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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

March 4, 2010

## NEWS RELEASE

Legislative Committee on Senior Citizens, Veterans and Adults With Special Needs  
(*Nevada Revised Statutes 218E.750*)

Date: Wednesday, March 10, 2010  
Time: 9 a.m.  
Place: Grant Sawyer State Office Building  
Room 4401  
555 East Washington Avenue  
Las Vegas, Nevada

Videoconferenced to:  
The Legislative Building  
Room 3137  
401 South Carson Street  
Carson City, Nevada

Contact: Amber J. Joiner, Senior Research Analyst  
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**LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ON SENIOR CITIZENS, VETERANS AND ADULTS WITH  
SPECIAL NEEDS (NEVADA REVISED STATUTES 218E.750)  
HOLDS SECOND MEETING IN LAS VEGAS**

The Legislative Committee on Senior Citizens, Veterans and Adults With Special Needs (*Nevada Revised Statutes 218E.750*) will convene its second meeting in Las Vegas on Wednesday, March 10, 2010, in Room 4401 of the Grant Sawyer State Office Building. The meeting will also be videoconferenced to Room 3137 of the Legislative Building in Carson City, and public comment at the end of the meeting will be welcome from both locations.

The agenda for the Committee's second meeting and additional information about the Committee can be found at <http://www.leg.state.nv.us/Interim/75th2009/Committee>. Two important issues will be

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discussed at this meeting: (1) the protection of senior citizens and adults with special needs who have been appointed a guardian; and (2) issues relating to the abuse, neglect, isolation, and exploitation of senior citizens and adults with special needs.

More specifically, presenters have been invited to speak on the following topics: the work of the Guardianship Steering Committee; the use of guardianships in the justice system; law enforcement procedures for investigating the abuse, neglect, isolation, and exploitation of senior citizens and adults with special needs; the procedure for prosecuting cases of abuse, neglect, isolation, and exploitation of senior citizens and adults with special needs; an update on the cases of abuse, neglect, isolation, and exploitation reported to the central repository for Nevada Records of Criminal History; an update on the progress of the transfer of protective services from Clark County to the State of Nevada; and the work of Nevada's Elder Abuse Task Force.

According to the Chair, Assemblywoman Kathy McClain:

Last week during the "balanced budget" special session, when we were presented with the draconian cuts to senior services, I worried about the repercussions of cutting in-home services to frail elders. Eliminating these services performed in a community setting increases caregiver stress and the rate of institutionalization for elders. Moving seniors from their homes and families into institutions and creating other circumstances that could increase the causes of elder abuse was not acceptable. We have only scratched the surface of preventing and prosecuting abusive situations largely because of a lack of funding, and the budget cuts had the potential to increase the need beyond anyone's comprehension. While we eliminated the worst cuts, the remaining resources continue to be extremely limited.

This meeting will explore ways for the various agencies to work together to expand prevention efforts, as well as to coordinate efforts to investigate and prosecute cases of elder mistreatment in all its forms.

Chair McClain may be reached for comment at [kam15@msn.com](mailto:kam15@msn.com) or 702/898-5579.

The Committee is chaired by Assemblywoman Kathy McClain (D-Clark, No. 15), and the members include: Senator Shirley A. Breeden, Vice Chair (D-Clark, No. 5), Senator Dennis Nolan (R-Clark, No. 9), Senator Joyce Woodhouse (D-Clark, No. 5), Assemblyman Ellen B. Spiegel (D-Clark, No. 21), and Assemblyman Lynn D. Stewart (R-Clark, No. 22).

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