



CONNECTICUT POLICE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

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October 3, 2019

Office of Governor Ned Lamont
State Capitol
210 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, CT 06106

Honorable Governor Ned Lamont:

I hope this letter finds you well. I represent the Connecticut Police Chief's Association, which includes one-hundred seven (107) Chiefs of Police in our state. I am writing to you today regarding information our association believes is important in the consideration in the appointment of the next Chief State's Attorney. The Chief State's Attorney provides critical leadership and direction to the Criminal Justice System and to every police department in our state and to the over 8,000 police officers that we lead.

Please know that this is not an endorsement of a particular individual, but rather an indication of the qualities the law enforcement community believes are vital to this important position.

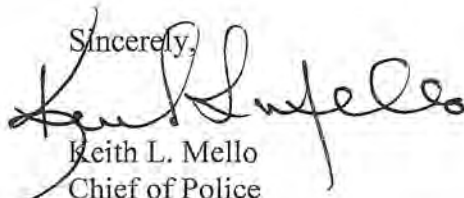
The State of Connecticut, our citizens and the law enforcement community have been fortunate to have enjoyed strong leadership from Kevin Kane. His well-earned retirement represents a tremendous loss and at the same time, an opportunity for our state. It is our belief that the next Chief State's Attorney should continue Mr. Kane's efforts and the work of maintaining vigorous prosecution of criminals, while protecting the rights and interests of all of Connecticut's citizens.

It is the opinion of the Connecticut Police Chiefs Association that the next Chief State's Attorney should be someone who is respected throughout the Criminal Justice Community, including local, state and federal law enforcement. A professional prosecutor with an identifiable history of integrity, accomplishment and vision for the future. An individual who understands the complexities of the relationships that sometimes exist within the Criminal Justice System. The CPCA would hope to see a person who has navigated through the many facets of our system and one who has a rich track record of fair and balanced prosecutions. We believe that the appointee should demonstrate an intimate knowledge of our entire criminal justice system, including victim advocacy, the law enforcement investigatory process and police operations. Understanding the contemporary issues of policing in today's complex environment, while also understanding and appreciating the value and interdependent relationship of local, state and federal law enforcement agencies.

This appointee should also be a person who can inspire and encourage direction in support of police policy and practice. I cannot understate the significance of a strong partnership between the Office of the Chief's State's Attorney and Connecticut Law Enforcement in the growth and development of public policy as it relates to both current and future police operations and training.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer our input on some of what we consider to be the requisite qualities of our next Chief State's Attorney. We look forward to partnering with your office and our next Chief State's Attorney, as we work to continuously improve the delivery of our Criminal Justice Resource to the public. Thank you for your consideration of our input and appreciate the support you have given of law enforcement since you became our Governor.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Keith L. Mello". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Keith L. Mello
Chief of Police
President

The Connecticut Police Chiefs Association (CPCA)

Cc: State of Connecticut
Criminal Justice Commission
300 Corporate Place
Rocky Hill, CT 06067