

Good afternoon Your Honor,

When I joined the military, I raised my right hand and promised to support and defend our great country at any cost. On January 6, 2021, I rose to the occasion once again as a police officer. I have given half of my life to public service. I'm here today because I wanted to make sure that Mr. Stevens is held accountable for taking part in the violence of that fateful day.

Mr. Stevens' participation was detrimental to me and the other officers attempting to restore order in the Capitol. More than 140 officers were injured – as I was – by the mob of insurrectionists he joined. Mr. Stevens was not peacefully sightseer or a tourist. He was ransacking the Capitol. He tried to disarm me, trying to take my baton, and shoving a 6-foot shield on my chest and head. He was actively blocking and impeding me from doing my job and stopping other rioters who were more violent than he was. Stevens even called me a “pussy” because I refused to stand down as he assaulted me.

Two years ago, Mr. Stevens felt empowered, mighty, and powerful, because he had the mob to help him. He didn't care about his actions or the harm he was doing. Today, he is seeking leniency and sounding remorseful. I don't buy it, and neither should you. He knew what he was doing. Due to his actions as a member of the mob, my family and I have suffered physically, mentally, and financially. I can no longer do the job I loved and trained my whole life for due to my injuries. He changed my life for the worse and I might never fully recover.

Your Honor, I believe that if he were given a second chance, Mr. Stevens would not hesitate to return to the Capitol and again go through multiple layers of security to assault me. The whole country and the world witnessed it live on TV and it was a horrific chaos. I lived through the onslaught as it was happening, and I barely survived it. I still have PTSD, remembering what happened to me and my colleagues that day.

I'm asking you for the maximum years in prison to deter him and others from repeating this crime. Failure to hold Mr. Stevens accountable will result in the likelihood of another January 6 but next time, I won't be there to do what I did to protect everyone. Downplaying what transpired and not holding punishing the violent mob for their roles would make it more likely to recur. Everything my fellow officers and I sacrificed would be in vain. We defended the Capitol, not from a foreign entity, but from fellow Americans who attacked us. As an immigrant who loves America, this still shocks me. If the attack was done by another group, we would have called it as a terrorist attack. Mr. Stevens should receive such sentence for trying to violently overturn U.S. democracy.

Your Honor, it wasn't by chance that all those elected officials and their staff made it out to safety on January 6. They weren't harmed - but not because of the lack of trying by the mob that Mr. Stevens was part of. Officers like me risked our lives to stop people like HIM from threatening, killing, executing, and overthrowing our government. Please don't desecrate the sacrifices I made that day, or the sacrifices of my fellow police officers who died due to the events of that day.

Thank you.

Sincerely,