



ONE STANDARD OF JUSTICE

Helping to restore human dignity and constitutional rights to approximately 5,500 CT citizens.

No one should be on a public registry

**TESTIMONY OF
ONE STANDARD OF JUSTICE, INC
SUBMITTED TO
THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE
March 24, 2019**

To the Co-Chairs Senator Winfield, Representative Stafstrom and Members of the Committee on the Judiciary: Testimony SUPPORTING Governor's Bill 880: AAC INCREASING FAIRNESS AND TRANSPARENCY IN THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM.

My name is Andrew Osmun, and I am a member of One Standard of Justice, Inc. I am writing to support this bill because of the importance of accurate data such as will be gathered should this bill become law.

One Standard of Justice, Inc. has worked to bring science into the conversation about sexual offenses because the general public has been marinated in the moral panic which ignores the data and views persons who have committed a sexual offense as all the same: predatory, likely to reoffend due to the factually unsubstantiated 'frightening and high' statement the United States supreme court unleashed on the criminal justice system and the highly suggestible public.

Our statistics, which we have presented to you on numerous occasions demonstrates the importance of having accurate information as the basis of policy. Otherwise we simply duplicate our prejudice and erroneous attitudes and ideas. This done to our shame, and the damage to persons who cannot defend themselves against these myths because they are so deeply rooted in the society, whose anxiety and fear is nurtured by media and vigilante attitudes.

This said, the data proposed in this bill can only improve the understanding of how the laws of the State of Connecticut impact the people of Connecticut. This in turn will enable fact based reforms to make ours a safer state, a more humane state, a more just state, and improve the outcomes not only for those persons who are incarcerated, but the whole state.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of Governor's Bill 880.