

CONNECTICUT POLICE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

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March 13, 2019

Finance, Revenue & Bonding Committee General Obligation Bonding Subcommittee Legislative Office Building, Room 3700 Hartford, CT 06106

RE: Connecticut Police Chiefs' Association Endorsement of Bond Fund Request of \$8.9M for the Connecticut Information Sharing System (CISS)

Co-Chairs Moore and Miller, Ranking Members Witkos and Floren, and distinguished members of the General Obligation Bonding Subcommittee: I am writing to you in my capacity as President of the Connecticut Police Chiefs' Association (CPCA), which represents all of the police departments in the State of Connecticut. CPCA and I wholly endorse the approval for the \$8.9 million in bond funds for the CISS.

This funding will enable the completion of the Connecticut Information Sharing System (CISS) being created by the Criminal Justice Information System. Once fully completed, CISS Search and its capabilities will improve the safety of police officers and the public by quickly and easily providing from one location critical information that can be used to improve decision-making at all levels of the state's criminal justice system. For police departments and officers specifically, CISS Workflow's capabilities once implemented significantly increase efficiency and help police spend more time protecting the public. It will do this by replacing the current system where officers must physically deliver paper reports and arrest information to area court houses multiple times a day. This will be done electronically with CISS and help Connecticut move closer to e-Government.

The early arrest information that CISS makes available to the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) alerts the agency when individuals with commercial driver's licenses are arrested for driving under the influence. The DMV is able to immediately suspend these licenses and take potentially dangerous drivers off the road including bus drivers that drive our children.

Additionally, CISS Notifications enables police departments to share information across jurisdictions, something that is not available now. It will enable an officer to create an alert seeking information about a person, an incident, and/or a location. If police in another jurisdiction makes an arrest that in any way relates to the officer's query, a notification will be sent to that officer's email or cell phone text. The information the officer retrieves may help police find a suspect quicker than today, or provide additional intelligence for a case.

One of the ways CISS will help improve officer safety is through the information available to dispatchers. Dispatchers will have immediate access to important information from 14 CJIS source systems that are inter-related about a suspect or location that can be relayed to law enforcement in the field.

Very truly yours,

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