

**STATE OF NEVADA  
NEVADA COUNCIL FOR THE PREVENTION  
OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE  
CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE**

## **Minutes of Meeting**

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**Wednesday, July 6, 2011, at 1:00 p.m.**

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Office of the Attorney General  
5420 Kietzke Lane, Suite 202,  
Reno, Nevada 89511

### **Committee Members Present**

Brett Kandt

### **Committee Members Present Via Teleconference**

Barbara Aupperle  
Traci Dory  
Eileen Herrington  
Suzanne Ramos  
Robin Sweet  
Elynne Wernikove-Greene  
Bob Zentz

### **Committee Members Absent**

Kathleen Bergquist  
Dr. Michael Freda

### **Public Present**

None

### **Attorney General's Office Staff Present**

Kareen Prentice, Domestic Violence Ombudsman  
Henna Rasul, Deputy Attorney General  
Lorraine Webber, Assistant to the NCPDV

**1. \*Call to order and roll call of members.**

Brett Kandt called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. A roll call was taken and quorum was established.

**2. Explanation of recent legislative changes to NRS 241: Open Meeting Law . (Henna Rasul)**

Ms. Rasul stated that two periods of public comment were now required—one before any action items are heard and then again at the end of the meeting. Other changes include the ability of a board to combine items for consideration and to pull or remove items from the agenda at any time.

**3. Public Comment.**

There was no public comment at this time.

**4. \*Approval of minutes from January 10, 2011 meeting.**

Barbara Aupperle made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Bob Zentz seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion carried. Suzanne Ramos, Robin Sweet and Elynne Wernikove-Greene abstained from voting since they were not in attendance at the January 10, 2011 meeting.

**5. \*Discussion, recommendations and possible action regarding *Perspectives on Domestic Violence* prosecutor curriculum.**

Mr. Kandt stated that the curriculum had been sent to the Committee for review some time ago and that he had not received any written comments regarding it. He asked Mr. Zentz to review his thought process in developing the curriculum as he had spent a lot of time on it. Mr. Kandt noted that he and Mr. Zentz had discussed the need for curriculum in different disciplines in order to make the video an effective training tool.

Mr. Zentz said he wanted this training to stand out from other similar trainings. Therefore, he focused on the ethical issues involved in prosecuting domestic violence cases. He had a similar idea for the law enforcement curriculum but has not pinned it down yet.

Mr. Zentz commented that when he printed it out, he was somewhat surprised by the length of the curriculum. Mr. Kandt stated that although it was twelve pages, it seemed succinct. The video is not meant to provide answers but to stimulate discussion and he thought that the two pages of questions at the beginning of the curriculum would help do that. The rest of the curriculum is composed of helpful resources. Mr. Zentz said that he hoped the video would be helpful in understanding the motivations of victims in what they say. It is his hope that this understanding might lead to more efficient prosecutions.

Ms. Greene stated that she thought the curriculum was a really good resource for trainers and that it was like a roadmap for how to facilitate discussions and what

information needs to be included. She thought it was really comprehensive. The Committee members agreed with her.

Ms. Ramos asked what would happen next with the video. Would it be sent to all prosecutors offices? Would the Prosecution Advisory Council be conducting training with it? Mr. Kandt stated that the curriculum will continue to be developed this summer and then there will be a training session at the prosecutor's conference in September. The next step will be to form subcommittees to develop curriculum for law enforcement, victim advocates, and judges. He also thought a combined curriculum for training in multi-disciplinary settings would be helpful.

**6. \*Discussion, recommendations and possible action regarding domestic violence and sexual assault multidisciplinary training opportunities.**

Mr. Kandt stated that issues of domestic violence and sexual assault would be addressed at the prosecutors' conference next month. In addition to the training video, there will also be speakers and topics concerning the subject.

For the past several years the Sexual Assault Coalition's conference has been in November. It has been moved to April, 2012 and Mr. Kandt is hopeful that he will be able to secure STOP Grant funding to co-sponsor a criminal justice track at the conference.

Ms. Greene stated that there will be free strangulation training at the Sun Coast in Las Vegas on October 11th. There will be CLE, POST, MFT, and social work credits available. Mr. Kandt stated that he would like to help with getting the CLEs approved and with promoting it to the prosecutors. Ms. Ramos asked if there would be any funding opportunities for the people from Northern Nevada to attend the training in Las Vegas. Ms. Greene stated that she was not aware of any but wondered if there was any money available from STOP or VOCA. Ms. Ramos said she would look into it. Mr. Kandt said he might seek approval to use STOP funds to pay for travel for prosecutors.

Ms. Prentice advised the Committee that the NNADV would be holding a six-hour workshop focusing on a comprehensive response to dating violence. This regional training will be held in Winnemucca on August 24<sup>th</sup>.

There will also be a town-hall meeting and law enforcement training with Elko Chief of Police Don Zumwalt and the Attorney General on August 12<sup>th</sup> (subsequently changed to August 9<sup>th</sup>) to address recent domestic violence deaths in Elko.

**7. \*Discussion, recommendations and possible action regarding new or existing best practices or protocols.**

Mr. Kandt stated that he wanted this item on the agenda because during the legislative session there are typically changes made to the Nevada laws on domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking that may need to be reflected in best practice protocols and materials that have already been developed. However, in this legislative session, he was not aware of anything directly related to the topic. There may be some overlap with SB77 which addressed sexting by minors but nothing directly amending the relevant statutes. Therefore, he was not aware of any best practice guidelines that needed to be revised due to legislative changes or Nevada Supreme Court orders.

**i. Discussion, recommendations and possible action regarding Nevada Model Domestic Violence Protocol for Law Enforcement.**

Mr. Kandt stated that these protocols need to be reviewed and possibly updated since they were written seven or eight years ago and there is at least one provision that may need to be clarified.

**ii. Discussion, recommendations and possible action regarding Nevada Domestic Violence Prosecution Best Practices.**

Currently, Mr. Kandt is unaware of anything in the Prosecution Best Practices that needs to be revised. However, based on feedback from the prosecutors after completing the training with the video, there is a possibility that something may need to be reviewed or revised.

**iii. Discussion, recommendations and possible action regarding protocols for victim advocates.**

Mr. Kandt would really like to see the Committee focus on developing some victim advocate protocols in the next year or so.

Ms. Greene stated that she was extremely interested in seeing this get done and that in 2000 the Office for Victims of Crime had a program called Victim Services 2000 that was looking at model programs and best practices. There is a new program now and she will look at it so see what can be pulled from it and used in reference to victims of domestic violence. She will send the website link to the Mr. Kandt

Mr. Kandt would like to form a subcommittee specifically to explore developing protocols for victim advocates and to look for funding sources to provide resources and technical assistance. The Committee need not be limited to this Committee's

members. He may want to bring in some other victim advocates. Along with Elynne Greene, Eileen Herrington and Barbara Aupperle volunteered to be on the subcommittee.

8. **\*Report and possible action regarding Committee goals for the upcoming year.**
  - i. **Nevada Coalition Against Sexual Violence Statewide Sexual Violence Prevention/Intervention Conference Criminal Justice Track.**

As mentioned earlier, this Conference has been moved to April, 2012 and Mr. Kandt is working to obtain funding to co-sponsor a criminal justice track.

- ii. **Review Nevada Department of Public Safety Domestic Violence Reporting ([http://www.nvrepository.state.nv.us/dv\\_reports.shtml](http://www.nvrepository.state.nv.us/dv_reports.shtml)).**

Mr. Kandt stated he was unsure if this information had ever been updated. Ms. Prentice stated that it had not. Mr. Kandt suggested they check with Julie Butler at DPS to see what the status is.

- iii. **Review of new or existing domestic violence best practice protocols.**

As discussed under item #7, the law enforcement protocols need to be updated and Mr. Kandt thought the Committee should consider forming a subcommittee to do that. He will look at the Prosecutor best practice protocols after the conference in September, if necessary. Most importantly, he would like to look at getting some assistance in developing victim advocate best practices.

Mr. Kandt asked if there was anything else the Committee would like to make a Committee goal for 2012. There were no suggestions.

## **9. \*Schedule future meetings & agenda items.**

The next meeting is scheduled for October 5, 2011 at 1:00 p.m.

Agenda items will include the formation of a subcommittee to work on victim advocate protocols. He encouraged Committee members to think about victim advocates, or those from other disciplines, who are not Council Members but who may be willing to serve on the subcommittee.

**10. Public comment.**

There was no public comment.

**8. \*Adjournment.**

Bob Zentz made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Elynne Greene seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 1:32 p.m.