

John M. Bailey Seminar 2025 Legislative Updates

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INTRODUCTION

Following are summaries of two new Special Acts and twenty-seven (27) Public Acts stemming from the 2025 legislative session that affect the law enforcement community generally. Some of these Public Acts amend existing criminal statutes in part, while others create new crimes or criminal procedures altogether. Featured additionally are Public Acts that impact directly upon police administration and procedures.

Along with these summaries, each slide provides a link to the Act itself and to the Office of Legislative Research (OLR) Public Act Summary where available. If an OLR Public Act Summary is not yet available a link has been provided to the OLR Bill Analysis for the bill giving rise to the Act. A Bill Analysis is made available to legislators prior to voting on a proposed bill. Be aware when reviewing any Bill Analysis that the proposed bill and the final Act may differ significantly due to amendments to the bill that may have occurred after the OLR Bill Analysis was prepared. As such, the Bill Analysis should be relied upon for background informational purposes only.

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2025 New Special Acts Impacting Law Enforcement

1. [S.A. No. 25-23](#) (H.B. No. 6250) An Act Concerning The Levels Of Staffing For Environmental Conservation Officers (*Effective from passage*)

- Requires the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP), not later than February 1, 2026, to prepare and submit a report to both the Environment and Public Safety and Security Committees concerning environmental conservation police.
- The report shall examine: (1) The number of conservation police officers and special conservation police officers appointed during the preceding 4 calendar years; (2) statistics on calls for service by such conservation police officers during such 4-year period; (3) statistics on the enforcement of all applicable statutory and regulatory provisions by such conservation police officers during such 4-year period; and (4) benchmarking of such staffing information and enforcement statistics to other comparable states, as available and appropriate.

* The Office of Legislative Research does not analyze Special Acts.

2025 New Special Acts Impacting Law Enforcement

2. [S.A. No. 25-24](#) (sH.B. No. 7053) An Act Establishing A Working Group To Develop Uniform Statutory Definitions Of “First Responder” And “Essential Worker” (*Effective from passage*)

- Establishes a working group which shall include, among others, the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, the Commissioners of Emergency Services and Public Protection, Labor, and Public Health, or their designees, to develop uniform statutory definitions of the terms "first responder" and "essential worker."
 - Not later than January 1, 2026, the working group shall submit a report on its findings and recommendations to the Public Safety and Security Committee.
- * The Office of Legislative Research does not analyze Special Acts.

2025 New Public Acts Impacting Law Enforcement

3. [P.A. No. 25-7](#) (S.B. No. 1282) An Act Concerning The Minimum Quarantine For Certain Dogs And Cats Exposed To Rabies (*Effective from passage*)

- Requires the owner or keeper of an animal that was attacked and potentially exposed to rabies to have the animal (1) quarantined for at least four months and (2) vaccinated against rabies as soon as medically appropriate. The quarantine must be as directed by a licensed veterinarian or the state veterinarian.

(Previously, an animal had to stay quarantined for at least six months.)

➤ [OLR Public Act Summary](#)

2025 New Public Acts Impacting Law Enforcement

4. [P.A. No. 25-18](#) (sH.B. No. 7056) **An Act Concerning Firearm Permits And Transfers** (*Effective October 1, 2025*)

- Expands the exemption from limits in existing law on the number of pistols and revolvers (i.e. handguns) that can be purchased at retail in a 30-day period (generally 6 for certain firearms instructors and 3 for everyone else w/out an exemption) to include any firearm transferred to a defense contractor, nuclear-powered submarine manufacturer, aerospace company, or nuclear power generating facility through an agreement with a federal agency or applicable federal regulations for the purpose of training armed security force personnel or providing or maintaining an armed security force.
- Creates the single defined term, “local permitting authority,” for statutory reference to officials responsible for administering various gun laws at the municipal level.

➤ [OLR Public Act Summary](#)

2025 New Public Acts Impacting Law Enforcement

5. [P.A. No. 25-19](#) (sH.B. No. 7132) An Act Concerning Non-safety-related Traffic Stops, Driving While Consuming Cannabis And Excessive Reckless Driving (*Effective October 1, 2025*)

- **Secs. 1 & 3** amend C.G.S. § 14-8, providing rear license plate may be displayed in rear window; plates shall be “substantially” unobscured; numbers and letters must be plainly legible; driver may be issued warning; eliminates infraction for failure to illuminate rear plate contained in C.G.S. § 14-96c.
- **Sec. 4** amends C.G.S. § 14-96y, providing that for first offense of operating a motor vehicle with one headlight operator be issued warning for defective equipment; subsequent violation constitutes an infraction.
- **Sec. 5** amends C.G.S. § 14-99f to add that whether the condition of a windshield, or whether any article, device, sticker, or ornament is hung, affixed, or attached, in such a manner or location that it “interferes with an unobstructed view of the highway” is to be determined on whether the condition or item “significantly blocks or conceals” the driver’s view based upon a “reasonable person” standard.
- **Sec. 6** amends C.G.S. § 14-12 by extending from 30 days to 60 days the grace period after a motor vehicle registration expires during which a violation is considered “failure to renew.”

➤ [OLR Public Act Summary](#)

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2025 New Public Acts Impacting Law Enforcement

5. (Continued) [P.A. No. 25-19](#) (sH.B. No. 7132) An Act Concerning Non-safety-related Traffic Stops, Driving While Consuming Cannabis And Excessive Reckless Driving (*Effective October 1, 2025*)

- **Secs. 7 & 8** amend C.G.S. §§ 53a-213a and 53a-213b, which prohibit smoking, otherwise inhaling or ingesting cannabis while operating a motor vehicle (class C misdemeanor) or as a passenger (class D misdemeanor) to now allow a peace officer to stop the vehicle if the officer both (1) observes active cannabis consumption by the operator of the motor vehicle, and (2) detects the odor of burnt cannabis.
- **Secs. 9 through 14** amend the reckless driving law, C.G.S. § 14-222, and related statutes, to establish enhanced penalties for violators who drive faster than 100 mph. Increases the penalty for a first offense at such speeds to a \$200-\$600 fine, up to 30 days imprisonment, or both. A subsequent offense provides exposure up to a \$1,000 fine, up to 364 days imprisonment, or both. If a police officer arrests someone for a reckless driving violation of driving faster than 100 mph who was previously convicted of this violation, the officer must impound the driver's vehicle for a 48-hour period. After this period, the vehicle owner may reclaim it upon paying all related towing and storage costs.

➤ [OLR Public Act Summary](#)

2025 New Public Acts Impacting Law Enforcement

6. [P.A. No. 25-22](#) (sS.B. No. 1297) An Act Concerning Minor Revisions To The Higher Education Statutes Concerning The Establishment Of The Connecticut State Community College And The Board Of Regents For Higher Education (*Effective upon passage*)

- **Sec. 97** expands the requirement for submitting security protocol plans to the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection (DESPP) to cover all independent institutions of higher education. These security protocols must address how to recognize students and others who may be at risk of harm to themselves or others, be reviewed biennially, and be submitted to DESPP if there are revisions. The institutions must also establish trained threat assessment teams for each campus.

➤ [OLR Public Act Summary](#)

2025 New Public Acts Impacting Law Enforcement

7. [P.A. No. 25-25](#) (sS.B. No. 1367) – An Act Prohibiting A Bail Bondsman Or Agent From Apprehending A Principal On A Bond On The Premises, Grounds Or Campus Of Any Health Care Facility, School, Institution Of Higher Education Or House Of Worship (*Effective October 1, 2025*)

- **Sec. 1** adds a provision to C.G.S. § 29-152k prohibiting bail bondsmen or bail enforcement agents from taking or trying to take the principal on a bond into custody on the premises, grounds, or campus of any: (1) state-operated or Department of Public Health (DPH)-licensed health care facility or institution, or office of a DPH-licensed health care provider; (2) school or higher education institution; or (3) house of worship.
- **Sec. 2** amends C.G.S. § 54-65c to require the court to vacate an order forfeiting the bond and release the bondsman from his obligation when he is prevented from taking the principal into custody because the principal is on the premises, grounds, or campus of any state-operated or DPH-licensed health care facility or institution, or office of a DPH-licensed health care provider.

➤ [OLR Public Act Summary](#)

2025 New Public Acts Impacting Law Enforcement

8. [P.A. No. 25-29](#) (sH.B. No. 7259) An Act Concerning Revisions To Various Statutes Concerning Criminal Justice (*Effective October 1, 2025, unless otherwise indicated*)

- **Sec. 1** amends C.G.S. § 54-102j(a) to direct the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection (DESPP) Division of Scientific Services to notify the DCJ Conviction Integrity Unit (CIU) when a biological sample submitted and tested matches a DNA profile in the DNA data bank that is “non-qualifying” (i.e. not properly in the data bank) prior to expunging the sample and profile from the data bank as required. The CIU must investigate to determine whether the match is exculpatory as to a third-party charged or convicted and share such information with the defendant or counsel.
- **Sec. 2** changes C.G.S. § 19a-112a labelling protocols for sexual assault evidence kits for purposes of testing; providing for “reported,” “anonymous,” and now “identified,” in recognition of the fact that some victims/patients want the kit tested but are unwilling to report to a law enforcement agency at the time the evidence is collected. Permits state lab to return items to seizing agency for storage.

➤ [OLR Public Act Summary](#)

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2025 New Public Acts Impacting Law Enforcement

8. (Continued) [P.A. No. 25-29](#) (sH.B. No. 7259) An Act Concerning Revisions To Various Statutes Concerning Criminal Justice (*Effective October 1, 2025, unless otherwise indicated*)

- **Sec. 3** amends C.G.S. § 53a-173 (Failure to Appear in the Second Degree) by decreasing the penalty for a first offense from a class A to a class D misdemeanor. Any subsequent offense is a class A misdemeanor.
- **Secs. 4 & 6** expand C.G.S. § 54-192h (the “Trust Act”) to include prosecutors and DCJ employees, juvenile probation officers, and Board of Pardons and Paroles employees under the definition of “law enforcement officer” for application of the civil immigration detainer law. Broadens the circumstances under which a federal immigration authority can interview a person in state or local law enforcement custody and when a person may be arrested or detained under a civil immigration detainer to apply to people convicted of one of thirteen listed class C felonies (in addition to class A or B felonies as previously permitted). Allows a civil cause of action against a municipality for injunctive or declaratory relief for violations of the act by police department employees or school security and permits recovery of costs and reasonable attorneys fees to an aggrieved person.

➤ [OLR Public Act Summary](#)

[P.A. No. 25-29 CONTINUED ON NEXT SLIDE]

2025 New Public Acts Impacting Law Enforcement

8. (Continued) [P.A. No. 25-29](#) (sH.B. No. 7259) An Act Concerning Revisions To Various Statutes Concerning Criminal Justice (*Effective October 1, 2025, unless otherwise indicated*)

- **Sec. 5** amends C.G.S. § 18-98d to allow for jail credit for the period that a person was incarcerated out of state awaiting extradition, provided such person was held out of state solely for extradition purposes. (Also applies to probation or conditional discharge violations.)
- **Secs. 7 & 8** exclude an electronic defense weapon when used by a peace officer from the definition of “deadly weapon” contained in C.G.S. § 53a-3(6). Further, amend C.G.S. § 51-277a(a)(1) to provide that use of an electronic defense weapon by a peace officer shall not be considered deadly force for purposes of the section.
- **Sec. 9** amends C.G.S. § 53a-22 to expand the circumstances under which law enforcement may use a chokehold or similar restraint methods to include the defense of a third person from the use or imminent use of deadly physical force.

➤ [OLR Public Act Summary](#)

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2025 New Public Acts Impacting Law Enforcement

8. (Continued) [P.A. No. 25-29](#) (sH.B. No. 7259) An Act Concerning Revisions To Various Statutes Concerning Criminal Justice (*Effective October 1, 2025, unless otherwise indicated*)

- **Sec. 10** amends C.G.S. § 30-113, the Liquor Control Act, to provide that any person convicted of a violation of any provision of that chapter for which a specified penalty is not imposed shall, for a first violation, be guilty of a class C misdemeanor, and for any subsequent violation, be guilty of a class B misdemeanor.
- **Sec. 11** creates a new criminal law, making it a class C misdemeanor to knowingly allow an underage person to (1) open or use an account with an online gaming operator or (2) wager or try to wager on Internet games or with a sports wagering retailer.

➤ [OLR Public Act Summary](#)

2025 New Public Acts Impacting Law Enforcement

9. [P.A. No. 25-41](#) (sH.B. No. 6990) An Act Concerning The Seizure And Forfeiture Of Virtual Currency And Virtual Currency Wallets (*Effective July 1, 2026*)

- Makes virtual currency and virtual currency wallets possessed, controlled, designed, or used as a way to commit larceny, or that are proceeds of a larceny, subject to state forfeiture.
- Establishes procedures for initiating such forfeiture actions (w/in 90 days after seizing the items), including identifying those with an interest in the property and providing proper notice of a hearing to establish forfeitability (hearing at least 2 weeks after notice).
- Requires that forfeited currency and wallets be used to compensate victims with money-related loss from the involved crime.

➤ [OLR Bill Analysis](#)

2025 New Public Acts Impacting Law Enforcement

10. [Public Act No. 25-43](#) (sH.B. No. 7042) An Act Concerning Implementation Of The Firearm Industry Responsibility Act . . . (*Effective October 1, 2025*)

- **Secs. 1-3** create new laws requiring firearm industry members establish, implement, and enforce “reasonable controls” preventing in-state sales/distribution of firearms and related products to certain people (e.g. straw or banned purchasers) or in a way reasonably foreseeable to promote conversion into an illegal product, while also ensuring compliance with existing firearm-related laws. Prohibits purposely and knowingly advertising industry products in a way that promotes unlawful sales or use or an unreasonable public safety risk. Allows a person suffering harm due to a violation, a municipality, or the state to sue a firearm industry member for injunctive relief, compensatory damages, punitive damages, costs, and attorney’s fees for violating the act.
- **Sec. 7** amends C.G.S. § 53-203, Unlawful Discharge of Firearms, by adding a subsection (b) which expressly provides that the statute “shall not be construed to prohibit the intentional discharge of a firearm for the purpose of lawful self-defense or lawful defense of another person.”

➤ [OLR Public Act Summary](#)

2025 New Public Acts Impacting Law Enforcement

11. [Public Act No. 25-55](#) (sH.B. No. 7162) An Act Reforming The Motor Vehicle Towing Statutes (*Effective upon passage*)

- **Sec. 4** explicitly allows municipalities to regulate motor vehicle towing, transporting, and storage provided by towing companies (other than nonconsensual towing or repossession) through ordinances enacted by their legislative bodies.
- **Sec. 9** establishes the Police-Ordered Towing Council and charges it with (1) advising the DMV commissioner on policies affecting police-ordered towing and (2) developing a proposed rate schedule for police-ordered towing. It places the council within DMV for administrative purposes only.
- **Secs. 17 & 18** require, rather than allow, the State Police to establish a rotational system for summoning tow trucks (tow rotation list), which it already has done in practice. Codifies an existing State Police regulation giving motor vehicle owners and operators the opportunity to select a towing company and applies it to municipal police as well.

➤ [OLR Bill Analysis](#)

2025 New Public Acts Impacting Law Enforcement

12. [Public Act No. 25-61](#) (sS.B. No. 1239) An Act Concerning The Fallen Hero Fund And Providing Health Insurance Coverage To Survivors Of First Responders Who Are Killed In The Line Of Duty (*Effective July 1, 2025*)

This act expands the availability of the “Fallen Officer Fund” created by PA 24-27 to include additional first responders and correspondingly renames it the “Fallen Hero Fund.” The added first responders include emergency medical technicians (EMTs), firefighters, and paramedics.

The act also allows certain surviving family members who were covered by a municipal first responder’s health care benefit plan at the time of the first responder’s death to apply for or keep the coverage for one year after the death and to then renew the coverage annually for up to five years.

➤ [OLR Public Act Summary](#)

2025 New Public Acts Impacting Law Enforcement

13. [P.A. No. 25-65](#) (sS.B. No. 1377) – An Act Implementing The Recommendations Of The Department Of Transportation . . . (*Effective October 1, 2025, unless otherwise indicated*)

- **Sec. 4** amends C.G.S. § 14-251, increasing prohibited parking distance from an intersection, marked crosswalk, stop sign or yield sign from 25 to 30 feet. Allows for a fine of up to \$200 for a second or subsequent violations of the prohibition on parking w/in 10 feet of a fire hydrant.
- **Sec. 15** amends C.G.S. § 14-300. Increases penalty for failure to yield to a pedestrian, and related offenses involving blind pedestrians, from \$500 to \$750.
- **Sec 16** amends C.G.S. § 14-230a (*effective October 1, 2026*) to prohibit driving in the extreme left lane on a limited access highway with two or more lanes going in the same direction, with limited exceptions (such as when overtaking and passing another vehicle, or when traffic congestion makes driving in the extreme left lane necessary, or for such a period as is “reasonably necessary” to enter or leave the highway). Bottom line: No “left lane camping.”

2025 New Public Acts Impacting Law Enforcement

13. (Continued) [P.A. No. 25-65](#) (sS.B. No. 1377) – An Act Implementing The Recommendations Of The Department Of Transportation . . . (*Effective October 1, 2025, unless otherwise indicated*)

- **Sec. 19** amends C.G.S. § 14-289g to increase, from age 18 to 21, the age under which all motorcycle and motor-driven cycle drivers and passengers must wear a helmet meeting federal helmet safety standards. (infraction w/ fine not less than \$90)
- **Sec. 20** amends C.G.S. § 14-286d to provide that children age 17 (formerly 15) and under must wear properly fitted and fastened headgear while riding a bicycle, electric bicycle, nonmotorized scooter, skateboard, or electric foot scooter or using roller skates or roller blades, on the traveled portion of a road and at any park or skateboarding park. Failure to comply is not a violation nor an offense. However, law enforcement officers may issue a verbal warning to the parent or guardian of a child failing to comply. (Persons, firms, or corporations in the business of renting bicycles, electric bicycles, or electric foot scooters may be charged with an infraction for renting to any child age 17 or under w/out headgear.)

2025 New Public Acts Impacting Law Enforcement

13. (Continued) [P.A. No. 25-65](#) (sS.B. No. 1377) – An Act Implementing The Recommendations Of The Department Of Transportation . . . (*Effective October 1, 2025, unless otherwise indicated*)

- **Sec. 22** (*effective from passage*) Requires the Vision Zero Council and the Chief State's Attorney to jointly study, and make recommendations on, the feasibility of addressing speeding and reckless driving with intelligent speed assistance devices.
- **Sec. 23** amends C.G.S. § 14-111g to require drivers to attend an operator's retraining program upon their first conviction of reckless driving.
- **Sec. 28** creates a new statute prohibiting anyone from intentionally projecting a laser on or at an aircraft or its flight path, with certain exceptions (e.g. members of the U.S. and state armed forces and police officers performing their official duties) Any violation is a class A misdemeanor (punishable by a fine of up to \$2,000, up to 364 days in prison, or both).

➤ [OLR Bill Analysis](#)

2025 New Public Acts Impacting Law Enforcement

14. [Public Act No. 25-70](#) P.A. No. 25-70 (sH.B. No. 6883) An Act Protecting The Location Of Housing For Domestic Violence And Sexual Assault Victims (*Effective October 1, 2025*)

- Expands confidentiality protections for the locations of shelters or transitional housing for victims of domestic violence or sexual assault by explicitly prohibiting public agencies from disclosing any information indicating these locations, regardless of the state Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).
- Also explicitly allows, regardless of FOIA's requirements, portions of public agency meetings to be held in executive session if they would reveal the location of a shelter or transitional housing for domestic violence or sexual assault victims.

➤ [OLR Public Act Summary](#)

2025 New Public Acts Impacting Law Enforcement

15. [Public Act No. 25-77](#) (sH.B. No. 7134) An Act Concerning Enhanced Protections Available Under The State's Anti-SLAPP Statute (*Effective October 1, 2025, and applicable to civil actions filed on or after that date.*)

- Broadens the applicability of the state's law allowing a party in a civil action to file a special motion to dismiss a complaint, counterclaim, or cross claim that is based on certain free speech, petition, or association rights (known as the anti-SLAPP statute).
- The act does this by expanding the "right to free speech" under the law to include written communication made without malice about (1) the alleged commission of a crime or (2) a discriminatory practice under the state's human rights and opportunities laws (CGS § 46a-51).
- Extends hearing date outside of statutory 60-day window if the written communication that is the subject of the complaint or claim concerns a pending criminal proceeding or complaint before the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities (CHRO) (or the Superior Court if CHRO released the complaint from its jurisdiction) to within 60 days after such proceeding ends.

➤ [OLR Public Act Summary](#)

2025 New Public Acts Impacting Law Enforcement

16. [Public Act No. 25-78](#) (sH.B. No. 7139) An Act Concerning The Duties Of State Marshals And The Activities Undertaken By The State Marshal Commission And The State Marshals Advisory Board (*Effective October 1, 2025*)

The Act makes various changes in statutes affecting state marshals and service of process, including:

- **Sec. 3** reduces the number of state marshals to be appointed in each county, resulting in a decrease of 83 appointments statewide (from 318 to 235).
- **Sec. 12** allows a writ of summons in a civil action naming a Dept. of Correction (DOC) correctional officer or employee to be served upon a person the DOC commissioner designates at the facility where the correctional officer or employee is assigned.
- **Sec. 18** requires the judicial branch's eviction and ejectment notices to specify that failure to leave when told to do so when the state marshal returns for the action constitutes 1st degree criminal trespass.
- **Sec. 24** specifies that subpoenas for witnesses (1) must be personally signed by a commissioner of the Superior Court in ink by hand or (2) may be signed by the clerk of the court or an authorized court employee by hand.

➤ [OLR Bill Analysis](#)

2025 New Public Acts Impacting Law Enforcement

17. [Public Act No. 25-80](#) (S.B. No. 1284) An Act Concerning The Illegal Use Of Certain Vehicles And Street Takeovers (*Effective July 1, 2025*)

- **Secs. 1 & 2** amend C.G.S. §§ 14-390 & 14-390m to allow municipalities of any size to adopt ordinances for seizure and forfeiture of dirt bikes or mini-motorcycles used in violation of law or city ordinance; limit protections from forfeiture for ATVs, dirt bikes, and mini-motorcycles by requiring owner or lienholder to pick them up w/in 90-day timeframe; allow municipalities to destroy ATVs, dirt bikes, and mini-motorcycles seized and forfeited.
- **Sec. 3** creates a new statute permitting municipal ordinances prohibiting a person from organizing, participating in or gathering with intent to observe and actually observing a street takeover, w/ penalty not to exceed \$1,000 for 1st violation, \$1,500 for 2nd , and \$2,000 for 3rd or subsequent violation. Provides for impounding vehicle used in violation until fine, charges, towing fee, and/or unpaid taxes are all paid (vehicle also deemed forfeited if money not paid w/in 6 mos.).
- **Sec. 5** amends C.G.S. § 14-224(g) to provide minimum fine of \$2,000 for subsequent offense of (a) evading responsibility in an accident causing property damage or (b) driving a vehicle for an illegal race, contest, demonstration, or street takeover.

➤ [OLR Public Act Summary](#)

2025 New Public Acts Impacting Law Enforcement

18. [P.A. No. 25-91](#) (sS.B. No. 7255) – An Act Concerning Judicial Branch Operations And Procedures And The Duties Of Judicial Branch Personnel (*Effective October 1, 2025, unless otherwise indicated*)

- **Sec. 14** amends C.G.S. § 51-197f (*effective July 1, 2025*), to permit the Connecticut Supreme Court to review the state Appellate Court's decision to deny a motion to file a late appeal.
- **Sec. 15** amends C.G.S. § 51-344, to move the following towns to the Litchfield Judicial District for venue purposes: Avon, Burlington, Canton, Farmington, Granby, and Simsbury.
- **Sec. 18** amends C.G.S. § 51-1k, to allow the court to issue a criminal protective order against someone arrested for the crime of electronic stalking (C.G.S. § 53a-181f).

➤ [OLR Bill Analysis](#)

[P.A. No. 25-91 CONTINUED ON NEXT SLIDE]

2025 New Public Acts Impacting Law Enforcement

18. (Continued) [P.A. No. 25-91](#) (sS.B. No. 7255) – An Act Concerning Judicial Branch Operations And Procedures And The Duties Of Judicial Branch Personnel (*Effective October 1, 2025, unless otherwise indicated*)

- **Sec. 22** amends C.G.S. § 54-230, to allow victim notifications by the Office of Victim Services (OVS) to be sent electronically to those who request it and provide their email address to OVS.
- **Sec. 24** (*effective from passage*) establishes a task force (of which the Chief State's Attorney or his designee shall be a member) to conduct a review of the habeas corpus procedures utilized by the federal government and other states and make recommendations to the General Assembly, that include, but are not limited to, best practices that could be implemented in this state.
- **Sec. 27** establishes a five-year probation period for persons who violate C.G.S. § 53-247 (Cruelty to Animals).

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2025 New Public Acts Impacting Law Enforcement

19. [Public Act No. 25-97](#) (sH.B. No. 7157) An Act Concerning Various Revisions To The Public Health Statutes (*Effective July 1, 2025*)

- **Sec. 2** amends C.G.S. § 19a-197a to allow emergency medical services (EMS) personnel (paramedics, emergency medical responders, and emergency medical technicians) to administer epinephrine by any device approved by the federal Food and Drug Administration (including nasal spray), instead of only by auto injectors or prefilled vials or syringes as under prior law.

➤ [OLR Public Act Summary](#)

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20. [Public Act No. 25-100](#) (sH.B. No. 7073) An Act Concerning Police Officer Review Of Certain Recordings (*Effective October 1, 2025*)

- Amends subsection (e) of C.G.S. § 19a-197a to provide that a police officer may review a recording from his or her body-worn recording equipment or a dashboard camera (1) in order to assist such officer with the preparation of a report or otherwise assist such officer in the performance of his or her duties, *or* (2) if such officer is the subject of a disciplinary investigation and such a recording is being considered as part of the investigation.
- Amends subsection (f) of C.G.S. § 19a-197a by narrowing the right to review recordings in the presence of an attorney or labor representative to only officers giving a formal statement about the use of force, and specifies that it applies when the use of force was captured in a recording from body-worn recording equipment or a dashboard camera. Recordings must be disclosed to the public (regardless of the status of any disciplinary investigation) no later than 96 hours after a request is made for the public disclosure of the recording.

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2025 New Public Acts Impacting Law Enforcement

21. [Public Act No. 25-102](#) (sS.B. No. 1216) An Act Concerning School Emergency Response Systems (*Effective July 1, 2025*)

The Act modifies the existing School Security Infrastructure Competitive Grant Program (collectively administered by the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, the Department of Administrative Services, and the State Department of Education) to specifically allow the grant to be used for reimbursing the purchase of hardware associated with emergency response communications systems and personal emergency communication devices for school personnel. See also Secs. 8 & 9 of P.A. 25-157 related to the program.

➤ [OLR Public Act Summary](#)

2025 New Public Acts Impacting Law Enforcement

22. [P.A. No. 25-139](#) (sH.B. No. 7236) An Act Concerning Human Trafficking And Sexual Assault Victims (*Effective October 1, 2025*)

- **Sec. 1** adds the Department of Transportation (DOT) commissioner or his designee to the Trafficking in Persons Council (now comprised of thirty-seven members).
- **Sec. 16** creates an affirmative defense for certain offenders charged with a misdemeanor (1) who were minors (under age 18) when they committed the offense and (2) whose participation in the offense was a result of having been a human trafficking victim.

➤ [OLR Public Act Summary](#)

2025 New Public Acts Impacting Law Enforcement

23. [Public Act No. 25-157](#) (sH.B. No. 6859) An Act Concerning The Department Of Emergency Services And Public Protection's Recommendations Regarding Firearm Information, Security Officers, Firearm Transfers And School Security Grants And The Fire Marshal Training Council, The Commission On Fire Prevention And Control And The Codes And Standards Committee (*Effective October 1, 2025*)

Sec. 1 amends C.G.S. § 54-36n to change procedures related to identifying and tracing the history of seized or recovered firearms by requiring law enforcement agencies to opt in to information sharing through the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives' (ATF's) National Tracing Center's (NTC's) electronic tracking system (eTrace). The Act requires an agency to: (1) submit all available information on the firearms' identity to eTrace; (2) opt to allow the information to be shared via eTrace; and (3) if the firearm was stolen or missing, enter the information into the Connecticut on-line law enforcement communications teleprocessing system (COLLECT).

Secs. 2-4 amend laws related to security guards, including, among other things, requiring: (1) security officers to obtain a special permit from the DESPP commissioner before they may carry an electronic defense weapon; (2) security officer license applicants to complete relevant training if they intend to carry batons or pepper spray ("less lethal weapons"); and (3) licensure renewal applicants to submit fingerprints with the application.

2025 New Public Acts Impacting Law Enforcement

23. (Continued) [Public Act No. 25-157](#) (sH.B. No. 6859) An Act Concerning The Department Of Emergency Services And Public Protection's Recommendations . . . (*Effective October 1, 2025*)

Secs. 5 & 6 amend C.G.S. §§ 29-33 and 29-37a, respectively, to update documentation requirements for firearm transfers, combining requirements into one DESPP-provided form referred to as a transfer document. Eliminates the separate process for the private transfer of long guns, combining it into the process for gun dealers by requiring all private long gun sales be facilitated through a federally licensed firearm dealer (i.e. a federal firearms licensee).

Secs. 8 & 9 require that applicants for the school security infrastructure grant program conduct a school assessment using guidelines established by DESPP's Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security and set a cap on DESPP's use of the program's funds for certain communications systems.

➤ [OLR Bill Analysis](#)

2025 New Public Acts Impacting Law Enforcement

24. [Public Act No. 25-159](#) (sH.B. No. 7160) An Act Implementing The Recommendations Of The Department Of Motor Vehicles And Concerning Penalties For Operating A Motor Vehicle And Vessel While Under The Influence Of Intoxicating Liquor Or Any Drug . . . (*Effective October 1, 2025, unless otherwise indicated*)

- **Secs. 12-19** amend existing statutes to impose reciprocal driver's license, boating certificate, and personal watercraft certificate suspension penalties for convictions of operating a motor vehicle under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug or both in violation of C.G.S. § 14-227a ("DUI"), and operating a vessel under the influence in violation of C.G.S. § 15-133 ("BUI"), and related administrative per se violations. The court must report each DUI and BUI conviction to the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) and the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP), and the commissioners must suspend the offender's driver's license and boating or personal watercraft as the Act requires. The Act also requires the DMV and DEEP commissioners to notify each other of the pendency of any administrative action that may result in suspension and when they suspend a person's driver's license or certificate, and the commissioner receiving the notice must suspend the applicable credential.

2025 New Public Acts Impacting Law Enforcement

24. (Continued) [Public Act No. 25-159](#) (sH.B. No. 7160) An Act Implementing The Recommendations Of The Department Of Motor Vehicles . . . (*Effective October 1, 2025, unless otherwise indicated*)

- **Sec. 26** creates a new DMV-administered highway work zone and roadside vehicle safety awareness program starting January 1, 2026, for drivers convicted of violating C.G.S. §§ 14-283b (the “move over” law) or 14-212d (endangering highway workers) [note: **Secs. 64 & 65** also double the existing fines for these two statutes]. Date of course completion to appear on MV history; additional moving violations w/in 36 mos. result in license susp.
- **Sec. 59** amends C.G.S. § 51-164n to require the Centralized Infraction Bureau, starting July 1, 2028, to allow people to pay MV tickets through a 12-month installment plan.
- **Sec. 61** amends C.G.S. § 14-227b(c), removing requirement that police officers mail DUI incident reports to DMV within six business days, but retaining the requirement that reports be prepared within this timeframe.

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2025 New Public Acts Impacting Law Enforcement

25. [Public Act No. 25-160](#) (sH.B. No. 7200) An Act Concerning Bleeding Control Training And Kits (*Effective July 1, 2025*)

- **Sec. 1** allows DESPP to administer a bleeding control trainer qualification program in each district health department. Anyone qualified as a bleeding control trainer through this program may provide bleeding control training to members of the public. Prohibits any fee from being charged to any individual or member of the public for participating in (1) any trainer qualification program or (2) a bleeding control training.
- **Sec. 2** states that police officers or probationary candidates who receive bleeding control training from a qualified bleeding control trainer must be given credit for the training toward the basic or review training requirements of C.G.S. § 7-294d.
- **Sec. 3** allows the Department of Public Health (DPH) to work with local health departments to install bleeding control kits (defined as “a set of materials used to provide first aid to a person suffering from serious bleeding or a bleeding emergency, which includes, but need not be limited to, tourniquets, compression bandages, bleeding control bandages, emergency blankets, latex-free gloves, markers, scissors and instructional documents developed by a nonprofit organization that specializes in bleeding control, the United States Department of Defense or a similar agency that details methods to prevent blood loss following a traumatic event”) in certain public places (e.g., public buildings).

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2025 New Public Acts Impacting Law Enforcement

26. [Public Act No. 25-163](#) (sS.B. No. 1542) An Act Concerning The Use Of Handcuffs On Young Children (*Effective October 1, 2025*)

- Amends C.G.S. § 46b-122a to prohibit police officers from using handcuffs to restrain any child the officer knows is under age 14. This prohibition begins at the point of the child's initial contact with the police officer and applies as long as the child has not been adjudicated a delinquent.
- The Act makes exceptions when handcuffing is: (1) necessary for public safety; (2) necessary because the child is using or threatening to use physical force on a police officer who is engaging with the child; or (3) ordered by the court under its existing policy on using mechanical restraints in court.

➤ [OLR Public Act Summary](#)

2025 New Public Acts Impacting Law Enforcement

27. [Public Act No. 25-166](#) (sH.B. No. 7181) An Act Concerning The Regulation Of Tobacco, Cannabis, Hemp And Related Products, Conduct And Establishments (*Effective July 1, 2025, unless otherwise indicated*)

- **Secs. 1 & 2** amend C.G.S. §§ 12-287 and 12-287a, respectively, regarding licenses to sell cigarettes and their renewal; requires local police chief to send written comments for cigarette dealer license renewal and Dept. of Revenue Services to send detailed written response to comments before approving or denying any application.
- **Secs. 3 & 33** requires the Department of Consumer Protection (DCP) to establish a Cannabis Control Division and requires the division to organize and conduct comprehensive compliance initiatives (i.e. coordinated efforts by multiple government agencies to conduct unannounced compliance checks); requires DCP to annually report certain compliance initiative statistics to the governor and certain legislative committees.
- **Sec. 4** establishes a Statewide Cannabis and Hemp Enforcement Policy Board and requires it to meet quarterly to identify enforcement opportunities and examine relevant developments about cannabis and hemp.

2025 New Public Acts Impacting Law Enforcement

27. (Continued) [Public Act No. 25-166](#) (sH.B. No. 7181) An Act Concerning The Regulation Of Tobacco, Cannabis, Hemp And Related Products, Conduct And Establishments (*Effective July 1, 2025, unless otherwise indicated*)

- **Sec. 30** (*effective October 1, 2025*) increases the allowable THC levels on a dry-weight basis from (1) 30% to 35% for the cannabis flower or plant material and (2) 60% to 70% for any other cannabis product except for prefilled cartridges (e.g., vapes); requires DCP to adopt regulations requiring cannabis establishments that sell these higher-THC products to have a separate area for them and provide certain warnings.
- **Sec. 41** (*effective October 1, 2025*) makes it a class E felony for a cannabis establishment (or their servants or agents) to sell or deliver synthetic cannabinoids.
- **Sec. 42** (*effective October 1, 2025*) amends C.G.S. § 21a-421aaa to modify penalties for a cannabis establishment licensee (or their agents) selling or delivering cannabis or cannabis paraphernalia to someone under age 21; increasing the penalty for illegally selling or delivering cannabis to a class E felony, while decreasing the penalty for illegally selling or delivering cannabis paraphernalia to a class C misdemeanor.

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2025 New Public Acts Impacting Law Enforcement

28. [Public Act No. 25-168](#) (H.B. No. 7287) An Act Concerning The State Budget For The Biennium Ending June 30, 2027, And Making Appropriations Therefor, And Provisions Related To Revenue And Other Items Implementing The State Budget (*Effective July 1, 2025, unless otherwise indicated*)

- **745-page state budget bill** (Division of Criminal Justice pg. 5; Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection pgs. 5-6; Department of Energy and Environmental Protection pg. 8; Department of Correction pg. 17; Judicial Department pgs. 18-19)
- **Sec. 60** amends C.G.S. § 5-141d to allow the Attorney General (AG) to represent state employees as witnesses in criminal investigations if the employees' status as a witness arose from discharging their duties or in the scope of their employment. AG may defend employees in federal criminal investigations or prosecutions related to performing their job duties under certain limited conditions.
- **Sec. 137** requires DESPP in consultation with POST to establish a social work and law enforcement project at Southern Connecticut State University (SCSU) intended to advance the ethical and effective integration of social work services into law enforcement units by preparing social workers, social work students, and law enforcement professionals to collaborate in the field of police social work. By January 1, 2026, the DESPP commissioner must enter into an MOU with SCSU to establish the project.

2025 New Public Acts Impacting Law Enforcement

28. (Continued) [Public Act No. 25-168](#) (H.B. No. 7287) An Act Concerning The State Budget For The Biennium Ending June 30, 2027, And Making Appropriations Therefor, And Provisions Related To Revenue And Other Items Implementing The State Budget (*Effective July 1, 2025, unless otherwise indicated*)

- **Sec. 138** requires DESPP, in consultation with POST, to establish a police training center to train and educate police officers in crime scene processing, the collection and analysis of forensic evidence, and criminal investigations. The training center must be located at Central Connecticut State University (CCSU), and by January 1, 2026, the DESPP commissioner must enter into an MOU with CCSU to establish the center.
- **Sec. 261** (*effective October 1, 2025*) establishes a new crime of **unlawful dissemination of an intimate synthetically created image**, of which a person is guilty if: (1) such person intentionally disseminates by electronic or other means such image of (A) the genitals, pubic area or buttocks of another person with less than a fully opaque covering of such body part, or the breast of such other person who is female with less than a fully opaque covering of any portion of such breast below the top of the nipple, or (B) another person engaged in sexual intercourse, as defined in C.G.S. § 53a-193, (2) such person disseminates such image without the consent of such other person, (3) knowing such image is a synthetically created image, disseminates the image intending for another person who views such image to be deceived into believing the image is an actual depiction of such other person, and (4) such other person suffers harm as a result of such dissemination, or (5) such person violates subdivisions (1) to (4), inclusive, of this subsection, and such person acquired, created or had created such synthetically created image with intention to harm such other person.

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2025 New Public Acts Impacting Law Enforcement

29. [Public Act No. 25-174](#) (H.B. No. 7288) An Act Authorizing And Adjusting Bonds Of The State And Concerning Grant Programs . . . And Various Provisions Revising And Implementing The Budget For The Biennium Ending June 30, 2027 (*Effective upon passage*)

- **Sec. 195** requires POST to (1) study whether college-level criminal justice courses can be substituted for its police basic training courses and generate a report by January 1, 2026, and (2) by that date create a pilot program with the University of New Haven to permit an individual who attends the academy for basic training to complete such training by taking courses related to legal issues at the university, and the remaining courses at the academy.
- **Sec. 196** requires DESPP and POST to submit report to the Public Safety and Security Committee by January 1, 2026, with recommendations on awarding bonuses to encourage individuals to begin and continue careers as police officers.
- **Sec. 197** provides that, by January 1, 2026, the Board of Regents for Higher Education, the Board of Trustees of UCONN, and POST shall jointly develop a career pathway to assist police officers in obtaining higher education degrees which shall include a schedule of credits officers may receive for the training such officers received to be certified, and maintain their certification, as police officers.
- **Sec. 198** requires DESPP, in conjunction with the State Board of Labor Relations, to study the feasibility of the state entering into negotiations with the State Police Officers' union to set conditions for retired officers to return to service.
- **Sec. 199** requires DESPP to investigate ways to develop and enhance programs addressing police officer mental health.

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