

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

Wednesday, July 22, 2015 at 9:00 a.m.

Meeting Location:

Mizpah Hotel Conference Room
100 N. Main Street
Tonopah, Nevada 89049

MEETING MINUTES

Committee Members Present:

Adam Paul Laxalt, Chair
Paul Bancroft
Sue Meuschke
Suzanne Ramos
Christina Hernandez
Leisa Moseley
Sgt. Blake Smith
Christina Brady
Cory Hernandez
Elynn Greene

Committee Members Present (Via Phone):

Mark Hutchison
Dorie Guy
Hon. Patricia Lynch
Clarice Charlie

Committee Members Absent:

Brett Kandt
Dr. Emily Troshynski
Mark Jackson
Magann Jordan
Robin Sweet
Rev. Victoria Warren
Denise Yoxsimer

Public Present:

None

Attorney General Staff Present:

Colleen Platt
Joelle Gutman
Debbie Tanaka
Liz Greb
Patty Cafferata

1. Call to order, roll call of members, and establish quorum. Introduction of members and quorum established.
2. Public comment: No members of public present.
3. **For Possible Action:** Review, amend and approve minutes from the April 22, 2015 Council meeting. Suzanne Ramos corrects page 2, item 4. Sue Ramos to be changed to Suzanne Ramos. Amendment approved. Minutes approved.
4. Swearing in of new members: Sergeant Blake Smith and Cory Hernandez. Sgt. Blake introduces himself. He works for the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department and has been there for 21 years. Has worked as the Domestic Violence Sergeant for the past three years and currently intends to start up a Family Justice Center in Clark County. A family justice center currently focuses on victims of domestic violence but

could expand to sexual assault and child abuse. The intention is to have an adequate amount of core partners in one spot so the victims go to one spot, instead of various places in order to receive protection. General Laxalt requested that Sgt. Smith keep the council updated with the progress of the new Family Justice Center. General Laxalt moved to swear in Corey Hernandez and Sgt. Blake Smith together. Next he had Corey introduce herself. Corey had been a board member for CAAW for the last six years. She helps the Latino /Spanish community needing assistance from domestic violence. One year ago she started a professional organization with a friend wherein they help victims of domestic violence who are immigrants. She has helped them find resources including translation services. General Laxalt swore in both Cory and Sgt. Smith. General Laxalt went on to introduce the new Domestic Violence Ombudsman with the Attorney General's office, Joelle Gutman. Joelle grew up in Reno, graduated from Bishop Minogue high school, earned her Communications Undergraduate Degree from the University of Arizona, and received her Master's degree in Social Work from the University of Reno, and her final thesis work includes developing and implementing a resource group for veterans who suffer chronic homelessness in Northern Nevada. Joelle has worked with families and various substance abuse programs, family drug court, and therapeutic services. Joelle served as a lobbyist in the 2015 Legislative Session and found her passion serving the public at the state level.

5. **For Possible Action:** Discussion regarding the consolidation and/or elimination of the subcommittees and revisions to the Bylaws. General Laxalt stated the subcommittees have issues with reaching quorum and some are unproductive and unnecessary. General Laxalt stated the various subcommittees: Bylaws & Structure, Criminal Justice, Education, Judicial Training, Legislative, Membership, Public Information, Underserved Population, and VINE. Sue Mueschke spoke up about the Education subcommittee approving the scholarship folks, creating a work place tool- kit for businesses for them to access online, discussion of youth violence such as dating violence and prevention of youth violence. Mueschke discussed the possibility of creating an education and training committee and keeping the Legislative Committee. A member spoke up and stated quorum is difficult maintaining for the Legislative Committee. She argued that the Legislative Committee meetings are not in sync with legislative sessions. General Laxalt asked if it would be a problem eliminating the Legislative Committee entirely yet keep open discussion of legislative topics and issues that could be discussed at the NCPDV meetings. General Laxalt also suggested adding

any and all legislative topics that need to be discussed to the agenda for future NCPDV meetings. General Laxalt asked the council if they could absorb and combine the legislative committee with the council. Judge Lynch mentioned we must have notice before the meetings. Colleen Platt mentioned that the Bylaws will be amended, corrected, updated at the meeting at the end of November or in December. The Education Committee will be integrated with Public Information Committee. Legislative Committee, Judicial Training and Public Information subcommittee are eliminated. The Underserved Population Committee conducts projects for the Women of Color, Battered Immigrant Training, and various other projects. It is a direct link to Hispanic caucuses, and various other entities. It is an invaluable committee. General Laxalt suggested it also conduct projects with the Latino community. Colleen spoke up and stated it is problematic for the subcommittees to not have anything to report, and to have quorum established. She stated there is a lot of work involved for everyone especially for support staff when it comes to posting open meeting law agendas, and it is discouraging to have the subcommittees not as productive. General Laxalt suggested absorbing the Underserved Committee into the NCPDV council. After some discussion on whether to keep or eliminate certain subcommittees, the council decided to absorb all of the subcommittees into the NCPDV meetings. Members are willing to give this a try and see how it goes. Christina Brady requested that should the Legislative Committee be eliminated, that staff keep a good open communication and be more informed. Sue Meuschke recommended that everyone be trained on accessing the BDRs for the 2017 Legislative session. This will help keep everyone in the loop as to what is going on with the Domestic Violence bills. In the Bylaws, the council agreed to remove the provision that we have to belong to subcommittees. General Laxalt recommended absorbing the Criminal Justice Committee into the NCPDV. General Laxalt also recommended having four meetings annually. All members in attendance agreed. General Laxalt directed Joelle will send a follow-up email to council members regarding recommendations for new members. Everyone voted to eliminate the subcommittees and to amend the Bylaws at the next NCPDV meeting. General Laxalt requested a motion to dissolve the committees under the NCPDV (subcommittees). All in favor. General Laxalt moved for a motion for staff to work on Bylaws and make the changes discussed at this meeting. All in favor.

6. Report from the Ombudsman. Legislative Update: Senate Bill- SB60 which transferred authority for the fictitious addresses assisting Domestic Violence victims,

called the Confidential Address Program (CAP), to the Attorney General's Office. SB175, sponsored by Senator Michael Roberson, includes revisions to governing homicides in which it prevents anyone charged with domestic violence from acquiring a fire arm, not including any firearms they may already have. Joelle stated this is a step forward and a legislative success. AB 193, Evidence, General Laxalt stated this law is good for the state and good for the victims. AB 212, sponsored by Assemblywoman Irene Bustamante Adams, Sexual Assault. General Laxalt added AB 49, sponsored by the Attorney General's Office. AB 435 created the 11th jurisdiction which eliminated the following rural cities for the council meetings: Austin, Lovelock, Battle Mountain, and Hawthorne.

Next on the Ombudsman report: Joelle wants to focus on Domestic Violence High Teen.

7. Discussion and council member submission of future council goals & discussion and scheduling of future meetings and agenda items. Goals of the committee. General Laxalt mentioned part of this has already been discussed with the elimination of the subcommittees and the upcoming four NCPDV meetings. A member suggested establishing an Ad Hoc Committee to review the prosecution of best practices because they are outdated. Elyne Greene volunteered to work on this. Liz Greb suggested that sexual assault be addressed under the best practices provisions. Members suggested Brett Kandt is the most qualified member to oversee the best practices for sexual assault. General Laxalt directed Joelle to follow up with the prosecution council members, Brett Kandt and Mark Johnson regarding the sexual assault best practices. General Laxalt directed Brett Kandt to start on this project before the next meeting.

Tim Hamilton suggested that the public agencies be present at the NCPDV meetings. From these agencies the council hears about what services are not available. Mr. Hamilton stated that there has not been enough follow-up by the council members. With these agencies present at the meetings, the council and the agencies can work together to figure out what needs to be done. Colleen stated there is a pilot program in the rural areas, Lincoln County, for treatment programs with video conferencing with the offenders in the courtroom and participating with the courtroom to avoid the cost of travel. Sue Mueschke stated this was due to lack of programs. The pilot appears to be working and there is still some time to test the efficiency of this program before rolling it out other communities. The next NCPDV meeting will have this on the agenda so all

members will be updated on the pilot's progress. Christina Brady (or was it Suzanne Ramos?) expressed that she would like to see emphasis on education and outreach including law enforcement. She stated she would like to see more education and training to these groups, including the legislature members as well. General Laxalt mentioned the next NCPDV meeting will be around October and that members could make part of the meeting about awareness programs as suggested by a council member. Council member suggested having the NCPDV participate in publicity events. Attorney General can do a proclamation, appointments for council, plaques, press conferences, etc. October 1st is the planned date to hold the press conference/publicity event. The regular NCPDV meeting can be held in early November so members can recap the outcome of the press conference/publicity event. The November meeting will be a full day meeting. November 9th is the planned date for the next NCPDV meeting. The discussed Forum will take place this same day.

8. Public comment. Elizabeth Greb discussed the budget. The SAC grant and various other grants such as VOCA/VOWA have gone up this year. VOCA/VOWA provides money to 90% of the same people, agencies, etc. Under VOWA, we can transfer funds to other projects/categories. The extra money will be 17 million on top of the 4 million they already received for this year. Grants are planning on using this money for intensive training for agencies and local law enforcement. The Court Assessments have decreased this year. With the Grant money we can augment Joelle's budget and resolve some staffing issues. The office will fund a temporary clerical position to help assist the Ombudsman and the Grants Analyst's position.

A member announced the 35th Anniversary of NNAVV Sept 28-30. Members may access more information by visiting nnavv.org.

Cory Hernandez mentioned the conference on October 24, 2015 offers 100 scholarships. It will be held for victims of domestic violence and financial abuse. Those who work with victims may qualify for a scholarship and attend the conference for free.

9. Adjournment. General Laxalt motioned to adjourn, member seconded, all in favor.

Nevada Council for the Prevention of Domestic Violence

Meeting agendas are available for download at the NCPDV meeting page of the Attorney General's website: http://ag.nv.gov/Hot_Topics/Government/DVPC_Meetings/. Anyone desiring the agenda or supporting materials regarding any NCPDV meeting is invited to call or email the Council assistant, Gina Hinds at (775) 684-1247 or ghinds@ag.nv.gov. The agenda and supporting materials may also be picked up in person at any one of the following office locations:

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 250 South Rock Boulevard, Suite 116 Reno, Nevada 89502	