



CONNECTICUT INNOCENCE PROJECT

State of Connecticut

DIVISION OF PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICES

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TESTIMONY OF KAREN A. GOODROW, DIRECTOR, CONNECTICUT INNOCENCE PROJECT

Raised S.B. No. 348

An Act Concerning the Videotaping of Custodial Interrogations

**Public Hearing before the Judiciary Committee
March 24, 2009**

As in years past, this office supports electronic recording of interrogations as proposed in **Raised Bill No. 348, An Act Concerning the Videotaping of Custodial Interrogations**. We believe that this is critical to ensure that the process by which interrogations are conducted is fair and will enhance the truthfulness and accuracy of statements that are given as a result of that process. Our understanding is that the Division of Criminal Justice is currently undertaking a pilot program with respect to the electronic recording of interrogations and we encourage and support that effort. We understand that the response by law enforcement to the pilot program has been overwhelmingly positive. We urge the codification of videotaping of interrogations in order to insure universal and consistent reform to enhance the reliability, truthfulness and accuracy of interrogations.