

Marc J. Randazza (NV Bar No. 12265)  
 RANDAZZA LEGAL GROUP, PLLC  
 4035 S. El Capitan Way  
 Las Vegas, NV 89147  
 (702) 420-2001  
 ecf@randazza.com  
*Counsel for Amici Curiae*

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 Elizabeth A. Brown  
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**IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA**

THE LAS VEGAS REVIEW-  
 JOURNAL; and THE ASSOCIATED  
 PRESS;

Petitioners,

vs.

THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
 COURT OF THE STATE OF  
 NEVADA, IN AND FOR THE  
 COUNTY OF CLARK; and

THE HONORABLE RICHARD  
 SCOTTI, DISTRICT JUDGE;

Respondent,

VERONICA HARTFIELD, A NEVADA  
 RESIDENT AND THE ESTATE OF  
 CHARLESTON HARTFIELD and  
 OFFICE OF THE CLARK COUNTY  
 CORONER/MEDICAL EXAMINER;

Real Parties in Interest.

**SUPREME COURT NO.: 75073**

**APPEAL FROM THE EIGHTH  
 JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT  
 FOR CLARK COUNTY,  
 NEVADA,**

**CASE NO.: A-18-768781-C**

**Hon. Richard F. Scotti**

**MOTION OF THE REPORTERS COMMITTEE FOR FREEDOM  
 OF THE PRESS AND THE NEVADA PRESS ASSOCIATION FOR LEAVE  
 TO FILE AMICI CURIAE BRIEF IN SUPPORT OF PETITIONERS**

Pursuant to Nevada Rule of Appellate Procedure 29, the Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press and the Nevada Press Association (collectively, the “*amici*”) respectfully move for leave to file the attached brief of *amici curiae* in support of Petitioners.<sup>1</sup>

*Amici* are media organizations that represent the interests of journalists and freedom of the press, as set forth below. *Amici* submit the attached brief to aid the Court in reviewing the gag order issued by the district court in this case. This brief will assist the Court by providing *amici*’s expertise on the First Amendment’s protections for the press and the public and offering the news media’s perspective on the significant constitutional and statutory issues involved here.

The issue presented in this case—whether a district court may bar two news organizations from reporting information gleaned from records obtained through a Nevada Public Records Act (“NPR”) request and require them to return or destroy

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<sup>1</sup> In accordance with Nev. R. App. Proc. 29(a), *amici* have attempted to obtain written consent of counsel to the filing of their proposed *amici* brief. Counsel for the Las Vegas Review Journal and Associated Press has consented to the filing of the proposed *amici* brief. Counsel for the Office of the Clark County Coroner/Medical Examiner has consented to the filing of the proposed *amici* brief via email. Counsel for Veronica Hartfield and the Estate of Charleston Hartfield do not consent. Counsel for the Eighth Judicial District Court of the State of Nevada, in and for the County of Clark, and the Honorable Richard Scotti, District Judge stated in a letter sent via email: “Because Judge Scotti is not a real party in interest to [this] proceeding, he is not taking a position on whether the Reporters Committee should be allowed to file an amicus brief.”

such records—is of particular concern to journalists as prior restraints are an extreme remedy that effectively freezes their ability to do their jobs. The proposed *amici* brief aims to assist the Court by explaining the significant news value in reporting on anonymized autopsy reports and the dangerous nature of this gag order, which erroneously elevates purported privacy concerns over long-established First Amendment protections. The brief also focuses on the implications of the gag order for journalists and other members of the public who request records under the NPRA. Given the importance of these issues, the Court should grant proposed *amici* leave to file the attached *amici* brief.

A description of *amici* follows:

The Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press is an unincorporated nonprofit association. The Reporters Committee was founded by leading journalists and media lawyers in 1970, when the nation’s news media faced an unprecedented wave of government subpoenas forcing reporters to name confidential sources. Today it provides *pro bono* legal representation, *amicus curiae* support, and other legal resources to protect First Amendment freedoms and the newsgathering rights of journalists.

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The Nevada Press Association is the formal trade organization for the newspaper industry in Nevada. It is a voluntary nonprofit association that represents 6 daily and 37 nondaily newspapers in Nevada, as well as 4 online news services.

Dated February 15, 2018.

RANDAZZA LEGAL GROUP, PLLC

/s/ Marc J. Randazza

Marc J. Randazza (NV Bar No. 12265)

4035 S. El Capitan Way

Las Vegas, Nevada 89147

*Counsel for Amici Curiae*

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

Pursuant to Nev. R. App. Proc. 25(b) and NEFR 9(f), I hereby certify that on this date I electronically filed the foregoing document with the Clerk of the Nevada Supreme Court by using the NEVADA ELECTRONIC FILING RULES (“Eflex”). Participants in this case who are registered with Eflex as users will be served by the Eflex system as follows:

Margaret A. McLetchie  
MCLETCHIE SHELL LLC  
701 East Bridger Ave., Suite 520  
Las Vegas, Nevada 89101  
*Counsel for Las Vegas Review-Journal  
and the Associated Press*

Laura Rehfeldt  
Clark County Dist. Attorney’s Office  
500 S. Grand Central Pkwy., Ste. 5075  
Las Vegas, NV 89106  
*Counsel for Clark County  
Office of the Coroner*

Anthony P. Sgro  
SGRO & ROGER  
720 South Seventh Street, Third Floor  
Las Vegas, NV 89101

Honorable Judge Richard F. Scotti  
Eighth Judicial District Court, Dept. II  
200 Lewis Avenue, Eleventh Floor  
Las Vegas, NV 89101

David Roger  
Las Vegas Police Protective  
Association  
9330 W. Lake Mead Blvd., Suite 200  
Las Vegas, NV 89134  
*Counsel for Veronica Hartfield and the  
Estate of Charleston Hartfield*

Dated: February 15, 2018

/s/ Marc J. Randazza  
Marc J. Randazza