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April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2007

Testimony April 10<sup>th</sup> 2007

Re: Support of HB 6901

Dear Honorable Law Maker

I am writing this letter to share with you my experience with gun violence in New Haven. One day last summer, my son asked me to take him and his friend to the store from ice cream. When we came back from the store, the street where my son's friend lived was taped off. There had been a shooting. There was a caravan of bicyclist who came through the neighborhood on bicycles and shot a young man who was visiting another neighbor. My son and his friend look terrified and question, as to what if they were outside playing. It happened to be a beautiful summer day, and the chances of he and his friend playing in the neighborhood was likely.

As more shooting randomly happened around us with a three block radius my son has grown more and more concerned about the violence. He attended Wexler Grant Community School when a 13 year old girl Juanna Coleman was shot on summer night outside of her home. He and I were walking down the street talking about the city we moved too. I was telling him I liked the city due to the restaurants and all the activities that the city offers its residents. My son looked at me and said "Mommy, but the violence". I assured him it was going to get better. He said to me, " Mommy you're going to make it better? I replied to him," yes. "

I am here on behalf of my son. As a his representative I am in support of the bill HB 6901 where gun owners have to report lost or stolen fire arms to authorities. This is our way of keeping illegal guns off the streets of Connecticut and hopefully out the hands of children and any one with deadly intentions.

Sincerely,

Sheneane Ragin  
Parent