Capitol~ police officer EugeneGoodman~ hailed as 'a hero'

A US~ Capitol~ police officer is being called a hero for singlehandedly steering a mob away from the Senate~ chambers during the deadly riots.

Footage of the officer, identified as EugeneGoodman~, shows him just steps ahead of rioters as they chase him up a flight of stairs.

MrGoodman~ is then seen glancing towards the Senate~ entrance before luring the men in the opposite direction.

Five people, including a police officer, died as a result of the riots.

Another officer who was on duty during the siege died by suicide this weekend, his family said.

The show of bravery from MrGoodman~, reportedly an Army~ veteran who spent time in Iraq~, comes amid criticism of Capitol~ Police for apparent security failures during the storming of the Capitol~.

On Monday night, the department said two of its officers had been suspended and more than a dozen others were under investigation for suspected inappropriate involvement with the rioters.

NewYorkLawSchool~ criminal law professor and 20year~ veteran of the NewYorkCityPoliceDepartment~ Kirk Burkhalter called MrGoodman~'s response to rioters "tremendous".

"I don't think there was any type of training that would prepare you for that situation," Mr Burkhalter said.

In the video shot by HuffingtonPost~ reporter IgorBobic~, MrGoodman~, who is black, is antagonised by the group of Trump~ supporters - who are all white men.

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The image of MrGoodman~ trailed by a mob - some armed with Confederate~ flags, others with allusions to the Nazi~ flag - was extremely disturbing, Mr Burkhalter said.

"Police officer, not a police officer, to see a black man being chased by someone carrying a Confederate~ flag - there is something wrong with that picture. That should never happen again," he said.

"It just reeks of everything we need to correct."

Officer Goodman~ has been celebrated by several members of Congress~, with some calling for MrGoodman~ to be awarded the congressional Medal of Honor for his service.

"As Trump~'s fascist mob ransacked the US~ Capitol~, this brave US~CP officer kept murderous rioters away from the Senate~ chamber and saved the lives of those inside," wrote congressman BillPascrell~ on Twitter~.

"Last Wednesday, I was inside the Senate~ chamber when Officer EugeneGoodman~ led an angry mob away from it at great personal risk. His quick thinking and decisive action that day likely saved lives, and we owe him a debt of gratitude," wrote Senator BobCasey~ on Monday.

MrGoodman~'s standoff with the mob came just minutes before authorities were able to seal the chamber, according to reporting from the WashingtonPost~.

Members of the 2000~-person Capitol~ police department are tasked with protecting the Capitol~ building and those inside, it. They are separate from DC~ police, who patrol the rest of the city.

What's happening with US~ Capitol~ Police now?

The chief of the Capitol~ Police, StevenSund~, resigned last week following criticism over his force's response to the riots, including a public call from top Democrat~ NancyPelosi~ for Mr Sund to step down.

Acting US~ Attorney MichaelSherwin~ has said that the JusticeDepartment~ will consider pursuing criminal charges against any Capitol~ police officers found to be complicit with the rioters.

Officer HowardLiebengood~, 51~, who was on duty during the riots, died by suicide on Saturday, his family has said. A lawyer for MrLiebengoods~ family called the 15year~ department veteran's death a "devastating loss".

On Twitter~, Republican~ Senator MittRomney~ said he and his team were "heartbroken" over MrLiebengoods~ death. "Howie~ was a familiar and cheerful presence, and also a friend to me and my staff," Mr Romney~ wrote. "His bravery, kindness, and genuine care for others was deeply felt by all of us who had the privilege of knowing him."

According to CBSNews~, the BBC~'s US~ partner, the Capitol~ police force has responded to a number of incidents of officers threatening to harm themselves after last week's attacks.

Mr Burkhalter said that responsibility for any security breakdowns rests with the department's leadership.

When you get to the place where individual police officers, like Officer Goodman~, have to make decisions on the deployment of resources, the battle has been lost, he said. "It should never have gotten to that point," he said.