# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

*DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS*

Raeanne V. Curtis
*Commissioner*

## SEXUAL HARASSMENT POLICY STATEMENT

All personnel of the Department of Public Works have the responsibility for maintaining high standards of honesty, integrity, impartiality and conduct to assure proper performance and maintenance of public trust. Sexual harassment violates these standards, especially with regards to principles of equal opportunity, and specific acts of such misconduct will result in the severest of disciplinary action that can be taken.

Acts of sexual harassment are illegal and prohibited by the Civil Rights Act, Title VII as amended and Connecticut General Statutes 46a-60 as a discriminatory practice.

As the Commissioner of the Department of Public Works, I will under no circumstances tolerate any incidents of this type of behavior. Specifically, any supervisors who use implicit or explicit sexual behavior to control, influence, or affect the career, pay or job of an employee is engaging in sexual harassment. Similarly, any employee who makes deliberate or repeated offensive verbal comments, gestures, or physical contact of a sexual nature in the work environment is also engaging in sexual harassment.

Sexual harassment can include verbal abuse such as sexual insults, lewd or suggestive comments, or unwelcome jokes of a sexual nature. Sexually suggestive objects or sexually explicit posters, calendars, photographs, cartoons, drawings or other explicit materials are inappropriate in a state workplace and can contribute to creating a hostile or offensive work environment.

Individuals who are sexually harassed by supervisors, co-workers, or peers should make it clear that such behavior is offensive. Individuals can file a sexual harassment complaint to the appropriate source(s) for investigation of the matter, so that action can be taken to ensure a work environment free of sexual harassment.

Sexual harassment is totally unacceptable conduct; it undermines the integrity of the employment relationship, debilitates morale, and interferes with the work productivity of the organization.

I shall expect every manager and supervisor to ensure that any instance of sexual harassment is dealt with swiftly, fairly, and effectively. All substantiated complaints will result in the strongest disciplinary action available to the Department.

165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106
*An Equal Opportunity Employer*

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## SEXUAL HARASSMENT NARRATIVE

Sexual harassment is a particular type of sex discrimination. Like all sexual discrimination it is illegal. It violates high standards of honesty, integrity, impartiality and conduct required of all sections of the Department of Public Works. It also interferes with and impedes work productivity.

Sexual harassment is defined as "any unwelcome sexual advances or requests for sexual favors or any conduct of a sexual nature when:

1. Submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of an individual's employment;

2. Submission to or rejection of such conduct by any individual is used as the basis for employment decisions affecting such individual; or

3. Such conduct has the purpose or effect of substantially interfering with an individual's work performance or creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive working environment."

You may file a complaint with your supervisor, the Human Resources Office at (860) 713-5304 or Johnette Tolliver, the agency's designated Equal Employment Opportunity Specialist at (860) 713-5394.

May 30, 2008
Date

Raeanne V. Curtis
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Commissioner