

Good Afternoon –

Having served as a police officer in the communities of Brookfield, Roxbury, Lake Lillinonah Authority, and Farmington, CT., I am appalled at the actions of our state legislature to institute "police reform" in the manner that they are. The reforms proposed now, and likely in the future are so off base it is absurd. Flying the Black Lives Matter flag over our Capital was already a slap in the face to the men and women in CT. Law Enforcement. BLM openly supports the murder of police officers. That single action made it very clear that the legislature is out of touch with reality in these matters. The pending legislation is DANGEROUS to our officers and our communities!!!! Want a look at what these disastrous policies will bring to CT, look no further than NYC where police officers do not have the support from their mayor. NYC will not recover from this. The city is changed forever. Would you hop a train into the city right now? How about for the holidays? Nope!. Me neither!.

There are always areas for improvements within our police departments. Better training, Accreditation Standards, and most importantly - Community Based Policing policies that develop trust, not hatred. These are complex issues and need the time and dialog to deploy properly. If not handled correctly it will have immediate consequences in the loss of many experienced officers. This will be irreversible for many years.

Please postpone any actions on police reform until the regular sessions begin and clear dialog can take place that will make reform a win-win for our police officers and the communities that they serve!!

Respectfully,

Mike F