



RHODE ISLAND POLICE CHIEFS' ASSOCIATION

PRESIDENT
Colonel Bradford Connor
Warwick Police Dept.

VICE PRESIDENT
Chief Thomas Oates
Woonsocket Police Dept.

SERGEANT AT ARMS
Colonel Michael Correia
Barrington Police Dept.

SECRETARY
Colonel Michael Winquist
Cranston Police Dept.

TREASURER
Chief Matthew Moynihan
South Kingstown Police
Dept.

IMMEDIATE PAST
PRESIDENT
Chief Kevin Lynch
Bristol Police Dept.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Chief Sidney Wordell, Ret.

April 24, 2024

The Honorable Robert E. Craven, Sr.
Chairman, House Judiciary Committee
Rhode Island State House
Providence, RI 02903

RE: House Bill No. H7567 Relating to Courts and Civil Procedure – Domestic Assault.

Dear Chairman Craven:

I am writing on behalf of the Rhode Island Police Chiefs' Association (RIPCA) to voice our support to the house bill referenced above, to require a prosecuting attorney to self-certify that they have successfully completed a specialized domestic violence prosecution training course.

Unfortunately, domestic assaults occur in our communities way too often but require individuals that investigate and prosecute these crimes to understand the complexities of the law, not just for the rights of the victims but the requirements of restraining orders to include surrendering of firearms.

The requirement of specialized training and recertification every 4 years will assist in maintain proficiency to protect some of our most vulnerable citizens.

Thank you for allowing me to submit this written testimony on behalf of the RIPCA and as always I am available for any follow-up questions you or the committee may have and we are willing to continue discussions with the bill's sponsors.

Respectfully submitted,

Chief Sidney Wordell (ret.)
Executive Director, RIPCA