

July 17, 2015

Mayor Pedro Segarra City of Hartford Mayor's Office 550 Main Street Hartford, CT 06103

Mayor Segarra:

I received your letter yesterday and have had time to review your request for additional state assistance. I understand that your City is in the midst of a spike in homicides, and I believe that any loss of life in any Connecticut community is too much. Rest assured that the State of Connecticut will provide additional assistance to Hartford during this difficult time.

As I am sure you are aware, the State currently provides assistance to the City to prevent violent crime in various ways, including Project Longevity, the Hartford Shooting Task force, six State Troopers in the North Central office of the Statewide Narcotics Task Force who work alongside Hartford police on drug and gun investigations, an additional Trooper assigned to the "FBI Safe Streets" program in Hartford, the supplementation of large scale public events with state resources, and more. In total over the last two fiscal years, the State has provided the City of Hartford with more than \$4.9 million in direct funding to prevent violent crime and has contributed corrections, parole, probation, State Police and Division of Criminal Justice personnel to these efforts.

As you're also aware, the State of Connecticut overall is seeing record reductions in violent crime, now reaching a 40-year low. Hartford's current spike in homicides is happening at the same time other large Connecticut cities have seen homicides drop in comparison to prior years. We want to assist the City of Hartford in understanding why this aberration is occurring, and what we can do together to put a stop to it.

To best address your request for additional resources, I've asked my Chief of Staff, Mark Ojakian, to immediately convene an emergency meeting with representatives from the City, Commissioner Schriro of DESSP, Colonel Brian Meraviglia of the State Police, Corrections Commissioner Semple, the Statewide Shooting Task Force, the Chief State's Attorney, and federal law enforcement.

The goal of the meeting will be to discuss your current strategy to combat violence in your City, and to understand how you would put the requested additional resources to use. This group should review current and past staffing levels at the Hartford Police Department and understand how those resources are currently being allocated to combat this outbreak in violence. The group will determine how state and federal law enforcement partners can best assist in activating additional resources to compliment local efforts.

We look forward to hearing from your office on when we can schedule this emergency meeting.

Sincerely,

Dannel P. Malloy

Governor