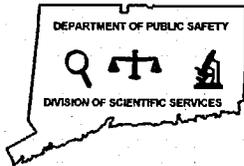




STATE OF CONNECTICUT



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

John A. Danaher III
Commissioner

Lieutenant Edwin S. Henion
Chief of Staff

Rep. Michael P. Lawlor, Co-Chairman
Sen. Andrew J. McDonald, Co-Chairman
Judiciary Committee
Legislative Office Building
Hartford, CT 06106

April 10, 2007

SB 904 AN ACT REQUIRING FIREARM DEALERS TO REPORT LOST OR STOLEN FIREARMS

The Department of Public Safety supports this bill.

The intent of this bill is to require any person who holds a permit to sell at retail a pistol or revolver that is stolen or lost to report such theft or loss to law enforcement authorities not later than seventy-two hours after such person knew or should have known of the theft or loss.

Under the domestic violence protocol set forth in CGS Sec. 29-36k, persons that are ineligible to possess firearms must legally transfer the firearm within two business days after the occurrence of any event that makes a person ineligible to possess the firearm.

While conducting investigations regarding the domestic violence protocol, individuals have told law enforcement authorities that their firearm was stolen but they never filed a report. The Firearms Task Force has also conducted investigations regarding multiple purchases of firearms (straw purchases which may be made for the illegal purpose of transferring the weapons to ineligible persons) in which the individuals making the purchases have claimed that the firearms were stolen. In both of these circumstances, unless the individuals are caught with the firearm, the case is closed.

This bill will increase the efficiency of the law enforcement authorities conducting investigations regarding these cases. It will also help to protect victims of domestic violence.

Sincerely,

John A. Danaher III
ACTING COMMISSIONER