

RE: LCO #3471

Dear State representatives and elected officials,

I firmly support responsible police reform, which also includes bringing our community together, justice for all and fairness in the justice system. Items like mandatory body cameras and dash cam videos, increased training and mental health support. A citizens review board that serves to provide input to the mayor, police chiefs and states attorney. Additionally, partnering with experts in psychology, substance abuse, homeless advocates and parole/probation experts, which by the way is already taking place in police departments like Waterbury. I am an advocate for all of that and will join you in the efforts to support and drive this.

However, I cannot support LCO#3471 and in the strongest possible way asking you to vote **NO** on this bill, as it does irreparable damage to police in CT and the safety of our citizens. Additionally, I am bothered that the normal legislative process is being circumvented, using Covid, as a way to get this bill through by refusing to explore the bill prior to making it a law. Your efforts to make this a law then explore it are dangerous and an abuse of power.

Writing legislation without adhering to facts is also disheartening, as I've seen reference in the bill narrative to Minneapolis, Ferguson ( where Michale Brown attacked the police officer and grabbed his gun prior to being shot) and a reference to five people being shot in CT in five years, yet there was no reference to the circumstances of the shootings nor that race was not a factor.

The three main issues with this bill, which are so dangerous to us as citizens are:

1. Ending Qualified Immunity- Ending this would put all officers who act under the color of the law at risk. They'd be subject to personally defending themselves against a
2. Post Certification - Post currently is a board of police chiefs or states attorneys. Expanding this board to include civilians or mental health workers, as well as people or
3. Changing Reasonable Standard of Force to Justified after an investigation - This is an area where you are now putting officers' lives at risk and not allowing them to do

a. For example, if an officer responds to a domestic and the man is beating up his wife as officers arrive. Then during the process the man pulls out a gun and yells

I will stand by you in support of responsible reform, I will advocate and I will help you in any way pass responsible reform. But this bill is highly irresponsible and dangerous. It puts our police at great risk, will end up causing them to quit and be unable to recruit. It will put CT residents in great danger as we are witnessing across the country where they made knee jerk reactions to limit police and are now begging for their return and it is the opposite of responsible reform. We need our state representatives to be advocates for all of CT, and this bill is failing us in that regard.

Thank you,

Greg Davis  
Danbury, CT

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPad](#)