

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

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, December 4th, 2018 at 11:00 a.m.

Meeting Location:

Pershing County Community Center
820 6th Street
Lovelock, NV 89419

1. Call to order and roll call of members.
 - a. The Committee on Domestic Violence (CDV) meeting was called to order at 11:00 am.
 - b. Present
 - Adam Paul Laxalt, Attorney General (Chairman Laxalt)
 - Brady, Christine (Brady)
 - Buoncristiani, Dawn (Buoncristiani)
 - Cafferata, Patty (Cafferata)
 - Hall, Karl (Hall)
 - Harig, Tracy (Harig)
 - Judge Bunch, Max (Judge Bunch)
 - Judge Lynch, Patricia (Judge Lynch)
 - Meuschke, Susan (Meuschke)
 - Prindle, Angela (Prindle)
 - Ramos, Suzanne (Ramos)
 - Riley, John (Riley)
 - Spratley, Eric (Spratley)
 - c. Absent
 - Brokaw, Max (Brokaw)
 - Green, April (Green)
 - Greene, Elynn (Greene)
 - Guy, Dorie (Guy)
 - Hamilton, Tim (Hamilton)
 - Hazlett-Stevens, Christopher (Hazlett-Stevens)
 - Hernandez, Cory (Hernandez)
 - Herrick, Kelsi (Herrick)
 - Jordan, Magann (Jordan)
 - McMahill, Marcie (McMahill)
 - Monsignor Gordon, Gregory (Monsignor Gordon)

- Morris, Marla (Morris)
 - Moseley, Leisa (Moseley)
 - Scott, Annette (Scott)
 - Triplett, Rocky (Triplett)
 - Troshynski, Emily (Troshynski)
 - Wheable, Michael (Wheable)
 - Yoxsimer, Denise (Yoxsimer)
- a. Staff
 - Bradley, Sarah (Bradley)
 - O'Banion, Nicole (O'Banion)
 - d. **Quorum established**
2. Public Comment.
 - a. No public comment.
 3. **For Possible Action:** Review, discussion, and possible approval of August 22, 2018 Meeting Minutes.

Attachment 1

- a. Chairman Laxalt asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Motion to accept minutes by Spratley. Seconded by Judge Bunch. Judge Lynch indicated the language on #6b of the minutes should be replaced with “Judge Lynch was concerned about a bill that passed during...” removing “did not” from the statement.
 - b. Motion to accept minutes by Spratley amended contingent upon that the change is made. Seconded by Judge Bunch. All in favor. No further discussion. 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:
 - The American Bar Association Survivor Re-Entry Project and Department of Justice created the “Law Enforcement Screening Tool for Victims of Human Trafficking” due to national and statewide concern of increased women incarcerations. It was determined many crimes were associated with traffickers, which would help defer those individuals to service providers. Moving forward, there is an interest to provide additional trauma-informed human trafficking training for any agencies that request it.
 - *The Prosecutor*, the National District Attorneys Association magazine, requested O’Banion write an article for domestic violence awareness month and elaborating on the Victim

Information Notification Everyday (VINE) program. It was published nationwide.

- The 5th Annual Human Trafficking Dinner took place in Reno in August raising approximately \$60,000 for the Human Trafficking Contingency Fund.
- O'Banion and Sergeant Riley presented a domestic violence training at the Prosecutors Conference in Lake Tahoe.
- The Nevada Attorney General's Office participated in a community collaboration group with the Washoe Tribe, Advocates to End Domestic Violence, Safe Embrace and the Domestic Violence Resource Center by attending numerous events during National Domestic Violence Awareness Month in October.
- Sergeant Riley presented to the Law Enforcement Summit at the Legislature on the "Law Enforcement Investigating Domestic Violence in Nevada" guide endorsed by the Committee on Domestic Violence.
- The Nevada Attorney General's Office contacted law enforcement agencies, city attorney offices, district attorney offices and the jails to implement the use of the VINELink URL button allowing victims to setup accounts to track offenders and access information for available service providers. After receiving positive feedback, community-based providers became interested in adding this tool to their websites to enhance accessibility to the custody status of offenders.
- The "Model Protocol for Cross-Agency Response to Domestic Violence" document was created via a pilot program between Safe Nest and the nearest police department substation in an effort to establish an immediate connection with a victim advocate during the beginning of the process. 90% of calls made were first-time victims who were not aware service providers were available. This initiative helps facilitate earlier intervention and became desirable around the State, prompting the creation of the document.
- The Nevada Attorney General's Office created a new Nevada Victim Information and Notification Everyday (VINE) Training on NVeLearn available to all state employees. The course is POST certified granting three credits upon completion.
- O'Banion and Chairman Laxalt took opportunity to elaborate on the human trafficking contingency fund as committee members had questions about use of funds and procedure for their distribution.

5. **For Discussion:** Update on Winnemucca Domestic Violence Services by WDVIS Program Director, Stephanie Johnson.
 - a. Johnson introduced herself as the Program Director at Winnemucca Domestic Violence Services, which serves as a community-based advocacy group focused on providing services including counseling, emergency shelter, and assistance to law enforcement. Rental assistance and relocation are also part of their scope of work. They have assisted around 300 women, men, and children each year.
 - b. Some challenges faced in rural areas include locating affordable housing and sufficient legal representation. Johnson is thankful for the committee to allow her the opportunity to share about services and contribution of the Winnemucca Domestic Violence Services.
 - c. Johnson added the implementation of financial empowerment courses for victims of crime to enhance financial literacy.

6. **For Possible Action:** Review, discussion and possible approval of the “Fatality Review Team Recommendations” by CDV member and FRT Chair, Reno City Attorney Karl Hall.

Attachment 3

- a. Chairman Laxalt introduced Hall to review findings of the Fatality Review Team.
- b. Members reviewed the case review summary report extensively discussing all eight issues and their proposed solutions listed in Attachment 3.
- c. Sarah Bradley stated Elko County’s District Attorney, Tyler Ingram, contacted veterinarians to facilitate arrangements for pet shelter once Issue #1 was identified as a barrier for victims.
- d. Judge Bunch suggested the help of the Sheriffs in the State to communicate potential solutions with animal control in their jurisdiction.
- e. O’Banion stated the review was productive as local agencies immediately acted on recommendations proposed in Elko. Attendees included the Elko District Attorney along with his victim witness coordinator, representatives from the sheriff’s office and local police department, special prosecutor from Ely and Lyon County, the Nevada Attorney General’s Office prosecutor from Churchill County, the regional manager for the Department of Child and Family Services, the local social worker, and members of the fatality review team subcommittee on the Committee on Domestic Violence. The only entity that was not present was Nevada Probation and Parole.
- f. Hall continued to present the findings by the fatality review team.
- g. Members voiced concerns about confidentiality issues reducing communication between agencies.

Chairman Laxalt announces 15 minute lunch break.

- h. Members stated that their needs to be a cultural shift as people who may recognize signs often do not want to get involved, which could allow a situation to escalate to fatality due to the lack of earlier crisis intervention.
 - i. Judge Lynch and Judge Bunch voiced their concerns about 24/7 temporary protection orders in rural counties.
 - j. Due to the confidentiality of review, specific facts were not discussed. However, recommendations were brought to the table and shared with the Committee. Motion to approve recommendations of the fatality review team contingent upon removing “24/7” from the proposed response listed under Issue #4 “stakeholders should work together to identify solutions statewide to allow victims to obtain a TPO 24/7 in all jurisdictions” by Cafferata. Seconded by Judge Lynch. All in favor. Brady opposed. Motion passed.
7. **For Discussion:** Presentation on the CSEC Coalitions “Model Coordinated Response Protocol & Toolkit to Address the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children in Nevada” by DHHS, Division Administrator, Child and Family Services, Ross Armstrong.
 - a. Armstrong discussed the work completed by the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) Coalition assembled by an executive order put in place by Governor Sandoval. The coalition was solely focused on the commercial sexual exploitation of children. The CSEC coalition developed the following goals for their strategic plan:
 - “Goal 1: Increase coordination and collaboration in identifying and serving CSEC
 - Goal 2: Expand access to services for CSEC and their families
 - Goal 3: Improve outcomes for CSEC through increased expertise and data-driven services
 - Goal 4: Increase awareness of CSEC in Nevada through public awareness campaigns
 - Goal 5: Sustain the effort to coordinate and improve services for CSEC”
 - b. Cafferata inquired about statistics related to the commercial sexual exploitation of children.
8. **For Discussion:** Presentation on a “Domestic Violence Screening Protocol for Health Clinics” by CDV member Nurse Practitioner, Tracy Harig.

Attachment 4

 - a. Harig spoke about the “Domestic Violence Screening Protocol for Health Clinics” as often times the clinics have the opportunity to

identify domestic violence victims. The proposal outlined in Attachment 4 was reviewed by the Committee.

- b. Meuschke suggested additional resources to Harig to implement and discussed potential challenges in healthcare.
9. **For Discussion:** Presentation on the proposed “Domestic Violence, Protection Order and Confidential Address Program” Bills by Senior Deputy Attorney General, Sarah Bradley,

Attachment 5

- a. Bradley stated the intent of all the bill draft requests included in Attachment 5:
 - AB 19: to prioritize service of temporary protection orders (TPOs) and extend penalties for violations of extended protection orders and TPOs. In addition, a repository is requested to record the history of all protection orders. O’Banion and Bradley learned this document is not being stored in an accessible history.
 - AB 60: to increase penalties for stalking and add legislative history in declaration language. Stalking has a strong tie with domestic violence. In addition, it requests that the \$35 administrative assessment fee be charged by the courts for domestic violence, not only battery charges. This will help raise funds for domestic violence programs around the State.
 - AB 41: to clarify language regarding fictitious addresses and ensure physical address (used by utility companies) is safeguarded and victim location is not released to perpetrators.
 - b. O’Banion and Bradley reminded members that these documents are not necessarily reflective of the final language included in the bill package. Members were instructed to email any questions or concerns they had to O’Banion by the end of December.
 - c. Judge Lynch expressed concern about extending jail time requirements for domestic violence offenses and potential release of responsibility of the Committee on Domestic Violence to provide a recommendation on new agency applications for batterers’ treatment programs to the Division of Public and Behavioral Health.
10. **For Discussion:** Review and discussion of the Committee on Domestic Violence 2019 Legislative report contents by Ombudsman, Nicole O’Banion.
- Attachment 6**
- a. O’Banion explained the process used to begin drafting the report and sought feedback from the committee members about the type of questions to ask in the judicial survey. Finally, she requested input on attachments to include in the legislative report.

- b. Judge Lynch suggested revisiting the language used to describe the history of the Committee on Domestic Violence.
- 11. **For Discussion:** Update on the “Domestic Violence Committee Treasurer Report” from Committee Treasurer Judge Max Bunch.
Attachment 7
 - a. Judge Bunch stated that the budget is \$42,909.00. The remaining budget is \$33,350.16.
- 12. **For Information Only:** the CDV’s tentative future meeting date:
 - a. Wednesday, March 13, 2019 | Location: Carson City & Las Vegas Office of the Attorney General
- 13. Public Comment.
 - a. No public comment.
- 14. **For Possible Action:** Adjournment.
 - a. Meeting adjourned.

Minutes respectfully submitted by: **Jason Mouannes**
Edited by: **Nicole O’Banion**
Office of the Attorney General
