

State of Connecticut Division of Criminal Justice Office of the Chief State's Attorney

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January 8, 2009

The Honorable Gayle Slossberg The Honorable James F. Spallone Co-Chairs, Municipal Ethics Task Force Legislative Office Building Hartford, Connecticut 06106-1591

Dear Senator Slossberg and Representative Spallone:

Thank you for your letter of December 15, 2008, requesting the input of the Division of Criminal Justice regarding the Municipal Ethics Task Force established pursuant to Public Act 07-201.

The Division of Criminal Justice recommended the enactment of legislation requiring all municipalities and special districts to establish an ethics commission and adopt a code of ethics in our 2004 Legislative Recommendations. Specifically, the Division endorsed the concept of LCO No. 73 as heard at a public hearing of the Government Administration and Elections Committee on January 23, 2004.

The Division believes such legislation should provide for the appropriate criminal sanctions in much the same fashion as now provided by the Code of Ethics for state employees and officials. The Division would be happy to review any specific proposals the Task Force has developed defining what constitutes criminal activity and the application of the accompanying criminal sanctions.

In closing, please allow me to commend the Task Force for your continued work in this important area.

Sincerel Kev/in/T/Kane

Chief State's Attorney