

To Members of the House Judiciary Committee:

My name is Bella Robinson. I am a resident of West Warwick, RI (District 27-Representative Patricia Serpa).

I am writing to you today in support of H6637. This bill makes clear what should always be the legal standard — those being detained or in police custody should never be subject to sexual abuse or rape from “peace officers.”

It is common sense that people who are detained or under arrest are legally incapable of consenting to sexual acts with peace officers who hold enormous power over them. We can never tolerate predators in any profession.

Below I have outlined several examples locally and nationwide, that show this type of sexual abuse is common. These are human rights violations that must be stopped.

1. [In the news](#) January 2022- Judge tells ex-prison guard convicted of sexually assaulting an incarcerated woman that he can join the military or go to jail
2. [News headline](#) from December 6th, 2021 “Correctional office at the ACI in Cranston is facing numerous charges after an investigation revealed he was having sex with an inmate.” We are shocked that the sexual assault of an incarcerated person is being labeled as consensual sex by the media.
3. It wasn't that long ago that a [Central Falls police officer was accused of sexual assault, misconduct, and lying.](#)
4. [Former Narragansett police officer charged in a child pornography case](#)
5. [Prisoner details alleged beating, sexual assault at N.J. women’s prison in the lawsuit](#)
6. [This study](#) reveals that 1,219 officers were arrested for sex-related crimes from 2005 through 2012 and we have no idea how many sex-related crimes by peace officers were not reported. 17 percent of the officers arrested for sex crimes (213 officers total) were charged in multiple sex-related cases, meaning they were either repeat offenders or had multiple victims.
7. [Study Finds Nearly Half of Child and Adult Sex Trafficking Victims Were Abused by Police](#)
8. [RAPISTS WITH BADGES GUNS AND HANDCUFFS](#)
9. [POLICE OFFICER ROB RAPE EXTORT SOLICIT PIMP KILL SEX WORKERS](#)

10. [PEDOPHILES AND CHILD PORN- THE COPS, JUDGES, DAs, FBI AGENTS, SECRET SERVICE AGENTS AND OTHER GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES WHO CAN'T KEEP THEIR HANDS OFF MINORS](#)
11. [DOMESTIC VIOLENCE BY LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENTS: ASSAULT MURDER-SUICIDE](#)
12. [This Officer Was Under Investigation When He Shot and Murdered Sex Worker Donna Dalton](#)
13. [FBI Informant Encouraged To Have Sex In War On Terror](#)
14. [Feds: Police, FBI Task Force Officer in Pennsylvania Had Sex With Informants, Gave Out Drugs](#)
15. [How a Married Undercover Cop Having Sex With Activists Killed a Climate Movement](#)

In light of the evidence I have presented above, it leads me to ask to add an amendment to H6637; to expand this protection to people under investigation by law enforcement. You have the power to stop this systemic abuse. Please vote H6637 out of committee.

Sincerely,

Bella Robinson
COYOTE RI
401-525-8757
bella@coyoteri.org