

T U E S D A Y , J A

NYPD Brass To Rank And File: Start Writing More Summonses Or Else



This article comes from reason.com

by Jesse Walker

The politics of the police slowdown are now completely scrambled.

On Friday, the New York Police Department publicly acknowledged that a slowdown was underway among the rank and file. Over the weekend, we learned how the bosses were responding to the revolt. According to *The New York Post*,

At precincts across the city, top brass are cracking the whip on summons activity and even barring many cops from taking vacation and sick days, The Post has learned.

Throughout the city, precincts are being ordered to hand up to borough commanders "activity sheets" indicating the number of arrests and summonses per shift, sources told The Post.

"Police officers around the city are now threatened with transfers, no vacation time and sick time unless they write summonses," one union source said....


Bratton's back-to-work edict was still ringing in commanding officers' ears when the crackdown hit cops on the Thursday/Friday overnight shift at the 105th bordering Nassau County, the officer said.

The lieutenant ordered sector cars from throughout the precinct to converge at Springfield Boulevard and Jamaica Avenue for a driver checkpoint, the officer said. No one was to return to the precinct or even take a meal break until two summonses were logged, the officer said.

This whole episode seems to have scrambled everyone's political allegiances. The roots of the slowdown may be police resistance to reform, but that resistance has taken the form of informally enacting one of the most important changes that civil libertarians have been demanding: a severe reduction in the petty harassment of ordinary New Yorkers. It's as though the force had suddenly been infiltrated by the ACLU, or by Oath Keepers with an especially broad understanding of which orders are too unconstitutional to follow. Meanwhile, a lot of the liberals on my Facebook feed have been demanding de Blasio bring the recalcitrant cops to heel; sometimes they even sling around words like "sedition." And if the *Post's* reporting is accurate, the city's supposedly reformist leadership is now responding to the revolt with summons quotas. *Quotas!*

"To have all the manpower utilized for the sole purpose of writing summonses is a very dangerous way to utilize manpower," one police officer told the *Post*. I agree completely. Don't fold now, angry cops! When I see your slowdown, I turn an old cliché on its head: *I disagree with your goals, but I approve of your methods.*



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