



STATE OF CONNECTICUT



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

John A. Danaher III
Commissioner

Lieutenant Edwin S. Henion
Chief of Staff

January 7, 2008

Mr. Michael Beal
11 Sachem Drive
Middletown, CT 06457

Dear Mr. Beal:

Thank you very much for your letter of January 3, 2008.

I appreciate, and respect, your passionate interest in the issues with which we are dealing regarding the Firearms Unit. I appreciated your willingness to come in and meet with me, and I asked you to come in to meet with me, because I respect the fact that you have so much history in the Unit and therefore, in my view, you have much to offer.

I don't know if you have had an opportunity to speak with Darren Edwards since our meeting, but we did continue the discussion for a couple of hours, and I believe that I am better educated as to the issues as a result of that discussion.

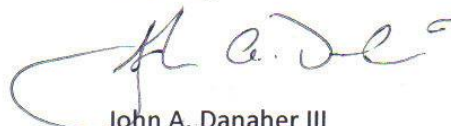
I fully agree with you that it is imperative that in all aspects of our work in the Department of Public Safety, that we follow the rule of law. As a member of the Bar for almost twenty-eight years, and after twenty-one years as a prosecutor, there is no question but that that I subscribe to that belief. I think that some of the perceived disagreement that may exist has to do with the fact that, on occasion, the stated law does not always provide with, one hundred percent clarity, the course which must be taken. I have certainly had my share of issues in which I believed that the law absolutely supported my position on a particular question, but I found that the presiding judge held a different view.

I promise you that I will continue to educate myself with regard to the applicable law in this particular area so that I can be of assistance as we deal with the issues that are presented. In the end, I believe that any areas of disagreement which we may have are professional and certainly not personal. It is an unfortunate characteristic of lawyers (and one of the reasons that lawyers rank so poorly in public opinion polls) that we tend to look at issues from a variety of prospective. What is important is that, in the end, this analysis leads us to looking at the issue from the correct perspective, whatever that may be.

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Please know that I do, indeed, value your experience and your opinion. My door is always open any time you want to stop by and express your views, either personally or in writing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John A. Danaher III". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and "D".

John A. Danaher III
COMMISSIONER