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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE AND THE GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION & ELECTIONS COMMITTEE WILL HOLD PUBLIC HEARINGS MONDAY, MARCH 10, 2014 AT THE LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING IN HARTFORD.

(Hartford, CT) --- State Victim Advocate Garvin G. Ambrose announces two scheduled public hearings to be conducted on Monday, March 10, 2014 by the Judiciary Committee (SB 388) and the Government Administration & Elections Committee (SB 381), regarding the recommendations of the Task Force on Victim Privacy and the Public's Right to Know.

"SB 381 and SB 388, which both share identical language, attempt to reflect the final recommendations of the Task Force on Victim Privacy and the Public's Right to Know. Both proposals create exemptions to current Freedom of Information Laws with respect to the manner in which information is released to the public in homicide cases," said Ambrose, who was a member of the Task Force. "Despite some disagreement with part of the proposed language, the OVA supports each proposal's intended goal of shielding the identity of minor witnesses in these cases, and regulating the manner in which images of homicide victims, as well as audio recordings of emergency 911 calls and recorded communications among law enforcement personnel regarding homicides, are released to the public."

As currently scheduled, the **Judiciary Committee** will hold its public hearing on **Monday, March 10, 2014 at 1:00 P.M.** in **Room 2C** of the Legislative Office Building (LOB) located at 300 Capitol Avenue in Hartford; the **Government Administration & Elections Committee** will hold its public hearing on **Monday, March 10, 2014 at 1:00 P.M.** in **Room 2B** of the Legislative Office Building. Directions for submitting testimony to each committee is provided below. Anyone interested in submitting testimony on either bill is encouraged to make their submission to both committees.

In preparation for your testimony, we have provided the links to each proposal below. Should you have questions or concerns regarding either bill, please do not hesitate to contact the Office of the Victim Advocate.

SB 381 (GAE) [An Act Concerning The Task Force On Victim Privacy And The Public's Right To Know](#)

SB 388 (JUD) [An Act Implementing The Recommendations Of The Task Force On Victim Privacy And The Public's Right To Know](#)

To submit testimony to the **Judiciary Committee**, please provide 45 copies of written testimony to Committee staff any day prior to the hearing but no later than one hour prior to the start of the hearing in Room 2500 of the LOB. Electronic testimony may be sent to JUD.Testimony@cga.ct.gov. Testimony should clearly state testifier name and related bill number(s). Testimony submitted after the designated time may not be distributed until after the hearing. Sign-up for the hearing will begin at 11:00 A.M. and conclude at 12:30 P.M. in Room 2500 of the LOB. The first hour of the hearing is reserved for Legislators, Constitutional Officers, State

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Agency Heads and Chief Municipal Officials. Speakers will be limited to three minutes of testimony. Anyone wishing to sign-up to testify after 9:30 A.M. must put their name at the end of the list.

Sign-up for the **Government Administration & Elections Committee** hearing will begin at 10:00 A.M. in Room 2201 of the LOB. The first hour of the hearing is reserved for Legislators, Constitutional Officers, State Agency Heads and Municipal Chief Elected Officials. Speakers will be limited to three minutes of testimony. Please submit 24 copies of written testimony to Committee staff at the time of sign up, and no later than one hour prior to the start of the hearing. Testimony submitted after the designated time may not be distributed until after the hearing. Electronic testimony for the record will be accepted in PDF format via email at gaetestimony@cga.ct.gov for distribution on the Committee's website and inclusion in the hearing transcript. All public hearing testimony, written and spoken, is public information. As such, it will be made available on the CGA website and will be indexed by internet search engines. Unofficial sign-up sheets have no standing with the Committee.

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