

Attorney General Adam Laxalt
Office of the Attorney General
100 N Carson Street
Carson City, NV 89701

November 20, 2017

Attorney General Laxalt:

This letter is to confirm that the Nevada Attorney General Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team (AG-DVFRST) did not conduct a case review in 2017.

Since the establishment of the team in 2012 at least one case has been reviewed by the AG-DVFRST each year. Cases are selected through a review of the Nevada Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence's Annual Homicide Report to identify cases that meet the screening criteria for review. To be eligible for review by the AG-DVFRST, cases must meet the following criteria; the perpetrator and the victim must be in a relationship characterized by the NRS 33.018 definition of domestic violence, the incident must have resulted in a death, the incident must have occurred outside of Clark or Washoe County and the case must be fully adjudicated. Once screened as a potential case for review, cases are then researched by an attorney with the Attorney General's Office to ensure that the case is fully adjudicated and also gain some additional information about the parties and how much historical information may be available for review.

Cases selected for review must meet the requirements listed above as well as have some additional history available for the team to conduct the timeline review process. Cases where the fatality appeared to be an isolated incident with no prior criminal or domestic violence history (per official records or statements from friends/family) are often not a good fit for review and are therefore not selected. The primary goal of the review team is to conduct the timeline case review to identify red flags where interventions could have occurred, as well as make recommendations for prevention.

Upon review by the Domestic Violence Ombudsman, Deputy Attorney General, and myself, no cases met these requirements in 2017 and therefore the team did not conduct a case review. In early 2018 reports will be reviewed to identify a new case that meets the criteria or assess whether one of the cases from 2013-2015 has become eligible.

Sincerely,



Tara Phebus
Executive Director
Nevada Institute for Children's Research and Policy
School of Community Health Sciences
University of Nevada Las Vegas

School of Community Health Sciences