

Good evening, my name is Neil Connors. I'm an attorney and a city council member in New Britain. I'm here to support Attorney Krayske for appointment as Correction Advisory Committee ombudsman.

I have been lucky enough to know Ken as a mentor and friend for over 10 years. In the time I've known him Ken he has never strayed from independent advocacy and litigation on behalf of those who've been wrongfully injured or harmed by the justice system.

Ken can handle the volume of complaints that are sure to come. I've seen him carefully review hundreds of incoming letters from incarcerated people with care and attention to the details of each.

Ken can be the independent voice and work collaboratively with his DOC counterparts. Ken fights nonstop for blue collar and hardworking people, and would be compassionate and responsive to the issues facing DOC personnell.

Ken will engage in raising public awareness and education. He's done so around a multitude of issues, including my favorite, when folks didn't have a safe way to bike across the street on Flower Street, he took it all the way to the CT Supreme Court.

Ken has the experience to spot systemic failures or issues and has a proven track record of working relentlessly on such issues, for instance the hepatitis c vaccination.

I've seen Ken take on case after case related to medical treatment, neglect, misconduct and all other kinds of harms suffered by incarcerated people. Ken did not take on a client or project or job unless it also promoted the cause of truth, justice or transparency.

Ken will maintain the independence needed to perform the duties of the ombudsman. Ken's unrelenting commitment to speaking the truth is an intrinsic characteristic of his personality. As a former journalist Ken has a commitment to truth even when it's inconvenient.

Ken has hired and managed staff before, has produced innumerable reports under deadlines for complex cases involving similar or the same data which the ombudsman is charged with reporting.

Ken is organized and effective and will do well in promoting the health safety welfare and rights of incarcerated people. He deeply cares about the safety and rights of incarcerated people - I've seen, it personally affects him - if given the chance he will be a great independent ombudsman who will go above and beyond while maintaining the necessary independence to carry out the duties of ombudsman.

Thank you

Attorney Neil Connors