



**State of Connecticut**  
**DIVISION OF PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICES**

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**Testimony of Michael Alevy**  
**Senior Assistant Public Defender**  
**Office of Chief Public Defender**

**Judiciary Committee Public Hearing – April 1, 2013**

***Raised Bill No. 736,***  
***An Act Establishing a Protocol Concerning the Chain of Custody for Personal***  
***Property Transferred by an Arrested Person to a Police Officer***

The Office of Chief Public Defender supports ***Raised Bill No. 736, An Act Establishing a Protocol Concerning the Chain of Custody for Personal Property Transferred by an Arrested Person to a Police Officer*** and urges the Committee to report favorably on this bill. The proposed bill would impose a uniform standard on applicable law enforcement agencies related to the custody and transfer of the personal property of individuals who are detained and held by such an agency.

It is the experience of this agency that the policies and practices of law enforcement agencies across the state may differ with respect to this issue. Personnel in our local field offices are often called upon to assist clients in locating and retrieving property once they are released from custody. The result of these efforts is often frustrated by the lack of transparent, consistent and accessible protocol for a chain of custody that applies to this type of personal property. The Office of Chief Public Defender believes this bill will benefit both law enforcement and the public interest by clarifying and making more efficient the process of the seizure and return of such property.