



# CONNECTICUT POLICE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

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Testimony to the Judiciary Committee

March 24, 2009

Chiefs Anthony Salvatore & James Strillacci, Connecticut Police Chiefs Association

Good Afternoon Members of the Judiciary Committee. We are here to testify on a number of pieces of legislation as outlined below:

**Committee Bill No. 348, AN ACT CONCERNING THE VIDEOTAPING OF CUSTODIAL INTERROGATIONS**, at this time the Connecticut Police Chiefs Association (CPCA) is opposed to this piece of legislation. Presently, there are a number of pilot programs being conducted around the state. The CPCA feels that it would be premature to pass this legislation without benefit of the data and information gained from these programs. By adopting this legislation without looking at the pilot programs that are presently in operation is a waste of valuable resources as well as taxpayers dollars that are funding the programs.

**Committee Bill No. 349, AN ACT CONCERNING THE PENALTY FOR POSSESSION OF A SMALL AMOUNT OF MARIJUANA**. CPCA presently is opposed to this piece of legislation. However, if this bill was to move forward CPCA requests that under the law, that law enforcement personnel still retain the right to search a person, place or thing, as presently legally allowed.

**Committee Bill No. 357, AN ACT CONCERNING EYEWITNESS IDENTIFICATION**. The CPCA does not oppose this piece of legislation.

**Committee Bill No. 6173, AN ACT CONCERNING PAWNBROKERS**. The CPCA opposes this piece of legislation, at this time in support of **Substitute Bill 6159**. An act concerning pawnbrokers, precious metal and stone dealers and the recovery of stolen jewelry and precious metals and stones. While 6173 does offer some improvements we are concerned with regards to a number of the changes that affect the local Chief of Police, as well as the collection and distribution of data. Our association would be happy to work with the Bill's sponsors to draft legislation that would be beneficial to law enforcement and the citizens we serve.