

Name: Laura Bryll

Title:

Organization or Agency:

Topic: Meeting Date Not Listed

NA

Testimony:

I am writing to express my wholehearted support for Ms. Carpenter's candidacy for the inaugural position of Correction Ombudsperson. Over the past decade, I have had the privilege of practicing criminal law alongside Ms. Carpenter, and her unwavering commitment, compassionate advocacy, and legal expertise make her the ideal candidate for this crucial role.

Ms. Carpenter's dedication to promoting and safeguarding the health, safety, welfare, and legal rights of individuals within DOC facilities and on parole is unparalleled. Her extensive experience as a criminal defense lawyer and her continued support for clients even after transitioning between different offices showcase her genuine care for the well-being of those she represents. Unlike many, she views her work as a calling rather than just a job. Of her many accomplishments, those I admire most are how she persistently worked towards the abolition of the death penalty, her fearless litigation in jury trials, and recognizing the humanity in every individual.

In an environment where incarcerated individuals and those on parole often struggle to have their voices heard, Ms. Carpenter stands out as a creative thinker and problem solver. She consistently thinks outside the box and believes in finding positive and productive solutions to challenges faced by this population. As Correction Ombudsperson, I am confident that Ms. Carpenter will serve as a dedicated advocate and mediator, ensuring that issues are not only addressed but resolved with fairness and understanding.

Ms. Carpenter's extensive legal knowledge and curiosity about the law, evident in both her professional and personal life, make her a valuable asset. I had the pleasure of collaborating with her on a case, where she fearlessly tackled an issue previously unlitigated, prevailing and ultimately protecting the constitutional rights of people all over our state. Her willingness to challenge the status quo to protect people's rights demonstrates her unwavering commitment to justice.

In her current role, Ms. Carpenter has already been actively involved in correctional facilities, examining conditions, reviewing policies, and advocating for the best interests of those in DOC custody. This experience, coupled with her exemplary work ethic, assures me that she will set a high standard for the Correction Ombudsperson position.

If selected, Ms. Carpenter will undoubtedly contribute to the State of Connecticut's benefit. Her exceptional communication skills will facilitate effective education and advocacy, ensuring that the Governor, legislature, other government agencies, and the public are well-informed. Her strong writing abilities will be instrumental in creating well-researched reports, recommendations, and proposed legislative or regulatory reforms.

Ms. Carpenter's candidacy represents a natural evolution in her calling as an advocate for the people. The State of Connecticut would be fortunate to have her in service as Correction Ombudsperson. I wholeheartedly recommend her for this critical role.