



If you need help or just someone to talk to call:  
**888 - 774 - 2900**

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **'Undercutting' through bondsmen**

HARTFORD - When Selami Ozdemir killed his wife and then himself last year, it was due to being released on a bond that he paid little or no money up front. This "undercutting" is an unfortunate tactic that some bail bondsmen across Connecticut use, leading to some dangerous unintended consequences.

On Monday February 28<sup>th</sup>, lawmakers on the state's domestic violence task force said they were taking aim at these bondsmen because the practice of undercutting is most acute in family-violence cases-where the offender returns home to the victim and often assaults her again.

In addition to bail reform, both new and old recommendations include:

- Around-the-clock staffing for emergency shelters.
- A GPS pilot program to monitor high-risk, repeat offenders.
- The creation of more specialized domestic violence courts.
- Improved employment protections for victims.
- Stricter enforcement of restraining orders and protective factors.
- Allowing teen victims of dating violence to obtain a restraining order against another teenager.
- Requiring a person ordered to surrender a firearm after a domestic violence arrest to turn over the gun to someone outside the household.
- Establishing protocols for police response to violations of court orders.

Erika Tindill, Executive Director of CCADV, said that she and other advocates were "thrilled" with the work of the task force. And we at CCADV also wish for your continual support of the task force and

all that they do.

# # #

*Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence, Inc. (CCADV), is a statewide 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that works to change social conditions through policy advocacy, public awareness, technical assistance and education. The current membership of the CCADV includes private, non-profit agencies providing services to victims of domestic violence which include but are not limited to safety planning, short-term counseling and support groups, information and referrals, advocacy, emergency shelter, children's programs and community education and training. To learn more about CCADV, please visit [www.ctcadv.org](http://www.ctcadv.org).*

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