

## Thomas E. Dewhurst III

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**From:** Thomas E. Dewhurst III  
**Sent:** Friday, September 02, 2011 1:52 PM  
**To:** Andy Shagoury  
**Subject:** FW: Senate Bill B88  
**Attachments:** NH Senate Bill B88.doc

Andy Jim Reams asked that this letter be forwarded to the Chiefs.  
Thanks

Thomas E. Dewhurst III  
Carroll County Attorney  
P.O. Box 218  
Ossipee, NH 03864  
(603) 539-7769  
(603) 539-2160 (fax)

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-----Original Message-----

**From:** Chloe Grant [<mailto:cgrant@co.cheshire.nh.us>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 01, 2011 4:12 PM  
**To:** 'Dennis Hogan'; 'James Reams'; 'Lara Saffo'; 'Marc Hathaway'; 'Melissa Gulbrandsen'; 'Robert Mekeel'; 'Scott Murray'; Thomas E. Dewhurst III; 'Tom Velardi'  
**Cc:** 'Peter Heed'  
**Subject:** Senate Bill B88

Hello everyone.

Peter asked me to forward to you the attached letter to Senate President Peter Bragdon regarding SB 88.

Please let me know if you have any trouble opening the document.

Thank you!

Chloe Grant  
Executive Assistant

Cheshire County Attorney's Office  
12 Court Street

Keene, NH 03431

Phone: (603) 355-0158

Fax: (603) 355-3012

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**CARROLL COUNTY**  
**OFFICE OF THE COUNTY ATTORNEY**



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October 13, 2011

Penny S. Dean, Esq.  
59 Warren Street  
Concord, NH 03301-3951

THOMAS E. DEWHURST III  
COUNTY ATTORNEY

Re: Right to Know Requests 91-A

SUSAN O. BOONE  
DEP. COUNTY ATTORNEY

Dear Attorney Deans,

This will confirm that the only letter and email which I forwarded from my office concerning SB 88 was one that was the letter drafted by Attorney Peter Heed, Cheshire County Attorney which I have enclosed on behalf of the New Hampshire County Attorney's Association. This letter and email was forwarded to Chief Andrew Shagoury of Tuftonboro Police Department for dissemination to the Chief's of Police of Carroll County as instructed by Attorney Heed. I did not otherwise independently comment generate electronic, letter, or memorandum the general court for the year 2011 that I am aware of.

If you should have any other questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.  
Thank you.

Very Truly Yours,

Thomas E. Dewhurst, III  
Carroll County Attorney

MELISSA SMITH  
VICTIM WITNESS PROGRAM  
(603) 539-7476  
msmith@carrollcountynh.net

Encl.

PETER W. HEED  
CHESHIRE COUNTY ATTORNEY  
ASSISTANT COUNTY ATTORNEY

KATHLEEN G. O'REILLY

DAVID LAUREN

CHRIS MCLAUGHLIN

JOHN S. WEBB

JEAN KILHAM

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JOHN J. MCCORMACK

JOHN M. GASAWAY JR.

**CHESHIRE COUNTY**  
**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**OFFICE OF**  
**THE COUNTY ATTORNEY**

SARAH MCKENZIE HOSKINS  
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE  
VICTIM/WITNESS COORDINATOR

JULIE J. SHORT  
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TEL. (603) 352-0056  
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September 1, 2011

Senate President Peter Bragdon  
And State Senators  
Senate Chambers, State House  
Concord, NH 03301

**Re: Senate Bill B88**

Dear Senate President Bragdon:

The New Hampshire County Attorneys Association, the members of which prosecute 95%+ of all felony level crimes in New Hampshire, joins the New Hampshire Association of Chiefs of Police, the New Hampshire Sheriff's Association and the New Hampshire Police Association by opposing Senate Bill 88 as it is written.

Misinformation about Senate Bill 88 needs to be clarified. First, Senate Bill 88 is not about the Second Amendment Right to Bear Arms. Senate Bill 88 is a self-defense statute, not a gun statute.

Second, Senate Bill 88 is not about the State v. Ward Bird issue. The issue of whether there should be a mandatory minimum sentence for the commission of a crime using a firearm is a distinct matter being addressed separately. In fact, the Governor has said that a clean repeal of the mandatory minimum would be signed by him upon its passage.

Third, Senate Bill 88 is not needed to ensure that people can defend themselves. Our current self defense law is reflected in NH RSA 627:4, (II-a) and 631:4, IV, and was strengthened by amendment two years ago. Current law allows for self-defense. It does not require anyone to retreat in their home. Moreover, it permits individuals to respond to a threat of deadly force by displaying a firearm, with the intent to warn away the threatening person.

Our current law is working very well and does not need to be changed. Worst of all, a similar law in another state has generated significant public safety issues.

We respectfully urge the Senate to either uphold the Governor's veto or table the bill until the next legislative session, so a different version can be considered by the Senate.

Sincerely,

Peter Heed, Cheshire County Attorney  
President, New Hampshire County Attorneys Association

Cc: Governor John Lynch  
Attorney General Michael Delaney