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Jeremy Bosler  
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Re: Status of Public Defenders Office

Dear Jeremy,

I have reviewed the comments from David Carroll as addressed to the Supreme Court regarding the status of Public Defenders Office in the State of Nevada. I have had the opportunity to consult with justice systems in a number of states and of course am most familiar with Nevada and Colorado.

The ABA's 10 principles are realistic but clearly come with a price tag. Setting aside fiscal issues, there is no doubt that a public defender system must be independent. An independent public defender system with appropriate oversight has proven to be an effective system to provide competent representation of the indigent. I commend the Nevada Supreme Court in its efforts to examine how the Nevada public defender system should look. I recall the struggles that occurred as the State of Colorado developed its system. Initially in Colorado, fiscal oversight, appointment, etc. was with the Supreme Court, but the justices led an effort to transfer its oversight of the public defender system. This leaves the question of what type of oversight should exist of a public defender system and I leave that analysis in the capable hands of the Nevada Supreme Court.

I hope these thoughts are of some help to you as this issue is addressed.

Sincerely,

William F. Dressel  
President

13 December 2007

FILED

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WALTER M. BLOOM  
CLERK OF SUPREME COURT  
BY *[Signature]*  
DEPUTY CLERK

07-28454