

**STATE OF NEVADA
NEVADA COUNCIL FOR THE PREVENTION OF
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
JUDICIAL TRAINING COMMITTEE**

Minutes of Meeting

January 5, 2010

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

Committee Members Present

Christine Jones Brady

Committee Members Present Via Teleconference

Dr. Michael Freda
Bob Zentz
Russell Smith
Ron Titus

Committee Members Absent

Susan Filon
Valerie Cooney
Catherine Cortez Masto, Attorney General

Public Present

Michael Bell, AOC

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.

Chairman Dr. Michael Freda called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. A roll call was performed and a quorum was established.

2. *Review and approval of minutes from September 1, 2009 and October 13, 2009 meetings.

The September 1, 2009 minutes were approved with the corrections noted at the previous meeting. The October 13, 2009 minutes were approved as submitted. Bob Zentz made the motion to approve the minutes. Russell Smith seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion carried. Christine Brady abstained because she did not attend the previous meetings.

3. *Discussion and possible action regarding General Masto's communication with Judge Brown and Judge Polaha regarding DV training in conjunction with Michael Bell.

General Masto was unable to attend the meeting. Mr. Bell reported that there had to have been some communication because he had heard some feedback from some of the limited jurisdiction judges about it but he did not know the final outcome. He updated the Committee on recent domestic violence trainings that has been provided to the judges. He reported that in 2008 there was a 75 minute training on changes to domestic violence legislation and in 2009 Judge Higgins and Dr. Kurt Brown facilitated a 90 minute session on domestic violence and strangulation. He said that the list of training topics has been provided to David Gordon, the academic coordinator.

4. *Discussion and possible action regarding developing a dialogue with limited jurisdiction and general jurisdiction judges.

Russell Smith stated that he believed it would be best if General Masto is the one to approach the judges and to wait to hear how that conversation goes.

5. *Discussion and possible action regarding review of list of issues/topics for judicial training, wording and format for presentation of list to Council for their input.

Mr. Smith stated that he had reviewed the list and thought it was a good list of hot topics from a prosecutor's perspective and thought it could be used by the District Attorneys Association for training.

Dr. Freda reported that he is working with Reno Municipal Court, Sparks Municipal Court and Reno Justice Court about putting on a meeting with various mental health providers for domestic violence and substance abuse clients to make sure they are aware of the statutes and what they as providers are required to do to be in compliance with the courts.

Christine Brady said she would like to see something about how the court can avoid re-victimizing the victim. For example, the court may penalize a victim of

domestic violence by denying reunification with children because of the domestic violence incident. Mr. Smith noted that there is a great deal of training on a national level for these types of issues but perhaps they should be revisited on a state level.

Another issue identified by Ms. Brady is the lack of resources in Spanish for Spanish-speaking victims. Mr. Smith stated that the topic was an issue in treatment programs and believed it was a state-wide issue. Dr. Freda suggested that it might be a topic for the Education Committee. Mr. Smith recommended bringing it up at the next NCPDV meeting to identify which committee would be best suited to handle it.

Mr. Bell asked Mr. Smith to let him know the names of any good trainers or faculty he had encountered while attending national conferences where there were discussions about custody and domestic violence. Mr. Smith said he would follow up with that information.

Mr. Titus said he would forward the list of topics to the education committees for their consideration. He asked if the intent of the Committee or the Council was to be involved in developing or presenting curriculum on the training topics. Dr. Freda said they would like to offer any assistance that they might need. Mr. Smith agreed that we would provide any help, including identifying faculty to present these topics. Mr. Zentz added that it was their intention to spot issues that they would recommend to the judges associations as topics for training.

Russell Smith made a motion to approve the list of topics for judges training, including the suggestions made by Ms. Brady at this meeting, so that it could be forwarded to Ron Titus, Mike Bell, and General Masto to be given to the judges education committees for training purposes. Ron Titus seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

6. *Schedule future meetings & agenda items.

A meeting will be scheduled once the date of the NCPDV meeting is set. (The meeting was subsequently set for March 11, 2010 at 9:30 a.m.)

7. *Public comment.

There was no public comment.

6. *Adjournment.

Dr. Freda adjourned the meeting at 9:31 a.m.

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Minutes of Meeting

March 24, 2010

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

Committee Members Present

Committee Members Present Via Teleconference

Dr. Michael Freda
Christine Jones Brady
Russell Smith
Ron Titus
Bob Zentz

Committee Members Absent

Catherine Cortez Masto, Attorney General
Valerie Cooney

Public Present

Michael Bell, AOC

Attorney General's Office Staff Present

Kareen Prentice, Domestic Violence Ombudsman
Henna Rasul, Deputy Attorney General

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

Dr. Freda called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. and established a quorum,

2. *Review and approval of minutes from March 11, 2010 meeting.

Bob Zentz made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 11, 2010 meeting as submitted. Ron Titus seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion was approved unanimously.

3. *Discussion and possible action regarding review of list of issues/topics for judicial training.

The committee generally liked the way the list had been categorized and the layout of the list. Mr. Titus made a motion to accept the revised list. Russell Smith seconded the motion. Upon discussion, the committee incorporated the additional topics suggested by General Masto under the heading "Other Possible Subjects," noting that they could be discussed and expanded upon in the future. Mr. Titus amended his motion to include this change. Russell Smith seconded it. A vote was taken and the motion to accept the revised list carried.

4. *Public comment.

Ms. Prentice stated that General Masto had accepted the invitation to talk at the Limited Jurisdiction Judges Conference in Mesquite, Nevada on April 23, 2010. She stated that the Attorney General has invited members of the Committee to attend the meeting with her.

5. *Adjournment.

Dr. Freda adjourned the meeting at approximately 4:39 p.m.

**STATE OF NEVADA
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Minutes of Meeting

May 6, 2010

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

Committee Members Present

None

Committee Members Present Via Teleconference

Dr. Michael Freda
Valerie Cooney
Bob Zentz
Russell Smith

Committee Members Absent

Catherine Cortez Masto, Attorney General
Christine Jones Brady
Ron Titus

Public Present

Michael Bell, AOC

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.

Chairman Dr. Michael Freda called the meeting to order at 3:06 pm. A roll call was performed and a quorum was established.

2. *Review and approval of minutes from March 24, 2010, meeting.

Russell Smith made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Valerie Cooney seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

3. *Update and Discussion regarding General Masto's presentation at the General Jurisdiction Judges Business meeting in Mesquite on April 23, 2010.

Kareen Prentice reported that she, Brett Kandt and the Attorney General attended the meeting. Ms. Prentice stated that they did a short PowerPoint presentation on the activities of the Council and offered to send it out to any one who was interested in seeing it. (Dr. Freda asked for a copy of the presentation). Michael Bell commented on the presentation being longer than expected and the judges being very receptive. General Masto also thought the presentation was well received.

Kareen Prentice stated that the biggest thing to come out of it was a discussion regarding sentencing and actual time served and the possibility of future legislation concerning the ability of judges to enhance sentencing for domestic violence crimes. Other comments from judges include: 1) the "women going back" situation and 2) that young prosecutors need more formal domestic violence training. Brett Kandt said he would look into these concerns and see what he could do regarding training. Mr. Kandt will also be sending out the Prosecution Best Practice Guidelines again. Dr. Freda asked if the list of training topics were handed out during the presentation and Kareen said no, that the Attorney General just used the topics as a reference for her speaking points. She stated that a lot of handouts were provided including lists of approved batterers treatment providers, D.V. resources, a copy of the PowerPoint presentation, and committee brochures and statistics from various agencies.

Dr. Freda asked Michael Bell if there had been any discussion about including anything from their list in the judges' next conference. Michael Bell said that they had not started planning for the conference next year but he will see about getting a block of time when they do start planning the next conference. Michael Bell mentioned looking into this with regard for the family jurisdiction judges' session next March. He stated he would get the list of training topics out and see what kind of response he got as to specific subjects. Kareen Prentice will be speaking to the limited jurisdiction judges' meeting in Fallon on June 16, 2010 at 9:15 am for 30 minutes in a session slot as opposed to the business meeting because the Attorney General is not able to attend. Brett Kandt will be meeting with the Attorney General to discuss what will be presented. Dr. Freda stated that he could attend.

4. *Discussion and possible action regarding review of list of issues/topics for judicial training.

Ms. Prentice mentioned that Valerie Cooney just updated the list and that it was used by the Attorney General at the judges meeting. Mr. Bell emphasized that the lists of batterers treatment resources needs to be complete and up to date. The judges will use it as an excuse to not recommend the resource if they feel the list is inaccurate or out of date. Dr. Freda mentioned that it has been an ongoing issue since the program started. Dr. Freda asked Kareen Prentice and Henna Rasul about the Committee on Domestic Violence and the status of getting batterers intervention programs for some of the rural communities that don't currently have them. Valerie Cooney stated that she suspects that the lack of programs in some of these communities is economically related. Michael Bell mentioned that during a previous legislative session concerning domestic violence there was a discussion about possibly having video conferencing available for the areas where the resources are not available. However, the idea was dismissed as not being particularly effective. Dr. Freda stated he had testified against the video conferencing bill because with it is not possible to tell if someone is inebriated or under the influence at the time. Kareen Prentice mentioned that the Committee on Domestic Violence has a rural subcommittee that looks at rural issues.

5. *Schedule future meetings and agenda items.

Dr. Freda asked what should be accomplished with this committee. Ms. Cooney mentioned having a discussion at the next meeting to discuss future goals. The next meeting was scheduled for August, 12, 2010 at 3:00pm.

6. *Public comment.

There was no public comment.

6. *Adjournment.

Ms. Cooney made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Smith seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the meeting was adjourned at 3:35 pm.

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Minutes of Meeting

August 12, 2010, at 3:00 p.m.

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

Committee Members Present

None

Committee Members Present Via Teleconference

Dr. Michael Freda
Bob Zentz
Christine Jones Brady
Ron Titus

Committee Members Absent

Catherine Cortez Masto, Attorney General
Valerie Cooney
Russell Smith

Public Present

None

Attorney General's Office Staff Present

Kareen Prentice, Domestic Violence Ombudsman
Lorraine Webber, Assistant to the NCPDV

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

Chairman Dr. Michael Freda called the meeting to order at 3:06 pm. A roll call was performed and a quorum was established.

2. *Review and approval of minutes from May 6, 2010, meeting.

Bob Zentz made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Dr. Freda seconded the motion. Ms. Brady and Mr. Titus abstained from voting because they were not in attendance at the May 6, 2010 meeting.

3. *Discussion and possible action regarding future goals for the Judicial Training Committee.

Mr. Titus stated that the Committee had a rather narrow focus and now the list of training topics was completed. Aside from assisting with training if called to do so, he wondered what other goals the Committee should pursue. The Committee discussed the possibility of going on hiatus.

Ms. Prentice stated that she and General Masto had spoken to Ray Oster, the chair of the family law group for the State Bar. There will be a family law conference in Ely next March, which will be attended by judges, prosecutors, and attorneys. Lundy Bancroft, a national domestic violence speaker will be featured. The Attorney General has been invited to put together a panel for discussion after Mr. Bancroft's presentation.

Mr. Titus asked about the role of the NCPDV's Education Committee. If the Judicial Training Committee broadened its scope, would it interfere with the work of the Education Committee? Mr. Titus thought the Judicial Training Committee should either go on hiatus or expand to include training of prosecutors, court staff, and law enforcement insofar as they interface with the court system. The committee discussed whether there should be a discussion between the two committees, or if it should be brought up during the meeting of the full Council. The Committee decided to discuss it with the Education Committee first then take it to the Council. Ms. Brady encouraged the Committee to remember the victim when talking about training those participating in the legal system. Ron Titus made a motion to talk to the Education Committee, and then to the full Council, to discuss the role the Judicial Training Committee should take in the future. Christine Jones Brady seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

4. *Discussion and possible action regarding review of list of issues/topics for judicial training.

Mr. Titus asked if the list had been formerly sent to the judges associations. Ms. Prentice stated that it had not been formally sent to them. Mr. Titus made a motion to formerly send the list of training topics to the presidents of the judges associations. Ms. Brady seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

5. *Schedule future meetings and agenda items.

Dr. Freda stated that the need for future meetings would depend upon the outcome of discussions with the Education Committee and the Council. Ms. Webber will send out the minutes of the Education Committee meeting to the members of the Judicial Training Committee so that they can review any ideas or issues generated during that meeting. The Judicial Training Committee can then decide if they need to meet before the Council Meeting.

6. *Public comment.

There was no public comment.

6. *Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:24 pm.