



CITY OF HARTFORD

HARTFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT

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EDDIE A. PEREZ
Mayor

DARYL K. ROBERTS
Chief of Police

Raised Bill No. 35

Good morning Senator McDonald, Representative Lawlor, and honorable members of the Judiciary Committee:

I am testifying today in Support of raised bill 35, *An Act Concerning the Registration of Sexual Offenders*.

The Hartford Police Department (HPD) Sex Offender Registry Unit (SORU) is responsible for maintaining a central registry of persons residing in the City of Hartford who have been convicted of certain sexual offenses and are statutorily required to register with the State of Connecticut Department of Public Safety Connecticut Sex Offender Registry Unit¹. Any registered sex offender residing in the City of Hartford found to be in non-compliance and/or failure to register status is investigated by the HPD SORU and appropriate police action is taken. Additional investigative duties are, but not limited to; sex offender newly registered notification, sex offender change of address notification, sex offender release notification, and sex offender arrest warrant services.

There are approximately 5,000 registered sex offenders residing in Connecticut. Currently, there are 502 registered sex offenders residing in Hartford (10% of the entire state list). Hartford has the largest number of sex offenders residing within city limits, exceeding all other cities and towns in the state.

- There are 10 homeless, emergency or other shelters in Hartford
- There are 56 sex offenders living in the various homeless shelters
- There is at least one school within walking distance of every shelter where sex offenders reside
- Challenges arise when investigating and monitoring sex offenders residing in homeless shelters

Passage of Bill No. 35 with the amended language under Section 8 will increase the ability of law enforcement officers to conduct compliance checks and monitoring requirements of registered sex offenders residing in homeless shelters (see page 2 for Sec. 8 (b) for amended language).

Cooperation from staff authorized to work at a homeless, emergency or other shelter where registered sex offenders reside is instrumental in maintaining compliance and providing continued public safety for the neighborhoods and community.

¹ Connecticut General Statutes 54-250 through 54-261 mandate that the Connecticut Department of Public Safety establish and maintain a central registry of persons who have been convicted of certain sexual offenses and are required to register under the general statutes. The Hartford Police Department has jurisdictional responsibility for all registered sex offenders residing in the city of Hartford that meet the aforementioned mandates.

Bill No. 35
LCO No. 726

AN ACT CONCERNING THE REGISTRATION OF SEXUAL OFFENDERS.

Sec. 8. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2008*) (a) Any person who has reason to believe that a person required to register under the provisions of section 2, 3 or 4 of this act or section 54-253 or 54-254 of the 2008 supplement to the general statutes, as amended by this act, is in violation of registration requirements and who, with intent to assist the registrant in eluding a law enforcement officer in the investigation or enforcement of such violation, (1) withholds information from, or does not notify, the law enforcement officer about the registrant's noncompliance with the requirements of said sections and, if known, the whereabouts of the registrant, (2) harbors, or attempts to harbor, or assists another person in harboring or attempting to harbor, the registrant, (3) conceals or attempts to conceal, or assists another person in concealing or attempting to conceal, the registrant, (4) knowingly provides false information regarding the registrant, (5) obstructs or hinders the law enforcement officer in the performance of such officer's official duties relative to the investigation, [compliance check](#) or enforcement of such violation, or (6) falsely represents the registrant by signing address verification forms or other official documentation relative to the registration of sexual offenders, shall be guilty of a class D felony.

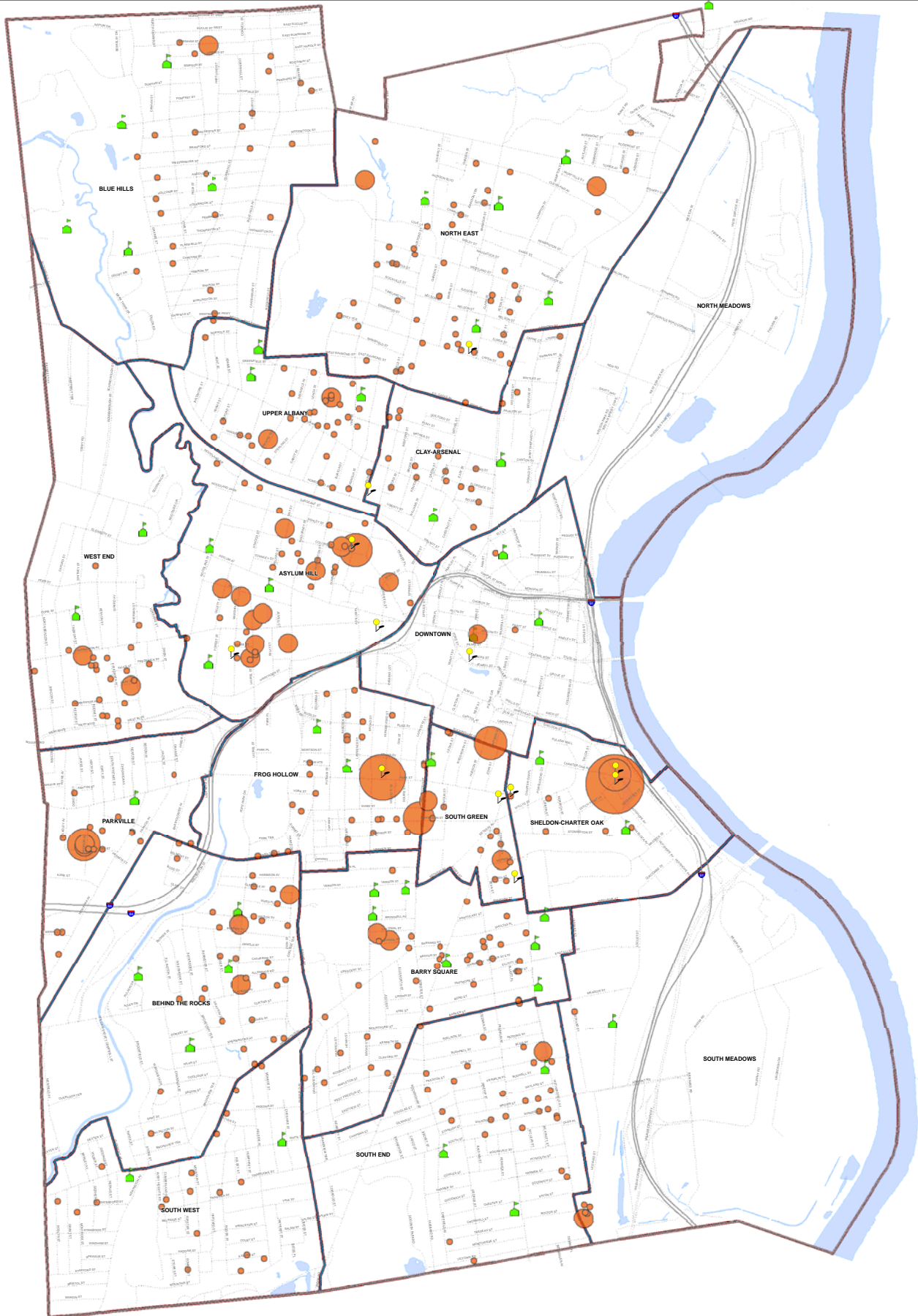
[\(b\) Any person employed, staffed, or otherwise authorized work by a homeless, emergency or other shelter where a person is required to register under provisions of sections 2, 3 or 4 of this act or section 54-253 or 54-254 of the 2008 supplement to the general statutes, as amended by this act, and such person required to register has listed that homeless, emergency, or other shelter as their residence address, is in violation of registration requirements and who, \(1\) withholds information from, if known, the law enforcement officer about the whereabouts of the registrant, \(2\) knowingly provides false information regarding the registrant, \(3\) obstructs or hinders the law enforcement in the performance of such officer's official duties relative to the investigation, \[compliance check\]\(#\), or enforcement of such violation, shall be guilty of a class D felony.](#)

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. For further information or questions please contact:

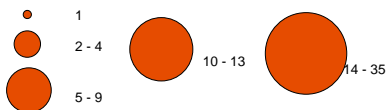
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City of Hartford MARCH 2008 - SEX OFFENDER REGISTRY MAP





SEX OFFENDER CONCENTRATOIN



Map prepared by
The HPD Crime Analysis Division

Legend

-  SHELTER
-  SCHOOLS

