

To the members of the Judiciary Committee, and all in the Ct General Assembly:

As I write this, I am watching the video of a bloody 'top cop' in New York City being clubbed over the head by a 'peaceful protester.' This follows another video of baseball bats and clubs being distributed to 'peaceful protesters.' What is clear to me is that violence AGAINST police must be punished much more severely, and should be included in any criminal justice reform or police accountability bill. I say this not just in defense of the police, but also in defense of the growing number of murder victims, killed as a direct result of the lawlessness unleashed in the name of 'criminal justice reform.'

I would like to state the obvious:

The number one concern of the police should be the safety and security of the people they serve, not political, ideological, economic or social agendas.

Every elected official at every level of government must make an affirmative statement that the rights of law abiding citizens ALWAYS take precedence over the rights of those who commit crimes.

I was shocked and angered by the murder of George Floyd. But I am equally shocked and angered by the shootings of hundreds and murders of dozens that have happened, after the George Floyd protests started.

Even prior to the murder of George Floyd, the police have been under direct assault, included being murdered, by criminals who what to commit rape, robbery, and murder, looting, and arson, free of any consequences.

It is not the responsibility of the police to educate every child, cure every illness, improve the quality of housing, or any other laudable public goal. Their responsibility is to insure the safety and security of everyone, from the young child to the single Mom to the senior citizen, by enforcing the law and arresting those who break the law. Those who say we must choose between funding the police or funding these other laudable goals offer a false choice. Defunding the police will only lead to violence and death, and the money shifted to other priorities will accomplish nothing.

If it is wrong for the police to profile citizens, it is even more wrong for elected officials to profile the police – by claiming, in effect, all police are cut from the same cloth as the one that killed George Floyd.

All around this country, violence, bloodshed, including the murder of children, has escalated, as a direct result of 'social justice' advocates seeking to handcuff the police.

If the Connecticut General Assembly makes it impossible for police to enforce laws that prohibit violent crime, violent crime - cynically labeled 'peaceful protest' by the violent criminals, will claim the lives of many, and you will share in the blame.

Finally, it should be the goal of every elected official, to bring about a society that reflects Dr. King's Dream: Judge people by the content of their character, not the color of their skin.

Or to quote the Old Testament:

[Leviticus 19:15 \(NLT\)](#) "Do not twist justice in legal matters by favoring the poor or being partial to the rich and powerful. Always judge people fairly.

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