



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
JUDICIAL BRANCH**

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS DIVISION

231 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, Connecticut 06106
(860) 757-2270 Fax (860) 757-2215

**Testimony of Deborah J. Fuller
Judiciary Committee
March 13, 2006**

Senate Bill 443, An Act Concerning Domestic Violence

Good morning. My name is Deborah Fuller and I appear before you today on behalf of the Judicial Branch to testify on **Senate Bill 443, An Act Concerning Domestic Violence**. I will confine my comments to section 1 of the proposal.

The Judicial Branch participated in the working group that crafted this proposal and we believe that it sets out an appropriate process for addressing the issue of protection for victims of domestic violence during that time after arrest, but before the defendant's court appearance. However, we would respectfully request that the bill be amended to clarify the duration of the conditions of release imposed by the police, and would suggest that language be added to specify that such conditions remain in effect until 5:00 p.m. on the next regularly scheduled court date. This will allow an opportunity for the defendant to appear before a judge, who, after receiving input from all parties and the Judicial Branch's family relations counselors, can issue the appropriate protection orders. It will also ensure that there will not be two, perhaps inconsistent, sets of conditions of release in effect.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.