



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
JUDICIAL BRANCH**

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS DIVISION

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**Testimony of Judge William J. Lavery
Judiciary Committee Public Hearing
April 9, 2007**

**House Bill 7428, An Act Concerning the Norwich Courthouse and State
Marshals and Sheriffs**

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony on **House Bill 7428, An Act Concerning the Norwich Courthouse and State Marshals and Sheriffs.**

The Judicial Branch is opposed to section 1 of this proposal, which would require that the Superior Court courthouse in Norwich shall be named the "Milton L. Jacobson Courthouse." We are opposed because the Branch does not believe that courthouses should be named after individuals. While we are cognizant of the fact that three of our courthouses have been named after individuals, the time has come to stop this practice before it becomes a trend. It leads to political pressure and lobbying in an area where it is simply not appropriate.

In conclusion, I urge the Committee to delete section 1 of this proposal, should this bill be acted upon favorably.

Thank you.