



State of Connecticut  
DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE

**Testimony of the Division of Criminal Justice  
Joint Committee on Judiciary**

**March 16, 2012**

**In Support of:**

**S.B. No. 367: An Act Concerning Public Indecency in a Correctional Institution**

**H.B. No. 5501: An Act Concerning Eyewitness Identification Procedures**

The Division of Criminal Justice respectfully recommends the Committee's JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT for S.B. No. 367, An Act Concerning Public Indecency in a Correctional Institution, and H.B. No. 5501, An Act Concerning Eyewitness Identification Procedures.

The Division of Criminal Justice assisted the Department of Correction (DOC) in drafting the language of S.B. No. 367. The bill establishes the crime of Public Indecency in a Correctional Institution, providing an appropriate means for addressing legitimate concerns of the DOC and its employees.

H.B. No. 5501, An Act Concerning Eyewitness Identification Procedures, is the end product of a process that began last year with the passage of Public Act 11-252, An Act Concerning Eyewitness Identification. Among other provisions the act established the task force that drafted H.B. No. 5501. The Division of Criminal Justice participated in the task force and wishes to extend its gratitude to the other members, including Justice David M. Borden as Chair, for their thoughtful consideration and deliberation of the issues presented.

H.B. No. 5501 establishes reasonable guidelines and procedures governing the eyewitness identification procedures used by Connecticut law enforcement in the course of criminal investigations. The bill is an effort to have these procedures reflect "best practices" and the what the task force learned through its review of the scientific studies of eyewitness identification issues. It is important to note that the bill places the primary responsibility for establishing best practices with the Police Officer Standards and Training Council (POST) in the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection. This is consistent with the Division's longstanding position that law enforcement professionals should have primary responsibility for determining what constitutes best practices with regard to law enforcement practices and procedures.