

New Chief State's Attorney

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Melinda Tuhus

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To: ConnDCJ;

Flag for follow up. Start by Tuesday, October 15, 2019. Due by Tuesday, October 15, 2019.

I urge the Connecticut Criminal Justice Commission to appoint a Chief State's Attorney (and other lower-level prosecutors) who will robustly enforce traffic safety laws and take steps to end traffic violence. It is sickening to me that drivers can kill and maim other road users (car passengers, cyclists and pedestrians) and suffer minimal or no consequences. I am not in favor of filling our prisons with such persons, but there should be a real price to pay, including significant fines, restitution, community service, such as volunteering to work with survivors of crashes or to listen to the grief of family members of the deceased.

As a previous New Haven police chief (James Lewis) used to say, "Whether your loved one is killed with a gun or a vehicle, they are still dead." After serving as police chief in a city in car-crazy California, Chief Lewis said New Haven streets were more lawless than any he'd seen in California.

Let's address this problem!

Sincerely,

Melinda Tuhus

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