

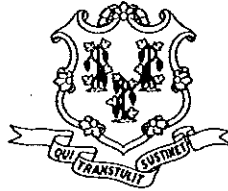
# The Connecticut General Assembly

## Task Force on Victim Privacy and the Public's Right to Know

Co-Chairs:

Rep. Angel Arce, State Representative, Hartford

Don DeCesare, President and General Manager of  
WLIS-AM in Old Saybrook  
and WMRD-AM in Middletown



Legislative Office Building, Room 2200  
Hartford, CT 06106

Phone: (860) 240-8517

Fax: (860) 240-8429

Email: VPPR@cga.ct.gov

Wednesday, November 13, 2013, 11:00 am, Legislative Office Building, Room 1C Meeting of:

Task Force on Victim Privacy and The Public's Right to Know

Members Present: Rep. Angel Arce, Co-Chair; Don DeCesare, Co-Chair; Garvin Ambrose; Reuben Bradford; Sen. Eric Coleman; Klarm DePalma; William Dunlap; Sen. Len Fasano; Kevin Kane; Antoinette Webster (associate of Commissioner Bradford); Brian Koonz; Jodie Mozder-Gil; Colleen Murphy; Jim Smith; Andrew Woods

Members Absent: Rep. Debra Lee Hovey; Jillian Knox; Susan Storey

- I. Co-Chair DeCesare called meeting to order at 11:10 am. Made service announcements re: safety procedures.

Co-Chair Angel Arce offered congratulations to Committee Clerk Ken Neal on his marriage to Kasia the preceding day. Members joined in applause.

Approval of minutes of previous meeting of October 30, 2013, with 2 corrections: spelling of Garvin Ambrose and Mr. Sherlach. Motion to approve by Sen. Fasano; seconded by Mr. DePalma; approved.

Co-Chair DeCesare directed attention of members to several pieces of correspondence from the public.

Discussion of meeting dates. It was moved to keep date of next meeting on November 27, 2013 despite proximity to Thanksgiving, but will begin meeting earlier at 9:30 am to allow for early travel home. Motion by Mr. Koonz; seconded by Atty. Kevin Kane; approved.

Following meeting date planned for December 11, 2013 at 11:00 am.

Upon suggestion of Sen. Fasano, a double meeting is planned with a possible date of Tuesday, December 17, 2013 to begin at 9:30 am, break for lunch, and continue in the afternoon. Date will be voted on at next meeting.

Mr. Ambrose questioned whether proxy voting is allowed. Chair DeCesare responded that it is not. Only members present may vote.

Atty. Sullivan asked whether voting can be done by email. Atty. Shammon McCarthy from LCO responded that it cannot. Discussion followed re: proxy and/or email voting. Motion made by Mr. Ambrose, seconded by Atty. Kane to allow proxy or email voting.

Atty. Mozder-Gil suggested that one meeting date needs to be chosen when all members can be present. Atty. Kane, Sen. Fasano and Professor Dunlap expressed comfort with proxy voting. Rep. Arce stated that all members should be present for a vote. He also offered that proxies for individual votes could be acceptable, but regarding vote on the final Task Force report, all members need to vote in person.

Atty. Ambrose called for a vote as proposed by Rep. Arce to allow proxy votes for individual issues, but not on the final report vote all members must be present in order to vote. Motion passed, with 2 opposing votes; Mr. Smith and Chair DeCesare.

Atty. Ambrose then moved that an absent member appoint another member to cast a proxy vote. Seconded by Atty. Murphy, Sen. Fasano offered a friendly amendment, accepted by Atty. Ambrose and Murphy that a new rule re: proxy should go into effect at next meeting.

Mr. Smith expressed concern that so much time was being taken up with procedural discussion when there are more substantial issues to discuss. Vote on motion; approved on an 8-5 vote.

II. Discussion followed on how long records are kept and what is their availability.

Motion made by Mr. Smith; seconded by Atty. Mozder-Gil that final Task Force report including appendices and CTN Cd's be archived for as long as possible. Motion approved with Atty. Ambrose abstaining.

III. Discussion on motion and amendments from meeting of October 2, 2013.

Email from Atty. Susan Storey read by Chair DeCesare reflecting need to release information in criminal and delinquency cases.

For purpose of discussion, Atty. Ambrose opted to take original motion off table; Mr. Koonz seconded motion; approved.

IV. Discussion opened by Atty. Mozder-Gil to lower age from 18 to 13; seconded by Atty. Murphy.

Further discussion re: not identifying witness who has not attained age of 13 until reached age of 18.

Comments by members: Smith, Murphy, Coleman and Attys. Sullivan and Webster. Sen. Fasano implored members to protect minors who are in fear of retribution.

Comments by: Mr. Koonz, Atty. Mozder-Gil, Webster, Kane, Sullivan. Rep. Arce spoke strongly about fear of inner city youth to report any crime because of justified fear of retribution.

Atty. Ambrose called question; seconded by Atty. Kane. Roll call ordered. Motion passed 11-3.

Motion to reduce age to 13; vote by roll call; 7-7; motion does not pass.

Professor Dunlap offered motion that age should be set at 18, but after witness reached age 18 his or her identification can be released. Discussion followed, comments by: Sullivan, Kane and Smith.

Professor streamlined motion to read: "The identification of a witness who has not attained the age of 18 should not be disclosed until witness attains the age of 18."

Atty. Sullivan asked that vote on motion be postponed until Atty. Susan Storey could be present. Rep. Arce agreed. Professor Dunlap moved to table his motion; seconded by Atty. Murphy approved.

- V. No new business. Motion to adjourn made by Rep. Arce; seconded by Mr. Koonz. Meeting adjourned at 1:36 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Barbara Gordon  
Assistant Clerk

Ken Neal  
Clerk

BG:ks