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To Whom It May Concern:

This correspondence with the information and content contained herein will indicate my support for your efforts to support bill 6009 for the State of Connecticut. It has become apparent that with the multitude of attacks, surpassing fifteen documented multiple death events that the nations Police Department must be prepared as these violent acts have only proliferated at a time that the economy has been challenged, Police Department manpower has been decreased and the challenges of an electronically advanced age have necessitated a tactical change.

Subsequent to the tragedy at Columbine it was clear that Police Departments, Law Enforcement and the Criminal Justice system must make a change. At Columbine it was clear that the SWAT and or Tactical protocols that had existed were not suited for the newest threat, the "Active Shooter". In order to effect change a challenge was clear to Law Enforcement and hence training was developed on a scale that was not broad based yet varied from Department to Sheriff's Office's, small town to large and medium size cities.

In Connecticut, in order to facilitate the proper response and to save lives, deter if possible the emotionally disturbed, and meet the committed terrorist threat a uniform and trained response is imperative. A response that we had adapted when I had served as the Assistant Chief and then Chief of Police, City of Stamford, Connecticut may be modified for use with geographical considerations however a benchmark for stopping the "Active Shooter".

Training is the imperative and the initiative of incorporating training in the State of Connecticut with mandatory training hours is one part of the answer to a call to action. There are others that are pertinent also. Many subjects are taught as part of the mandatory training program however they may be somewhat repetitive and with the current state of danger, violence and the threat of more violence, a broad based communications system that has a model of response may be a starting point.

My support for the program that is a model training program and includes an already early warning computer program for schools is an extension not only of a Law Enforcement Administrations point of view it is that of a parent.

Respectfully

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Robert Nivakoff'. The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Robert Nivakoff
Chief of Police
City of Stamford Police Department
(Retired)