

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

**MEETINGS MINUTES**

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*Thursday, November 7th, 2024, at 11:00 a.m.*

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**Meeting Location:**

Clark County Government Building Conference Room  
101 Civic Way  
Laughlin, NV 89029

**Microsoft Teams meeting**

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Teams meeting.

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1. Call to order and roll call of members.
    - a. The CDV meeting was called to order at 11:00 a.m.
    - b. Present
      - Attorney General Aaron Ford (Chair)
      - Scott, Annette
      - Green, April
      - Abdur-Raheem, Elizabeth
      - Lynch, Judge Patricia
      - Hall, Karl
      - Metherell, Leticia
      - Morris, Marla

- Ortenburger, Liz
- Harig, Tracy
- Ingram, Tyler
- Duncan, Wes
- Larson, Zach

c. Absent

- Green, Elynne
- Gradick, Jamie
- Payne, Doctor Pamela
- Ramos, Suzanne
- Spool, Judge James

a. Staff

- Benitez-Thompson, Teresa
- Reilly, Nicole
- Rasul, Henna
- Trevino, Jamie

b. Public

- Bethards, Stephanie
- Briscoe, Judge Gino
- Clustka, Andrea
- Griffiths, Deborah
- Larson, Carrie
- Lopez, Crystal
- McAdams, Cheryl
- McDade-Williams, Marla
- Ornelas, Elizabeth
- Perez, Tara
- Rogers, Lt. Grant
- Trenoweth, Tracy

c. Quorum established.

**2. Public Comment.**

- a. Liz Ortenburger, CEO from SafeNest, commented on a set of investigative journalism articles that came out recently regarding SafeNest. The state conducted a surprise investigation of their shelter and their reports showed no further action needed. SafeNest welcomes investigations and questions around these news articles as safety operates in a transparent way as does all their programs and financials.

**3. Introductions from Local Partners.**

4. **For Discussion and Possible Action:** Review, discussion and possible approval of the *August 28, 2024 Meeting Minutes*.
  - a. Approved unanimously with an adjustment to April Green being marked present at the August meeting.
  
5. **For Discussion and Possible Action:** Teresa Benitez-Thompson, Nevada Office of the Attorney General, will lead a discussion on combining the applicable duties of the Advisory Committee on the Rights of Survivors of Sexual Assault with the statutory duties of the Committee on Domestic Violence. Members will possibly vote on combining the committees as well as proposed language for the combination of duties if so voted on.
  - a. Volunteers met on October 2<sup>nd</sup> to make language changes to the statute. Language changes were reviewed in this meeting to make sure nothing was missed or needed to be added.
  - b. Main changes for CDV membership: Change from 2 domestic violence service providers to specifically one domestic violence service provider and one sexual assault provider, two survivors – one with domestic violence and one with sexual assault backgrounds, and the medical professional needs to have forensic experience.
  - c. Added “and sexual assault” to the end of the Committee on Domestic Violence and added that language throughout the statute to show that the committees are combined.
  - d. Committee members discussed if human trafficking should be added into the committee or not. Members decided not to add it officially but will allow open trafficking discussions as it intersects with DV and SA.
  - e. Motion to approve new membership changes as amended approved unanimously.
  
6. **For Discussion:** Nicole Reilly, Nevada Office of the Attorney General, will review the 2023 LCB report as a reference. Members will discuss the materials they would like to include in the 2025 report and develop the questions that will be sent to the judges statewide for inclusion in the report.
  - a. Members discussed the possibility of bringing multidisciplinary teams into schools for a “safety meeting” to teach children/teens about safe/healthy relationships, advocacy, the justice/law side of DV/SA as well.
  - b. LCB Report is due March 1<sup>st</sup> (another CDV meeting will be planned before then to finalize this report).
  - c. Members discussed questions being sent by the AOC out to the judges and will send in more recommendations to Ombudsman Reilly so the questions can be sent out by December 1<sup>st</sup>.
  - d. Members reiterated that it is important to add a very short meeting summary at the beginning of the report before going more in depth for each individual meeting review due to potential time constraints.

7. **For Discussion and Possible Action:** Nicole Reilly, Nevada Office of the Attorney General, will present the 2023 draft Domestic Violence Fatality Review Report. Members will discuss for changes or additions and possibly vote on finalizing and publishing the report
  - a. Members discussed how the FRT report was put together and why it took longer than expected to get it finalized.
  - b. Members agreed to add a resource page to the back of the report.
  - c. Motion approved unanimously.
  
8. **For Discussion:** Nicole Reilly, Nevada Office of the Attorney General, will present the updated State of Nevada Domestic Violence Prosecution Best Practices Guideline and take volunteers to work on updating the Prosecution Best Practices Advocate Section.
  - a. Members will get a draft to Attorney General Ford to push this to the Prosecution Advisory Council by end of January/early February.
  - b. Members stressed that this “best practices section” needs to blatantly explain the differences between a system advocate and community advocate.
  
9. **For Discussion and Possible Action:** Nicole Reilly, Nevada Office of the Attorney General, will provide an update on the Data Subcommittee Action Plan. Members will discuss and possibly vote on sunsetting the Subcommittee and making the data project an ongoing project of the CDV.
  - a. Members discussed whether to make data collection a standing item on future CDV agendas.
  - b. Members discussed the possibility of using VAWA funds for a data person but how limited those funds were.
  - c. Motion to sunset the Data Subcommittee was approved unanimously.
  
10. **For Discussion and Possible Action:** Attorney General Aaron D. Ford will lead a discussion on identifying gaps in the system and areas of need for victims. Members will possibly vote on any projects the Committee would like to adopt as well as a subcommittee to work on the projects and report back to the CDV.
  - a. CDV Members would like to implement training for committee members. Discussed where to find these trainings and how to make them available for members.
  - b. Members discussed getting a Southern rural prosecutor and the potential for more stand-up specialty prosecutors in rural areas.
  - c. Members discussed the need for more forensic nurses and what those barriers looked like.
  - d. Members discussed a UNR/UNLV partnership online and at each school for training classes.
  - e. Members discussed having committee members go to various agencies and other committees (such as the judiciary committee and DAG

meetings) to help bolster the committee's cause and spread awareness and come up with new ideas.

11. **For Discussion:** the CDV and Subcommittee's tentative future meeting dates:

- Data Subcommittee: OFFICIALLY SUNSETTED
- Committee on Domestic Violence: TBD | Location: Teams

12. **Public Comment.**

- a. None.

13. **For Action:** Adjournment.

Minutes respectfully drafted by **Jamie Trevino**  
Edited by **Nicole Reilly**  
Office of the Attorney General