

Bipartisan Task Force on Children's Safety & Gun Violence Protection Gun Violence Prevention Sub-Committee State of Connecticut

RE: Written Public Testimony for 1/28/2013 Hearing

Dear Gun Violence Prevention Working Group Representatives,

My wife and I are responsible legal gun owners who enjoy target shooting. We both possess CT Pistol Permits. We are not and never have been criminals. Some of the proposed legislation that you will be asked to vote on may well legislatively create tens of thousands of felons. Let's face facts. The repeal of the death penalty and the initiation of "early release" have actually made all of us less safe. The systematic closing of mental health facilities and budget cuts for mental health treatment have not been in the best interest of Connecticut voters and taxpayers.

While I understand the need to "do something" in the wake of the Newtown tragedy, the legislative response should clearly not unduly punish those of us who have followed all the rules, been through background checks, obtained the appropriate training and certification. If the legislature is not willing to keep violent criminals incarcerated, why would it choose to create an entire new class of criminals? We are the good guys. We are asking you to use common sense and factual information when you consider the proposed bills that you will be asked to vote on.

Thank you for your consideration.

Bill Crowley
2 Raffi Dr
Plainville, CT 06062

(860) 670-8709