

July 17, 2019

Email to: [JUDtestimony@cga.ct.gov](mailto:JUDtestimony@cga.ct.gov)

Testimony on Draft LCO#3471:

My name is Donna Rockhill and I reside at 59 Colonial Dr in North Branford. As a life long law enforcement family member in our State I urge you to protect our current and future officers and retain their qualified immunity. This is critical to all future public safety needs by every one of us in this State. We ask and expect enormous risks of our police officers. Qualified immunity does not protect officers who have committed a crime when sued regarding that crime. It however protects them from frivolous lawsuits while performing their job duties as departmental policy dictates and as they have been trained to do. Our officers make split second decisions that have the potential to save lives, they don't have the luxury of time to determine if the public will consider any use of force justified. We owe them our support as they protect us to the best of their abilities.

I am also concerned about requiring officers to wear their name tag on their outermost clothing given the current climate of anti-police sentiment. Their badge number would be sufficient to identify someone if the need arises. This would also make it more difficult for the public to target and harass the families of law enforcement officers.

As far as eliminating the use of and procurement of 'military type equipment', losing the use of this equipment puts the public as well as the officers in possible danger. Military equipment has been utilized to protect the public and the officers in hostage situations as well as terroristic attacks and active shooter situations. For example, on May 2, 2018, when a house in North Haven was intentionally rigged with explosives by a man who had held his wife hostage, several officers were injured but the damage could have been much worse without the use of military protective equipment.

Please offer all current and future law enforcement officers your support and deny the passage of this sickening proposed bill.

Thank you