprivileged Hoes," and the other named "Passed Out in Trashcans."

The police's Office of Professional Responsibility has begun a preliminary inquiry into the anonymous complaint, said spokeswoman Sgt. Kimberly Schneider. She said if the probe finds "there is any misconduct the Capitol Police will take appropriate action."

The complaint, which was first reported by the Washington Times, was discussed at a House Appropriations subcommittee hearing April 22 on the fiscal 2010 Capitol Police budget.

At that hearing, Rep. Debbie Wasserman Schultz, D-Fla., the chairwoman of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Subcommittee, questioned Chief Phillip D. Morse about the allegations that employees participated in these Facebook pages.

"She spoke in general about her concern about the judgment of someone who would refer in a manner that would be considered hostile by women," who may work alongside them, said Jonathan Beeton, a spokesman for Wasserman Schultz. Morse told her he would deal with the matter swiftly and seriously if any officers were found to have participated.

Even if the officers took part when they were off-duty, they still could be violating the Capitol Police conduct rules, which require officers to "maintain an exemplary standard of personal integrity and the highest standards of conduct in both their private lives and in their official capacities."

The homepage for the "The Make-it-Rain Foundation for Underprivileged Hoes," states that it is a nonprofit organization, with 1,804 members.

One section says, "Please join our foundation's mission by spreading knowledge and pledging to help make it rain on the hoes in your life and the underprivileged hoes throughout the world." It includes news about a 2007 shooting at a strip club in Las Vegas involving professional football player Adam "Pacman" Jones, who was suspended from the Dallas Cowboys because of his involvement in the incident. The contact information is listed as Lil Wayne's House on Balla Avenue. According to the Washington Times, one of the member profiles included a man who identified himself as a Capitol Police officer while another

had a photograph of a man in a Capitol Police T-shirt and a third one had a man posing outside the Capitol in his police uniform.

The news that the Capitol Police officers might have been joined the site prompted a number of comments to the site. One woman wrote, "Men throwing money at strippers--What were those officers thinking?" Another man asked "Who cares what groups officers are part of REALLY??? The media has nothing better to do with their time."

In March, The Washington Post, citing unidentified sources, reported that the Capitol Police had suspended two officers around the time of Obama's inauguration following allegations that they had consorted while off-duty with felons, in violation of department policy.

---

Copyright © 2009 [Congressional Quarterly Inc.](#)

Copyright © 2009 Yahoo! Inc. All rights reserved. [Questions or Comments](#) [Privacy Policy](#) [Terms of Service](#) [Copyright/IP Policy](#)