

**NEVADA COUNCIL FOR THE PREVENTION
OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

Thursday, January 24, 2008, at 10:00 a.m.

The Office of the Attorney General
100 North Carson Street
Conference Room
Carson City, Nevada 89701

**With
Public Access Via Videoconference Located At:**

Grant Sawyer Building
555 East Washington Street, Suite 3900
Room # 3315
Las Vegas, NV 89101

AGENDA

Please Note: The Nevada Council for the Prevention of Domestic Violence ("Council") may address agenda items out of sequence to accommodate persons appearing before the Council or to aid the efficiency or effectiveness of the meeting. The Council may convene in closed session to consider the character, alleged misconduct, professional competence or physical or mental health of a person (NRS 241.030).

At the discretion of the Chairman, public comment is welcomed by the Council. It will take place at the beginning of the meeting and will be given as much time as is necessary for all of those interested to be heard. A public comment time will also be available as the last item on the agenda. The Chairperson may allow additional time to be given a speaker as time allows and in his/her sole discretion. Once all items on the agenda are completed the meeting will adjourn.

***Asterisks (*) denote items on which Council may take action.
Action by the Council on an item may be to approve, deny, amend, or table.***

1. *Call to order, roll call of members (Attorney General Catherine Cortez Masto).
2. *Review, amend, and approve minutes from the October 4, 2007, Council meeting.
3. *Report, discussion, and possible action on request from Executive Committee to Review the Death of Children (Dr. Neha Mehta).

Nevada Council for the Prevention of Domestic Violence

4. *Report, discussion and action on applicants for Council membership.
5. *Review, discussion and possible action regarding Committees and Committee membership. (Kareen Prentice)
6. *Report, discussion, and possible action on reports/updates from the following Committees of the Council:
 - By-laws & Structure Committee (Russell Smith)
 - Review of bylaws in reference to removal of committee members.
 - Criminal Justice Committee (Brad Simpson).
 - Education Committee (Valerie Cooney/Sue Meuschke).
 - Report, discussion and possible action on update on Girl Scout Domestic Violence Merit Patch Project (Robin Mercer, Junior League of Reno and Anna Thornley, Girl Scouts of Sierra Nevada).
 - Legislative Committee (Mike Sprinkle).
 - *Report, discussion and possible action on presentation on AB 194 and related federal firearms provisions (Nancy Hart).
 - Nominating Committee (Suzanne Ramos).
 - Public Information Committee (Brett Kandt).
 - Underserved Populations Committee (Suzanne Ramos).
7. *Report, discussion, and action on reports/updates from the following Council Officers:
 - a. Vice Chair (Sue Meuschke).
 - b. Treasurer (Suzanne Ramos).
 - c. Secretary (Brett Kandt)
8. *Report from the Domestic Violence Ombudsman (Kareen Prentice).

Nevada Council for the Prevention of Domestic Violence

a. Financial report.

9. Report from the Southern Nevada Domestic Violence Task Force (Elynne Greene).
10. Report from the Washoe County Domestic Violence Task Force (Dr. Freda).
11. Report from the Nevada Coalition Against Sexual Violence. (Andrea Sundberg)
12. Report from the Attorney General Office on Violence Against Women (Dorene Whitworth).
13. Report from the Committee on Domestic Violence (Jennifer Kandt).
14. Update on Best Practices project (Brett Kandt).
 - Dave Mincavage, City of Henderson Attorney's Office
 - Craig Mingay, Churchill County District Attorney's Office
 - Russell Smith, Humboldt County District Attorney's Office
15. *Discussion and scheduling of future meetings and agenda items.
16. Public Comment.

Note: No vote may be taken upon a matter raised under this item of the agenda until the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an item upon which action may be taken. (NRS 241.020)

17. *Adjournment.

This agenda has been sent to all members of the Council and other interested persons who have requested an agenda from the Council. Persons who wish to continue to receive an agenda and notice must request so in writing on an annual basis.

Anyone desiring additional information regarding the meeting is invited to call the Council office at (775) 688-1818. We are pleased to make reasonable accommodations for members of the public who are disabled and wish to attend the meeting. If special arrangements for the meeting are necessary, please notify the Council's administrative assistant at (775) 688-1818, no later than 48 hours prior to the meeting. Requests for special arrangements made after this time frame cannot be guaranteed.

THIS MEETING HAS BEEN PROPERLY NOTICED AND POSTED
IN THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

| | | |
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| Office of the Attorney General 100 N Carson Street Carson City, Nevada 89701 | Office of the Attorney General 5420 Kietzke Lane, Ste 202 Reno, Nevada 89511 | Grant Sawyer State Office Building 555 E. Washington Avenue Las Vegas, Nevada 89101 |
| Jean Nidetch Women's Center University of Nevada, Las Vegas 4505 Maryland Parkway Las Vegas, Nevada 89154 | Safe Nest 2915 W. Charleston Blvd., #12 Las Vegas, Nevada 89102 | Reno City Hall One E. First Street Reno, Nevada 89501 |
| | Nevada Network Against Domestic Violence 220 South Rock Boulevard, Suite 7 Reno Nevada 89502 | |

**STATE OF NEVADA
NEVADA COUNCIL FOR THE PREVENTION OF
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

Minutes of Meeting

Thursday, January 24, 2008, at 10:00 a.m.

Office of the Attorney General
100 North Carson Street
Carson City, Nevada 89701

Committee Members Present in Carson City

Adriana Botello, Dr. Ellen Ewing, Brett Kandt, Gail Palchikoff, Kelly Langdon,
Linda Lilleboe, Rebecca Smokey, Dr. Michael Freda, Robert Zentz, Mike
Sprinkle, Ron Titus, Russell Smith, Sue Meuschke, Suzanne Ramos, Traci Dory,
Valerie Cooney

Committee Members Present in Las Vegas

Andrea Sundberg, Brad Simpson, Elyne Greene

Committee Members Absent

David Kohlmeier, Miriam Ohata-Sims, Judge Patricia Lynch, Tammy Whatley,

Public Present in Carson City and Las Vegas

Craig Mingay, Nancy Hart, Anna Thornley, Dave Mincavage, Nicole Waite,
Barbara Aupperle, Dr. Neha Mehta, Carol White

Attorney General's Office staff present

Kareen Prentice, Domestic Violence Ombudsman
Henna Kacyra, Deputy Attorney General
Dorene Whitworth, Grants and Programs Analyst Supervisor
Lisa South, Assistant to the Domestic Violence Ombudsman
Melissa Page, Assistant to the Council
Jennifer Kandt, Administrative Coordinator to the Committee on DV

1. ***Call to order, roll call of members, and introduction.**
Sue Meuschke called the meeting to order at 10:08 a.m. A roll call was performed and quorum was established.
2. ***Review, amend and approve minutes from the October 4, 2007 Council meeting.**
A revision was made to page six, sixth paragraph, last word. It read "temporary insanity" and was amended to read "temporary custody". On page fourteen, paragraphs five and six, there was a tribe mentioned as the "Tamoka Tribe". Council members asked that the spelling be verified. It was researched and revised to read, "Te-Moak Tribe". The minutes with these specified amendments were approved by the Council.
3. ***Report, discussion, and possible action on request from Executive Committee to Review the Death of Children (Dr. Neha Mehta).**
Dr. Mehta addressed the Council about the findings of the Executive Committee to Review the Death of Children. In Clark County they review the deaths of all children under the age of 18 and give recommendations to the State. Dr. Mehta shared the case of a toddler murdered by the boyfriend of the the toddler's mother. The mother had difficulty accepting the coroner's finding that the toddler had been murdered by the boyfriend, because she believed the boyfriend when he said that the toddler and one-year old sibling had been beating each other. She was separated from the boyfriend when he was incarcerated for the murder but still wanted to visit him. When she saw the judge in family court about whether or not the one-year old was to remain under the mother's care, the judge found that because she was a victim of domestic violence, he did not want to require her to do any counseling as he felt that would be re-victimizing her. Because of this decision, Dr. Mehta and others of the Executive Committee are concerned about the way victims of domestic violence are being perceived by the courts. Dr. Mehta shared a statistic with the Council that states that a child living in a home with an unrelated male is fifty percent more likely to die of homicide than a child living in a home with a related male. Dr. Mehta emphasized that children, as well women, are victims of domestic violence. In cases that Dr. Mehta discussed, the female victims of domestic violence were aware of the abuse that was happening to their children, and were often involved in a series of abusive relationships. Because of this, she feels that these females should be mandated by the courts to receive treatment and classes about child abuse so that they can learn to better protect their children. In addition to the treatment aimed at the domestic violence victims who have children, she felt that the judges need to be educated to start requiring victims to get treatment and attend classes on child abuse, instead of considering this, as is the currently held view, to be re-victimizing or traumatizing to the victim. Dr. Mehta also feels that programs specific to the children need to be provided as well.

Elyne Green spoke about the current availability of funds to children who witness abuse, even if they themselves are not abused. If they are listed in the police report as having witnessed the domestic violence, they are eligible to receive treatment.

Mike Sprinkle and Valerie Cooney both thanked Dr. Mehta for addressing the Council and spoke about the importance of recognizing the special issues of children in regard to domestic violence.

Ron Titus explained that judges receive training on domestic violence, but that he wasn't sure all the district judges had received the training as yet.

Sue Meuschke asked Dr. Mehta what training pediatricians receive in regard to domestic violence. Dr. Mehta explained that for the most part pediatricians are trained to recognize the signs of physical abuse in a child, but they do not specifically receive any training on domestic violence. Dr. Mehta went on to say that pediatricians are not trained in adult healthcare, and they don't routinely screen parents of their patients for domestic violence, and since the overwhelming majority of children who suffer severe abuse are under the age of three, and are non-verbal the pediatrician would just call Child Protective Services (CPS) in the event that they suspected abuse. Ms. Meuschke asked if pediatricians would benefit from domestic violence trainings. Dr. Mehta explained that she didn't think training on domestic violence would be that beneficial to them, since without signs of physical abuse, it would be very hard to get CPS to open a case. She felt it may increase awareness of the problem of domestic violence, but she didn't feel it would help increase intervention. Dr. Mehta said she would prefer that the focus stay on agencies that have the power to intervene, such as CPS, and the judiciary.

Brad Simpson spoke about the Southern Nevada Task Force on Domestic Violence and their mission to increase education to the community on domestic violence issues. He shared that the Task Force may have the funding to put on a good educational conference sometime in the future.

Russell Smith would like to see the training not be focused only on the district court judges, but rather, on whole communities – train the law enforcement, prosecutors, emergency room workers, pediatricians, CPS, etc.

Mike Sprinkle said that the Legislative committee will be looking at curriculum for judges and what kind of training they are receiving currently. Russell Smith asked for Dr. Mehta's contact information to perhaps set up some future trainings for his community, Kareen Prentice said that she had it and would send it out to all the members.

Sue Meuschke asked that Dr. Mehta forward her report on to the Education Committee and suggested that any kind of training that would be provided would need to have an expert on domestic violence to talk about some of the more complicated issues. Such as, are women “picking” abusers to have relationships with, or are the abusers targeting women who are most vulnerable? Ms. Meuschke hopes that a multidisciplinary group would be formed to look into these issues in order to have the most effective training and certainly the safety and protection of children is a priority in everyone’s work.

Adrianna Botello wanted to share that in Reno, the family court judges are already doing a lot to promote counseling for the children once they enter CPS. One area she felt was lacking was in sensitivity to cultural differences.

4. *Report, discussion and action on applicants for Council membership.

Suzanne Ramos reported on the approval of five new members to the Council. She introduced Barbara Aupperle to the rest of the Council and asked that they approve her. Brett Kandt moved to approve her membership, and Mike Freda and Brad Simpson seconded the motion. Suzanne Ramos asked that all the other new members introduce themselves to the Council as well. Linda Lilleboe, Dr. Ellen Ewing, Kelly Langdon, and Andrea Sundberg each briefly introduced themselves to the Council. Sue Meuschke asked that all the Council members briefly introduce themselves for the benefit of the new members present.

5. *Review, discussion and possible action regarding Committees and Committee membership. (Kareen Prentice)

The Chair of each committee gave a little information about what their committee does so that the new members could pick which committee/committees they’d like to join. Kareen Prentice explained that each Council member must be on at least one committee and then went over the attendance requirements at Council and committee meetings. She then requested that any members who would like to be removed from a committee, or added to a different committee to simply ask, and those changes would be made.

- Barbara Aupperle joined the Criminal Justice and Public Information committees.
- Dr. Ellen Ewing joined the Education and Underserved Populations committees.
- Kelly Langdon joined the Education and Legislative committees.
- Andrea Sundberg joined the Education and Legislative committees.
- Linda Lilleboe joined the Education committee.

- Brett Kandt joined the ByLaws Committee, and asked that the name be changed to Regulations and Structure. The name change was approved. Brett asked to be removed from the Education Committee

6. *Report, discussion, and possible action on reports/updates from the following committees of the Council:

- **Regulations and Structure Committee formerly Bylaws & Structure Committee report. (Russell Smith)**
 - Russell Smith thanked Bob Zentz and Henna Kacyra for all their work on the Bylaws. Russell Smith went through the different changes that were made to the old Bylaws document. On the top of page 3 – “shall” was taken out and “may” was put in under membership. “Unexcused” was taken out, and not replaced with anything. In the middle of the page, “Chair appointment of members” was added. “The Chair may appoint other members as deemed necessary and appropriate.” Under “Officers” – the second one is just an addition – “his/her designee” was added. Page five, three from the bottom where it says “Quorum” – “50%” was removed and replaced by “a simple majority”. The last change was added to address the other changes made. Under “Removal of committee members”. “Members may be recommended for removal by a simple majority vote at the committee meeting” was added.
 - Ron Titus asked about page 3 and felt the ex-officio status should be made clearer as to whether they are voting or non-voting members. Brett Kandt felt the legal presumption was that ex-officio members are voting members and that if the Council wanted them to be non-voting members, it would need to be specified. Kareen Prentice said that she is a non-voting member, and is considered an ex-officio member of the Council. There was some discussion regarding the number of Council members allowed by statute. The statute reads: the Council must consist of not more than 30 members from the various regions of the state. The statute doesn’t make clear if they need to be all voting members or not. Sue Meuschke pointed out that the AG staff have acted simply as staff to the Council, and perhaps should not be counted against the total number (30) of Council members. Brett Kandt moved that the wording: the “Ombudsman shall serve as an ex-officio member of the Council” be submitted to the LCB. Motion was approved.
 - Sue Meuschke had a question about the wording of the election of officers to the Council. She felt that it would be

helpful to specify a time when those elections should take place. Brett Kandt moved that the wording “at the first Council meeting of the calendar year” be accepted. Motion was seconded. Motion was approved.

- Sue Meuschke requested a clarification of the wording of the formation of committees on page five. It was decided by the Council to specify that committees can be comprised of other people who are not Council members. Brett moved that the wording be amended to clarify that non-members can be part of committees. Motion was approved.
- Brett Kandt recommended that under the section on Finances – the section on funding, gifts/donations, etc. is fine, as it mirrors what is in the statutes. State budget laws oversee this whole section, so he didn’t feel that it needed to be restated in the regulations (by-laws) since it’s all laid out in the statutes. He felt that under “Officers duties” a line reading, “The duty of the Treasurer is to deliver a budget report at each Council meeting” and leave it at that. Brett moved that under the section “Finances - Gifts and Donations” replace the word “By-laws” with “Regulations” and under the section “Expenditures” amend it to read: “Expenditures for the Council will be in conformance with NRS 228.460”. Motion was approved.
- Mike Sprinkle moved that on page five under “Removal of committee members” he wants to change the wording to read: “Members may be removed by a simple majority vote of the quorum present at the committee meeting”. Motion was approved.
- Brett Kandt moved that the amended regulations in their entirety be submitted to the Attorney General for review and then to the Legislative Counsel Bureau pursuant to NRS. Motion was approved.

- **Criminal Justice Committee report. (Brad Simpson)**

- Brad Simpson had two issues to discuss that were gone over at the Criminal Justice committee meeting. The committee decided they would work with POST on the issue of law enforcement protocols. They want to provide trainings in the rurals throughout the state, making sure to work with POST to provide consistency. They would like to offer to help any agency that may need help writing or formulating their law enforcement protocols. Brad finished by saying that they are awaiting word on whether or not they will be receiving a GEAP grant this year. Even if the grant is not received they would like to use the format of the grant to

move forward on this plan. Brett added that he has contacted the Nevada Sheriff's and Chief's and it is expected that they will adopt a policy that reflects the IACP's policy on officer-involved domestic violence. Brad Simpson has some concerns about some of the IACP policies, like the one that requires all officers who know of another officer involved in domestic violence to report. His concern is how this would work for married law enforcement officers who may be involved in a domestic violence situation. This would in effect force the victim to report, which is not required of non-law enforcement victims.

- Brad Simpson moved onto the next issue that was discussed by the Criminal Justice committee – how to collect domestic violence statistics from the courts. He believes that after they contact a few more courts to see how these statistics are being collected, that he will contact the AOC and get some input from them on how these statistics may be collected in a more standardized way across the state. Ron Titus spoke about a project they now have that is collecting some domestic violence stats. He felt that the person Brad should contact at the AOC is Robin Sweet.

- **Education Committee report. (Valerie Cooney/Sue Meuschke)**

- Anna Thornley from the Girls Scouts of Sierra Nevada updated the Council on the progress on the Girl Scout's Domestic Violence Merit Patch Project in partnership with the Junior League of Reno, the Reno City Attorney's Office, the Attorney General's Office, and the Nevada Network Against Domestic Violence. She went over the plan to have activities in the curriculum be set up according to age level. Kareen Prentice explained that there would be a kick off event in October with the Attorney General and other dignitaries promoted by a press release. There are 9,000 girl scouts in the Sierra Nevada Council, so the program will potentially reach a lot of young women. They also plan to reach out to the Frontier Council of Girl Scouts in the South so that it could become a statewide program. It was discussed to try to include the Boy Scouts as well, but it was noted that the Boy Scouts' activities are governed at the national level unlike the Girl Scouts who get approval at the local level for their different programs, so the Boy Scouts may have to be reached out to in a different way.

- **Legislative Committee report. (Mike Sprinkle)**

- Mike Sprinkle talked about the upcoming legislative report. The Legislative Committee decided on what they want to see in this year's report. This report won't be as extensive as last year's report. It will touch on the rural tour from last summer, a summary of the legislation that was passed or failed, and will contain material from a follow up questionnaire that will be sent to all the rural judges, information from the Committee on Domestic Violence, the AOC will give information on the training of judges, and a copy of that training that the AOC provides. It will also include a list of advocates that are available in the rural areas that weren't available before. The Committee will bring a draft of the report to the attention of the full Council to seek final approval before the report is submitted to the Legislative Counsel Bureau.
- Elyne Green gave a short history of AB 194. Invited speaker Nancy Hart followed with a Powerpoint presentation on AB 194 and related federal firearms provisions. She began with a general overview of federal firearms provisions, definitions and statistics. She then focused on the federal language versus what other states have done, and the language of the Nevada firearms provisions of AB 194. She emphasized that it was very important to monitor how this new law is being used and enforced in the state – whether or not it is showing up in orders, whether it is being enforced, whether it has resulted in a seizure provision or search warrant, and if those have been carried out. How often is it being used? She said that it was important to develop allies within other agencies, law makers, counselors, etc. to help out at the legislature to further strengthen these types of provisions in the future.
- Sue Meuschke suggested that before questions or comments were taken that the information be sent to the Criminal Justice committee so they can think about presentations or trainings centered around this material, so that it doesn't just stop here. She also suggested the Committee collect information about how it is being implemented around the state.
- Brad Simpson shared some concerns and questions that came up in the South. Many were concerned at Metro that if the officers tried to get search warrants to retrieve the guns, they might begin to stir up a lot of protest from NRA and gun advocates. Instead they felt it would be better to take the people away from the guns. Their DV Commissioners have begun issuing contempt warrants from the bench on a person who has not turned over their guns, so the police can

go out and arrest that person. The contempt order usually stays in place until the gun is turned in. They also have a whole procedure in place on how the guns are turned in and what is required before a gun is ever handed back over to the adverse party.

- Sue asked that Agenda Item 14 be moved up as people were leaving soon and quorum would be lost. The members agreed.

14. *(Taken out of order) Update on Best Practices project. (Brett Kandt)

Brett Kandt began by explaining that the Best Practices project is a federally funded multi-year project that has focused on best practices for prosecuting domestic violence cases. Those best practices have been adopted by the Prosecution Advisory Council and four pilot sites have been busy implementing those best practices. The four pilot sites are Humboldt county (Russell Smith), Churchill county (Craig Mingay), Henderson (Dave Mincavage), and a Tri-county prosecutor who will prosecute the domestic violence crimes in Lander, Eureka, and White Pine counties. Mr. Kandt announced the upcoming strangulation trainings taking place in Reno and in Winnemucca that were brought about through requests by the Best Practices project sites. Russell Smith, Humboldt County District Attorney, reported on the Winnemucca Best Practices project which focused on protocols for their victim witness advocate. Craig Mingay, of the Churchill County District Attorney's Office, reported on their Best Practices project, followed by Dave Mincavage who reported on Henderson's project, which has focused on a Coordinated Community Response.

13. *(Taken out of order) Report from the Committee on Domestic Violence. (Jennifer Kandt)

Ms. Kandt reported the loss of two members from the Committee – Brad Simpson and Andrea Sundberg, but in their place the Committee gained two new members – Sue Meuschke and Lt. Chris Carrol. The Committee has submitted regulation changes to LCB and is waiting to hear back on them. Ms. Kandt reports that an issue that has been brought to the attention of the Committee on a regular basis is the lack of services available in the rural areas of Nevada. She said that it was discussed and decided that the Committee is not the appropriate body to be able to handle these requests since they are the board that actually grants licenses to these programs, so it was considered that the Council would be a more appropriate body to handle this issue. The Committee is requesting that the Council brainstorm ideas for what can be done to provide more services to rural Nevada.

Sue asked for a committee to look at the issue and brainstorm solutions. It was decided that the Education committee would brainstorm, but that eventually it may be given over to the Legislative committee for any actions that might need to take place.

12*(Taken out of Order) Report from the Attorney General's Office on Violence Against Women Grants. (Dorene Whitworth)

Ms. Whitworth announced that the awards had been issued from the STOP Grant program. She explained that one of the applications that they are promoting right now for Nevada is the Campus Grants. They would encourage somebody from UNR or UNLV to apply. She also spoke about the new Tri-county prosecutor for White Pine, Eureka, and Lincoln counties who is being funded through the STOP program this year. The Grants Unit is going to be applying for a Rural Grant to continue the funding for another two years while they figure out how to fund the position long-term.

6. *(Continued from earlier) Report, discussion, and possible action on reports/updates from the following committees of the Council:

- **Nominating Committee report. (Suzanne Ramos)**

Suzanne Ramos explained that the next meeting of the Nominating committee would be on February 26th at 11:00 am. Ms. Ramos announced that Shannon Wiecking has resigned from the Council. She regretted having to do so, after her many years on the Council, but her duties as Lieutenant have increased and she does not have the time she used to have to devote to the Council. Ms Ramos brought up the question that was posed earlier to the Committee about whether a judge should be a member of the Council. Kareen Prentice explained that she spoke to Ron Titus about the issue and that he was researching it and would provide that information to the Attorney General's office to look into it further. There was further discussion of the issue, and Ms. Meuschke asked that the Attorney General's office look into it and report back to the Council.

- **Public Information Committee report. (Brett Kandt had to leave, Suzanne gave the report)**

Suzanne Ramos passed around a draft of the brochure to everyone present and asked for approval. There was discussion regarding dates and some other issues. A motion was passed to approve as is, with two changes – change the date to “established in 1995 and then formalized in 2005” or something similar and change the wording regarding the Education committee so that it reflects that the Committee doesn't “provide training” but rather “facilitates training”.

- **Underserved Committee report. (Suzanne Ramos)**

Ms. Ramos reported that they are continuing to meet and prepare a survey that will go out to programs to see if there is increased access to bilingual services. She also reported that she spoke to Ron Titus of the AOC regarding the printing of TPO forms in Spanish and having them available to Spanish-speaking victims. The next meeting of the Underserved committee will be February 13, 2008, at 3:30pm.

Russell Smith thanked Bob Zentz and Henna Kacyra for all their work on the Bylaws.

7. *Report, discussion, and action on reports/updates from the following Council Officers:

- Vice Chair (Sue Meuschke) – Sue and the Council congratulated Kareen Prentice on her recent birthday.
- Treasurer (Suzanne Ramos) – Suzanne Ramos provided a budget update to the Council. Sue Meuschke suggested that since there was plenty of money remaining in the travel category, that instead of fighting the remote video technology, they instead try to all meet in person for the next Council meeting. Mike Sprinkle asked whether the Council budget would be affected by the state budget cut-backs. Kareen Prentice explained that the Council was under budget account 1042, rather than the 1030 general fund, and so if there would be any effect on the Council, it would be indirect – through the salaries paid to AG staff, rather than any direct budget cuts.
- Secretary (Brett Kandt) – No report.

8. *Report from Kareen Prentice, Domestic Violence Ombudsman.

Ms. Prentice reported that the Crisis Call Center is doing a “Men Can End Violence Against Women” campaign and she passed out some samples of their materials to the members and explained a bit about the campaign. She went on to report that her statewide tour of the domestic violence shelters has been completed, and a report will follow. It will include a short survey of shelter directors via email. She is also working on bringing all the executive directors and shelter managers from across the state together at a symposium or day conference to discuss issues and share feedback. Ms. Prentice went on to explain that the two Information Sessions for Media Professionals were a bit of a disappointment with very low turn out. She facilitated a workshop with Sue Meuschke, Kelly

Langdon, and Misty Allen entitled, "Helmets, Hotlines, and Hot Cars" at the Nevada Public Health Association Annual Conference of Health Cares Day. She then gave an update on the status of the Nevada Coalition Against Sexual Violence. Andrea Sundberg was hired as executive director of the Coalition and the Domestic Violence Ombudsman was made a non-voting member.

Ms. Prentice went on to say that over 30 people have taken and passed the test from the "Domestic Violence & Elder Abuse Investigations" training CDs that were mailed out to the law enforcement agencies statewide. She announced two Strangulation Trainings that are being held in Reno on May 14th, and Winnemucca on May 15th.

She also met recently with John McCormack from the Supreme Court and they are looking into providing some sort of court clerk/prosecutor/secretary domestic violence training in the rurals. The GEAP Best Practices project provided a \$5,000 training budget, but they don't feel that will be enough money to fund this, so the Supreme Court is looking into applying for a STOP grant in order to make this possible - perhaps as a CD training like the DV & Elder abuse one.

The next meeting of the Committee on Domestic Violence is scheduled for February 21st in Carson and video conferenced from Las Vegas. Some other things that the Ombudsman is currently working on include the Girl Scouts merit patch project, the AOC standardized forms committee, planning for events during October for Domestic Violence Awareness Month, and she will be attending the IACP's trainer development program with Elynne Greene February 4th through 8th in Charleston, South Carolina.

She also conducted a victims' rights training at POST with Traci Dory in November, and recently presented on domestic violence awareness at the Mesquite Club in Las Vegas. She introduced Carol Wright of Las Vegas to the Council. She is a member of the Mesquite Club and sits on the board of Safe House, and is a member of the International Federation of Womens Clubs. She works on many domestic violence awareness campaigns.

Ms. Prentice then updated the Council on the status of the Court Assessment account and the collections issues that were addressed by a letter sent out to all the court clerks, treasurers, administrators and chief judges who deal with the domestic violence assessments.

Next she informed the Council about the Attorney General's chairing of the Victims of Crime subcommittee for the Advisory Commission on the Administration of Justice. Ms. Prentice announced the Alliance for Victims'

Rights upcoming candlelight vigil taking place during Victim's Rights Week on April 16th, 2008. She then covered some housekeeping issues, such as the filling out of match forms and travel reimbursement forms by the Council members.

9. *Report from the Southern Nevada Domestic Violence Task Force. (Elynne Greene)

Elynne Greene spoke about some of their ongoing projects. She talked about their domestic violence plaque project and how they have 42 names of domestic violence murder victims for the plaque for 2007. She also talked about their annual Star Award and that they would be announcing the recipient of that soon.

7. *Report from the Washoe County Domestic Violence Task Force. (Dr. Freda)

Dr. Freda reported that in October they held their annual Safe and Healthy Homes event. They have a personal empowerment group for victims and their children that is completely free of charge. They get referrals to that program from CPS, courts, and other agencies. They are also doing some additional fundraising to be able to host more events in Northern Nevada.

8. *Report from the Nevada Coalition Against Sexual Violence. (Andrea Sundberg)

The first board meeting of the NCASV since Andrea Sundberg was hired as executive director will be held on February 20, 2008, from 10am until 2pm, at the Airport Plaza. They are working with the Crisis Call Center in Reno to rent office space so that they will have a presence in the North. She thanked Sue Meuschke and the staff at the NNADV for all they did to help the NCASV for the last year in keeping them financially stable.

15.*Discussion and scheduling of future meetings and agenda items.

Future meeting dates were discussed. The possible dates of May 19th and 20th were decided on for the next meeting and Northern rural tour.

16.*Public Comment.

A public member from Safe House discussed their signature drive for a statewide domestic violence license plate.

17.*Adjournment.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:15pm.

**NEVADA COUNCIL FOR THE PREVENTION
OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

Tuesday, June 24, 2008, at 10:00 a.m.

Lovelock Community Center
820 6th Street
Lovelock, Nevada 89419

AGENDA

Please Note: The Nevada Council for the Prevention of Domestic Violence (“Council”) may address agenda items out of sequence to accommodate persons appearing before the Council or to aid the efficiency or effectiveness of the meeting. The Council may convene in closed session to consider the character, alleged misconduct, professional competence or physical or mental health of a person (NRS 241.030).

At the discretion of the Chairman, public comment is welcomed by the Council. It will take place at the beginning of the meeting and will be given as much time as is necessary for all of those interested to be heard. A public comment time will also be available as the last item on the agenda. The Chairperson may allow additional time to be given a speaker as time allows and in his/her sole discretion. Once all items on the agenda are completed the meeting will adjourn.

Asterisks (*) denote items on which Council may take action.

Action by the Council on an item may be to approve, deny, amend, or table.

1. *Call to order, roll call of members (Attorney General Catherine Cortez Masto).
2. Introduction of Public.
3. *Review, amend, and approve minutes from the January 24, 2008 Council meeting.
4. Report from the Victims of Crime Subcommittee (Attorney General Catherine Cortez Masto).
5. *Discussion and possible action on Council’s request for an opinion from Nevada Commission on Judicial Discipline regarding judges’ ability to sit on Council.
6. Presentation by Humboldt County Sheriff Ed Kilgore and Deputy Will Bourland regarding the Drug Endangered Children Program.

7. *Report, discussion, and possible action on reports/updates from the following Committees of the Council:
 - Regulations & Structure Committee (Russell Smith)
 - Conversion of regulations to bylaws
 - Review, amend, and approve bylaws
 - Criminal Justice Committee (Brad Simpson).
 - Education Committee (Valerie Cooney/Sue Meuschke).
 - Legislative Committee (Mike Sprinkle).
 - Legislative Report
 - Discussion and possible action on any upcoming or pending Legislative items.
 - Nominating Committee (Suzanne Ramos).
 - Update on new member application submissions
 - Public Information Committee (Brett Kandt)
 - NCPDV Brochure.
 - Underserved Populations Committee (Suzanne Ramos).
8. *Report, discussion, and action on reports/updates from the following Council Officers:
 - a. Vice Chair
 - b. Treasurer
 - c. Secretary
 - Committee membership and attendance.
9. *Annual Election of Vice-Chair, Treasurer and Secretary.
10. *Report from the Domestic Violence Ombudsman (Kareen Prentice).
11. Report from the Southern Nevada Domestic Violence Task Force (Elynn Greene).

Nevada Council for the Prevention of Domestic Violence

12. Report from the Washoe County Domestic Violence Task Force (Dr. Freda).
13. Report from the Nevada Coalition Against Sexual Violence. (Andrea Sundberg)
14. Report from the Attorney General Office on Violence Against Women (Dorene Whitworth).
15. Report from the Committee on Domestic Violence (Jennifer Kandt).
16. Update on Best Practices project (Brett Kandt).
17. *Discussion and scheduling of future meetings and agenda items.
18. Public Comment.

Note: No vote may be taken upon a matter raised under this item of the agenda until the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an item upon which action may be taken. (NRS 241.020)

19. *Adjournment.

This agenda has been sent to all members of the Council and other interested persons who have requested an agenda from the Council. Persons who wish to continue to receive an agenda and notice must request so in writing on an annual basis.

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Nevada Council for the Prevention of Domestic Violence

THIS MEETING HAS BEEN PROPERLY NOTICED AND POSTED
IN THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| Office of the Attorney General 100 N Carson Street Carson City, Nevada 89701 | Office of the Attorney General 5420 Kietzke Lane, Ste 202 Reno, Nevada 89511 | Grant Sawyer State Office Building 555 E. Washington Avenue Las Vegas, Nevada 89101 |
| Jean Nidetch Women's Center University of Nevada, Las Vegas 4505 Maryland Parkway Las Vegas, Nevada 89154 | Safe Nest 2915 W. Charleston Blvd., #12 Las Vegas, Nevada 89102 | Reno City Hall One E. First Street Reno, Nevada 89501 |
| | Nevada Network Against Domestic Violence 220 South Rock Boulevard, Suite 7 Reno Nevada 89502 | |

**STATE OF NEVADA
NEVADA COUNCIL FOR THE PREVENTION OF
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

Minutes of Meeting

Tuesday, June 24, 2008, at 10:00 a.m.

Lovelock Community Center
820 6th Street
Lovelock, Nevada 89419

Committee Members Present

Linda Lilleboe, Ellen Ewing, Gail Palchikof, Adriana Botello, Suzanne Ramos, Tammy Whatley, Dr. Mike Freda, Kelly Langdon, Sue Meuschke, Brett Kandt, Traci Dory, Russell Smith, Andrea Sundberg, Bob Zentz, Mike Sprinkle

Committee Members Absent

David Kohlmeier, Elynne Greene, Miriam Ohata-Sims, Patricia A. Lynch, Rebecca Smokey, Ron Titus, Valerie J. Cooney

Attorney General's Office staff present

Catherine Cortez Masto, Attorney General
Kareen Prentice, Domestic Violence Ombudsman
Henna Kacyra, Deputy Attorney General
Dorene Whitworth, Grants and Programs Analyst Supervisor

1. ***Call to order, roll call of members, and introduction.** General Masto called the meeting to order at 10:08 a.m. A roll call was performed and quorum was established.
2. ***Introduction of Public.** Introduction of public members for the meeting.
3. ***Review, amend, and approve minutes from the January 24, 2008 Council meeting.** The minutes were approved unanimously.
4. ***Report from the Victims of Crime Subcommittee (Attorney General Catherine Cortez Masto).** General Masto explained that this is a subcommittee of Justice Hardesty's Advisory Commission on Justice, which used to be called the Sentencing Commission. She listed some of the topics they are looking into such as juvenile justice, rehabilitation and

re-entry programs, and looking at sentencing structure itself and what impact that is having on the justice system. She explained that the Commission would like to see a presentation from the Subcommittee on what types of services are available to victims, what impact these services are having on victims, and how these services are funded. She described the Subcommittee, and how these people all came together to talk about the gaps in services that currently exist in order to present this information to the Commission. Sue Meuschke will be presenting on domestic violence, Andrea Sundberg will present on sexual violence, Brian Nix will speak about the Victims of Crime Compensation program, and General Masto will give a general presentation on advocacy in Nevada. General Masto pointed out one of the most enlightening findings during the discussions of the Subcommittee members, was that some advocacy programs are functioning differently in the North than in the South, and that was something that wasn't known before these meetings took place.*

5. **Discussion and possible action on Council's request for an opinion from the Nevada Commission on Judicial Discipline regarding judges' ability to sit on Council.** The motion was unanimously approved.

6. ***Presentation by Humboldt County Sheriff Ed Kilgore and Deputy Will Bourland regarding the Drug Endangered Children Program.** General Masto explained that other states have a best practice in place to deal with drug endangered children, our state does not. This is the first time something has been done in Nevada on this subject. Ed Kilgore presented on the Humboldt County Drug Endangered Children Program (DEC).

He explained that drug abuse is present in some families from grandparents through to the grandchildren in a cyclic manner. This program will focus on the children through a working group consisting of the police department, social services, CPS, the DA's office, mental health counselors, and doctors all coming together as a community to address the problem. Through networking with the other agencies, they feel they will better be able to get help to the children at risk. Sheriff Ed Kilgore introduced Deputy Will Bourland, who is from California where the DEC program originated. He explained that the program started in Butte County, CA in 1993 in Butte County and went statewide in 2000.

He moved to Nevada in 2005 and has been working since then to get the program started. Humboldt County decided to start working on the program and they are the only one in the state doing so right now. They've worked on 6 cases so far, and approximately 25 children have been put into foster care as a result.

7. ***Report, discussion, and possible action on reports/updates from the following Committees of the Council**

- **Regulations & Structure Committee (Russell Smith)**

- **Conversion of proposed regulations to bylaws.**

Henna Rasul explained that the proposed regulations were approved and sent to the Legislative Counsel Bureau, but after LCB reviewed the proposed regulations, they called Ms. Rasul and said that the statute does not allow the Council to promulgate regulations and that they needed to be converted back into bylaws.

- **Review, amend, and approve bylaws.**

Suzanne Ramos asked about amending the provision about removal of members from committees and how that should work. General Masto said that the whole Council would need to be informed of the situation and then subcommittee members would be removed during the Council meetings.

The proposed regulations were unanimously approved to be converted back to bylaws. There was a second vote to actually approve the bylaws. It was decided to put the approval of the bylaws on the next meeting agenda to give time for Ms. Rasul to look at the statute and see if there is any provision that needs to be added to the bylaws about changing the bylaws.

- **Criminal Justice Committee (Brad Simpson)**. Brad Simpson resigned from the Council. A new chair will be named at the next Committee meeting.

- **Education Committee (Valerie Cooney/Sue Meuschke)**. Sue Meuschke reported that the committee members are putting together an overview of the different boards and commissions that interact with domestic violence, and a plan for how they can better communicate and involve them in the work the Council is doing. They are also continuing their work with the Junior League of Reno and the Girl Scouts of the Sierra Nevada Council on the new domestic violence merit patch. They also hope to involve the Girl Scouts Frontier Council (Las Vegas) in the future.

She also gave a quick review of the different ways in which the Council has reached out to the medical community in the past. There have been partnerships with the Health Division for some regional trainings and outreach activities throughout the state. The RADAR card was produced by the Council to educate the medical community. Linda Lilliboe asked that the RADAR card be revisited in a subsequent committee meeting. She would like to see it updated and sent out to all hospitals in Nevada.

- **Legislative Committee (Mike Sprinkle).**

- **Legislative Report.** Mike Sprinkle reported on the activities of the Legislative Committee. He thanked everyone on the Committee for doing a great job of participating. He reported that work is continuing on the legislative report that is due by February 1, 2009. The Committee has been putting together items for the report and the judge survey that will be included in the report. He said that he hopes to have the report ready before the last Council meeting of the year, so that it can be finalized at that time.
- **Discussion and possible action on any upcoming or pending Legislative items.** He asked for feedback on potential BDR's and spoke about the BDR that Rob Bony and Brett Kandt are working on.

- **Nominating Committee (Suzanne Ramos).**

- **Update on new member application submissions.** Suzanne Ramos reported that they currently had about six applications for new membership. The next meeting of the Nominating Committee is July 21, 2008 at 10 am at the Attorney General's office in Reno. She told the Council that currently there are ten members of the Council whose terms expire in October of 2008. She asked for input from the Council on the process of reinstatement – should the members be required to fill out a recommitment form or turn in a new application?

It was decided that the recommitment form

would be used and that it needs to be returned by July 15, 2008. It was also decided that letters would be sent out in October to the members whose terms end in January 2009, so that they can be returned by the middle of November 2008.

- **Public Information Committee (Brett Kandt)**

- **NCPDV Brochure.** Brett Kandt spoke about the changes that were made to the brochure according to the recommendations of the Committee. The brochure was approved unanimously.

Website updates were discussed. Kareen Prentice said that the website will be updated and the minutes of the meetings would be posted in the future.

- **Underserved Populations Committee (Suzanne Ramos).**

The committee hasn't met. The next meeting is scheduled for July 7, 2008 at 11:00 am. This committee has had quorum difficulties, and she hopes to have a quorum and meeting on this date.

8. Report, discussion, and action on reports/updates from the following Council Officers:

- a. **Vice Chair** Sue Meuschke had nothing to report.
- b. **Treasurer** Suzanne Ramos went over the budget report and brought up the question of where and when to have the next rural tour. Hawthorne was brought up as a possible location.
- c. **Secretary**
 - i. Committee membership and attendance. Brett Kandt spoke about the problem of committees not being able to meet and conduct business because they can't attain quorum due to absent members. He asked that the Council members review the current list of committees, and to remove themselves from any that they weren't aware they were on, or that they no longer have sufficient time to commit to. He also asked that if there was a committee that a member would like to join, that they sign up. He reminded all the members that they are required to be a part of one or more

committees.

9. ***Annual Election of Vice-Chair, Treasurer and Secretary.** Sue Meuschke nominated Mike Sprinkle for Vice-Chair, and he was unanimously voted in. In another unanimous vote, Brett Kandt and Suzanne Ramos were retained as Secretary and Treasurer, respectively.

10. ***Report from the Domestic Violence Ombudsman. (Kareen Prentice)**
Ms. Prentice gave her report to the Council including an update on the shelter report and Girl Scouts Merit Patch project. She also spoke about other projects – the survey that is being sent out to 160 judges throughout the state, the work she is doing with the Administrative Office of the Courts on increasing the collection and awareness of the court assessment fee, and finalizing the Standardized Protection Order forms.

She also talked about some of the projects she has planned for the next six months including the Fatality Review team. General Masto brought up the topic of domestic violence in the workplace and the old Corporate Citizenship Initiative that was previously put together by the Attorney General's office. Kareen explained that an update of that publication could possibly be worked on by the Education Committee as well.

11. ***Report from the Southern Nevada Domestic Violence Task Force. (Elynn Greene)** Kareen Prentice read Elynn Greene's report on the different events in the future for the SNDVTF.

12. ***Report from the Washoe County Domestic Violence Task Force. (Dr. Freda)** Dr. Freda reported that they raised \$1,700 at their fundraiser and reminded everyone about the Safe & Healthy Homes awareness event on September 28, 2008. He also gave an update on the victims' group the WCDVTF sponsors and explained that it is actual treatment and that children are treated as well. He talked about the Washoe County Fatality Review team and that they had reviewed the Augustine case.

13. ***Report from the Nevada Coalition Against Sexual Violence. (Andrea Sundberg)** Andrea Sundberg reported that they have hired someone to work in their Reno office. Her name is Kari Ramos and Andrea said that she is doing a great job of working with the rural community. She went to a meeting at the Elko police department and they will be doing a training regarding working with sexual assault survivors. They will be putting out a newsletter very soon, and their conference will be held at Boomtown on November 12 and 13, 2008. It will have law enforcement, advocacy, and non-profit management tracks available. She talked about the pilot program they have created in cooperation with the Rape Crisis Center in order to bring trainings to the entire state to educate teens on domestic violence/sexual violence issues.

- 14. *Report from the Attorney General's Office on Violence Against Women. (Dorene Whitworth)** Dorene Whitworth reported on the Tri-county Prosecution Project they have been working on for the White Pine, Lincoln, and Eureka Counties. They have hired a prosecutor who will start on June 30, 2008. The goal of the project is to offer assistance to the counties from the state to help provide more consistent handling of domestic violence cases and offering advocacy services to victims. It will be funded by a STOP grant and they have applied for a Rural grant through the Office on Violence against Women as well.

She explained that their office also has an application in for a Grants to Encourage Arrest Policies grant for which they would partner with the Nevada Network Against Domestic Violence, the POST academy, and the Prosecution Advisory Council, and the Criminal Justice subcommittee of the NCPDV to look at the law enforcement protocols adopted in 2003, looking to make any amendments or make any changes in state law as well as to the changes in the Violence Against Women Act in 2005. The proposed protocols will also include response to officer-involved domestic violence calls.

- 15. *Report from the Committee on Domestic Violence. (Jennifer Kandt)** Kareen Prentice gave the update on the Committee on Domestic Violence. The Committee adopted regulations changes which included requiring organizations offering treatment programs for domestic violence to retain records relating to an offender for a period of seven years, amending the requirements for certification of treatment programs for domestic violence offenders, amending the qualifications to become a supervisor of treatment or provider of treatment, amending provisions concerning the duties of supervisors of treatment and organizations that offer treatment programs, and they amended requirements for the conduct of group counseling sessions and other related matters.

The next meeting will be held on August 21, 2008 at 11 am at the Office of the Attorney General.

- 16. *Update on Best Practices project. (Brett Kandt)** Brett Kandt talked about his meeting with the Sheriff's and Chiefs about the adoption of the IACP's model policy for dealing with officer-involved cases for the state of Nevada. He said that the Best Practices project has several things going on, one of which is the pilot implementation sites that are building best practices. Bob Zentz spoke briefly about Henderson's implementation. Kareen added that Henderson is working on a video tentatively titled "When Domestic Violence Follows You to Work."

They have also completed a mini-audit with their Best Practices partner,

Battered Women's Justice Project, and they are awaiting that report. Brett Kandt spoke about another Best Practices site -- Humboldt County, which recently participated in Prosecuting Strangulation Cases training. They are also developing victim advocate protocols. Russell Smith, Humboldt County District Attorney explained that those protocols are currently in rough draft and are being looked at by the different community partners. It is very close to being finalized. Brett Kandt talked about the plan to bring the Strangulation training back to Nevada in the next year, at locations in both the North and South, because of the excellent turnout and response they got from the attendees this year. He said they'd like to focus on getting some dispatchers and EMTs trained on this very important information next time, since they play such a crucial role in the response to DV cases as first responders. He also told the Council about the monograph that is going to be published about the Best Practices pilot sites by Praxis in the near future.

17. *Discussion and scheduling of future meetings and agenda items.

The next meeting of the Council is September 8, 2008 at 10:00am. Sue Meuschke asked that the NNADV be a standing item on the agenda.

18. *Public Comment. Flossie Redd, Director of Domestic Violence Intervention in Lovelock, spoke about their problem of transportation of victims since they have lost both bus and train service to the area. Russell Smith explained that they have similar issues in Winnemucca even though the bus does still stop there, it can sometimes be full and accepts no more passengers. General Masto suggested this topic be put on the next agenda, as it seems to affect many of the rural areas.

City of Winnemucca Chief of Police Bob Davidson thanked General Masto for the Law Enforcement DVD training her Office made available to all of Nevada's law enforcement agencies. He said that because of budget shortages, it was a very effective way to train his officers, and he encouraged her to continue to provide these kind of trainings on a regular basis. A member of the public asked what type of meeting this was -- quarterly, etc. General Masto explained that the frequency of the meetings are based on statute and that the Council began meeting in 1995.

Sue Meuschke, who has been a member since its inception, explained that it started as a state action plan that was tasked with helping to implement the STOP grant funds. She explained that they meet three to four times a year, all over the state to talk about many different issues as they apply to domestic violence, and the public is always welcome to join them to provide information and talk about the challenges they face.

A member of the public asked what the protocol was in dealing with domestic violence on Indian land. Russell Smith shared that the US

Attorney's Office has put together a flow chart that explains the jurisdiction of cases that consist of Indian and non-Indian aggressors and victims. The jurisdiction depends on the relationship of the aggressors to the victims and where the crime occurred. In all cases, it will fall to either the County or the Federal Government. A member of the public shared an issue they have in Lovelock of Native American victims being told by emergency room staff that the Tribal Police will be called to assist with their case because they are Natives, despite the fact that the victim does not live on Tribal land. Russell Smith agreed that this was an issue of training. The emergency room staff need to be educated. Mike Sprinkle invited members of the public to join the Council, and explained that the Council really needs members of the rural communities and Native American communities to join and share their issues.

19.*Adjournment.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:40. Lunch was then served to the members and the public.

**NEVADA COUNCIL FOR THE PREVENTION
OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

Monday, September 8, 2008, at 10:00 a.m.

The Office of the Attorney General
100 North Carson Street
Conference Room
Carson City, Nevada 89701

**With
Public Access Via Videoconference Located At:**

Grant Sawyer Building
555 East Washington Street, Suite 3900
Room # 3315
Las Vegas, NV 89101

AGENDA

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***Asterisks (*) denote items on which Council may take action.
Action by the Council on an item may be to approve, deny, amend, or table.***

1. *Call to order, roll call of members (Attorney General Catherine Cortez Masto).
2. Introduction of Public.
3. *Review, amend, and approve minutes from the June 24, 2008 Council meeting.

Nevada Council for the Prevention of Domestic Violence

4. Presentation by Misty Allen, Statewide Suicide Prevention Coordinator for National Suicide Week.

5. *Report, discussion, and possible action on reports/updates from the following Committees of the Council:
 - Regulations & Structure Committee (Russell Smith)
 - Final Council approval of Bylaws

 - Criminal Justice Committee (Brett Kandt).

 - Education Committee (Valerie Cooney/Sue Meuschke).

 - Legislative Committee (Mike Sprinkle).
 - Legislative Report
 - Discussion and possible action on any upcoming or pending Legislative items.
 - 2008 Draft Biennial Report

 - Nominating Committee (Suzanne Ramos).
 - Review and discussion of potential new members:
 - Vicki (“Vic”) Hutchings
 - Caryn Sternlicht
 - Toni Downen
 - Susan Filon

 - Review and discussion of petitions for reconsideration
 - Jane Boucher
 - Rebeca Ferreira

 - Committee membership and attendance.

 - Public Information Committee (Brett Kandt)

 - Underserved Populations Committee (Suzanne Ramos).

6. *Report, discussion, and action on reports/updates from the following Council Officers:
 - a. Vice Chair

 - b. Treasurer

c. Secretary

7. Presentation by David Clifton, Washoe County District Attorney's Office, regarding the Washoe County Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team.
8. *Discussion regarding possible development of a Statewide Fatality Review Team (Catherine Cortez Masto).
9. *Report from the Domestic Violence Ombudsman (Kareen Prentice).
10. Report from the Southern Nevada Domestic Violence Task Force (Elynn Greene).
11. Report from the Washoe County Domestic Violence Task Force (Dr. Freda).
12. *Report from the Nevada Network Against Domestic Violence (Sue Meuschke).
13. Report from the Nevada Coalition Against Sexual Violence. (Andrea Sundberg)
14. Report from the Attorney General Office on Violence Against Women (Dorene Whitworth).
15. Report from the Committee on Domestic Violence (Jennifer Kandt).
16. Update on Best Practices project (Dorene Whitworth).
17. Report from the Victims of Crime Subcommittee (Attorney General Catherine Cortez Masto).
18. *Discussion regarding rural transportation issues along I-80 corridor for victims of domestic violence.
19. Comments from the Chair.
20. *Discussion and scheduling of future meetings and agenda items.
21. Public Comment.

Note: No vote may be taken upon a matter raised under this item of the agenda until the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an item upon which action may be taken. (NRS 241.020)

22. *Adjournment.
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Nevada Council for the Prevention of Domestic Violence

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| Jean Nidetch Women's Center University of Nevada, Las Vegas 4505 Maryland Parkway Las Vegas, Nevada 89154 | Safe Nest 2915 W. Charleston Blvd., #12 Las Vegas, Nevada 89102 | Reno City Hall One E. First Street Reno, Nevada 89501 |
| | Nevada Network Against Domestic Violence 220 South Rock Boulevard, Suite 7 Reno Nevada 89502 | |

STATE OF NEVADA
NEVADA COUNCIL FOR THE
PREVENTION OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Minutes of Meeting

September 8, 2008 at 10:00 a.m.

Office of the Attorney General
100 North Carson Street
Carson City, NV 89701

Committee Members Present

Adriana Botello, Gail Palchikoff, Mike Freda, Mike Sprinkle, Patricia Lynch,
Rebecca Smokey, Russell Smith, Suzanne Ramos, Tammy Whatley, Traci Dory,
Valerie Cooney, Sue Meuschke

Committee Members Present Via Videoconference

Andrea Sundberg, Barbara Aupperle, Robert Zentz

Committee Members Absent

Ellen Ewing, Elynn Greene, Linda Lilleboe, Ron Titus, Brett Kandt

Public Present

Rebecca Ferreira
Toni Downen, New Member
Susan Filon, New Member
Vic Hutchins, New Member
Dave Clifton, Washoe County District Attorney's Office
Robin Sweet, AOC
Misty Allen, Statewide Suicide Prevention Coordinator
Mrs. Sprinkle

Attorney General's Office staff present

Catherine Cortez Masto, Attorney General
Kareen Prentice, Domestic Violence Ombudsman
Henna Rasul, Deputy Attorney General
Dorene Whitworth, Grants Supervisor

1. ***Call to order, roll call of members, and introduction.**

Mike Sprinkle called the meeting to order at 10:15. A roll call was performed and quorum was established.

2. ***Introduction of Public.**
3. ***Review, amend, and approve minutes from the June 24, 2008 Council meeting.** Valerie Cooney moved to approve the minutes and Russell Smith seconded her motion. Valerie Cooney noted that the proper committee name to receive the Council's inquiry about a judge's membership on the NCPDV is the Judicial Ethics and Election Practices Committee and not the Judicial Discipline Commission as it was stated in the previous meeting and minutes.
4. ***Presentation by Misty Allen, Statewide Suicide Prevention Coordinator.**

Ms. Allen explained that domestic violence and suicide are often linked. She emphasized that suicide is preventable and that anyone can be at risk for suicide, although high risk factors include mental illness, depression, and family modeling. Drug use and alcohol abuse are often present in suicides. Ms. Allen reports that often the person is self-medicating with these substances. She explains that over 80% of suicides gave warnings, symptoms or signs, but that there are so many different signs or symptoms that they can be easily overlooked. She discussed with Mike Sprinkle, the challenge of EMS or mental health professionals who may become desensitized to the many suicide attempts they see, and may start to view them as just cries for attention, and not the possibly lethal behavior it is. The many challenges in getting suicidal youth the mental health counseling they need was discussed.

Ms. Allen noted the parallels between states with a high percentage of gun ownership and the rate of suicides that are committed with firearms in those states. Nevada had the highest suicide rate in the nation for about 20 years, until 2001. It now is second in the nation for the last year that data is available – 2005. Nevada's seniors have the highest rate of suicide in the nation – almost triple the national average.

As suicide pertains to domestic violence, she noted that one study out of California reported that over 40% of domestic violence perpetrators committed suicide after committing homicide. Victims of domestic violence have an increased risk of suicide. Perpetrators often threaten to commit suicide. Ms. Allen spoke about the various trainings they offer for suicide prevention and gave out suicide hotline numbers and noted the new Veteran's Administration hotline that has started to deal with the increase in veterans who commit suicide.

5. ***Report, discussion, and possible action on reports/updates from the following Committees of the Council:**
- **Regulations & Structure Committee (Russell Smith)**
 - **Final Council approval of Bylaws.** Russell Smith explained the addition of a preamble to the Bylaws that lists right up front the statutes and open meeting law that govern the Council. He also noted that the last section covers amendments to the Bylaws. Valerie Cooney moved that the Bylaws be approved, and Mike Sprinkle seconded the motion, and they were unanimously approved.

 - **Criminal Justice Committee (Brett Kandt)** Brett Kandt submitted a written report, because he was unable to attend. Mike Sprinkle read it aloud to the Council members. The Committee met on August 26, 2008 and considered the following items: election of new chair (Brett Kandt); discussion, recommendations, and possible action regarding issues concerning AB 194 throughout the state. Brett Kandt will contact Michael Bell of the AOC regarding implementation of AB 194 of the court system. AB 194 deals with firearms (was passed last legislative session); discussion regarding the data collection system in Nevada. Brett Kandt contact the Department of Public Safety for an update; the Prosecution Advisory Council has sponsored a Criminal Justice track at the Statewide Sexual Violence Prevention & Intervention Conference scheduled November 12-13, 2008 at the Boomtown Casino in Reno, they are also working with the NNADV on a future presentation on their multi-disciplinary, evidence-based prosecution of domestic violence seminar focusing on the use of experts in the evidence-based prosecution of domestic violence, the Committee also discussed making a training video with a victim impact interview and an abuser interview; report and possible action on law enforcement protocols for officer-involved domestic violence. Mr. Kandt reports that he requested that the Nevada Sheriffs and Chiefs Association support the adoption of an officer-involved policy by all the law enforcement agencies.

 - **Education Committee (Valerie Cooney/Sue Meuschke)** Valerie Cooney reported that the last meeting of the Committee was scheduled for June, but it had to be cancelled, so she will be discussing the meeting prior to that. Sue Meuschke compiled research on state boards and commissions that may require some form of continuing education on domestic violence. It was found that very few of the boards and commissions require any training in domestic violence. The Committee discussed ways in which these boards and commissions might be approached. General Masto suggested that when the Committee is ready to approach these

entities, that they use the Deputy Attorneys General who work with the specific boards and commissions to reach out to them.

The Girl Scout's patch project was discussed briefly. Kareen Prentice explained the significance of the colors chosen (teal for sexual violence and purple for domestic violence) and explained that Lisa South of the Attorney General's office designed the patch. Sue Meuschke explained that a curriculum has been developed by Katy Hanson of the NNADV. Russell Smith said he would approach the Boy Scouts about doing a similar project.

Valerie Cooney also explained that the Committee had been discussing the issue of teen dating violence and what efforts have been made in the past by the AG's office to train and raise awareness, and that Mike Sprinkle had volunteered to look into perhaps working with the SHARE program in this area. Russell Smith spoke about working with the Your Space program in the Humboldt county school district. Sue Meuschke explained that the Committee would also like to reach out to health care professionals. Kareen Prentice explained that Linda Lilleboe wants to redo the RADAR cards that are sent out by the NNADV.

- **Legislative Committee (Mike Sprinkle)**
 - **Legislative Report.** Mike Sprinkle reported that the questionnaires were sent out to the judges and they received about 25% of them back. They are close to finishing the Biennial report, so he wants to start focusing on the upcoming BDRs to see what may pertain to domestic violence.
 - **Discussion and possible action on any upcoming or pending Legislative items.** Mike Sprinkle reports that the AG's office currently has about 3 BDRs the Committee will look at. One of them is the "Once a felon, Always a felon" BDR. He requested that the Council members alert him to any other upcoming legislation they think the Committee should know about. He also requested that any planned presentations to the legislature for or against future bills, be brought to the attention of the Legislative Committee so they can keep track of what's going on.
 - **2008 Draft Biennial Report.** Mr. Sprinkle asked if the Council members had a chance to look at the draft of the report. Kareen Prentice explained that anything in italics needs to be reviewed by the Council and asked that if any member had any changes or additions to the Rural Road trip section or anything else to let her know.

Mike Sprinkle explained that the Council needs to approve the report before it is sent in February, so if a motion is not reached at this meeting, there will need to be a meeting scheduled in January in order to approve the report. It was decided that the Council needed more time to review the report, and that a meeting will be scheduled with a focus on the report.

The judges responses were discussed, and it was decided that it would be a good thing to give them feedback on their responses. Mike Sprinkle asked that Council members have their written recommendations or changes to the report turned into Kareen Prentice by the end of September. He will set up another meeting of the Legislative Committee sometime in October to work on the recommendations submitted.

General Masto requested there be a Council meeting scheduled for the end of 2008 and another in January 2009 to finalize the report before it is submitted. There was discussion about possible new bills regarding firearms laws and strangulation.

○ **Nominating Committee (Suzanne Ramos)**

- **Review and discussion of potential new members:** DAG Henna Rasul verified that waivers were received from the four applicants to be discussed.
 - **Vicki “Vic” Hutchings** – Batterer’s Treatment Provider, Spring Creek Counseling – Elko, NV
 - **Caryn Sternlicht** – Domestic Violence Attorney, Washoe Legal Services, Reno, NV
 - **Toni Downen** – Critical Nurse Specialist, Las Vegas, NV
 - **Susan Filon** – Domestic Violence Attorney, Clark County Legal Services, Reno, NV

Russell Smith moved to approve the new members, and Sue Meuschke seconded the motion. Mike Sprinkle explained the process the Committee used to choose new members. The motion was unanimously approved. Vicki Hutchings, Susan Filon and Toni Downen introduced themselves to the Council.

- **Review and discussion of petitions for reconsideration**
DAG Henna Rasul verified that waivers were received from the two applicants to be discussed.

- **Jane Boucher** – not present.
- **Rebeca Ferreira** – present in Las Vegas.

Suzanne Ramos explained why these two applicants were not considered during the application process. The applications were not received on time or the application was not complete. The two applicants have appealed the Committee's decision, so they are coming before the Council, so the Council can decide if their applications should be considered. If the Council decides they should be considered, then they would then go through the application process – their applications would be looked at by the Committee and then the Committee would decide whether or not to interview them and make a recommendation for their approval.

Kareen Prentice explained that Rebeca Ferreira's application packet was received after the due date of June 30th, 2008. It was received by FedEx after July 4th. She explained that Jane Boucher's packet was missing a personal letter of recommendation. It contained a letter of recommendation about her book, but not about her personally. Both applicants were sent letters explaining the reasons they were not considered. Jane Boucher has since submitted a personal letter of recommendation.

Gail Palchikoff explained that the Council has had these types of issues in the past, with missing documents or late applications and they decided that they needed to stick strictly to the requirement of timely and complete application packets. Sue Meuschke explained that the applicants can ask that their packets be held to be reconsidered during the next review cycle which begins in January 2009. Mike Sprinkle said that he didn't feel it was appropriate for the Committee to start the reviewing process all over this year for the two applicants, but rather they should wait until the next review cycle.

General Masto made the recommendation that the two applicant's packets be held until the next cycle and they would not need to re-apply.

- **Committee membership and attendance.** Suzanne Ramos explained to the new members about the requirement that all members belong to one subcommittee. She then spoke about members whose terms are ending in January. Mike

Sprinkle reminded members about the commitment it takes to be on a committee and that most of the work is done through the committee work. Henna Rasul asked members who want to be added to or removed from a committee to contact her or Kareen Prentice.

General Masto asked at this point that the meeting proceed out of order to Item 7 on the agenda, so that Dave Clifton could give his presentation.

- **Public Information Committee (Brett Kandt)** Brett Kandt submitted a written report. General Masto read his report to the Council. The Public Information Committee last met on June 17th and considered several items. The election of a new chair was discussed. Brett can serve as chair in the interim, but the Committee would like to get new members and elect a new chair. The Council Brochure content and design was discussed. The Statewide DV Hotline number was added along with a purple ribbon logo and description. It was decided by the Committee that the website should be updated to include one year of meeting agendas and minutes in PDF format.
- **Underserved Populations Committee (Suzanne Ramos)** Suzanne Ramos explained that due to lack of quorum, there have been not been any meetings.

6. Report, discussion, and action on reports/updates from the following Council Officers:

- **Vice Chair** – nothing to report.
- **Treasurer** - Suzanne Ramos passed out two handouts, the first handout was the 2008-2009 budget, which she went discussed. Kareen Prentice explained the second handout which covered expenditures. Ms. Ramos explained that the Council would need to be very conservative with their money again this fiscal year due to budget constraints.
- **Secretary** – nothing to report.

7. *Presentation by David Clifton, Washoe County District Attorney's Office, regarding the Washoe County Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team. David Clifton explained how the first Child Death Review Team came together after a couple of high-profile child death cases in the late 80's and early 90's to look at systemic problems related to Child Protective Services. This led to the creation of a Washoe County Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team. He explained that the two Teams meet once every two months on the same day – the DV Fatality Review Team meets immediately following the Child Death Review Team.

He explained that the Child Death Review Team looks at all types of deaths – accidental, murder, etc. whereas the DV Fatality Team only reviews deaths of adult domestic violence victims. He spoke about the study the first team completed at the request of the Legislature, from 1994 to 1999.

This first Team dissolved in 2000 as there were not many DV related deaths in Washoe County to review. In 2007, at a meeting of the Washoe County Domestic Violence Task Force, it was decided to restart the DV Fatality Review Team. He discussed that NRS 217.475 (1997) covers the legislative authority of the Review Team. It requires a court or multiple governmental agency to organize or sponsor the multi-disciplinary team.

He explains that the first Review Team was sponsored by Judge Berry and many governmental agencies were part of the team along with representatives from mental health, medical, social services, and animal control. Judge Berry is sponsoring the new Task Force as well. As a sponsor, Judge Berry has the right to refer a case to the Task Force and they must review it. The previous Team reviewed all domestic violence deaths as a matter of course. Mr. Clifton discussed the confidentiality agreements that team members must sign to participate on the Team.

He discussed how others could follow the model they established to set up their own Fatality Review teams in their area and gave out informational handouts to the members. He explained for their Team, they decided it was best to only review adjudicated cases. He feels that through the Team's efforts they are making the system better. The challenges surrounding the setting up of a Statewide Team or a Rural Team were discussed. Sue Meuschke noted that perhaps they would need to take a look at what other states were doing in this area, and also get local input on the subject. She stressed the importance of maintaining confidentiality and that anything that was undertaken would have to be done so thoughtfully and carefully.

Russell Smith cautioned that any Team would have to realize that it's not a one-size fits all approach – the issues in the rural counties are going to be very different than in either Clark or Washoe County. Sue Meuschke suggested that the Education Committee bring together some information about how other states have set up Statewide Fatality Review Teams and then have the discussion about how to move forward with that in Nevada.

8. ***Discussion regarding possible development of a Statewide Fatality Review Team (Attorney General Catherine Cortez Masto).** The Attorney General advised the Education Committee to discuss development of a Statewide Fatality Review Team and to bring back their information to the Council at the next meeting.

9. *Report from the Domestic Violence Ombudsman (Kareen Prentice).

Kareen Prentice reported that she is participating in the last AOC standardized forms committee meeting this next week to wrap up the protection order form changes. She is teaching a POST Victims' Rights class with Traci Dory on September 24th in Carson City and acting as a panel member for the Nevada Network's Homeless and Runaway Youth and Intimate Partner Violence the afternoon of the 24th.

She is also attending the National Center for Victims of Crime's "Civil Justice for Victims of Crime" training in Las Vegas with Henna Rasul on September 26th. The Attorney General's Office is having an information booth at the Safe and Healthy Homes Run/Walk event on the 28th in Reno. The Girl Scouts DV Merit Patch Kickoff event is October 4th. Kareen explained the different activities that would be available that day for the scouts to complete. She shared that the Junior League of Reno paid for 2,000 patches, so that the girls don't have to buy them. She went over the program for the day and named the speakers who are attending the event and shared that lunch will be provided for attendees. General Masto asked about a similar program in the South. Kareen agreed that she would begin working on developing contacts to have this happen.

She is attending the Foundations of Victim Services Program by the Joint Center of Victims Study on October 6th through 10th that the Alliance for Victims Rights is bringing to Nevada at a reduced cost of \$275. It is the only national certification for victim advocate training. October 23rd will be the Nevada DV Teen Dating Violence Best Practices and Resources training provided by the Southern Nevada Domestic Violence Task Force. She is also participating in the NNADV's Leadership Development Program.

For Domestic Violence Awareness Month, she is sending out 1,000 RADAR cards in partnership with the NNADV. The AGO is responsible for the mailing of the cards and the Network will be handling any follow up calls or questions from the recipients. Kareen will be sending out 2,000 Domestic Violence Purple Ribbon Awareness pins to members of the Council, members of the Committee on Domestic Violence, Carson City Health District, State Health Division, Southern NV Health District, and AGO offices.

10. *Report from the Southern Nevada Domestic Violence Task Force (Elynn Greene). Not present to report

11. *Report from the Washoe County Domestic Violence Task Force (Dr. Freda). Dr. Freda reported that they have the Safe and Healthy Homes event coming up on September 28th. It will be held at Idlewild Park and

many government and community agencies will have booths and there will be free food. Everything at the event is free and there are raffle prizes as well.

- 12. *Report from the Nevada Network Against Domestic Violence (Sue Meuschke).** Sue Meuschke reported that the Network was founded in 1980. Their focus is helping communities develop services to help victims of domestic violence. They are a private non-profit with a board. They have grown over the last 28 years. They coordinate the Statewide Domestic Violence Hotline 1-800-500-1556 (Safe Nest actually operates the line). They do a lot of technical assistance throughout the state. They do trainings and site visits and have a peer review process to work with programs.

NNADV coordinates the statewide domestic violence advocacy programs in the state to help them expand and improve their legal advocacy services. They are also working on the challenge of non-traditional transitional housing and rental assistance in rural communities. They are coordinating a program on Court Monitoring with five other states. She explained that they used to hold an annual conference but this year they are having four different regional training sessions instead. They also operate an advocate certificate achievement program that is a 40-hour independent study course.

They work with Headstart staff on the statewide Headstart Training Initiative to try and break the cycle of violence at an early age. She spoke about their pilot project - Leadership Training – that means to train the next generation of leaders in domestic violence prevention. She explained that they have resource lending, and give out about 62,000 pieces of information in the form of brochures, magnets, hotline cards, etc. for free. You can order posters or other information from their website. They also put out a newsletter quarterly.

The Network also administers around 1.3 million in pass-through funds for hotline, shelters, and other services. They also do a lot of policy work and Sue shared the fact that although the State is asking others to cut their budgets by 14%, domestic violence programs are being asked to cut their budgets by 28%. To make up for this cut, they plan to go to the legislature and ask that the Marriage License fee be raised by \$5 and they will be asking that the Council give them a letter of support. She passed out information on the Silent Witness project and asked that anyone interested in displaying the exhibit, please contact them.

- 13. *Report from the Nevada Coalition Against Sexual Violence (Andrea Sundberg).** Andrea Sundberg reported that their annual conference will

be held November 13th and 14th, 2008 and gave some details on the speakers and breakout sessions they'll have available.

- 14. *Report from the Attorney General's Office on Violence Against Women (Dorene Whitworth).** Dorene reported that the new information for the next STOP grant cycle is available on the AGO website. The applications are due by October 17, 2008. She noted that a significant change was made this year – they are opening it up for a 2-year grant cycle. She explained that each application goes through a review process by a multi-disciplinary review team. She asked that anyone who is interested in sitting on the review team contact her. She noted that even if someone is applying for funding themselves, they can still be on the review team.

This year they are offering two pre-application workshops – one in Reno at the Regional Training Center on Parr Blvd. September 11th at 1:30pm, and the other in Las Vegas on September 16th at the Grant Sawyer Building at 1:30pm. She explained the new federal requirement (January 2009) that they need to be able to certify that victims are being offered free SART exams and that the exams are not contingent upon a victim filling out a police report. They will start having local meetings around the state to address this issue and how to meet the new requirement through education. She gave a brief update on the GEAP grant Best Practices grant that is concluding the end of September.

- 15. *Report from the Committee on Domestic Violence (Jennifer Kandt).** Kareen read Jennifer Kandt's report. Regulation changes were approved and became effective August 26, 2008. The legislators were concerned with the time period allowed for programs to come into compliance after a facilitator or supervisor. Their concerns centered on the rural areas being able to comply within the 55 days specified and asked that the Committee monitor the regulation closely and possibly consider an appeal process.

The Committee voted to renew the contract with Jennifer Kandt for administrative services for the next four years. At the next meeting of the Committee, November 20, 2008 at 10:00 am in Las Vegas, they will be considering ways to conduct site reviews with a decreased budget.

- 16. *Update on Best Practices Project (Dorene Whitworth).** (already covered this topic in her report – Item 14)

- 17. *Report from the Victims of Crime Subcommittee (Attorney General Catherine Cortez Masto).** General Masto gave an update on the Subcommittee. She explained that the Committee was created out of Justice Hardesty's Advisory Commission on the Administration of Justice. It is a permanent committee and has members from both the North and

South from the victim advocacy community. They are working together to address the issues that affect victims in Nevada. One of the challenges is to ensure that Victim Compensation is applied consistently. They are currently working hard to resolve some issues that have been brought up with Contributory Conduct with respect to compensation. They formed a smaller subcommittee that will be looking at the language of the Contributory Conduct section in the statute and they will bring it to the Commission for a larger discussion. They will bring some recommendations to the Commission on October 22, 2008.

Brian Nix has asked for input from the committee members on the new Victims' of Crime Compensation application process, bylaws and policies. General Masto explained that the Board of Examiners oversees these policies and bylaws, and so it would be easier to try and get the changes made through them directly, instead of trying to go to the legislature. Sue Meuschke noted that out of the meetings of the Victims of Crime (VOC) subcommittee they have come up with a compilation of all of the different victim advocacy programs available statewide.

Kareen Prentice said that she would bring the report/map of all the advocacy programs to the next meeting to share with all the Council members. It will be added to the AGO website as well. Kareen pointed out that it is a living document and will need to be updated on an ongoing basis. The issue of non-residents not being covered by Victim Compensation was brought up and Kareen said that they will continue to discuss that issue at the next meetings of the VOC.

- 18. *Discussion regarding rural transportation issues along I-80 corridor for victims of domestic violence.** The rural transportation issue and its many challenges were discussed. It was decided that the underserved committee would take a closer look into the issue.
- 19. *Comments from the Chair.** General Masto suggested that lunch be provided for the next meeting.
- 20. *Discussion and scheduling of future meetings and agenda items.** The next meeting of the Council will be held on December 2, 2008, December 9, 2008 or December 16, 2008 at 10:00 am – to be decided. A meeting for January was also scheduled for either January 22nd or 29th, 2008. The Biennial Report will be one of the agenda items. Mike Sprinkle asked that any other agenda items be submitted to Kareen Prentice.
- 21. *Public Comment.** none
- 22. *Adjournment.** Gail Palchikoff moved to adjourn, Mike Sprinkle seconded the motion. Meeting was adjourned at 2:20 pm.

**NEVADA COUNCIL FOR THE PREVENTION
OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

Tuesday, December 16, 2008, at 10:00 a.m.

The Office of the Attorney General
100 North Carson Street
Conference Room
Carson City, Nevada 89701

**With
Public Access Via Videoconference Located At:**

Grant Sawyer Building
555 East Washington Street, Suite 3900
Room # 3315
Las Vegas, NV 89101

AGENDA

Please Note: The Nevada Council for the Prevention of Domestic Violence ("Council") may address agenda items out of sequence to accommodate persons appearing before the Council or to aid the efficiency or effectiveness of the meeting. The Council may convene in closed session to consider the character, alleged misconduct, professional competence or physical or mental health of a person (NRS 241.030).

At the discretion of the Chairman, public comment is welcomed by the Council. It will take place at the beginning of the meeting and will be given as much time as is necessary for all of those interested to be heard. A public comment time will also be available as the last item on the agenda. The Chairperson may allow additional time to be given a speaker as time allows and in his/her sole discretion. Once all items on the agenda are completed the meeting will adjourn.

***Asterisks (*) denote items on which Council may take action.
Action by the Council on an item may be to approve, deny, amend, or table.***

1. *Call to order, roll call of members (Attorney General Catherine Cortez Masto).
2. *Review, amend, and approve minutes from the September 8, 2008 Council meeting.

Nevada Council for the Prevention of Domestic Violence

3. Presentation by David Mincavage and Mayra Castro, City of Henderson Attorney's Office – Henderson Coordinated Community Response (HCCR) "There is Help – Responding to Domestic Violence" Video.
4. Update on Girl Scout Domestic Violence patch and introduce Frontier Council Girl Scout partner.
5. *Review, discussion, and possible action regarding Advisory Opinion: JE08-015 issued by the Standing Committee on Judicial Ethics and Election Practices.
6. *Review, discussion and action regarding 2009 Nevada Council for the Prevention of Domestic Violence Biennial Report to the Nevada Legislature.
7. *Report, discussion, and action on reports/updates from the following Council Officers:
 - a. Vice Chair (Mike Sprinkle)
 - b. Treasurer (Suzanne Ramos)
 - c. Secretary (Brett Kandt)
8. Comments from the Chair.
9. *Discussion and scheduling of future meetings and agenda items.
10. Public Comment.

Note: No vote may be taken upon a matter raised under this item of the agenda until the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an item upon which action may be taken. (NRS 241.020)

11. *Adjournment.

This agenda has been sent to all members of the Council and other interested persons who have requested an agenda from the Council. Persons who wish to continue to receive an agenda and notice must request so in writing on an annual basis.

Anyone desiring additional information regarding the meeting is invited to call the Council office at (775) 688-1818. We are pleased to make reasonable accommodations for members of the public who are disabled and wish to attend the meeting. If special arrangements for the meeting are necessary, please notify the Council at (775) 688-1872, no later than 48 hours prior to the meeting. Requests for special arrangements made after this time frame cannot be guaranteed.

THIS MEETING HAS BEEN PROPERLY NOTICED AND POSTED
IN THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| Office of the Attorney General 100 N Carson Street Carson City, Nevada 89701 | Office of the Attorney General 5420 Kietzke Lane, Ste 202 Reno, Nevada 89511 | Grant Sawyer State Office Building 555 E. Washington Avenue Las Vegas, Nevada 89101 |
| Jean Nidetch Women's Center University of Nevada, Las Vegas 4505 Maryland Parkway Las Vegas, Nevada 89154 | Safe Nest 2915 W. Charleston Blvd., #12 Las Vegas, Nevada 89102 | Reno City Hall One E. First Street Reno, Nevada 89501 |
| | Nevada Network Against Domestic Violence 220 South Rock Boulevard, Suite 7 Reno Nevada 89502 | |

STATE OF NEVADA
NEVADA COUNCIL FOR THE
PREVENTION OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Minutes of Meeting

December 16, 2008 at 10:00 a.m.

Office of the Attorney General
100 North Carson Street
Carson City, NV 89701

Committee Members Present

Dr. Mike Freda, Patricia Lynch, Suzanne Ramos
Rebecca Smokey, Valerie Cooney, Ron Titus
Brett Kandt, Russell Smith, Traci Dory
Caryn Sternlicht, Mike Sprinkle, Linda Lilleboe

Committee Members Present Via Videoconference

Bob Zentz, Andrea Sundberg, Susan Filon
Elynn Wernikove-Greene, Toni Downen

Committee Members Absent

Sue Meuschke, Vic Hutchings

Public Present

David Mincavage, City of Henderson
Myra Castro, City of Henderson
Sarah Jackson, Frontier Girl Scouts
April Holly Smith, Frontier Girl Scouts

Attorney General's Office staff present

Catherine Cortez Masto, Attorney General
Kareen Prentice, Domestic Violence Ombudsman
Henna Rasul, Deputy Attorney General
Kathryn K. Menke, Administrative Assistant

1. *Call to order, roll call of members, and introduction.

Attorney General Catherine Cortez Masto called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. A roll call was performed and quorum was established.

2. *Review, amend, and approve minutes from the September 8, 2008 Council meeting.

Attorney General Masto asked if anyone had any comments or changes, and stated that she would entertain a motion. There were two changes. Russell Smith made a motion to accept the minutes as amended. Dr. Mike Freda seconded the motion. Mike Sprinkle commented there were several people in the northern area that did not receive the Minutes or the Agenda; he suggested the emails be checked to make sure these things get sent out. General Masto thanked him for calling this to attention, and stated we would make sure this was done.

3. *Presentation by David Mincavage and Mayra Castro, Henderson City Attorney's Office – Henderson Coordinated Community Response (HCCR) "There is Help – Responding to Domestic Violence" Video.

David Mincavage gave a background on the video and the Henderson Coordinated Community Response (HCCR). They started working on it about a year and a half ago; it came out of the Best Practices Committee and Project that he was a part of. The idea came that a prosecution office is in a unique position because other agencies come to them to prosecute cases, but if they become pro-active, and get involved in their community, there is a lot they can do better. They got a lot of their local agencies together to work on dealing with domestic violence.

Under the auspices of the grant they received from the Attorney General's Office, they decided to make a video that will help the members they have currently, that they can show to their employees and other people. They also wanted a video that would help recruit members to their organization. So they took the funds they had, and David Mincavage, their Victim Advocate Myra Castro, and Julie Proctor from S.A.F.E. House, worked together to appear in the video.

Ms. Castro provided a brief further explanation and background on the video, before it was played. She stated that as they made the video, they had been in contact with their Public Information Office at the City of Henderson. They were trying to figure out different ways to go about distributing the video, to find the most efficient and effective way to reach the people in their community, their partners, and anybody else who would be interested in using this video. They decided to create a website for the Henderson Coordinated Community Response. The website will have the video available for anyone who wants to see it; it will also have a link to their partners as well as different resources. Victims who access the site will be able to view the video and will also be able to access shelters, domestic violence services, and legal forms. All of the resources they normally refer victims to will be available to them all in one place. They also talked about having business cards that officers can have with them

when they go out to a domestic violence call, which will have the website link on it. They are planning on having the website linked to the City Attorney's Office main page, as well as the Police Department's main page, which is under cityofhenderson.com.

She further stated what they hoped to also use the video to create some sort of a packet that they can give to their partners, which they can use to create awareness and educate their employees and people around them about domestic violence. They could also encourage them to donate to the Henderson Coordinated Community Response and maybe do some fundraising. Mr. Mincavage mentioned that they had made the video so that they are looking at it in the third person; it will be useful to victims and people who may know a victim.

Ms. Castro mentioned at the inauguration luncheon they had, they were approached by the Henderson Community Foundation, which is a non-profit organization that manages accounts for organizations, and management accounts for police departments and other groups. They have created an account with them for HCCR for anyone who wants to donate. The foundation will give the donor the paperwork they need so the contribution is tax-deductible. They plan on funneling that money back to those agencies that are giving direct services to victims. They want the donations to go to victims of domestic violence.

The video was then played for the Council Members. General Masto asked if there were any comments from the Prevention Council Members after seeing the video presentation. Brett Kandt said he thought it was outstanding; they did a great job. It was very impressive. Elynne Greene stated that one of the things she really liked about it was the fact that they showed S.A.F.E. House, to show how comfortable it is. Linda Lilleboe inquired as to when the video would be available. Myra Castro responded that their Public Information Office had assigned the website creation to a person in their office, and as soon as they had done a draft of it, it would be approved, uploaded, and it should be available by January of 2009.

At this time, a copy of the video on disk is available to Council Members. Russell Smith commented he thought they had done a wonderful job. Dr. Freda asked how they were able to see to it that less than 10% of their cases went to trial. David Mincavage responded he thought that was pretty standard across the state. It is about the same in Washoe County. There were no other questions or comments.

4. *Update on Girl Scout Domestic Violence Patch and introduce Frontier Council Girl Scout partner

Holly Smith and Sarah Jackson from Frontier Girl Scouts were introduced. They indicated that they had been working with Elynne Greene and

Kareen Prentice, regarding the new Domestic Violence Patch. They have targeted two dates, one in April of 2009, the other in October, to bring the program to their girls. They are really excited and are hoping to have 100-150 girls at each event, so they can earn this patch and go through the learning experience of this. This program will be brought to those girls, so they can use that knowledge as a tool in their life to become successful women and carry it on to their girls.

General Masto asked how many girls they have in the program. She reported they have 10,000 girls in their jurisdiction, which includes Clark, Nye, Lincoln, and Esmeralda counties. General Masto indicated this is something that started in the North, with favorable results, and she is really happy that the Southern NV Council is partnering with them to take the program statewide.

Suzanne Ramos indicated she had a copy of the patch available, and a copy of the curriculum, that she would pass around. General Masto reported they had a rollout of the patch with the girl scouts on October 4th, and unveiled the patch at the Girl Scouts headquarters in Reno, and all of their partner agencies were there, as well as Mayor Cashell. They talked to a number of the young girls sitting in the front about domestic violence and they were very excited, because not only were they unveiling the patch that day, but on the same day, a day-long event, the girls had the opportunity to begin working towards earning the patch. It was fantastic. A lot of the girls were very excited about learning about the problem of domestic violence, and doing more. She thanked the girls and their parents for being there, as this is not an easy issue for parents to expose their children to at an early age. She was very grateful to the mothers who attended with their daughters; that really made a difference as well. They will do the same thing in the South.

Valerie Cooney thanked everybody who worked so hard on it, she thought it was a phenomenal result. General Masto indicated it is something definitely to be proud of. She stated that when she discusses what we are doing with the Girl Scouts on this issue, they are applauded for it, people recognize the importance of it, that they are working with the future leaders.

Suzanne Ramos asked if there was a way each Council Member could have a copy of the curriculum; she thought it would be really nice for them to have that. Kareen Prentice mentioned that Lisa South in the Attorney General's Office had designed the patch; she would ask her to re-design the top of it to read "Girl Scouts of the Frontier Council". The Frontier Council representative mentioned that one of the things they were looking at doing a little differently in the south, was that they were going to actually

divide the girls up, there is going to be a slight variation in curriculum for the younger girls.

General Masto asked if there were any other comments or questions. Andrea Sundberg wanted to know how the curriculum covered the sexual assault component of domestic violence. In response to this question, Kareen Prentice provided a brief description of the components of earning the badge. These things include helping someone they know with a couple of telephone numbers for agencies that handle domestic violence, reading a book or watching a movie about domestic violence, completing a service project, learning about healthy and unhealthy relationships, teaching what they learned to another girl scout or group. There are several different activities they can do.

Ms. Greene indicated that especially for the older girls, it seems that sexual assault and violent relationships is a huge issue, and this should be addressed. General Masto asked if it could be incorporated into the section on teen dating violence, so that they are addressing a number of issues, more directed towards teens. It was agreed that in the section of learning about health and unhealthy relationships that would be a good place to talk about some of the sexual issues that come up.

Ms. Greene, from the Southern Nevada Domestic Violence Task Force stated that she had spoken with Judge Frank Sullivan after he had heard her discussing the program at a lunch meeting, and he indicated to her they should also try to do the same program for the Boy Scouts. She stated the Southern Nevada Domestic Violence Task Force would also undertake that project once they had finished the project with the Girl Scouts. General Masto responded that in the North they had talked about that as well. She then called on Russell Smith to report on the status of that project. He responded that based on the information he had received so far, the Boy Scouts do not do area patches like the Girl Scouts do. So, the entire Boy Scouts of America would have to take this on as a new merit badge. This constituted the extent of his research so far. He did think if Nevada took on the project it could affect many young men all across the United States; that would be a big accomplishment.

Kareen Prentice stated the Southern Nevada Domestic Violence Task Force was donating cash to purchase the patches. She thanked the Southern Nevada Domestic Violence Task Force. There were no further comments or questions regarding this agenda item.

5. *Review, discussion and possible action regarding Advisory Opinion: JE08-015 issued by the Standing Committee on Judicial Ethics and Election Practices.

Henna Rasul, Deputy Attorney General, made the presentation regarding this matter. She stated that initially the Council had asked her to submit a written request for an Advisory Opinion to the Senate Advisory Standing Committee on Judicial Ethics, regarding whether or not a judge could sit on the Prevention Council. She did submit the request, and was contacted by Dave Sarnowski, who warned her that it was preferable for her to seek out a Judge to submit that written request. She then contacted Judge Lynch, who was kind enough to assist her in submitting another request for an Advisory Opinion.

She stated a copy of this was provided to all Council Members. Basically, to sum it up, page two of the document indicated that the Committee found that a Justice of the Peace, in this case Judge Lynch, could continue to serve on the Council, so long as she disclosed involvement in cases where she believes this involvement will cast reasonable doubt on her impartiality. With that said, it looks like Judges will be able to sit on the Council.

General Masto responded that was great news, then requested comments or questions. Judge Lynch responded she had two comments. One, the request for an opinion is supposed to be anonymous, and given who she is and the circumstances, she could easily be identified. Second, she was really pleased that the Nevada Commission decided they wanted Judges to serve on Boards and Commissions, and did not go in the other direction. There is a split in the country and some states are going in the other direction. She indicated the disclosure thing is a little interesting, she does not think it impacts her and she will be fair on those cases. It has put a little bit of a burden on her, in certain cases.

Caryn Sternlicht asked Judge Lynch how she does make those determinations, in terms of how the decision is written, whether she does it on a case by case basis. Judge Lynch responded that she does it on a case by case basis. She further stated she had not yet disclosed, because she did not feel that her membership would not allow her to be impartial on cases. As a judge that is what you do, you set it aside. Judge Lynch mentioned she was kind of sorry they put that in the decision, because she thought the decision saying you can do it because it is not on fact specifics, really kind of says you are not biased. Nonetheless, they have kind of made it a hybrid.

She further indicated that the attorneys in the case could bring it up, and Judge Lynch could decide to go into recusal. This opinion puts more of

the responsibility on her. Valerie Cooney indicated she sat on this panel and she is on the standing committee. She had disclosed her participation on the Council, and had also recused herself from a vote, but she was able to provide some insight into what the Prevention Council does for this committee.

She can tell Judge Lynch, and does not think she is violating any privilege or confidentiality, that the members of the panel were very much concerned about a criminal defendant being able to raise an issue down the road. Ms. Cooney stated she also found it really interesting that practically no one on the Committee understood what the Prevention Council is and what it does. She thought it was helpful in that respect, that it helped to answer their questions. She indicated the requests are not kept confidential; they always know who is requesting the opinion. But, the opinion remains confidential. She thinks it is important that you consider carefully when to canvas and when not to canvas individuals. Ms. Cooney indicated she thinks this was a compromise decision. That is good for everybody to know, when the issue comes up in the future, about Judges sitting on the Commission. General Masto thanked her for her comments, and then solicited further comments and questions.

Judge Lynch responded that she had one correction. In the opinion it stated that at least three former judges serve on the panel, along with two district court judges, and one municipal court judge. She stated they served on the panel in the past, currently she is the only judge. She wanted people to know that was the past and she was giving them the historical context. That is just for everyone's information.

6. *Review, discussion and action regarding 2009 Nevada Council for the Prevention of Domestic Violence Biennial Report to the Nevada Legislature

General Masto asked if everyone had a copy in front of them. She stated Mike Sprinkle is the one who is responsible for putting all of this together; she thanked him very much. On that note, Mr. Sprinkle sent his thanks to Kareen Prentice, Henna Rasul, and Brett Kandt. He noted they had been extraordinary on the amount of time and devotion they have given to this. This was said with a bit of a caveat, since when they came to the Council at the last meeting in September, and presented this initially, it was requested of his committee from certain Council members that they be given more time to read the report and give feedback, in order to have input into what was said and presented to the legislature.

Because of that request, they set a deadline, so that those members of the Committee that wanted to could submit their recommendations to them. Unfortunately, the only feedback they got at all were some general

comments from the A.O.C., and no one else on the Council provided anything to them. Mr. Sprinkle was very upset about this. So, he, Brett, Kareen and Henna sat down together and the four of them put together the changes that are in the report.

All that being said, nothing is finalized yet, and he stated that if those Council members who have had a chance to read through the report have any changes and/or recommendations they would like to see, certainly now is the time to mention that. He reminded the Council that this report has to be in to the legislature by February 2, 2009.

General Masto thanked Mike, Brett, Kareen, and Henna for all of their hard work in putting those reports together. She asked if anyone had any comments or questions. Bob Zentz stated that on page eight, in the second paragraph, they talk about the people who had attended the meeting in Lovelock. They stated there were representatives from the tribal police and the tribal advocates, and he suggested it would be more appropriate to identify what tribe. General Masto agreed. Other than that, he had no comment; he thought it was a fine document.

Judge Lynch indicated she would be interested in knowing what the comments of the A.O.C. were and if they had any feedback from rural judges. Mike Sprinkle responded he could dig them out, unless Kareen Prentice had them right in front of her. She did have them, and he requested that she read them for the record. Ms. Prentice then provided a short summary of the various comments.

General Masto then asked if there was anything else. Russell Smith mentioned, in case anyone wanted to know, that it was the Paiute-Shoshone tribe in Lovelock, referring back to an earlier suggestion. General Masto confirmed the due date of the document with Mike Sprinkle; it is due February 2, 2009. She then asked if anybody wanted more time to review the document, and make changes. If not, they would finalize the document today.

Dr. Freda then remarked that he most certainly agreed with the report, and that Mike and his team did a wonderful job on this. The only question he had was on the conclusion, on page five. He was appalled by some of the comments made by the judges with regards to some of the questions. That clearly shows a lack of training. The Council should be recommending some additional training for the judges and their staff. Brett Kandt indicated he would like to follow up on that. He had recommended they have some language to that effect as well. He had some concerns about training for the judges. He had some conversations with the folks at the A.O.C. that put together the training for the judges, and he got the impression that to some extent the judges are trained in

what they are interested in being trained on. For instance, he had asked about AB194 from the last session, the firearms restrictions; there has been no training on that for judges. There had been some issues with sanctioning batterers for non-compliance with their Batterer's Treatment program. It is something he intended to follow-up on with the A.O.C., to encourage that training. It is something the Council might want to think about citing in their report.

General Masto responded that she would like to pose a question, taking advantage of the fact that Ron Titus was present. She asked if they had training for Judges separate from what the Judicial College puts them through. Ron Titus responded, yes, there are two conferences per year for Limited Jurisdiction Judges, one in January, and one in July. There is one conference a year for District Court Judges, and it is usually in the spring. Twelve full hours of C.L. E. training is offered at each of those conferences. He had asked Michael Bell to give him a list of the DV trainings they had had, there was some DV training almost every single year.

General Masto asked who sets the agenda for the training for those conferences. Judge Titus responded that generally, the Limited Jurisdiction Judges and the District Attorneys have an Educational Committee that works on that, and of course the A.O.C. has input on training as well. There was a required Domestic Violence training, beginning last year. He indicated the judges are not really thrilled about having any kind of training, but they did pass that required training. He reported that at least once a year, they do have the training, and at the last Family Law Training they had a speaker on Domestic Violence, from Las Vegas.

Mike Sprinkle stated that based on these conversations he suggested that as a Committee they should put it in there that they would like to see the new bills that have passed be addressed in the judge's training the next year. They should make that strong recommendation as a Committee, because if the Judges have not received training on the new legislation, they probably do not have uniformity around the state in dealing with the issues.

Ron Titus indicated he would not guarantee having uniformity around the state even if they had training. He stated that every year after the legislature has concluded that they do have trainings for judges on all of the new laws that were passed. It alerts them to changes that have been made in the law. The A.O.C. has just completed the standardized domestic violence forms that were impacted by the last session. Last year they passed the order standardizing those forms. So, the judges are aware. The training they receive is Nevada specific.

Valerie Cooney stated that the 2006 training for Limited Jurisdiction Judges was a day-long training and was excellent. She had a question regarding some of the state requirements; they had certified that certain events are taking place, in order to obtain VAWA funding. She mentioned that some of the rural judges are still issuing mutual restraining orders, and she wondered if there is enforcement, effort, or action that the Attorney General's Office could take to persuade some of these folks that we need to be in compliance with federal law in order to continue to obtain federal funding. This issue is indicative of what goes on in some of the rural counties.

Ron Titus responded that is an example of the larger things that are not being adhered to as far as statutes with regard to domestic violence batterers is concerned. Linda Lilleboe, from Carson Valley Medical Center, asked if there was a common website. She had noted from the Biennial Report that several of the judges had not known the answers to the questions, and was look for a F.A.Q. Valerie Cooney responded part of the issue was that the judges were all at different levels, and some of them did not deal with domestic violence issues at all. Therefore, some of the questions were not even pertinent to their work.

General Masto indicated she absolutely agreed with Valerie Cooney but it comes back to her initial question, which is to try to determine if there is a group within the judges that they would have to go to in order to develop domestic violence training. They could start developing that curriculum, whatever that training is. She asked if they would go to Judge Hardesty and make the contacts from the top down, or if she should speak with the individuals on the Education Committee. Brett Kandt responded that he had been speaking with Michael Bell at the A.O.C., who oversees the judges training, and he is trying to work with them to identify areas that judges might benefit from training in, and to encourage that the Education Committee include that type of training when they are making the agenda and planning for their future conferences. He had also thought about approaching Justice Hardesty to discuss it with him as well.

Ron Titus stated he thought there had at one time been a subcommittee of judges just to address domestic violence issues. He did not know if that was still in effect or not. However, there had been a committee looking into that, and he was certain that training had been offered. Judge McCarthy and Judge Dillworth had both been on it. General Masto indicated it would be helpful to have a list of names of some of the judges who had participated on this Education Committee or the subcommittee, so that we have a sense of who to approach to talk about it.

She will be at Justice Hardesty's Commission Meeting tomorrow, and she indicated she intended to talk to Justice Hardesty at some point in time tomorrow about this issue, to get his thoughts. Judge Titus suggested writing a letter to the president of those two associations, with a cc to General Masto, Michael Bell, and himself, encouraging them to include more domestic violence training in their conferences. Brett Kandt indicated he would draft a letter for the AG's consideration. Bob Zentz stated his office had been working on some local training projects, specifically with respect to strangulation cases. They had been working with the A.O.C. and Michael Bell and they had been very helpful; that is their approach at this point, they have not approached any other judges.

General Masto stated they had an opportunity to do something, since there are a lot of new judges coming on board. They need to take advantage of this, before new judges fall into the old routine of trying to avoid domestic violence training. If there is an opportunity the Council should take it. She indicated Brett Kandt should start putting together the letter, and they should start focusing on the judges and encouraging them to put together domestic violence training. If they say yes, who is going to be responsible for putting this training together, or the topic they will be involved with or being trained on. She asked if anyone had any thoughts regarding the training.

Brett Kandt indicated he would take some responsibility to make sure they have the speakers, training, and curriculum they need. They can put something together on sanctioning batterers who don't comply with their treatment programs, and any other areas of need they identify. Judge Lynch indicated she had served on the Education Committee for the Limited Jurisdiction Judges, and they tend to just kind of get together and discuss what the hot issues are that they need to work on, such as payday loans. So, it is kind of generated from the members, as to what they want, that is kind of how it happens right now. She stated she can certainly ask about some of the issues, but she also stated that a lot of them feel like they have already been trained on domestic violence, a lot of them feel like they know it.

General Masto responded she got the sense of what Judge Lynch was saying. That is why if they get the opportunity to approach some of these judges, to at least talk about domestic violence issues, they could at least give them the hot topic, so they are aware of the issues. If the Council thinks that is worth while, she will talk to the judges individually and explain to them what the Council is doing. Maybe a number of the judges do not understand what the Council does, and that it is a resource for them on domestic violence issues. They need to know Council members can update them as to what is going on in Nevada with respect to domestic violence issues.

Judge Titus thought talking to individual judges would definitely help. He stated he would talk to Michael Bell and raise the issue with the judges. Mike Sprinkle suggested that if the trainings do go forth, part of their curriculum might be a short introduction to the Council, who they are and what they do; that should be included. Judge Titus encouraged the Committee to add some stronger language based on the topics that were introduced at this meeting, and maybe through that report to the Legislators let them know the Council is really working on this area.

Valerie Cooney asked if they needed a motion, or if they could simply add an additional request for action, or paragraph about it. Ron Titus suggested that since the letter is going to the legislature, they should state they are making recommendations to the judiciary or something along that line. Currently there is training for elected judges. Brett Kandt responded that he would work with Mike Sprinkle to craft some language that recommends that the judiciary ensure that the judges are receiving the proper training. At the same time it would emphasize that the judges are one part of the puzzle, and that law enforcement, prosecutors, and advocates, and anyone else who plays a role needs training as well. They will come up with some language that is fair that also identifies what their goals are. Russell Smith responded he was very comfortable with that. Valerie Cooney thought it was a great idea.

Judge Lynch mentioned she had two things. One is an issue with something on page 20 of the Biennial Report; there is an answer that is not correct. The Judge was supposed to identify Certified Domestic Violence Batterer's Treatment Programs available in his Jurisdiction. In the comments section from Judge Steven Elliott, he had recommended someone who is not certified and who actually was de-certified, denied by the Committee on Domestic Violence.

General Masto stated that they will do what they can to verify the list of Certified Batterer's Treatment Providers. Judge Lynch responded he is definitely not on the list; he does a lot of sexual assault cases, but he was definitely denied. Judge Titus said he believed that at every meeting they hand out a list of certified counselors; this is several times a year. Mike Sprinkle indicated that, as far as any changes to the document, it would have to be an addendum or a footnote. These are actual responses from the judges and cannot be changed. Judge Lynch responded she would not change the response. Ron Titus indicated it was a problem that they were still identifying somebody who no longer provides the service.

General Masto suggested they resolve the issue by stating somewhere in the report that a list of certified programs can be obtained by checking the Committee on Domestic Violence website. Suzanne Ramos suggested

attaching a certified provider's list to the Report; Brett Kandt mentioned it changes frequently. He also stated they could indicate there is a list of certified providers, and that judges are provided that list two times a year. He mentioned that a judge who answered the question correctly would have simply referred to the providers list. He would recommend against including the list because it is always changing. They should simply indicate that per the Committee, there is a list of Certified Providers that is provided to the judges three times per year, and they should be working off of it.

Judge Lynch indicated her other concern was regarding rural issues, and if they had at one time sent out a questionnaire to the rural area treatment providers. She indicated the legislature had said they were really concerned about the perpetrators in the rural counties, that they could not send these people to treatment providers. It seems as though they did not really address this much at all, and she does not know what the Legislators response will be. Mike Sprinkle responded that in this report it was not addressed for two reasons. In sitting down with the A.O.C., a lot of that reference was work that they have to do, it was not specifically in their report. Secondly, referring to NRS, that is not required at all for this report, the only requirement is responses from judges. So they included that, along with a historical report of what the council has been doing for the last two years.

Judge Lynch responded maybe she should ask if Ron Titus had any feedback from the rural judges, and if they were still up in arms about this. He stated that it had dissipated, and there had been an increase in providers. He also stated there was any awareness issue. He further stated that the counseling services that they want these individuals to go to, and they are concerned because they are not following up. This body may want to encourage a pilot project, something in the area of domestic violence courts. The difference is that in the drug court, the Judge is involved. The traditional model is that, once the Judge imposes a sentence, the person is expected to go and carry it out. They may want to look at encouraging the judiciary to try and change that model a little bit, and get more involved. The primary difference between a domestic violence court and a drug court is that a drug court is more serious. There are criminal penalties they are enforcing. They don't have a probation department to oversee them. This may be an area the committee may want to explore a little bit, and try to get a pilot court out in the rural counties to work in this area.

Russell Smith stated he thought that in the rural counties sometimes you are not going to have enough people to justify a domestic violence court per say, but you could certainly have a model where a judge is doing an in-court review of everyone who is doing a counseling program. They will

come before the judge, and that judge is going to have the person's report as to whether or not they made their counseling sessions. Brett Kandt mentioned this scenario would provide for immediate accountability and sanctions, which they know is necessary for an effective program. Valerie Cooney stated it was her understanding that some of the drug courts in the rural counties were on a circuit basis. This means there are retired judges who sit on cases in rural areas. There might be a way of utilizing that type of a model for some of the judicial districts. Russell Smith indicated there was a question of feasibility for a district court judge to have court in a rural county on a weekly basis, but, he would love to see that happen.

Dr. Michael Freda referred to Judge Albright in the Reno Justice Court, who holds the Counseling and Compliance court for DUI and DV cases that have been referred to them. That is exactly what they do. There is a group of providers in the area who meet with the judge on a weekly basis every Friday morning at 8:00 a.m. The Judge imposes additional sanctions on those perpetrators who are not in compliance, such as more community service, or jail time for contempt of court. They also receive assistance with issues they might be having, such as rent, or being able to pay for their counseling. They are monitored on a weekly basis, and they have a very low recidivism rate from that court as well. Russell Smith suggested that might be a model to look at.

General Masto mentioned this was a topic of discussion that had been around for quite some time. She suggested the Council create a subcommittee to begin researching on this. She stated they should look at specialty courts in various jurisdictions, like mental health, and suggested developing a calendar. They already have a best practice here in the state that they can use as a model. They can see what is out there, and then begin discussing the costs of domestic violence outreach. It sounds like they should create a subcommittee of members who might be willing to take this on and bring back information on this topic to the Council; she then asked for volunteers to sit on the subcommittee. The following individuals volunteered: Bob Zentz, Dr. Freda, Valerie Cooney and Becky Smokey. Russell Smith also volunteered, to work with the rural counties, but on a limited basis owing to time constraints. Ron Titus said he felt he should also be involved. General Masto stated they will name the committee and have a report at the next Council meeting. She would like to be at the first committee meeting as she had done some research in Clark county that involved this issue.

Valerie Cooney stated she thought if they did it on a small scale because of the economics, they could use it as a research model to compare to the other courts that are not doing it. Later on, when there is a little more cash flow, this could be presented as an argument for why they should be doing

it. Dr. Freda mentioned with Dr. Albright's court, the people who are in the program pay \$10.00 per week for that service. General Masto replied that is typically how specialty courts are run. Another part of the program is that it teaches them responsibility.

The Committee then returned to the actual topic of the report. The Attorney General asked if there were any comments or edits to the substance of the report. They still needed to vote on approval of the report. Russell Smith made a motion that they approve the report with the amendments that they had talked about. Valerie Cooney seconded the motion. Mr. Kandt clarified the two amendments authorized by the Council. There were also some minor edits. The motion passed unanimously. The Attorney General thanked Mike, Brett, Henna and Kareen for all of their hard work.

7. *Report, discussion, and action on reports/updates from the following Council Officers: Vice Chair, Treasurer, and Secretary

Mike Sprinkle, the Vice-Chair, gave his report. He began by stating he had a couple of comments, primarily directed towards General Masto. They had been talking over the last year about problems with participation in their committees. It has been a continuing problem, and has come up at every single council meeting he can recall over the past year. He stated specific concerns coming into the next legislative session. The last three legislative committee meetings which he has scheduled since September have been cancelled due to lack of quorum.

Trying to get work done on this report has been extremely difficult, and knowing that during the last session his committee met every single week, he has great concern about their ability to be effective during the next legislative session. He is perfectly willing to take on a lot of the load himself, but it brings up a larger issue. He also noted the Education Committee, which he also sits on, has had a tremendous difficulty in having meetings in the last six months because of lack of quorum. He can only assume that this is true with other committees as well. He does not know where they are at this point. The work that gets done with the council gets done in committees, it doesn't get done at the Council meetings. He stated it is a growing and continuing problem that needs to be addressed by the Attorney General specifically.

Brett Kandt echoed his concerns. General Masto asked, with respect to his particular committee, what the reasons behind the lack of quorum might be. For the most part, Mr. Sprinkle could not answer that. He did mention that for the last two meetings they had to cancel, they requested responses prior to that day, as to what days were available for people to meet, and they had enough people say they could be there to go ahead

and schedule the meeting. Then, when the day of the meeting came, they did not come. People say they are going to show up, but then they don't. In the case of the last meeting he had to cancel, a committee member drove all the way in from Elko, and then the meeting was cancelled owing to lack of quorum.

He does not know what the specific reasons are. He stated the Attorney General Office staff makes every attempt possible to pick a number of days to accommodate the most people, then they pick a date and time when people have said they can attend, at least that is how they schedule his meetings. General Masto then asked the Council members if there was too much going on, too many meetings, to attempt to determine what the problem is. Valerie Cooney responded she sits on both of the committees in question, and she does not know when the last legislative committee meeting was, but she stated she had not received any notices for the last couple of months.

Mr. Sprinkle responded he gets a blind copy of the emails; he is no longer permitted to send out emails because of the Open Meeting Law. So, all he knows is that he receives it. He gets confirmation from the Attorney General's Office that they have enough people for quorum. He stated if Ms. Cooney is not getting the information specifically he cannot answer that. Mr. Kandt responded he thought it was important that they communicate clearly to staff which council member is on which committee. That will enable better communication. Owing to the open meeting law, the chair of a committee cannot take on the responsibility of such notifications, staff has to do it. It is necessary that they provide staff with accurate, updated subcommittee lists, and make sure staff has their current contact information.

General Masto asked if there were members of the Prevention Council who were not getting the information on the subcommittee meeting times and dates, that they please provide their contact information to her office now. Secondly, if Council Members are not aware of being on a particular committee, they should be. She stated her office will again send out the list of subcommittees, and the names they have on them. If they are on a subcommittee, and you did not choose to be on it, or don't want to be on it, let her office know. That way they can narrow it down to make sure. However, that cannot be the only reason people are not showing up for subcommittees.

Dr. Freda mentioned part of it is timeliness. At the last legislative meeting, he was just notified of it a few days or a week before, and his schedule is already booked three weeks out. General Masto asked if it would be easier for the subcommittee members if there were standard dates and times that they could meet throughout the year. They responded in the

affirmative. She asked how often the subcommittees need to meet. She stated her staff will get together and determine the calendar year schedule, so the Council Members can have the dates on their calendars ahead of time.

Russell Smith, Chair of the Bylaws Committee, stated they only needed to meet annually unless something comes up at the meeting that they need to address. Brett Kandt stated the Criminal Justice Committee would need to meet quarterly. Valerie Cooney stated her Committee needs to meet quarterly, and if they need more, they can designate a special meeting. Suzanne Ramos indicated the Nominating Committee needs to meet at least quarterly, but during the fall they meet every other month, since that is when they take applications. In the summer they meet in July, August, and September. Ms. Ramos also stated she did not see new Council Members on the subcommittee lists; so, they need to sign up for a subcommittee. In terms of meeting requirements of the Public Information Committee, Brett Kandt stated they had previously discussed having a different council member chair that committee. General Masto agreed to this. She stated that would be on the agenda for their next meeting. Suzanne Ramos stated the Underserved Populations Committee should meet quarterly at least.

General Masto indicated to the Council that her staff would get with the Chairs of the various subcommittees, and identify throughout the calendar year the dates they need to meet. They should also work with the committees that need to meet more often than quarterly, to identify the correct dates and times. Her staff will contact all of the chairs to do that.

General Masto asked Mike Sprinkle how often the legislative committee would need to meet in both a legislative and a non-legislative year. She wanted to know what needs to take place. He responded it is not nearly as time consuming in a non-legislative year. It is a very fluid committee and it is difficult to set an actual date. They have had a change in philosophy in terms of what kind of participation they are going to have with the legislature. He needs to further discuss the schedule with his committee. The Attorney General suggested setting up a subcommittee meeting of the Legislative subcommittee in January, prior to the start of the legislature. The issues discussed would then be brought to the larger Council at the meeting. Mr. Sprinkle stated he is in the process of talking with Karen Prentice and setting up another type of legislative meeting with Keith Munro and his staff. He would prefer this subcommittee meeting to be after that one. The Attorney General will be at that meeting and they can discuss the frequency of their meetings during the legislature.

Ron Titus mentioned the committee may want to re-evaluate their requirement that every member has to be on a committee. That means you have quite a few people who are not that interested and do not show up for the meetings. General Masto agreed with this; she had noted some committees had quite a few members, which dictates greater attendance in order to reach quorum. She suggested considering limiting committee participation, so they are not hindered by the quorum requirement.

Suzanne Ramos asked if a new committee list was coming out so people can review it. She wanted it sent out immediately. Russell Smith requested that the number of meetings per year be put on the committee list; so that people can better estimate the kind of time they will have to commit to be on a particular committee. Judge Lynch asked if it was really a problem with the Open Meeting Law for committee chairs to confirm meeting dates, and if it really had to be done by staff. It might be easier if the chair could communicate with committee members.

Brett Kandt indicated some Council members wanted clarification of the central point of contact, who that is at this time. Henna Rasul responded that at this point the central point of contact would be Kathryn Menke; although it is not permanent right now she is the central point of contact. She indicated they can contact her and Kareen Prentice as well.

Treasurer Suzanne Ramos followed Mike Sprinkle with her report. She passed out a copy of the October 2008 expense report to all the council members. However, she only had one page of the report. Kareen Prentice had actually emailed multiple pages to her. Ms. Ramos apologized and indicated she would have that at the next council meeting. General Masto stated that with respect to the Treasurer's report they will bring copies to the next meeting.

The Council Secretary, Brett Kandt, indicated he had nothing to report.

8. *Comments from the Chair

The Attorney General had no comments at this point in time other than the good point that Dr. Freda had brought up. She shared Valerie Cooney's concerns that a lot of people do not realize what the Prevention Council does. They are a resource that goes untapped. They had at one time started to put together data, regarding domestic violence statewide. That is something they need to continue to focus on. That is really part of what the Prevention Council is about. She questioned how they could go out and talk about issues if they don't even have a basic idea of what is happening in the state. That needs to be the focus for next year. General Masto wants to make sure that not only are they compliant with the mandates that are set forth in the statute for the Prevention Council, but

that they also have goals. They need to set goals, and then at the end of the year determine whether or not they have achieved them. She does not want any Council members to feel that they just come to meet, and then nothing happens.

Going into the next year, that is going to change, they are going to begin defining what their goals are. They plan to have training for the judges, put together the database, have the girl scouts program, and focus on other things as well. The other part of this also is that each member is an ambassador to the Prevention Council. It is not just for the Attorney General to go out into the community and talk about issues, the Council members should also be doing this. The only way they are going to get the message out there is to go and talk about the council, discuss the council with other people. She asked all of the Council members to take the time to get out there and talk about what they are doing.

They will set the agenda for the 2009 calendar year. She noted they did not have on their agenda the domestic violence bills that are going to be presented to the legislature in 2009; this is likely because the Legislative committee has not been able to meet. For example, they are considering increasing the marriage license tax in order to fund the domestic violence programs. She wanted the Council also to know that Justice Hardesty is putting together what he thinks is an appropriate legislative agenda to help fund some of the programs they are not addressing. She will be talking about this with him tomorrow at their meeting. It is a matter of keeping them aware of what is happening.

The issue of domestic violence is not going away. In fact, with the economic downturn, they are seeing more of it, and seeing more people come in for help and assistance. They do not have the funding and the money to do it all, but they are going to have to come together as a community and figure out how to talk about and address the problem. It is critical to make the people who are controlling the money aware of the problem, but it will take all of them to do it. The only thing she is asking of the members is that they not come to a meeting, participate in the meeting, and then walk away and not do anything else. People need to be active members.

Toni Downen had noticed since she joined the Council, that there is a lack of education in emergency rooms and the EMS system. She had been working on a class. She plans to do some domestic violence teaching, but she needs to be a little more aware of what the Council is doing. She mentioned that a lot of people do not know what to do and what to say to people who have been domestically abused. They do have a lot of education in certain things, but in other things they are really lacking.

General Masto responded this was something the Education Committee had looked at in the past. There is an opportunity to say this is an issue, and they need to reach out to the hospitals. The education subcommittee could do the research, bring it back to the Council, and they could discuss how to implement it. The key to the Prevention Council is the implementation portion of what they talk about. In the past Valerie Cooney and Sue Meuschke have talked about trying to reach out to the hospitals. Valerie Cooney responded what they have done is to look at the various State Boards and Commissions, and have identified some of those they would like to reach out to. That is an ongoing process; they have not yet identified specific hospitals.

The Attorney General recommended they start with a pilot project. Dale Carrison is the Chief of Emergency rooms at UMC. UMC has the uninsured and under-insured population so they can use that as a pilot project. They need to approach him to begin a project.

Valerie Cooney stated the Education Committee has outreach to children and teens, and a health skills fair, which is a pretty full plate. It would be difficult for them to add more to their task list. Part of the problem is a north-south thing. Whether or not they are able to develop a pilot project remains to be seen.

The Attorney General stated that Committee members should make sure to get their project plans to Kareen Prentice so that when they are preparing their goals for 2009 they are aware of what committee members are planning. The hardest part of outreach is just grabbing someone and sitting down with them, and explaining what you do. Once you do that you find that you can work with the issues. Most of the brochures and the education is out there already. Valerie Cooney responded by saying that the Education Committee is not a group that seeks to go out there and educate by developing a class; there are a variety of other groups in the state that provide education on domestic violence. The goal of the committee is to identify groups and organizations that need training.

General Masto's perception is that there is not enough information on domestic violence in emergency rooms. Toni Downen responded that being an educator over 5 facilities, she knows ER nurses and floor nurses usually don't know what to do and say to victims and request more information. She is planning to teach staff at those facilities. Staff needs to know what to say to victims so they know there are places they can go and things they can do. A lot of the nurses do not know how to approach it.

Kareen Prentice mentioned the Education Committee would like to put out a new RADAR card, as the Nevada Network Against Domestic Violence is

completely depleted of them. Linda Lilleboe had suggested a smaller card, which could be given to all the doctors and nurses so that they can pull it out, and have a checklist of resources. General Masto asked Valerie Cooney if this made sense in terms of the mission of the Education Committee. Valerie Cooney stated the Education Committee had identified areas of outreach and the process for 2009. Their role is as a facilitator to assist other organizations; she does not think it is a problem for them to assist whomever in the health care field that needs information.

There was no further discussion of this agenda item.

9. *Discussion and scheduling of future meetings and agenda items

General Masto stated the next meeting is January 29th. They have identified the items already placed on the agenda. She asked if the Council Members had anything they would like to see placed on the agenda for January 29th. She indicated that one of the things on the agenda for January 29th would be the 2009 rural meeting.

Dr. Freda stated they need to determine what rural area they need to go to. Bob Zentz indicated they had discussed the location and he seemed to recall Hawthorne being mentioned. Another Council member stated he thought Fallon was pretty central to a lot of the rural areas. General Masto indicated to Kareen Prentice to report where the Council has not been. Ms. Prentice reported that they have not been to Elko, Esmeralda, Lincoln, Mineral, and Eureka counties.

Russell Smith mentioned the last rural meeting was in Lovelock in Lander County, and the Council should consider one of the areas in the south, and just go back and forth. Brett Kandt indicated if the rural meeting takes place during the session it would make it difficult for several of the Council Members to attend. It should be after the session. The Attorney General stated it would either be in the summer or the fall. Mike Sprinkle said past practice has always been that this is a topic that has been initially addressed by the Nominating Committee, and then brought back to the Council. This is unless they come up with different alternatives. Suzanne Ramos confirmed with the Council she would take on that task.

10. *Public Comment

None

11. *Adjournment

General Masto adjourned the meeting at 12:01 p.m.