



**Connecticut
Racial
Profiling
Prohibition
Project
Advisory
Board**

www.ctrp3.org

Honorable William
Dyson, Co-Chair

Dr. John DeCarlo, Co-
Chair

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TESTIMONY

RAISED BILL NO. 6663

*AN ACT CONCERNING COMPLAINTS ALLEGING MISCONDUCT BY LAW
ENFORCEMENT AGENCY PERSONNEL*

By Hon. William Dyson and Dr. John DeCarlo
Connecticut Racial Profiling Project Advisory Board Co-Chairs

Good morning Senator Coleman, Representative Fox, Senator Kissel,
Representative Rebimbas and members of the Judiciary Committee.

As co-chairs of the Racial Profiling Prohibition advisory board, we are
here to testify on behalf of the advisory board regarding House Bill
6663, *AN ACT CONCERNING COMPLAINTS ALLEGING MISCONDUCT BY
LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY PERSONNEL*.

In 2012, the Connecticut General Assembly enhanced the Alvin W.
Penn Act to address racial profiling concerns in Connecticut.
Specifically, the legislature modified the reporting requirements of
traffic stop information, while simultaneously establishing the Racial
Profiling Prohibition Advisory Board. The advisory board works in
consultation with the Office of Policy and Management and the
Institute for Municipal and Regional Policy to design a system to
implement Public Act 12-74.

Over the past eleven months, through a grant made available by the
Connecticut Department of Transportation and the National Highway
Safety Administration, the advisory board has worked to establish
standardized methods for the collection and analysis of traffic stop
information. Additionally, the grant supports the advisory board's
efforts to train law enforcement personnel and engage the public as
the project evolves.

The advisory board consists of 26 members including the Departments
of Public Safety, Transportation, and Motor Vehicle, the African
American, Latino and Puerto Rican, and Asian Pacific Affairs
Commissions, Chief State's Attorney, Office of the Public Defender,
Connecticut Police Chiefs Association, Commission on Human Rights
and Opportunities, American Civil Liberties Union, National Association
for the Advancement of Colored People, Central Connecticut State
University, the University of New Haven, and other law enforcement
members.

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H.B. 6663 establishes a protocol for the collection and review of citizen complaints. Some of the concepts in the bill are very likely to be considered by the advisory board in the near future. Addressing the citizen complaint process is a priority of the advisory board. While the advisory board has not specifically taken up this bill for discussion and therefore has no official position on it, we are aware that some of our members may be testifying on provisions in the bill. The advisory board will be reviewing the legislation and other related concepts before it formalizes its recommendations.

In particular, the advisory board has been working to implement the provisions in Public Act 12-74 that improve the complaint process for citizens that feel they have been racially profiled. Focus has been given to the development of a best practice policy for how departments should handle profiling complaints. The advisory board is also developing a standardized method for reporting and investigating complaints of profiling to be used by all police agencies in Connecticut. A process for filing complaints will also include a review of each complaint and the department's handling of the complaint by the Chief State's Attorney. Citizens will have ready access to information regarding the complaint process on the OPM website.

We look forward to being a resource for the committee and will continue working to address the citizen complaint process and keeping the committee informed of our progress.