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# CONNECTICUT STATE POLICE UNION

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January 4, 2024

*Emailed to [ronnell.higgins@ct.gov](mailto:ronnell.higgins@ct.gov)*

Commissioner Ronnell Higgins  
Department of Emergency Services  
& Public Protection (DESPP)  
1111 Country Club Road  
Middletown, CT 06457

*Emailed to [daniel.loughman@ct.gov](mailto:daniel.loughman@ct.gov)*

Colonel Daniel Loughman  
Department of Emergency Services  
& Public Protection (DESPP)  
1111 Country Club Road  
Middletown, CT 06457

## **Re: Demand for Bargaining- Global Positioning System (GPS)**

Dear Commissioner Higgins and Colonel Loughman:

On behalf of the State Police Union leadership and our Troopers, we congratulate you both on your appointments as Commissioner and Colonel. We have known you both for many years and recognize you possess the character, compassion, and leadership skills necessary to lead the agency in a positive and productive direction.

Since taking office, you both have shown real leadership by visiting all eleven (11) State Police barracks to speak directly with your Troopers. We also appreciated that you took the time to introduce yourself to the Union's Executive committee on Tuesday, December 19, 2023, where you shared your visions to address some long-standing needs for the agency and ways to ensure the public has the highest level of trust and confidence in the State Police. During our meeting, you discussed the desire to work with us to make changes to our current Global Positioning System (GPS) policy, A&O Chapter 13.16.

As discussed, the State Police Union leadership believes the changes contemplated are mandatory subjects of bargaining and would constitute a change in the bargaining unit's working conditions. As a result, we are requesting to bargain over the impact these policy changes would have on the membership. As you know, to augment the uniform patrol staffing in the field, our Troopers are authorized to take their assigned cruisers home and we are significantly concerned about the safety of our Troopers and their families. We are committed to working with you and your command staff to find solutions to each other's concerns regarding this issue. In the meantime, we respectfully request that the State maintain the *status quo ante* regarding the GPS policy, until we have had the opportunity to negotiate with the Department over our concerns and preserve our members rights.

Lastly, we are optimistic for the future and are committed to working with you to ensure the health, safety and well-being of our Troopers and the public.

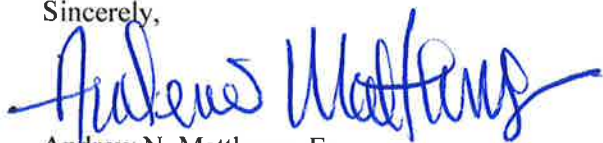
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Thank you for your time and consideration regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Andrew Matthews". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Andrew N. Matthews, Esq.  
Executive Director, Connecticut State Police Union

cc: President Todd Fedigan