State of Connecticut

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Testimony of
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Raised Bill No. 5528
An Act Concerning the Freedom of Information Act

Judiciary Committee
March 3, 2008 – Public Hearing

The Office of Chief Public Defender does not support Section 4 of this proposed legislation as it would remove the nondisclosure protections which exist. **C.G.S. §1-217, Nondisclosure of Residential Addresses of Certain Individuals**, currently provides that the residential addresses of certain persons, including attorneys and social workers employed by the Division of Public Defender Services, may not be disclosed pursuant to the Freedom of Information statutes. The bill, as drafted, would eliminate this non-disclosure provision. This office has testified previously in regard to the risks, real and threatened, that attorneys and other personnel of the Division of Public Defender Services have been subjected to while in the scope of their employment. The Office of Chief Public Defender is concerned that allowing the disclosure of the residential addresses of these employees may place such employees at greater risk.

Therefore, the Office of Chief Public Defender would urge rejection of Section 4 of this proposed legislation.