



STATE OF NEVADA
ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR PROSECUTING ATTORNEYS
100 North Carson Street
Carson City, Nevada 89701

Michael K. Morton, Special Assistant Attorney General
mkmorton@ag.nv.gov
775-687-2110

DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

Organization: Advisory Council for Prosecuting Attorneys

Date and Time of Meeting: June 18, 2024 • 2:30 p.m.

Place of Meeting: Virtual Meeting
Link: [Click here to join the meeting](#) (Microsoft Teams)
Meeting ID: 285 275 760 133 **Passcode:** K25xhS
Call in (audio only): 775-321-6111
Conference ID: 388 123 380#

Members Present

Aaron D. Ford, Attorney General, Chair
Christopher Hicks, Washoe County District Attorney, Vice Chair
Mark Jackson, Douglas County District Attorney
Steve Wolfson, Clark County District Attorney
Nic Danna (for Wes Duncan, Sparks City Attorney)
Carly Helbert, Las Vegas Assistant City Attorney

Staff Present

Michael K. Morton, Executive Director

Guests Present

Teresa Benitez-Thompson, Chief of Staff, Office of the Attorney General
Christine Jones Brady, Second Assistant Attorney General, Office of the Attorney General
David Goldthorpe, Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department

- 1. Call to Order and Roll Call.**
- 2. Public Comment.**
 - *No public comment was offered.*
- 3. Approval of Minutes of December 12, 2023, March 25, 2024, and May 21, 2024 (subcommittee) Meetings. (For possible action)** (Attachment 1 – Revised minutes from December 12, 2023 meeting; Attachment 2 – Draft minutes from March 25, 2024)

meeting; Attachment 3 – Draft minutes from May 21, 2024 meeting of the Subcommittee on Conference Programming).

- *Attorney General Ford inquired as to whether the Advisory Council as a whole can vote to approve minutes of a subcommittee. Mr. Morton confirmed that he had checked with Open Meeting Law counsel on this issue, and stated that the Advisory Council can vote on subcommittee minutes.*
- *Mark Jackson moved to approve all three sets of minutes, with one correction regarding Chris Hicks making a recommendation during the May 21, 2024 Subcommittee meeting to cut off registration at noon. Mr. Morton noted that he would make that change. Chris Hicks seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

4. **Discussion, Staff Update, and Subcommittee on Conference Programming Recommendation of Agenda for the 2024 Prosecutors Conference. (For possible action)**

(Attachment 4 – Draft Agenda for 2024 Prosecutors Conference).

- *Mr. Morton provided an update to the Advisory Council regarding the conference agenda, noting that between today and the last Advisory Council meeting in March, the Subcommittee on Conference Programming met three times, and has made a recommendation to the Advisory Council to approve the conference agenda as presented today. Mr. Morton made special note of the two speakers coming in from out of state, Patricia Powers and Fara Gold.*
- *Mr. Morton also provided a registration update, stating that as of this meeting, 80 people had registered for the conference. Mr. Morton also noted that he had secured sponsorship from Karpel for the conference’s welcome reception.*
- *Steve Wolfson asked Mr. Morton to explain what this specific sponsorship costs. Mr. Morton noted that Karpel would be paying the \$2,500 room fee charged by the Golden Nugget, and also would be sponsoring a set number of beverage tickets for the cash bar.*
- *Attorney General Ford inquired as to whether there would be exhibit space for other vendors to talk about their products. Mr. Morton noted that space would be available in the registration foyer, and that the sponsorship level for an exhibit table is \$300 per day. Attorney General Ford stated that he had recently met with a fentanyl test strip company that may be interested in such a sponsorship, and would send that information to Mr. Morton.*
- *Steve Wolfson moved to approve the conference agenda as recommended by the Subcommittee on Conference Programming. Chris Hicks seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

5. **Discussion, Review of Nominations, and Possible Vote on Selection of 2024 William J. Raggio Award Winner. (For possible action)**

(Attachment 5 – Nominations received for 2024 Raggio Award).

- *Mr. Morton noted for the Advisory Council that it received one nomination for the 2024 William J. Raggio Award. The nomination was submitted by Steve Wolfson for Christopher Lalli.*

- *Discussion was had regarding whether to focus this year's conference on the 2024 award winner, or award both the 2023 and 2024 awards, since the conference was cancelled in 2023. Consensus was reached to present both winners their respective awards, as it was stated by many that both Mark Jackson and Christopher Lalli deserve their due recognition.*
- *Steve Wolfson inquired as to whether the person who nominated the winner would present the award. Attorney General Ford confirmed that was the case.*
- *It was also noted by Chris Hicks that presenting both awards at the beginning of the conference would be a good idea, since all attendees would be there right at the beginning.*
- *Steve Wolfson reiterated his nomination for Christopher Lalli in the form of a motion to be awarded the 2024 William J. Raggio Award. Mark Jackson and Chris Hicks both seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

6. Chair's Report.

- a. Committee on Domestic Violence
- b. Substance Use Response Working Group
- c. Sentencing Commission
 - *Attorney General Ford submitted his Chair's Report to the Advisory Council in writing. The report noted the number of meetings each of the above groups had held since the first quarter meeting of the Advisory Council, and highlighted any topics for discussion.*
 - *The Report stated that the Committee on Domestic Violence was still working with the District Attorney's Association on best practices guidelines for domestic violence prosecutions.*
 - *Attorney General Ford noted that the Substance Use Response Working Group voted to add additional members, including one from the District Attorney's Association, but that recommendation would have to go to the Legislature in the form of a bill.*

7. Executive Director's Report.

- *Mr. Morton submitted his Executive Director's Report to the Advisory Council in writing, noting that most of his work since the first quarter meeting has been devoted to the Conference.*
- *Mr. Morton noted that the Vulnerable Adult Fatality Review Committee (VAFRC), which he chairs, had met once since the last meeting of the Advisory Council. Mark Jackson inquired as to how the VAFRC receives the cases it reviews. Mr. Morton stated that since the creation of the VAFRC by the Legislature in 2023, it has been referred cases solely from Adult Protective Services, but that upon approval of a referral form, any individual or governmental entity will be able to submit cases for review to the VAFRC.*

8. Discussion on Possible Legislative Matters for the 83rd Session of the Nevada Legislature.

- *Attorney General Ford opened this agenda item for discussion. Mark Jackson inquired as to how many bill draft requests (BDRs) the Attorney General's Office*

is allocated. AG Ford stated that the office gets 20 BDRs. AG Ford stated that he and his staff were still gathering information to create those requests, and told the rest of the Advisory Council that each member can send any ideas to him, Mr. Morton, and Chief of Staff Benitez-Thompson. AG Ford also noted that he would also be receiving ideas and requests from other entities, such as the ACLU.

- *Mark Jackson noted that the District Attorneys Association would be looking at revisiting SB35 from the 2023 session, and reiterated the stance of the Association that the state not move forward with a switch from qualitative to quantitative analysis for testing of fentanyl and other substances.*
- *Mark Jackson also stated that the Advisory Council is in need of increased funding, since it's budget has been essentially flat since the creation of the Advisory Council in 1997. Attorney General Ford stated that he is in favor of increased funding, but also noted that the Governor's Finance Office instructed state officials and agencies to submit flat budget proposals.*
- *Carly Helbert inquired as to which state agency holds enforcement authority related to NRS 289.840, which requires a law enforcement officer/agency to report to Save Voice if an incident of domestic violence occurs in the presence of a child. AG Ford stated that he would have Mr. Morton conduct some research into that law and get back to Carly.*
- *Mr. Morton stated that he would send an email out to the Advisory Council that contained the last two meeting dates of the Joint Interim Standing Committee on Judiciary, as the Interim Committee would be discussing its legislative proposals at those two meetings.*

9. **Council Comments.** (For discussion only – action may not be taken on any matter brought up under this agenda item, but matters may be scheduled on future agendas).

- *There were no additional comments from members at this time.*

10. **Public Comment.**

- *No public comment was offered.*

11. **Adjournment.**

- *Carly Helbert moved to adjourn the meeting. Mark Jackson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

In accordance with NRS 241.020, this agenda was posted on or before June 13, 2023 online at [https://ag.nv.gov/Hot_Topics/Prosecuting Attorneys Council/](https://ag.nv.gov/Hot_Topics/Prosecuting_Attorneys_Council/) and <https://notice.nv.gov/> and the following locations:

- Office of the Attorney General, 100 N. Carson Street, Carson City, NV 89701
- Office of the Attorney General, 5420 Kietzke Lane, Suite 202, Reno, NV 89511
- Office of the Attorney General, Grant Sawyer Building, 555 E. Washington Ave., Las Vegas, NV 89101

Meeting materials may be requested from Michael K. Morton, Special Assistant Attorney General, at (775) 687-2110 or mkmorton@ag.nv.gov, or obtained from the Office of the Attorney General at any of the locations listed above.