



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR**

August 11, 2020

Senator Cannizzaro, Chair
Legislative Commission
401 S. Carson Street
Carson City, NV 89701

RE: Recommendations for Appointment to the Commission on Minority Affairs

Dear Senator Cannizzaro:

The Commission on Minority Affairs seeks to study matters affecting the social and economic welfare of minorities in Nevada. The Commission will collect and disseminate information on activities, programs, essential services, employment, education, and affordable housing available to minorities. The Commission will advise the Governor on matters relating to minority issues and will recommend and comment upon proposed legislation to the Governor.

The Nevada Commission on Minority Affairs has two vacant positions and three reappointments for your consideration. On behalf of the Department of Business & Industry and Chair D. Edward Chaney of the Commission, the recommendations are as follows:

1. Yette Martell-De Luca
2. Angelica Villarta
3. Hasaan Azam (recommend reappointment for a 2nd term)
4. Donald Edward Chaney (recommend reappointment for a 2nd term)
5. Myisha Williams (recommend reappointment for a 2nd term)

Attached you will find the letters of interest as well as resumes for these recommendations. These candidates will help to represent a diverse Commission. Please feel free to contact me at your convenience should you have comments or questions.

Respectfully Submitted,

Emily Ku

Emily Ku
Management Analyst for the Commission on Minority Affairs

Commission on Minority Affairs

Current roster demographics:

Commissioner D. Edward Chaney – African American

Commissioner Hasaan Azam – Asian (Reno)

Commissioner Myisha Williams – Mixed race (Hispanic / African American)

Commissioner Kathleen Taylor – African American

Commissioner Amy Emiko Shaw – Asian

Commissioner Mercedes Krause – Mixed race (Native American / Hispanic)

Candidate demographics:

Yette Le Luca – Hispanic (Reno)

Angelica Villarta – Pacific Islander

We consider mixed race to be a separate minority group since they offer a unique perspective and a distinct voice of the minority community and are a growing segment in our multicultural society. This group does not identify with a single race/ethnicity, but rather multiple races/ethnicities. The US Census Bureau categorizes them as a separate group, and according to the Census Bureau, account for 3% of the total population.

Asian and Pacific Islander are often lumped together in demographic data, but the US Census Bureau defines Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander as a separate racial category from Asian.

Yerania (Yette) Martell De Luca

[LinkedIn Profile](https://www.linkedin.com/in/yymd28/) www.linkedin.com/in/yymd28/

775-220-2064

1857 Maxwell Rd, Carson City, NV 89706

tydeluca99@sbcglobal.net

June 12, 2020

Nevada Department of Business and Industry
Attention: Emily Ku
3300 West Sahara Ave., Suite 425
Las Vegas, NV 89102

Dear Mrs. Ku,

Enclosed is my resume highlighting my qualifications for the position of Commissioner for the Nevada Commission on Minority Affairs.

I am a first-generation Mexican immigrant, college graduate, and United States Air Force (USFA) Veteran. After serving in the USAF, I became a performance auditor working in the banking industry and most recently as a Nevada Deputy Legislative Auditor.

However, my passion is helping marginalized, underrepresented youth develop to their full potential. Based on my passion and professional evolution, I decided to challenge myself by founding an organization designed to connect youth with career opportunities. SkillsConnection was founded in October 2019 after I worked with a school district and witness the inequality in our educational system, specifically with the Latino population and in Northern Nevada. While, SkillsConnection serves all students, I believe minority students need representation at all levels and it is my goal to provide representation and connection via the SkillsConnection organization.

I am confident that my public and private sector experience coupled with my collaborative skills and passion for youth development will be the right fit for the commission.

I look forward to meeting in person to discuss this opportunity.

Respectfully,

Yette Martell-De Luca

Yette Martell-De Luca
(775) 220-2064

Enclosure:
Resume & References

SUMMARY	PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE
Visionary Leader bringing over 15+ years of regulatory compliance and risk management experience in state/local government and the financial industry. Diverse background in operations ranging from different business and customer service models - within financial institutions, state agencies and education institutions. Offers innovative thinking to operational challenges by implementing solutions while minimizing risk and maximizing performance. Motivator and coach combining business acumen with analytical depth to align operational efficiencies with strategic goals.	Founder, SkillsConnection.org, established October 2019 An organization designed to connect young adults and employers with opportunities for improvement. Focused in ensuring marginalized youth and parents are empowered to navigate the educational and workforce development systems in an effort of changing their life trajectory. Current Clients - Nevada Division of Environmental Protection, Infrastructure Financing and Truckee Meadows Community College Collaborations with Truckee Meadows Community College, Western Nevada College, UNR Latino Research Center, UNR's Community of Bilingual English Spanish-Speakers (CBESS), The Learning Pathmakers, and The Sustainable Learning Projects. Workforce Development Program Truckee Meadows Community College, October 2019 to present (grant funded) Carson City School District, April 2018 to October 2019 (grant funded) Developed a competency curriculum for working adults and students entering the workforce. Teaches workplace competencies to working adults. Created a data collection tool to track participants and activities. Established the first work-based learning program and developed program policies and procedures. Collaborated with community officials and organizations to maintain and expand partnerships. Developed a website for a career center to include an electronic appointment system. Opened a career center for 2,400 students, which included creating process workflows, a staffing model, Supervised and evaluated career center staff and volunteers comprised of 5 individuals. Deputy Legislative Auditor, Nevada Legislative Counsel Bureau <i>August 2012 to April 2018</i> Assessed state agency operations to determine risk levels; risk based on business practices including organization's data systems and networks, financial performance, regulatory compliance, and reputation. Prepared and presented reports of findings and recommendations. Testified before the Legislative Commission's Audit Subcommittee regarding audit results, which included recommendations to amend existing laws or enact new laws and regulations. Supervised audit teams ranging from two to five members and managed deadlines. Modernized the new hire training program and assisted with the training of newly hired auditors. <i>Audit Reports are available via LinkedIn under the Publication Section</i> Audit and Compliance Manager, Greater Nevada Credit Union <i>April 2006 to August 2012</i> Established a risk-based audit program for a \$500M lending institution including a consumer and mortgage lending portfolio. Lead a team designed to assess IT controls from critical network-centric vulnerabilities within networks, systems, hosts, applications, staff, and physical assets. Assessed the effectiveness and application of risk assessment methodologies and management procedures. Reviewed financial reports and accounting records for accuracy and reliability. Analyzed the methodology applied to evaluate capital and determine lending ratios, interest rates and fees. Evaluated annual compliance with the Automated Clearing House (ACH) (electronic payment system) Established a compliance function which included creating a co-sourcing model. Prepared and presented reports of findings to management at all levels, and board members. Facilitated audit committee meetings and served as a liaison between the committee and management. Investigated claims of internal fraud and performed special investigations. Implemented three major systems: an organizational-wide policy and procedure software, an audit software and an Anti-Money Laundering compliance software. Supervised two employees and a consulting team. Financial Institutions Examiner, Nevada Financial Institutions Division <i>October 2004 to April 2006</i> Verified compliance with regulatory licensing requirements for various financial entities, including depository, lending, collection and money transmission entities. Analyzed key ratios and trends to ensure the institution's safe and sound operation and overall condition. Examined loans and investments to determined compliance and viability. Prepared reports detailing findings and recommendations.
SKILLS & COMPETENCIES	
Experienced Board Member Liaison Strategic Plan Development Strategic Partnerships Policy & Procedure Development Assessment of IT Systems/Networks Understanding of IT audit practices IT Internal Controls Protection of organizational data Social Engineering Practices IT Change Management Program Development & Improvement Budget building & analysis Risk Assessment & Management Team Building & Training Website Development Digital Marketing Data Mining and Analytics Skilled in financial and HR systems Effective Communicator at all levels Community Collaboration	
EDUCATION & MILITARY SERVICE	
Master of Business Administration, <i>University of Phoenix</i> Bachelor of Science, Resource Management, <i>Troy State University</i> Leadership Carson City Class of 2011, <i>Carson City Chamber of Commerce</i> United States Air Force, Senior Airman	
REFERENCES	

Yerania (Yette) Martell De Luca, MBA

[https:// www.linkedin.com/in/ynd28](https://www.linkedin.com/in/ynd28)

775-220-2064

tydeluca99@sbcglobal.net

Dr. Vicente Solis, President Western Nevada College Solis.vincent@wnc.edu (775) 445-4236 or (956) 465-8220	Jenny Casselman, Vice President Greater Commercial Lending skiing3nv@gmail.com (775) 841-5977	Rick Neil, Audit Supervisor (Retired) Nevada Legislature (775) 770-8460	Harman Bains, Director Lyon County School District harmanbains1011@gmail.com (775)384-7833
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Latino Research Center

CENTRO DE INVESTIGACIÓN LATINO | University of Nevada, Reno

June 11, 2020

Nevada Department of Business and Industry
Attention: Emily Ku
3300 West Sahara Ave., Suite 425
Las Vegas, NV 89102

Dear Mrs. Ku,

We are delighted to provide a letter of recommendation in support of Yette De Luca's application for the commissioner position, Nevada Commission on Minority Affairs. Without hesitation, Yette will well represent Northern Nevada in this capacity. We have known Ms. De Luca for about two years through the UNR Community of Bilingual English-Spanish Speakers (CBESS) program. CBESS is a program designed to create opportunities to position bilingual high school students as insiders into STEM-healthcare fields.

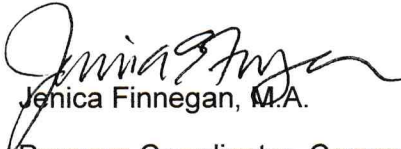
When Yette joined CBESS, she was the Carson City School District Work-Based Learning Coordinator. In this role, she was integral to recruitment at Carson High for the first program cohort. She went above and beyond to identify students who would benefit from the program, helped them with the application process, and coordinated parent information sessions in Spanish and English. Even though she is no longer with Carson City School District, she continues active membership with the CBESS community of practice (CoP). She was a selection committee member for cohort 1 (2018) and 2 (2019), and participates meaningfully in CoP meetings to offer feedback to program changes.

Since working with the Carson City School District, Yette founded an organization designed to connect youth with career opportunities. This organization is in response to the inequalities prevalent with the school system. This move, in itself, is a demonstration of Yette's dedication to improving the lives and wellbeing of underrepresented communities. It is without hesitation that we recommend Yette for the Commissioner position to represent Northern Nevada. She will actively contribute to the agenda of the Nevada Commission on Minority Affairs. Please contact us if you require additional information.

Sincerely,


Julie Luero, MPH PhD

Director, Latino Research Center
Assistant Professor, UNR CHS


Jenica Finnegan, M.A.

Program Coordinator, Community of Bilingual
English Spanish-Speakers (CBESS)

Raggio Research Center for STEM Education,
UNR

Letter of Interest
Dedicated to the Commission on Minority Affairs

July 31, 2020

Dear Nevada Commission on Minority Affairs,

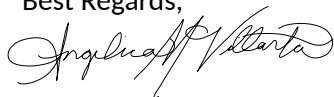
I'm submitting this letter of interest to fill an open seat for the Nevada Commission on Minority Affairs.

I have lived in Las Vegas for over 25 years and have been witness to the growth and economic changes this city has gone through. I am passionate about civic engagement and truly believe that legislative changes are driving forces that define our city's resilience and enhance the attraction from global communities. I am able to bring a diverse set of talents and different perspectives to the commission that I believe will enhance the commission's effectiveness by integrating with communities that are typically overlooked, felt under represented or whom have not felt the need to be engaged.

In my firm I specialize in financial planning for businesses as well as financial planning for families who have special needs. I have in-depth conversations on a daily basis with many businesses owned by Pacific Islanders and those who have needs for family members on the spectrum. I meet on a monthly basis with elders in my communities to discuss the various needs or concerns they have or face within their families and guide them to various resources. Some of the organizations I have worked with, organized for or have volunteered with include Guam Heritage Association of Nevada, Guam Golden Girls, Asian Pacific Performing Arts Alliance, Asian Community Resource Center, EPIC Gen-R-Asian, Water & Energy Humanitarian Fund, various churches, synagogues, mosques and temples.

I believe there is a need to share the experiences of many of our Islanders when it comes to education, workforce or business solutions, healthcare and community resources. There are several issues that should be highlighted in conjunction with the other minority communities that are not being brought to attention and I feel I am involved enough with these communities to share those needs, issues or concerns with the commission. My goal is to be able to provide feedback from my community Guamanian, Chamorro, Hawaiian, Samoan and other leaders that may help to address some of the ongoing issues they face as well provide these communities a representative who can bring to them valuable resources and information that will help to uplift and support these communities throughout Las Vegas in turn providing opportunities and enhancing the economic and social lives of our global citizens.

Best Regards,



Angelica M. Villarta

Angelica M. Villarta
Angelica.villarta@gmail.com

Career Summary

Experienced professional with over 18 years in finance, marketing, entertainment, event and program management and community activism.. I have contributed to the continuity of business and community partnerships as well as the development of new business relationships by improving interpersonal communication through a proper balance of team-work and creative relationship management skills. I am passionate about increasing my knowledge and experience while continually advancing my practice and presence in the community.

Work Experience

Capstone Partners Insurance and Financial Services - Las Vegas, NV (July 2018 - Present)

Financial Services Professional

- Offer a broad portfolio of individual life, disability income, long-term care, insurance protection, asset accumulation strategies, and financial products and services for high net worth families, businesses, and institutions.
- Through a network of providers I offer advisory services, retirement analysis, estate strategies, employee benefit and retention services, business continuation strategies and trust services.

JP Morgan Chase Bank - Las Vegas, NV (March 2016 - July 2018)

Personal Banker and Small Business Specialist

- Business Specialist
- Manager on Duty.
- Increased branch Overall Satisfactory Scores by 2.3% in the 4th quarter of 2017 by improving customer service survey scores.
- Manage daily operations.
- Increase business, private client, mortgage and auto loan activity to increase deposits and investments

WealthSmart America - Las Vegas, NV (August 2015-December 2017)

- Business Executive Bonus Plans
- Business Key Person or Buy-Sell Agreements
- Private Pension Plans
- Youth Leadership
- Community Partnerships & Fundraising
- College Planning

Angelica M. Villarta
Angelica.villarta@gmail.com

Self-Employed Musician / Production Assistant / Event Management / Consultant – Las Vegas, NV (2001-March 2016)

Talent Agent

- Designed and maintained social media and marketing campaigns.
- Handled talent acquisition for events including but not limited to production teams, performers, hosts, security, etc.
- Client acquisitions.
- Arrange travel, room, transportation accommodations for special projects.
- Composed promotional and sponsorship proposals for Las Vegas festivals, events and organizations.
- Independently contracted as a production assistant, events manager, and/or a casting director in the Las Vegas area by Gotham Casting for Viacom Media Networks and iHeart Radio, Asian Pacific Performing Arts Alliance, Definitive Talents, Pazzo Music and Orion Productions.

Public Speaker and Consultant

- Consulted small businesses and NPO's on increasing local presence by creating and executing events, assisting with fundraising and increasing membership and participation.
- Hired to host and featured as guest speaker at various educational events meant to raise awareness of wealth management strategies and expand knowledge to improve students and families college readiness.
- Public relations on behalf of the Asian and Pacific Islander Community.
- Pre-Production planning of events for agencies and festivals meanwhile managing, hiring, recruiting and scheduling talent.
- Entertainer: Singer / Musician / MC
- Perform, MC, host and entertain for casino lounges, weddings and receptions, conventions and various special events in Las Vegas, Palm, Utah and Honolulu.
- Created and distributed promotional campaigns for events by use of social media, email marketing campaigns, guerrilla marketing, B2B and F2F presentations. Campaigns include but not limited to flyer design, formatting presentation, copyright, social media banners, etc.

Angelica M. Villarta
Angelica.villarta@gmail.com

Mandalay Bay Resort and Casino – Las Vegas, NV (January 2008-September 2011)
Executive Assistant to Vice Presidents and Executive Directors for Hotel and Casino Marketing, Advertising, Database Marketing and Social Media.

- Prepared monthly P&L's for VP's and Directors.
- Reconciled purchase requisitions for special events, advertising, hotel marketing and social media.
- Fulfilled and negotiated trade and sponsorship requests by vendors, business partners and property executives.
- Scheduled training and delegated responsibilities of interns (HIP, M.A.P., REACH) within the department and property, as needed.
- Designed and updated the property's Overall Strategic Marketing Plan and the Marketing Strategy and Execution calendar with the support of property executives.
- Implemented ideas and concepts for MLife Experiences, assisted in overall property social media and website updates with Social Media Director. Made arrangements for photo shoots and commercials after receiving approval from corporate branding department.
- Input reservations and created travel itineraries for executives and VIP guests.
- Handle general correspondence with guests.
- Assisted VP's in department Leadership Development and Executive Bonuses
- Assisted with Casino Marketing Special Events, VIP Services and database marketing calendars in coordination with Entertainment and convention services events.

Volunteer Work:

- Board of Directors for Water & Energy Humanitarian Fund
- Volunteer / Outreach and Advocacy Guam Heritage Association
- Volunteer Asian Community Resource Center
- Praise Team Leader New Song Community Lutheran Church
- Volunteer Judge Golden Valley Speech and Debate
- Volunteer Injured Police Officer's Fund
- Organizer PLAN of Nevada
- Volunteer Chinese American Citizen's Alliance
- Volunteer Bamboo Bridges
- Volunteer Entertainer Nevadans For The Common Good
- Treasurer for ASPIRE (Chase BRG)
- Volunteer SafeNest

Attention:

Nevada State Commissioner on Minority Affairs

Department of Business and Industry

3300 W. Sahara Ave., Fourth Floor

Las Vegas, NV 89102

Re: Applicant for Nevada State Commissioner on Minority Affairs

Dear Nevada State Commission on Minority Affairs Committee,

This letter is to serve as a reference for Mrs. Angelica Villarta as an applicant for the Nevada State Commission on Minority Affairs. I first met Angelica in 2011 as an active member in civic engagement with the Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander community. She is part of the Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander community which is a key demographic for representation in the state of Nevada. The first NHPI disaggregated demographic report in U.S. history was initiated from a meeting in Las Vegas, Nevada, as a partnership with Empowering Pacific Islander Communities and Advancing Justice. Nevada remains to be a key emphasis for the national NHPI demographic in education, healthcare, civic engagement, housing, and economic development.

Angelica demonstrates iconic leadership as a NHPI and she is passionate about empowering minorities. The NHPI community is a underrepresented community and her background of Chamorro descent plays a key role for diversity in the Nevada State Commission on Minority Affairs. She brings extensive knowledge about AANHPI stakeholders, 501(c)3 non-profit organizations, and a professional business acumen with a financial services background. I strongly recommend her as a candidate for the state commission and believe she will make a valuable contribution as a member of our community.

Thank you for your considerations,

DocuSigned by:

AA58ED52EC28444...
8/10/2020

Evan Louie

415.793.6196

Former Nevada State Commissioner on Minority Affairs

evanlouie@gmail.com

August 7, 2020

Re: Letter of Recommendation

To whom it may concern:

I have known Angelica Villarta, for several years since we met in our vibrant city of Las Vegas, Nevada. Back home on Guam she comes from a highly respected family of educators and public servants—all of whom have contributed to the greater good of our Island.

Here in Las Vegas, she has been an active member in our Guam Women's Club where she has assisted in many of our projects and cares deeply for our citizens. She is very well respected and loved amongst our members. With the utmost regard I recommend Angelica to be a member of the Nevada Commission on Minority Affairs. I am confident she will be a great asset to your organization as she has proven to ours.

I remain,

Anita Santos, President

Las Vegas Guam Women's Club

Asantos671@yahoo.com



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Kirk Montez, Esq.
kirk@mnlawnv.com

Jude Nazareth, Esq.
jedward@mnlawnv.com

August 10, 2020

Nevada Commission on Minority Affairs
NV Dept. of Business & Industry
3300 W. Sahara Ave. Ste. 425
Las Vegas, NV 89102Zip

RE: LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION IN SUPPORT OF ANGELICA VILLARTA

Dear Nevada Commission on Minority Affairs:

I write this letter supporting Angelica Villarta's candidacy as a prospective member of the Nevada Commission on Minority Affairs. I have known Angelica on both a professional and community volunteer basis. In fact, Angelica and I have worked together on several projects over the years, and I have witnessed her personal and professional growth within the AANHPI Community. She has demonstrated her strength and ability to empower AANHPI youth and has been a valuable resource for our business community.

I have seen Angelica volunteer and take on leadership roles throughout various events for the many different communities represented under the AANHPI umbrella. She has been seen and is known for building valuable relationships in the Chinese, Vietnamese, Guamanian, Sri Lankan, Indian, Native Hawaiian, and Filipino communities. Her natural ability to unite diverse communities for common goals is a rare gift. She is well respected among community leaders and professionally is a resource I can also depend on.

Please take sincere consideration in accepting Angelica Villarta for the open seat on the Nevada Commission on Minority Affairs.

Best regards,

MONTEZ NAZARETH LAW

Jude E. Nazareth, Esq.
