



April 18, 2008

Commissioner Theresa C. Lantz  
**CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION**  
24 Wolcott Hill Road  
Wethersfield, CT 06109

Re: CSEA/SEIU Local 2001 Criminal Justice Reform Testimony

Commissioner Lantz:

Please find enclosed copies of testimony several members of our union have delivered to the General Assembly's Judiciary Committee at public hearings on proposed criminal justice reforms over the past several months.

Our goal from the start was to give voice to the issues we feel have been overlooked in the many debates about how to reform and improve criminal justice services:

*Expanded mental health services training for Correction professionals;*

*Effective communications among public safety and criminal justice agencies;*

*Adequate supervisory staffing to improve institutions' safety and efficiency;*

*Educational requirements for inmates to determine parole eligibility; and*

*Improved pre-incarceration assessments to determine cost-effective inmate placement.*

We believe that when our elected officials consider the experience of the professionals who serve the public each and every day, they will craft more effective solutions that serve the public's interest.

We would appreciate the opportunity to meet with you to discuss the concerns and recommendations we made to the legislature at your first available opportunity. I believe this kind of labor-management dialogue will help us achieve our common goal of making Connecticut safer for the public we serve.

Please contact me at (860) 982-7402 to schedule a meeting time that is convenient for you.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

**Catherine Osten**  
CSC President, CSEA/SEIU Local 2001

cc: Lena Ferguson, Legislative Liaison, Connecticut Department of Correction  
Connecticut Governor M. Jodi Rell

Enclosures

Michael J. O'Brien  
President

Patrice Peterson  
Secretary/Treasurer

Robert D. Rinker  
Executive Director

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