



Office of the Public Defender

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TRACIE K. LINDEMAN
CLERK OF SUPREME COURT
BY *[Signature]*
CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK

Dear Nevada Supreme Court Justices,

I understand that the Court is considering a mandatory addiction type ethics CLE for all Nevada Lawyers. I have been in charge of the Clark County Public Defenders Office CLE program for the past several years. About 4 years ago, we started doing an annual "Coping with Addiction" CLE. Coe Swobe and Kristine Kuzemka were instrumental in putting our annual program together and it is well attended every year. It is, of course, difficult to know how many people have sought help after exposure to the program. I do believe, however, that Lawyers Concerned for Lawyers does a very effective job of reaching out to addicts by having these programs. There is no doubt that many do attend to get a couple of ethics CLE credits--It is a positive thing, however, if in the process of getting credit, they also get a better understanding of addiction and the services available to help addicts in the legal community.

The annual program at our office focuses on alcohol, drugs and gambling. Because of the anonymous nature of the process of seeking help, it will always be extremely difficult to know how many people we may be helping with the annual program. We do see it as an annual program worth continuing as awareness and support are so vital to saving attorneys before their careers and law licenses are at risk. With the staggering statistics of attorneys and applicants to the BAR with addiction issues, I support the proposed CLE rule on addiction. Even if the program results in saving just a few people over time, then it is well worth it. For the many non-addicts who have to attend the program, it certainly does not hurt to be made more aware of these issues so they can potentially spot the symptoms and offer help to friends and loved ones. Thank-you for taking these thoughts into consideration.

Sincerely,

Jordan Savage

Jordan Savage
Director of Training
Deputy Public Defender

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Tracie K. Lindeman, Esq.
Clerk of Court
Supreme Court of Nevada
201 S. Carson St., #300
Carson City, NV 89701

November 28, 2012

Dear Ms. Lindeman,

Enclosed please find my letter on the topic of Addictions CLE to our Justices for docketing and distribution to the Justices pursuant to our e-mails from today. Please feel free to contact me direct at 702-455-6737 or by e-mail at savagejs@ClarkCountyNV.gov.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Jordan Savage
Director of Training
Deputy Public Defender