

**NEVADA OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
COMMITTEE ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE (CDV)**

**Meeting Minutes**

*Wednesday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2018 at 9:00 a.m.*

**Meeting Locations:**

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

Via Videoconference:

Office of the Attorney General  
Grant Sawyer State Building, Room 4500  
555 East Washington Street  
Las Vegas, Nevada 89101

1. Call to order and roll call of members.
  - a. The Committee on Domestic Violence (CDV) meeting was called to order at 9:00 am.
  - b. Present
    - Adam Paul Laxalt, Attorney General (Chairman Laxalt)
    - Brokaw, Max (Brokaw)
    - Buoncristiani, Dawn (Buoncristiani)
    - Cafferata, Patty (Cafferata)
    - Green, April (Green)
    - Greene, Elynne (Greene)
    - Guy, Dorie (Guy)
    - Hernandez, Cory (Hernandez)
    - Jordan, Magann (Jordan) – Proxy by Lucero, Sonia (Lucero)
    - Judge Bunch, Max (Judge Bunch)
    - Judge Lynch, Patricia (Judge Lynch)
    - Morris, Marla (Morris)
    - Moseley, Leisa (Moseley)
    - Prindle, Angela (Prindle)
    - Ramos, Suzanne (Ramos)
    - Riley, John (Riley)
    - Spratley, Eric (Spratley)

- Triplett, Rocky (Triplett)
  - Troshynski, Emily (Troshynski)
  - Yoxsimer, Denise (Yoxsimer)
- c. Absent
- Brady, Christine (Brady)
  - Hall, Karl (Hall)
  - Hamilton, Tim (Hamilton)
  - Harig, Tracy (Harig)
  - Hazlett-Stevens, Christopher (Hazlett-Stevens)
  - Herrick, Kelsi (Herrick)
  - McMahill, Marcie (McMahill)
  - Meuschke, Susan (Meuschke)
  - Monsignor Gordon, Gregory (Monsignor Gordon)
  - Scott, Annette (Scott)
  - Scully, Moreen (Scully)
  - Wheable, Michael (Wheable)
- a. Staff
- Bradley, Sarah (Bradley)
  - O'Banion, Nicole (O'Banion)
- d. **Quorum established**
- e. Chairman Laxalt moved to swearing in new members of the committee. The individuals who were sworn into the committee after taking the oath include:
- Brokaw, Max (Brokaw)
  - Buoncristiani, Dawn (Buoncristiani)
  - Riley, John (Riley)
  - Spratley, Eric (Spratley)
  - Triplett, Rocky (Triplett)
- f. Cafferata reminded the new members to remain after the meeting so these oaths are notarized.
2. Public Comment.
- a. No public comment in Las Vegas.
  - b. No public comment in Carson City.
3. **For Possible Action:** Review, discussion, and possible approval of May 30, 2018 Meeting Minutes.
- Attachment 1**
- a. Chairman Laxalt asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Motion to accept minutes by Judge Bunch. Seconded by Guy. Motion passed.

4. **For Discussion:** Update on Ombudsman's initiatives by Nicole O'Banion.

**Attachment 2**

a. O'Banion updated members on the initiatives she has worked on since the last meeting:

- She began a VINE/Victim Advocate Project surveying all the websites of law enforcement, city attorneys, district attorneys and jails to find out how many have VINE integrated with their websites to implement VINE if they had not.
- In addition, she worked with the rural law enforcement offices to apply for grants to secure positions for system advocates in the rural communities.
- O'Banion also partnered with Melissa Brown to give a domestic violence training at the Sheriffs' and Chiefs' Association, focused on identifying victims.
- Furthermore, she sent out a letter to service providers across the State explaining the Human Trafficking Contingency Fund, how to apply to the fund, and any other necessary protocols. She followed up with another letter discussing the human trafficking survivor re-entry project. This screening may help with the identification of human trafficking victims.
- She mentioned that the Supporting Our Survivors 2018 Benefit Dinner will take place on August 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Silver Legacy in Reno. The first inaugural dinner in Las Vegas also took place this year as well.
- O'Banion and Tirzah Matthews were asked by the Reno-Tahoe International Airport and the Peppermill Resort to collaborate on human trafficking awareness training for their front-line staff.
- She informed members that the Department of Homeland Security selected Reno to implement a three-month awareness campaign project to raise the awareness associated with the human trafficking hotline.
- O'Banion had the opportunity to give a presentation to a Russian Delegation wanting to learn more about human trafficking initiatives in the United States.
- The Nevada Office of the Attorney General launched the sexual assault website: <http://endnevadasbacklog.ag.nv.gov/>. The site contains data about the total number of kits in inventory, kits sent for testing, kits that testing was completed, DNA matches, and total arrests made. The site also displays information for survivors, resources, and legislation.
- Moreover, the Nevada Office of the Attorney General developed a pseudonym form available on the website, which allows

victims to use those pseudonyms for their case files and court hearings.

- The Nevada Office of the Attorney General also created a human trafficking resource guide.
- Lastly, O'Banion has been working with the Division for Public and Behavioral Health to develop certification protocols for sex buyer classes based on Assembly Bill 260, which went into effect on October 1, 2017. The hope is to let batterers' treatment providers implement these courses to help abolish the demand for human trafficking.

5. **For Discussion:** Presentation on the Nevada CARES Project by CASAT at the University of Nevada, Reno by Michelle Berry (Berry) Senior Project Manager, Daniel Fred (Fred) Project Coordinator and Heather Kaminsky (Kaminsky) Project Coordinator.

**Attachment 3**

- a. Berry stated in 2014, the University of Nevada, Reno started a collaborative effort across programs on campus to try and identify sexual misconduct. They had been unsuccessful in receiving a grant to fund this initiative until recently. In 2015, the grant was received and collaboration with internal and external partners on campus became a necessity. The primary focus was to provide prevention education for students, helping make students aware of what resources were available in the community, but also on campus, if anyone was impacted by interpersonal violence. Nevada CARES was the website developed for the UNR campus. She notified members that they are able to continue the initiative as they received an additional three years of funding since the initial grant funding recently ended.
- b. Kaminsky introduced herself as one of the program coordinators. She sees the need for prevention programs on campus as she experienced a severe form of stalking and harassment while in college. Fortunately, she received the support from the university she attended in Wisconsin. The goal is to make sure the message developed through this grant is sustainable. At first, presentations started to inform students about the dynamics around sexual misconduct. The current initiatives include the implementation of a bystander intervention program. The next steps would be to encompass a peer to peer intervention model.
- c. Fred discussed the areas where the bystander intervention program is being implemented.
- d. Judge Lynch asked how they handle criminal activity if it is identified.
  - Fred responded that the program does not provide direct services, but provides a link to appropriate service providers.

- e. Judge Lynch also did not understand the statement regarding “perpetrator-blaming”.
    - Fred responded by stating that there has been a correction in the messaging as it was implying only males commit acts of sexual misconduct.
  - f. Chairman Laxalt congratulated the Nevada CARES project on their work at the University of Nevada, Reno.
6. **For Discussion:** Presentation by Sarah Bradley, Senior Deputy Attorney General, on the proposed Domestic Violence and Confidential Address Program BDRs.

**Attachment 4**

- a. Chairman Laxalt discussed that the Office of the Attorney General is working on a 20-bill package and gave an overview on the two items relative to the committee. The first bill is focused on significantly improving the protections of domestic violence victims through a statewide protection order repository. The second bill is focused on increasing penalties for those convicted of domestic violence offenses. The language was still being reviewed and the document is still being finalized.
  - b. Judge Lynch was concerned about a bill that did not pass during the recent legislative session indicating that individuals deemed mentally ill did not have to attend batterers’ treatment courses.
  - c. Chairman Laxalt suggested that the District Attorneys Association may review that issue. Unfortunately during the last legislative session, every bill proposed by the Attorney General’s Office focused on enhancing penalties was not passed.
  - d. Spratley acknowledged the possibility of expanding the scope of the \$35 administrative fee for cases involving domestic violence.
  - e. Chairman Laxalt reminded members the language for the proposed BDRs is still being developed, thus no conclusions should be made about BDRs.
7. **For Possible Action:** Review, discussion and possible approval of the Batterer’s Treatment Subcommittee’s recommendations to the Division of Public and Behavioral Health (DPBH) of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) for the *Legacy Learning Center LV* application for certification as programs for the treatment of persons who commit domestic violence.

NRS Chapter 439 requires DPBH to evaluate, certify and monitor programs for the treatment of persons who commit domestic violence, and NRS 228.470(2) requires the CDV to make recommendations to DPBH regarding the certification of these programs.

### **Attachment 5**

- a. O'Banion stated that the Batterers' Treatment Subcommittee received a new application for a batterers' intervention program. The application was submitted by the Legacy Learning Center LV. After a thorough review of application, the subcommittee recommended that the Division of Public and Behavioral Health approve the program with proof of additional recent domestic violence training by the listed supervisor. The proof of training became available via a completion certificate.
  - b. Motion to approve the recommendation of approval for Legacy Learning Center LV by Judged Lynch. Seconded by Ramos. All noted in favor except Cafferata voted no. Motion passed.
8. **For Discussion:** Presentation on the LVMPD Sexual Assault Symposium by CDV member Clark County District Attorney's Office Victim/Witness Program Administrator Magann Jordan.

### **Attachment 6**

- a. Lucero attended meeting on behalf of Jordan from the Clark County District Attorney Office. Lucero is the advocate for the special victims unit. The purpose of the symposium was to find new trends, challenges, and solutions while investigating sexual assault cases in Las Vegas. Another meeting will be held in October. The first meeting allowed the discussion of all the topics related to sexual assault cases such as the investigation, prosecution, and presentation of cases. The second meeting allowed all of the different substations to present strategies they are using to educate community and investigate these cases.
  - b. Chairman Laxalt thanked the initiative for their efforts to share strategies to better service victims of sexual assault.
9. **For Discussion:** Presentation on the Southern Nevada Human Trafficking Task Force initiative and training in Reno, Nevada, by CDV member LVMPD Victim Services/Human Trafficking Manager, Elynn Greene.

### **Attachment 7**

- a. Greene discussed a six-month snapshot of cases throughout the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department regarding human trafficking. The Southern Nevada Human Trafficking Task Force has four workgroup committees. The victim service committee is developing some best practice standards based on other models across the country to address human trafficking. In addition, the committee is reviewing training that is trauma-informed and has a victim-centered approach. More training might be necessary to better equip service providers. The education and outreach committee worked with hospitality and airline industry in Las Vegas. The committee is looking to launch

“train the trainer” courses by January of 2019. In addition, they have been completing street outreach with non-profits and are looking for more volunteers who will receive training via Rape Crisis Center. The labor trafficking committee will be starting soon. Labor trafficking is highly under-identified in Southern Nevada. Finally, Greene said there has been a discussion with the Los Angeles Sheriff’s Office to start a regional intel-sharing database.

- b. Moseley is alarmed that half of the victims reported are African-American. She talked about her experience working with the faith-based community. The majority of youth victims of human trafficking are from the foster care system. Greene stated that foster families need more information and support.
  - c. Green stated that the messaging around human trafficking suggests statistics different from the reality.
  - d. Moseley stated that the faith-based community, especially in African-American communities, can sometimes apply a “victim-blaming” myth. She added sometimes issue is generational.
  - e. Judge Lynch pointed out that half of these victims were local children.
10. **For Discussion:** Presentation on the Southern Nevada Family Justice Center operations and services by CDV member LVMPD Victim Services/Human Trafficking Manager, Elynn Greene.

**Attachment 8**

- a. Greene stated the center officially opened in March. Unfortunately, it is currently challenged with limited space. An advisory committee is being created to receive input from the community to help the center expand offerings. It is a law enforcement-led operation, but has established partnerships with non-profits.
  - b. Finally, Greene reminded members about the October 11<sup>th</sup> Domestic Violence Memorial for those who have passed due to domestic violence. The public event will take place at the Family Justice Center, which will be temporarily closed for event.
11. **For Discussion:** Update on the “Domestic Violence Committee Treasurer Report” from Committee Treasurer Judge Max Bunch.

**Attachment 9**

- a. Judge Bunch stated that the budget is \$44,726.00 (through August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018). The balance is \$44,119.39.

12. **For Information Only:** the Committee on Domestic Violence tentative future meeting dates:

- Tuesday, December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018 | Location: Lovelock, Nevada (rural meeting).

13. Public Comment.

- a. No public comment in Las Vegas.
- b. Ramos asked if new members would introduce themselves. They did:
  - Dawn Buoncristiani: Former Deputy Attorney General for the Office of the Nevada Attorney General
  - Eric Spratley: Executive Director for Nevada Sheriffs' and Chiefs' Association
  - John Riley: Sergeant for the Fallon Police Department
  - Max Brokaw: Lieutenant for Washoe County Sheriff's Office
  - Rocky Triplett: Deputy Chief for Sparks Police Department
- c. Judge Lynch informed the committee about her experience running a court for offenders of domestic violence in the past year.

14. **For Possible Action:** Adjournment.

- a. Meeting adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by: **Jason Mouannes**

Edited by: **Nicole O'Banion**

Office of the Attorney General

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