

Dear Connecticut Legislators,

My name is Sneha Jayaraj and I am a Connecticut resident. I am writing to share my support for “An Act Concerning Police Accountability.”

I’ve been through a horrible situation with the Hartford Police Department, where police officers, specifically Kevin Small and Joseph Cullen, have both gotten a training required for violating multiple codes of ethics. Officers never get any sort of repercussions and never get held accountable for them **abusing their powers, attacking women, actively showing their anti-Blackness and supporting rape culture.**

Specifically, I am writing to support the following:

- Granting power that allows municipalities to establish Civilian Review Boards with Subpoena powers.
- Outlawing police searches without probable cause, even if the person consents to the search
- Outlawing police offers from asking for any documents (such as green cards, other immigration documents) other than a driver's license from people they pull-over during traffic stops
- Mandating a duty to intervene if a police officer witnesses another officer using excessive or illegal use-of-force
- Ending qualified immunity for officers who violate people’s civil rights
- Banning stop-and-frisk in Connecticut
- The demilitarization of Connecticut police departments, including the disposal of all military equipment currently held by police departments
- The requirement for police officers to prominently display their badge

I also want to highlight the components of the bill I disagree with, which include:

- Increasing funding for police departments, whether municipal or state.
- Possibly adding social workers to police departments. Social workers should be used for certain emergency/mental health calls but they should not work under police departments
- The overrepresentation of police officers and politicians on the Police Officer Standards and Training Council. They make up 12/20 of the Council’s membership. This council should be dominated by civilians not politicians or police officers.

Thank you for your time.

Best,  
Sneha Jayaraj