



RHODE ISLAND POLICE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

PRESIDENT
Chief Michael Correia
Barrington Police Dept.

VICE PRESIDENT
Chief Ryan Duffy
Newport Police Dept.

SERGEANT AT ARMS
Chief Brian Peters
Portsmouth Police Dept.

SECRETARY
Colonel Michael Winquist
Cranston Police Dept.

TREASURER
Chief Matthew Moynihan
South Kingstown Police Dept.

**IMMEDIATE PAST
PRESIDENT**
Chief Thomas Oates III
Woonsocket Police Dept.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Chief Sidney Wordell, Ret.

BOARD MEMBER
Dep. Director David DeCesare
Security and Safety
Rhode Island Supreme Court

April 28, 2026

The Honorable Carol Hagan McEntee
Chair, House Judiciary Committee
Rhode Island State House
Providence, RI 02903
HouseJudiciary@rilegislature.gov

Support H. 8384 – Casey’s law

Dear Chairwoman McEntee and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the Rhode Island Police Chiefs Association, I write in strong support of H. 8384, known as Casey’s Law.

This legislation addresses a dangerous and increasingly visible threat on our roadways—road rage. By establishing enhanced penalties for criminal offenses committed because of intentionally aggressive, threatening, or dangerous driving behavior, this bill ensures that the law appropriately reflects the seriousness of these actions.

As you know, Casey’s Law is named in memory of Casey Bassignani, who was tragically killed in a road rage incident in November 2025. Her death underscores the very real and devastating consequences of aggressive driving when it escalates beyond control. This legislation serves as a meaningful tribute to her life by working to prevent similar tragedies and improve safety on our roadways.

From a law enforcement perspective, road rage incidents present significant risks not only to those directly involved, but to the public at large. These situations often unfold quickly, escalate unpredictably, and can result in serious injury or loss of life. Providing enhanced penalties serves both as a deterrent and as a tool to hold offenders accountable when their actions go beyond negligence and into intentional, dangerous conduct.

Importantly, H. 8384 does not create a new standalone offense, but instead enhances penalties for underlying criminal violations when they are driven by road rage. This approach ensures proportionality while recognizing the heightened danger associated with these behaviors.

Additionally, the creation of a dedicated fund to support public awareness and safe driving education will help reinforce prevention efforts and promote safer behavior on Rhode Island’s roadways.

This legislation sends a clear message: aggressive and dangerous driving will not be tolerated, and those who engage in such behavior will face serious consequences.

For these reasons, we respectfully urge the Committee to support H. 8384.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "S. Wordell", with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Chief Sidney Wordell (ret.)
Executive Director
Rhode Island Police Chiefs Association