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Dear Neighbors,

One of my top priorities as your legislator is to advocate for your safety, a job I take very seriously. This newsletter provides information on public safety issues which may be of interest and use to you.

This past legislative session, the General Assembly enacted several measures which address safety and security issues. From probation and prisoner reform to securing your personal and private information, I have made *your* safety a top priority.

I hope you find this information helpful and informative. As always, I'm eager to hear from you. Keep in touch!

Best regards,

Bob Godfrey  
State Representative

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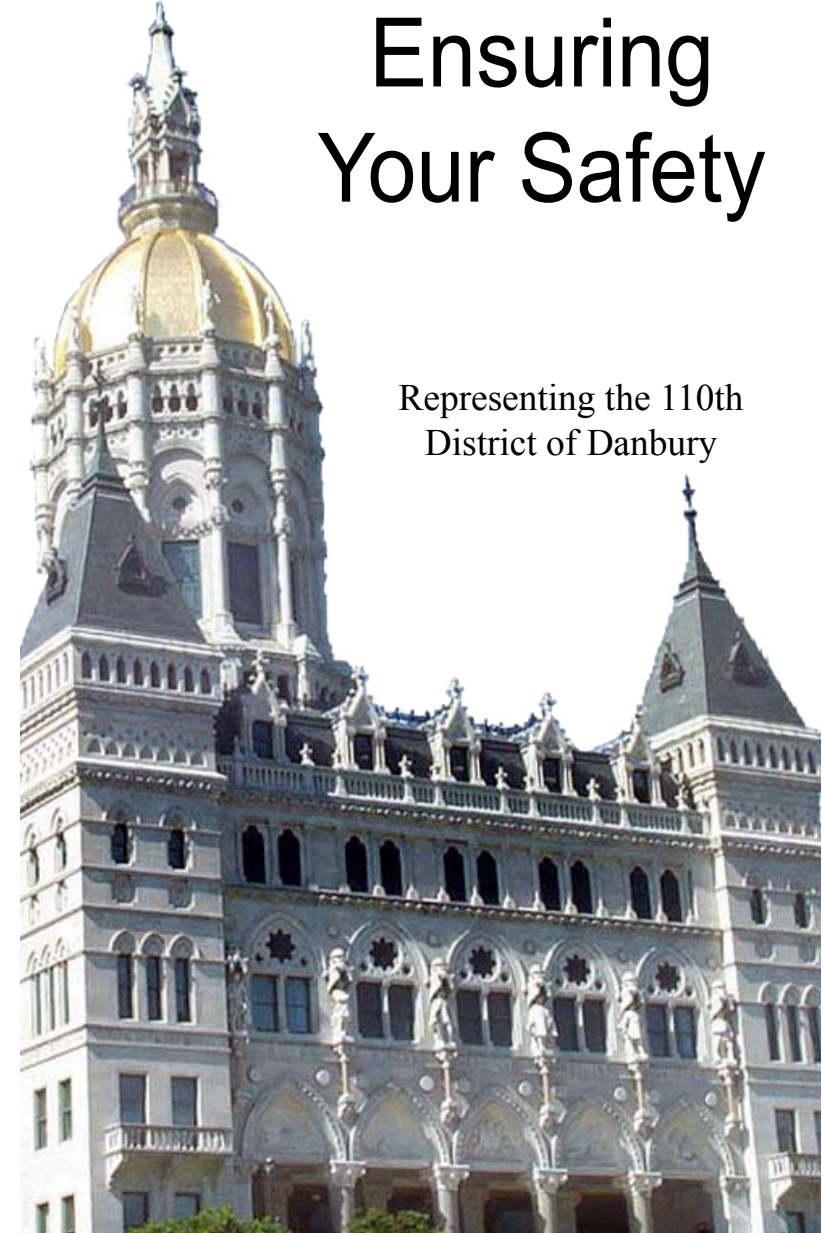


BOB GODFREY  
YOUR STATE  
REPRESENTATIVE

State Representative  
**Bob Godfrey**

**Ensuring  
Your Safety**

Representing the 110th  
District of Danbury



# REP. BOB GODFREY IS DEVOTED TO ENSURING YOUR BEST INTERESTS AND PUBLIC SAFETY

## Protecting Your Social Security Number



Personal records reveal private details about our lives and are often necessary in proving our identity. [Public Act 08-66](#) protects individual privacy rights by ensuring that any Social Security number included on a birth certificate is placed in the confidential section of

the document. Now, Social Security numbers can only be recorded in sections of the certificate that are determined to be used for medical or research purposes. This bill also applies to marriage and death certificates and is an important step in limiting personal information from certain files. ([Public Act 08-66](#))

## Confidentiality of Social Security Numbers

To address the drastic rise in identity theft, the legislature passed a law requiring business and firms which use Social Security numbers to destroy this personal information prior to its disposal. In addition, organizations which collect Social Security numbers in the normal course of business must create a privacy protection policy which ensures the confidentiality of social security numbers. Violating the provisions of this bill is subject to civil penalties ranging from \$500 to \$5,000. ([Public Act 08-167](#))

## Volunteer Service by Paid Emergency Personnel or Paid Firefighters

All around the state paid full-time firefighters volunteer their services in the towns in which they reside. Without this spirit of civic duty, our communities would suffer greatly. [Public Act 08-131](#) prohibits municipalities from banning paid firefighters or paid emergency personnel from serving as active members of a volunteer fire department located in the municipality of which they live. ([Public Act 08-131](#))



## State Fire Prevention Code

In an effort to enhance fire safety, this bill establishes an advisory committee to work with the state fire marshal to adopt and administer a state fire prevention code based on the nationally recognized fire prevention code. The code will be applied by the state fire marshal to enhance the enforcement capabilities of local fire marshals. It is my hope legislation like this will help reduce future fire-related tragedies from occurring. ([Public Act 08-65](#))

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## Persistent Felony Offenders

People arrested for manslaughter, arson, kidnapping, robbery, assault, home invasion, burglary, or sexual assault who have already once been convicted of, and served time for, committing one of these crimes, may be charged as persistent dangerous felony offenders.



Under current law, the penalty for someone who meets the criteria to be a persistent dangerous felony offender with one of the required prior convictions is up to forty years. Under this bill, the penalty instead is twice the minimum penalty for the crime the person stands convicted of, including twice any mandatory minimum sentence that applies. The bill appropriates \$10 million to the criminal justice system to implement these measures. ([Public Act 08-51](#))

Additionally, [Public Act 08-102](#) will reduce caseloads for probation officers, so they can spend more time supervising violent criminals and sex offenders who pose higher risk to the public. We expect this measure to reduce the likelihood they may commit another crime. ([Public Act 08-102](#))

## Protective Orders

This bill expands the courts' authority to issue protective orders for certain types of sexual assault and certain charges of injury to a minor. Court-issued protective orders are criminal orders often issued to protect victims of family violence. ([Public Act 08-108](#))