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RESOLUTION

OF THE

NEVADA DISTRICT JUDGES ASSOCIATION

* * * * *

WHEREAS, the District Judges of the Seventh Judicial District of Nevada, in and for the Counties of Eureka, Lincoln and White Pine are charged with presiding over litigation, both civil and criminal, arising out of Ely State Prison; and

WHEREAS, Ely State Prison is the designated maximum security prison for the State of Nevada where the most violent, dangerous inmates in the prison system are incarcerated; and

WHEREAS, inmates incarcerated at Ely State Prison are regularly transported to the White Pine County Courthouse to make appearances in District Court for such litigation; and

WHEREAS, the White Pine County Courthouse , built in 1906, has served the citizens of White Pine County well for nearly a century; and

WHEREAS, the Commission On Rural Courts empaneled by the Judicial Council of the State of Nevada has issued its Report identifying serious security flaws arising out of the age and design of the White Pine County Courthouse and affecting the ability of the District Judges to ensure a safe, secure environment for such prison litigation; and

WHEREAS, the Criminal Justice System In Rural Nevada And Transitional Housing For Released Offenders (S.C.R. 32) Committee empaneled by the 2003 Nevada Legislature has

listened to testimony, has toured the White Pine County Courthouse, and has recognized and expressed its concern over the security flaws identified in the aged Courthouse, and has further expressed its concern over the District Judges' ability to safely conduct and preside over prison litigation in the aged Courthouse; and

WHEREAS, the extreme need for a new court facility in White Pine County has clearly been shown; and

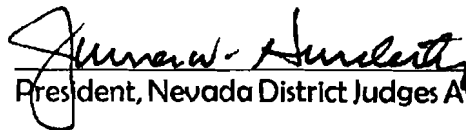
WHEREAS, the County of White Pine, is unable to fund, through bonding or otherwise, the construction of a new court facility; and

WHEREAS, it is widely recognized across the State of Nevada that Judges of the Seventh Judicial District provide a vital service to all of the citizens of Nevada by presiding over cases arising out of Ely State Prison;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND RECOMMENDED BY THE NEVADA DISTRICT JUDGES ASSOCIATION that the State of Nevada should recognize the critical need of a new court facility for White Pine County and should further recognize the State's moral responsibility to assist with this critical need;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the 2005 Nevada Legislature should appropriate sufficient monies to construct a new court facility in White Pine County, Nevada.

Respectfully submitted this 21 day of May, 2004.



President, Nevada District Judges Association

Supreme Court of Nevada
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

Supreme Court Building
201 South Carson Street, Suite 250
Carson City, Nevada 89701-4702



RONALD R. TITUS
Director and
State Court Administrator

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

"To unite and promote Nevada's judiciary as an equal, independent and effective branch of government."

RESOLUTION

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Whereas, the Criminal Justice System In Rural Nevada And Transitional Housing For Release Offenders (S.C.R. 32) Interim Study Committee empanelled by the 2003 Nevada Legislature has listened to testimony, has toured the White Pine County Courthouse, and has recognized and expressed its concern over the security flaws identified in the aged Courthouse, and has further expressed its concern over the District Judges' ability to safely conduct and preside over prison litigation in the aged Courthouse; and

Whereas, the extreme need for a new court facility in White Pine County has clearly been shown; and

Whereas, the County of White Pine is unable to fund, through bonding or otherwise, the construction of a new court facility; and

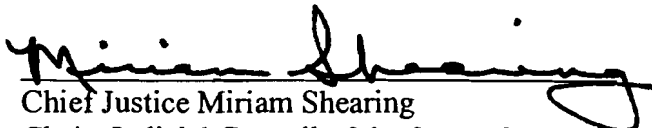
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Whereas, it is widely recognized across the State of Nevada that the Judges of the Seventh Judicial District provide a vital service to all of the citizens of Nevada by presiding over cases arising out of Ely State Prison;

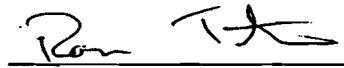
Now Therefore, be it resolved and recommended by the Judicial Council of the State of Nevada that the State of Nevada should recognize the State's moral responsibility to assist with this critical need;

Be It Further Resolved and recommended by the Judicial Council of the State of Nevada that the 2005 Nevada Legislature support funding for the construction of a new court facility in White Pine County, Nevada.

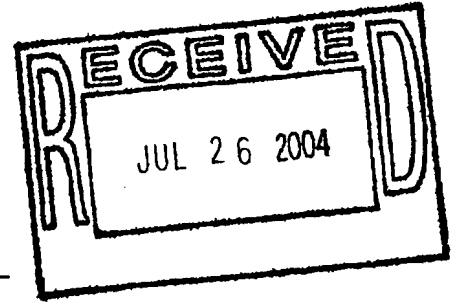
Passed, Adopted and Approved this 25th day of June, 2004



Chief Justice Miriam Shearing
Chair, Judicial Council of the State of Nevada



Attested to by:
Ronald R. Titus, State Court Administrator
Secretary, Judicial Council of the State of Nevada



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BRIAN SANDOVAL
Attorney General

ANN WILKINSON
Assistant Attorney General

July 20, 2004

Honorable Judge Dan Papez
Seventh Judicial District Court, Department 2
P.O. Box 151629
Ely, Nevada 89315

Dear Judge Papez:

Thank you for your letter updating me on the impressive progress you and Judge Dobrescu have been making in your efforts to obtain legislative funding for a new courthouse facility in White Pine County.

The White Pine County Courthouse is an extremely important part of the Nevada justice system. As you are aware, the Office of the Attorney General / Nevada Department of Justice has primary jurisdiction in the prosecution of state prisoner crimes. Approximately half of all state prison crimes approved for prosecution by the NDOJ originate from Ely State Prison, which houses Nevada's most violent offenders. Cases recently prosecuted by our office include murder, battery on an officer, arson, possession of deadly weapons, and escape. These cases frequently involve dangerous prison gangs.

As the result of the NDOJ's aggressive stance in prosecuting prison crimes, the Nevada Department of Corrections has increased the number of criminal referrals to our office by nearly 100% since January of 2003. In that same time period, our office has increased the number of cases approved for prosecution by an astonishing 500%. We have prosecuted seven criminal jury trials in this time and, incredibly, only expect the pace of our prosecutions to pick up in the next year.

Furthermore, many of these same inmates are litigants in the hundreds of vexatious civil suits filed each year against the State of Nevada and other parties.

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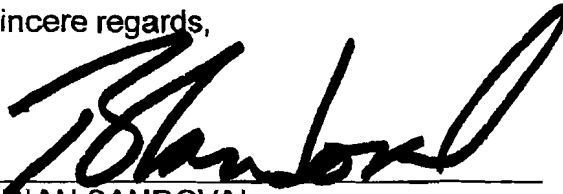
The Honorable Papez
July 20, 2004
Page 2

The same level of security is required whether these inmates are plaintiffs in a civil suit or defendants in a criminal matter.

There can be no margin of error when it comes to ensuring the safety and security of courthouse personnel, officers, attorneys, witnesses, judges, and jurors in Nevada's justice system. I have seen firsthand the security risks that currently exist in the historic, but antiquated, White Pine County Courthouse. Please accept this letter as my commitment of full support to you and Judge Dobrescu in the worthy goal of obtaining legislative funding for a new court facility in White Pine County.

Please do not hesitate to call on me if there is anything else I can do to assist you in these efforts.

Sincere regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. Sandoval", written over a horizontal line.

BRIAN SANDOVAL
Attorney General