IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

SAMUEL JOSIAH CARUSO,

Petitioner,

vs,

THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF CLARK, AND THE HONORABLE MARY KAY HOLTHUS, DISTRICT JUDGE,

Respondents,

and

THE STATE OF NEVADA,

Real Party In Interest.

RESPONDENT'S APPENDIX

RYAN A. HAMILTON, ESQ. Nevada Bar #011587 SARAH I. PEREZ, ESQ. Nevada Bar #012628 Hamilton Law 5125 S. Durango Dr., Ste. C Las Vegas, Nevada 89113 (702) 818-1818 STEVEN B. WOLFSON Clark County District Attorney Nevada Bar #001565 Regional Justice Center 200 Lewis Avenue Post Office Box 552212 Las Vegas, Nevada 89155-2212 (702) 671-2500 State of Nevada

AARON D. FORD Nevada Attorney General Nevada Bar # 007704 100 North Carson Street Carson City, Nevada 89701-4717 (775) 684-1265

Counsel for Respondent

Counsel for Appellant

Electronically Filed Mar 16 2021 03:48 p.m. Elizabeth A. Brown Clerk of Supreme Court

CASE NO: 82362 D.C. NO: C-19-345393-1

INDEX

Document	Page No.
Nevada Legislature's Amicus Curiae Brief Supporting Reversal of t Court's Interpretation and Application of the Separation-of-Powers P Article 3, Section 1 of the Nevada Constitution, filed 2/16/21	the District rovision in
Reporter's Transcripts of 12/9/19 (Preliminary Hearing), filed 12/18/19	1-89

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify and affirm that this document was filed electronically with the Nevada Supreme Court on March 16, 2021. Electronic Service of the foregoing document shall be made in accordance with the Master Service List as follows:

> AARON D. FORD Nevada Attorney General

RYAN A. HAMILTON, ESQ. SARAH I. PEREZ, ESQ. Counsel for Petitioner

JOHN T. NIMAN Deputy District Attorney

I, further certify that on March 16, 2021, a copy was sent via email to District Court, Department 18's JEA for Judge Holthus:

KELLY TIBBS – JEA <u>TibbsK@clarkcountycourts.us</u>

BY /s/ J. Garcia Employee, District Attorney's Office

JTN/Julia Barker/jg

		Electronically Filed 12/18/2019 10:33 AM Steven D. Grierson
0.00516	1	CLERK OF THE COURT
2:00PM	1	TRAN
	2	CASE NO. C345393-1
	3	
	4	IN THE JUSTICE'S COURT OF HENDERSON TOWNSHIP
2:00PM	5	COUNTY OF CLARK, STATE OF NEVADA
	6	
	7	STATE OF NEVADA,)
	8	Plaintiff,) vs.)
	9) CASE NO. 19FH2101X
2:00PM	10	SAMUEL JOSIAH CARUSO,
	11	Defendant.
	12)
	13	REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT
	14	OF
2:00PM	15	PRELIMINARY HEARING
	16	BEFORE THE HONORABLE DAVID S. GIBSON, SR.
	17	JUSTICE OF THE PEACE
	18	MONDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2019
	19	
2:00PM	20	APPEARANCES:
	21	For the State: EKATERINA DERJAVINA Deputy District Attorney
	22	MELANIE SCHEIBLE Deputy District Attorney
	23	For the Defendant: RYAN HAMILTON, ESQ.
	24	
2:00PM	25	Reported by: Lisa Brenske, CCR #186

2:00PM	1	<u>w i t n e s s e s</u>	
	2		
	3	RAQUELLE ROUW Direct Examination by Ms. Scheible	5
	4	Cross-Examination by Mr. Hamilton Redirect Examination by Ms. Scheible	19 31
2:00PM	5	LIANA RIVERA Direct Examination by Ms. Scheible	33
	6	Cross-Examination by Mr. Hamilton Redirect Examination by Ms. Scheible	42 44
	7		
	8	ERICA NOGLE Direct Examination by Ms. Derjavina Cross-Examination by Mr. Hamilton	45 54
	9		54
2:00PM	10	DANIEL MADRIGAL Direct Examination by Mr. Hamilton	68
		Cross-Examination by Ms. Derjavina	74
	11	Redirect Examination by Mr. Hamilton	75
	12	ANDRES JARAMILLO Direct Examination by Mr. Hamilton	76
	13		, ,
	14	ORLANDO JARAMILLO Direct Examination by Mr. Hamilton	82
	15		
	16		
	17		
	18		
	19		
	20		
	21		
	22		
	23		
	24		
	25		

2:00PM	1		INDEX OF EXHIBITS	
	2	Exhibit	Description	Admitted
	3	STATE'S 1	LYFT SCREENSHOT	48
	4			
	5			
	6			
	7			
	8			
	9			
-	10			
-	11			
-	12			
-	13			
-	14			
-	15			
-	16			
-	17			
-	18			
-	19			
	20			
	21			
	22			
	23			
	24			
	25			

2:00PM	1	HENDERSON, NEVADA, DECEMBER 9, 2019
	2	
	3	* * * * * * * * * *
	4	
11:17AM	5	THE COURT: Samuel Caruso, 19FH2101X.
	6	Do you wish to invoke the exclusionary
	7	rule?
	8	MR. HAMILTON: We do, your Honor.
	9	THE COURT: The exclusionary rule has been
11:17AM	10	invoked. Anybody who has been subpoenaed to testify in
	11	this case or expects to testify in this case is
	12	instructed to wait outside the courtroom until you're
	13	called in to testify. You are not to discuss this case
	14	with anyone until this matter is concluded.
11:17AM	15	Go ahead and call your first witness.
	16	MS. SCHEIBLE: Your Honor, before I do
	17	that I do have an Amended Criminal Complaint to file,
	18	if you will allow me.
	19	THE COURT: I don't have it.
11:18AM	20	Counsel, did you get a copy of that?
	21	MR. HAMILTON: I did not.
	22	(At the bench discussion.)
	23	THE COURT: At this point for the first
	24	witness we are going to clear the courtroom except for
11:21AM	25	the witness. We instruct everyone to wait outside

11:21AM	1	until this witness is done testifying and we'll bring
	2	you back in. Thank you.
	3	Go ahead and call your first witness.
	4	MS. SCHEIBLE: State calls Raquelle Rouw.
11:29AM	5	THE CLERK: Raise your right hand.
	6	Do you solemnly swear that the testimony
	7	that you are about to give will be the truth, the whole
	8	truth and nothing but the truth, so help you God?
	9	THE WITNESS: Yes.
11:29AM	10	THE CLERK: Please be seated.
	11	Please state your first and last name and
	12	spell each for the record.
	13	THE WITNESS: Raquelle, R-A-Q-U-E-L-L-E
	14	Rouw, R-O-U-W.
11:30AM	15	THE COURT: Thank you. You may be seated
	16	and speak into the microphone.
	17	Go ahead, counsel.
	18	
	19	RAQUELLE ROUW,
11:30AM	20	having been first duly sworn, did testify as follows:
	21	DIRECT EXAMINATION
	22	BY MS. SCHEIBLE:
	23	Q. Miss Rouw, how old are you?
	24	A. I'm 17.
11:30AM	25	Q. And when did you turn 17?

1	A. August 18 th August 17 th this year.
2	Q. And where do you live, like what city?
3	A. Las Vegas.
4	Q. Is that here in Clark County, Nevada?
5	A. Yes.
6	Q. Have you lived in Las Vegas your whole
7	life?
8	A. Yes.
9	Q. So all 17 years?
0	A. Yes.
1	Q. I want to draw your attention to
2	June 22 nd of this year. Were you in Las Vegas on
3	that date?
4	A. Yes.
5	Q. Here in Clark County, Nevada?
6	A. Uh-huh.
7	Q. And on the 22 nd what were you doing that
.8	day? Just briefly.
9	A. I was hanging out with my boyfriend and
0	his little sister and we went to the movies.
1	Q. What's your boyfriend's name?
2	A. Daniel.
3	Q. And you guys went to the movies. Did you
4	go anywhere else that day?
5	A. Yeah. After we dropped her off back at
	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 1 2 3 4 5 0 1 2 3 4

6

11 : 30AM	1	her house, m	ny boyfriend's house, we went out and we
	2	hung out wit	ch AJ and Justice.
	3	Q.	And where did you meet up with AJ and
	4	Justice?	
11 : 31AM	5	Α.	At the M.
	6	Q.	The M Casino and Resort?
	7	Α.	Uh-huh.
	8	Q.	Did you go anywhere else after the M?
	9	Α.	We went back to AJ's house.
11:31AM	10	Q.	When you went to AJ's house did you see
	11	anybody ther	re who you see in the courtroom today?
	12	Α.	Yes.
	13	Q.	Can you point out that person and describe
	14	an article o	of clothing he or she is wearing?
11:31AM	15	Α.	He is wearing a black shirt.
	16		MS. SCHEIBLE: May the record reflect the
	17	identificati	ion of the defendant?
	18		THE COURT: It shall.
	19	BY MS. SCHEI	IBLE:
11:31AM	20	Q.	About what time did you get to AJ's house?
	21	Α.	Midnight.
	22	Q.	So was that midnight on the 21 st turning
	23	into the 22 ^r	nd?
	24	Α.	Yes.
11:31AM	25	Q.	So you went to the movies on the 21 st ?

7

11:31AM	1	A. Yes.
	2	Q. And then by the time you got to AJ's house
	3	it had become the 22 nd of June?
	4	A. Uh-huh.
11:31AM	5	Q. More or less?
	6	A. Yeah.
	7	Q. So you got there around midnight and did
	8	you consume any alcohol at AJ's house?
	9	A. Yes.
11:32AM	10	Q. Approximately how much?
	11	A. From four shots and then I poured two into
	12	my drink. So probably about six to seven shots.
	13	Q. And do you remember what you were
	14	drinking?
11:32AM	15	A. Hennessy.
	16	Q. Were you drinking it all as shots?
	17	A. No.
	18	Q. How else were you drinking it?
	19	A. Mixed in with pineapple juice.
11:32AM	20	Q. And were you able to feel the affects of
	21	the alcohol?
	22	A. Yes.
	23	Q. You were saying yes pretty emphatically.
	24	Does that mean that there were some serious affects or
11:32AM	25	strong affects of the alcohol?

11:32AM	1		Α.	Yes.
	2		Q.	And can you describe that a little bit for
	3	the Cou	urt.	
	4		Α.	I got so intoxicated I ended up throwing
11:32AM	5	up and	then a	after that we still kept drinking.
	6		Q.	And eventually did you decide to go to
	7	sleep?		
	8		Α.	Yes.
	9		Q.	Where did you go to sleep that night?
11:32AM	10		Α.	Downstairs on the couch with my boyfriend.
	11		Q.	And when you say downstairs on the couch,
	12	that's	in AJ	's house?
	13		A.	Yes.
	14		Q.	Do you happen to know AJ's address?
11:33AM	15		A.	Not by memory but I know he lives on
	16	Sitting	g Bull	Drive.
	17		Q.	Would 938 Sitting Bull Drive sound right?
	18		A.	Yes.
	19		Q.	About what time did you go to bed?
11:33AM	20		A.	Around four in the morning.
	21		Q.	And how do you know that that was the
	22	time?		
	23		Α.	I checked the time before I went to bed.
	24	I had n	ny phoi	ne.
11:33AM	25		Q.	And when you got into bed can you describe

11:33AM	1	where you were sleeping?
	2	A. I was sleeping on my boyfriend took
	3	most of the couch up so I slept pretty much on the
	4	ottoman cuddled next to him halfway on the couch.
11:33AM	5	Q. And so can you describe the shape of the
	6	couch and the ottoman.
	7	A. The couch is kind of a sectional. It
	8	comes forward and goes like this way. Like kind of
	9	like curved and the ottoman is right in front where the
11:33AM	10	curve starts on the edge.
	11	Q. So the ottoman fits into the couch?
	12	A. Yes.
	13	Q. And you were sleeping mostly on the
	14	ottoman?
11:33AM	15	A. Yes.
	16	Q. And at some point in the night were you
	17	awakened?
	18	A. Yes.
	19	Q. By what?
11:34AM	20	A. Someone touching me.
	21	Q. Someone touching you where?
	22	A. On my breasts.
	23	Q. Was that over your clothes or under your
	24	clothes?
11:34AM	25	A. Over my clothes.

11:34AM	1	Q.	And did you know who that person was?
	2	Α.	Not at first.
	3	Q.	At first who did you think it was?
	4	Α.	I thought it was my boyfriend.
11:34AM	5	Q.	But it sounds like it wasn't your
	6	boyfriend?	
	7	Α.	No.
	8	Q.	How did you ultimately realize that it
	9	wasn't your	boyfriend?
11:34AM	10	Α.	Because I could hear him breathing next to
	11	me in my ear	
	12	Q.	Can you speak up just a little bit.
	13	Α.	I'm sorry.
	14	Q.	It's okay. Our wonderful Court Reporter
11 : 34AM	15	has to write	down everything you say.
	16		And when you say you could hear him
	17	breathing, d	o you mean your boyfriend?
	18	Α.	Yes.
	19	Q.	And the person who was touching you at
11 : 34AM	20	that point,	did you know who it was?
	21	Α.	No.
	22	Q.	Could you tell if it was a man or a woman?
	23	Α.	No. Honestly no.
	24	Q.	And was that all that happened?
11:34AM	25	Α.	No.

11:34AM	1	Q. What happened next? Take your time.
	2	A. The person who was touching me kind of
	3	rolled me over and started touching my butt. And then
	4	from there they started touching my breasts underneath
11:35AM	5	my clothes and they moved down. And I was wearing a
	6	halter top and baggie shorts and they moved my shorts
	7	out of the way and they started touching me underneath
	8	my clothes.
	9	Q. And so when they moved the shorts out of
11:35AM	10	the way and started touching you underneath your
	11	clothes, was that over or under your panties?
	12	A. Over at first.
	13	Q. Approximately where on your body was this
	14	person touching you on?
11:35AM	15	A. On my vagina.
	16	Q. But over your panties?
	17	A. Yes.
	18	Q. And at this point had you figured out who
	19	it was yet?
11:35AM	20	A. No.
	21	Q. But that person kept touching you
	22	underneath your shorts?
	23	A. Yes.
	24	Q. And then what?
11:36AM	25	A. And then they kept groping my breasts and
1		

1	eventually I figured out who it was because I opened up
2	my eyes.
3	Q. When you opened your eyes who did you see?
4	A. I saw Sam.
5	Q. Is that the defendant?
6	A. Yes.
7	Q. And what was he doing at that point?
8	A. Just touching me and pretty close up into
9	my face. Like maybe like a foot away. Bent over.
10	Q. And you were still lying on the ottoman at
11	this point?
12	A. Yes.
13	Q. And what did he do next?
14	A. He came down like he moved down on my
15	body and he started touching my vagina underneath my
16	underwear. And then he started to penetrate me with
17	his fingers.
18	Q. When you say he penetrated you, do you
19	mean your vagina?
20	A. Yes.
21	Q. So he put his fingers inside your vagina?
22	A. Yes.
23	Q. And about how long did that last if you
24	know?
25	A. Maybe like two minutes. Not like super
	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24

11:37AM	1	long.	
	2	Q.	And did he ever put his mouth down there?
	3	Α.	Yes.
	4	Q.	Where did he put his mouth?
11:37AM	5	Α.	On my vagina.
	6	Q.	Did he use his tongue?
	7	Α.	Yes.
	8	Q.	How do you know that?
	9	Α.	Because I could feel it.
11:37AM	10	Q.	And what could you feel the tongue doing?
	11	Α.	Moving up and down.
	12	Q.	Moving up and down on what part of your
	13	body?	
	14	Α.	Close to like the clitoris.
11:37AM	15	Q.	Close to the clitoris around your vagina?
	16	Α.	Yes.
	17	Q.	Did his tongue ever go inside your vagina?
	18	Α.	No.
	19	Q.	Did it go in between the lips of your
11:37AM	20	vagina?	
	21	Α.	Yes.
	22	Q.	And where were his hands at that point?
	23	Α.	One hand was pulling my shorts out of the
	24	way like ho	lding them to the side and I'm assuming the
11:38AM	25	other one w	vas on the ottoman.

11 : 38AM	1	Q. So you could feel one hand pulling your
	2	shorts out of the way?
	3	A. Yes.
	4	Q. And after that happened did he stay in the
11:38AM	5	same place or did he move someplace else?
	6	A. Around like there is no halfway point
	7	but eventually like I think it was after he stopped
	8	penetrating me with his fingers that he left, and I
	9	don't know how long he was gone, I didn't fall back
11:38AM 1	10	asleep, I didn't move. I just kind of stayed there
1	11	frozen. But eventually I heard I think I'm not
1	12	going to say anything I think.
1	13	Q. Okay.
1	14	A. Eventually he did come back. I'm not sure
11:38AM 1	15	if he left or not, but he came back and he put his
1	16	penis in my hand and he had a condom on.
1	17	Q. And which hand, your left or your right?
1	18	A. My left.
1	19	Q. And did you touch his penis, did you grab
11:39AM 2	20	his penis?
2	21	A. He tried to wrap my hand around it.
2	22	Q. And you did not want
2	23	A. I had no grip. I was limp.
2	24	Q. What did he do from there?
11:39AM 2	25	A. He went back to the position he was in

11 : 39AM	1	prior and he moved my shorts and he tried to perform
	2	oral sex on me again and then he tried to put his penis
	3	inside of me.
	4	Q. And when he tried to put his penis inside
11:39AM	5	of you, was the condom still on?
	6	A. Yes.
	7	Q. And where was he trying to put it?
	8	A. In my vagina.
	9	Q. And could you feel him trying to do that?
11:39AM	10	A. Yes.
	11	Q. And you keep saying the word try. Did his
	12	penis go inside your vagina?
	13	A. No because I wasn't like wet.
	14	Q. How could you tell he was trying?
11:40AM	15	A. The pressure. Like the force that was
	16	going into it.
	17	Q. So you could feel pressure. Was that
	18	pressure pushing inwards?
	19	A. Yes.
11:40AM	20	Q. And was he using anything other than his
	21	penis?
	22	A. No.
	23	Q. And about how long did he try to do that?
	24	A. Thirty seconds.
11:40AM	25	Q. And how did that feel? Just pressure?

11 : 40AM	1	A. (No oral response.)
	2	Q. You're nodding your head?
	3	A. Yes.
	4	Q. And at any point did he move his penis
11:40AM	5	around your genitals?
	6	A. I don't know.
	7	Q. And is it fair to say that he stopped at
	8	some point pushing his penis into your vagina?
	9	A. Yes.
11:41AM	10	Q. And what did he do then?
	11	A. Let go of my shorts and he walked around
	12	to like the front of me where my head was and he tried
	13	to put his penis in my mouth.
	14	Q. And how did he do that?
11:41AM	15	A. He came like pretty close and he tried
	16	to he was probably squatting down and he tried to
	17	like jiggle my mouth open to put it in.
	18	Q. Did you open your mouth?
	19	A. Yes.
11:41AM	20	Q. And did he put his penis inside your
	21	mouth?
	22	A. Yes.
	23	Q. And how long did he leave it there?
	24	A. No more than like 20 seconds.
11:41AM	25	Q. And at that point was he still wearing the

11:41AM	1	condom	or no	t?
	2		Α.	I believe so.
	3		Q.	Could you taste it?
	4		Α.	Yes.
11:41AM	5		Q.	Or feel it?
	6		Α.	Uh-huh.
	7			MS. SCHEIBLE: Brief indulgence, your
	8	Honor?		
	9			THE COURT: Yes.
11:42AM	10	BY MS.	SCHEI	BLE:
	11		Q.	Was that the first time that you met the
	12	defenda	ant?	
	13		Α.	Yes.
	14		Q.	And was he there when you were consuming
11:42AM	15	the al	cohol?	
	16		Α.	Uh-huh.
	17			THE COURT: Was that a yes?
	18			THE WITNESS: Yes.
	19	BY MS.	SCHEI	BLE:
11:43AM	20		Q.	At any point did you want to have sex with
	21	him?		
	22		Α.	No.
	23		Q.	When he first started touching you
	24	downsta	airs w	ere you still under the influence of the
11:43AM	25	alcoho	1?	

11:43AM	1	A. Yes.
	2	Q. And what was your response? Like
	3	emotionally if you will.
	4	A. I was like terrified.
11:43AM	5	Q. Did you say you were terrified?
	6	A. Yes.
	7	Q. Do you have a normal fight or flight or
	8	freeze response?
	9	A. Yes.
11:43AM	10	Q. And which one did you do on this day?
	11	A. Freeze.
	12	Q. And was there anything going through your
	13	head?
	14	A. Nothing really. I was just numb.
11:43AM	15	Q. And did you become numb immediately when
	16	this started?
	17	A. I think once I realized like what was
	18	going on, yeah.
	19	Q. And how long did you stay numb?
11:44AM	20	A. Until I got up in the morning and I saw
	21	people were coming downstairs.
	22	MS. SCHEIBLE: Court's indulgence.
	23	I have nothing further for this witness.
	24	THE COURT: Counsel.
	25	
1		

	1	CROSS-EXAMINATION
	2	BY MR. HAMILTON:
	3	Q. Miss Rouw, my name is Ryan Hamilton. I
	4	represent the defendant Samuel Caruso. How do you
11:45AM	5	prefer that I address you, Raquelle or Miss Rouw?
	6	A. Miss Rouw.
	7	Q. Miss Rouw, when this incident occurred
	8	and when I say incident I'm referring to when you were
	9	being touched it was dark in the room?
11:45AM	10	A. Yes.
	11	Q. And you said that you had gone to sleep
	12	around four. Do I have that right?
	13	A. (No oral response.)
	14	Q. Is that a yes?
11:45AM	15	A. Yes.
	16	Q. I'm just trying to be helpful to our Court
	17	Reporter. Thank you.
	18	And you had given an interview to
	19	Detectives Ashcroft and Viscaino. Do you recall giving
11:45AM	20	that interview?
	21	A. Yes.
	22	Q. Do you recall telling the detectives that
	23	the person who touched you had really light colored
	24	eyes?
11 : 46AM	25	A. Uh-huh.

11:46AM	1	Q. Is that a yes?
	2	A. Yes.
	3	Q. And you had told them that you barely
	4	opened your eyes throughout the incident; is that
11:46AM	5	correct?
	6	A. Yes.
	7	Q. And in fact you told them that you
	8	couldn't really see the texture or color of the
	9	person's hair; is that correct?
11:46AM	10	MS. DERJAVINA: At this point the State
	11	would object. Hearsay statements. At this point I'm
	12	not sure what he's doing with the statement, whether
	13	he's impeaching her testimony because at this point she
	14	hasn't testified contrary to her statement. So if he
11:46AM	15	wants to ask her questions was it dark, could you see,
	16	that's fine, but at this point going through her
	17	statement would be inappropriate. It's not impeaching
	18	anything she said at this point.
	19	MR. HAMILTON: Judge, may be I be heard on
11:46AM	20	that?
	21	THE COURT: Yes.
	22	MR. HAMILTON: Judge, I believe it is
	23	within the scope of direct because she had identified
	24	my client as the perpetrator and this all goes to
11:47AM	25	whether or not

1	THE COURT: I believe it's permissible at
2	this point based on the direct examination.
3	MS. DERJAVINA: Based on is he trying to
4	impeach her at this point because she hasn't testified
5	to the contrary? The appropriate thing would be
6	THE COURT: He hasn't tried to impeach her
7	yet.
8	MS. DERJAVINA: But he's doing that with
9	her statement. That's the whole issue.
10	THE COURT: Well, she hasn't said that she
11	can't remember and I don't see a point in do you
12	want him to show her the document?
13	MS. DERJAVINA: I'm saying that
14	THE COURT: I will allow the questions.
15	What is it that you think there's not enough
16	foundation?
17	MS. DERJAVINA: I think the way that he is
18	questioning he is going through her statement right
19	now. The proper way to do it is to ask her was it
20	dark, could you see him, you barely opened your eyes
21	and if she testifies contrary, he can go through her
22	statement.
23	THE COURT: Well, she hasn't said anything
24	contrary. No, I will allow it.
25	MS. DERJAVINA: Well, my objection stands,
	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24

22

your Honor. 11:48AM 1 2 THE COURT: Okay. It's overruled. 3 Go ahead. 4 MR. HAMILTON: Thank you, Judge. 11:48AM 5 Q. Going back, Miss Rouw, you indicated to 6 detectives that because you had barely opened your eyes 7 you didn't notice any tattoos? THE COURT: I think the correct form would 8 9 be did you, not you did. 11:48AM 10 BY MR. HAMILTON: 11 Did you, Miss Rouw, during the incident Q. 12 notice any tattoos on or around the defendant's face? 13 No. And no piercings. Α. 14 Was it completely dark in the room or was Q. 11:49AM 15 there any light? 16 There was a light. I remember in my Α. 17 statement specifically I stated there was a red I think 18 I said or green light that was coming from the gaming 19 console. So no, the room was not pitch black. 11:49AM 20 Miss Rouw, is that the only source of Ο. 21 light? 2.2 Α. Yes. 23 Did you have any conversation with the Q. 24 person who was touching you during the incident? 11:49AM 25 Α. No.

23

11 : 49AM	1	Q. Did you believe the person who had touched
	2	you to have been Hispanic?
	3	A. No.
	4	Q. You never made a statement to any police
11:50AM	5	officer that you believe the person who touched you was
	6	Hispanic?
	7	A. No.
	8	Q. Did you see the person's entire face
	9	during the incident?
11:50AM	10	A. Not specifics, no.
	11	Q. Did you see the person's neck during the
	12	incident?
	13	A. No.
	14	Q. During the incident were there any
11:50AM	15	defining features of the person who was touching you?
	16	A. No.
	17	Q. Any distinctive smell coming from the
	18	person?
	19	A. Alcohol.
11:51AM	20	Q. When the incident began were you
	21	physically touching your boyfriend who was on the
	22	couch?
	23	A. His arm was under my neck but I wasn't
	24	touching him. But he was touching me.
11:51AM	25	Q. At some point during the incident does

your boyfriend's arm get moved out from under your
neck?
A. Yes.
Q. How did that happen?
A. I think there was less of his arm getting
moved than me getting pulled.
Q. At any point during the incident did you
try to awaken your boyfriend?
A. Telepathically. But no, I didn't
physically try to move him or wake him up.
Q. Did you ever become aware of him being
awake during the incident?
A. No.
Q. And I wrote down that you testified that
you went to sleep around 4:00 a.m. Do I have that
correct?
A. Uh-huh.
Q. And that's a yes?
A. Yes.
Q. Do you know what time the touching began?
A. No.
Q. Is there anything that could refresh your
recollection as to when you believe the touching began?
A. AJ's little brother that day, I doubt he
remembers, but he came downstairs after taking a shower

11:53AM	1	and he was the first one downstairs and that was
	2	probably around the time I woke up.
	3	Q. With that information does that give you
	4	any reference point as to when the touching began and
11:53AM	5	ended?
	6	A. Before the sun was up.
	7	Q. Just to clarify is it your testimony that
	8	the entire incident from beginning to end occurred
	9	before the sun was up?
11:53AM	10	A. Beginning it started when the sun was
	11	up I mean before the sun came up. I'm not sure when
	12	it ended.
	13	Q. You heard a shower running during the
	14	incident?
11 : 54AM	15	A. Towards the end, yeah.
	16	THE COURT: I'm sorry. I couldn't hear
	17	that. What?
	18	THE WITNESS: Towards the end.
	19	BY MR. HAMILTON:
11 : 54AM	20	Q. And just a minute ago you indicated that
	21	you believed was it Alex that had taken a shower?
	22	A. AJ's little brother. I'm assuming it was
	23	him.
	24	Q. You think he's the one that took the
11:54AM	25	shower during the incident?

11:54AM	1	A. Yes.
	2	Q. So if he were to give an estimate for the
	3	time of that shower
	4	MS. SCHEIBLE: Objection, your Honor.
11:54AM	5	Speculation.
	6	THE COURT: Sustained.
	7	BY MR. HAMILTON:
	8	Q. I want to make sure I understand your
	9	testimony on this point. Is it your testimony that the
11:55AM	10	defendant had unbuttoned your belt?
	11	MS. SCHEIBLE: Objection, your Honor. I
	12	don't think she didn't testify on that point either
	13	way.
	14	THE COURT: I'm sorry. What was the
11:55AM	15	question again?
	16	MR. HAMILTON: Whether or not she is
	17	saying that the defendant had unbuttoned her belt.
	18	THE COURT: I will sustain that objection.
	19	That was not asked. You can ask it a different way.
11:55AM	20	MR. HAMILTON: Sure.
	21	Q. You testified that the defendant had moved
	22	your shorts down your body?
	23	A. No. I never said that he moved them down.
	24	He moved them to the side.
11:55AM	25	Q. He just moved them to the side?

11:55AM	1	A. That's what I said in my statement.
	2	Q. Thank you for the clarification.
	3	A. You're welcome.
	4	Q. You said that you threw up?
11:56AM	5	A. Yes.
	6	Q. Was that at the beginning of the night,
	7	was that toward the end of the night when you fell
	8	asleep?
	9	A. That was towards the beginning of the
11:56AM	10	night.
	11	Q. Are you able to estimate how drunk you
	12	were at the time you went to sleep? Ten being so drunk
	13	unconscious, one being I've just had a sip of alcohol?
	14	MS. SCHEIBLE: Objection, your Honor.
11:56AM	15	She's not an expert on intoxication levels and it
	16	sounds like he's asking her to make an expert level
	17	assessment using a numerical scale.
	18	THE COURT: I will sustain that objection.
	19	You need to be more specific, counsel.
11 : 56AM	20	BY MR. HAMILTON:
	21	Q. Let me just ask it this way: How
	22	intoxicated were you just before going to sleep?
	23	A. I was my body was physically drunk and
	24	I mentally wasn't cognizant.
11:57AM	25	Q. Were you able to complete tasks such as

28

11:57AM	1	cleaning up?
	2	A. No.
	3	Q. Okay. You testified that the defendant
	4	left during the touching incident. Do you recall that?
11:57AM	5	A. Yes.
	6	Q. How long did the defendant leave?
	7	A. Anywhere from like five to 10 minutes.
	8	Maybe 15.
	9	Q. And during that time did you remain awake?
11:58AM	10	A. Yes.
	11	Q. During that time you did not try to awaken
	12	your boyfriend?
	13	A. No.
	14	Q. You woke up the next day and stayed around
11:58AM	15	it's AJ's house, correct?
	16	A. Uh-huh. Yes.
	17	Q. And in fact you had lunch with the
	18	defendant present; is that correct?
	19	A. When we were eating he wasn't there but he
11:58AM	20	was at the house, yes.
	21	Q. Did you stay longer at the house to watch
	22	a UFC game?
	23	A. That was prior to us eating lunch.
	24	Q. And approximately at what time during the
11:59AM	25	day did you leave?

11:59AM	1	MS. SCHEIBLE: Objection, your Honor.
	2	Relevance.
	3	THE COURT: I will allow it.
	4	THE WITNESS: 3:00 p.m.
11:59AM	5	BY MR. HAMILTON:
	6	Q. 3:00 p.m.?
	7	A. Yes. Around there.
	8	MR. HAMILTON: Court's indulgence.
	9	THE COURT: Okay.
12:00PM	10	BY MR. HAMILTON:
	11	Q. This couch and ottoman where you say the
	12	touching occurred, it's near the front door of the
	13	home?
	14	A. It's in the front room of the home.
12:00PM	15	Q. Let me ask you this. How did you
	16	communicate that you did not consent to any of the
	17	touching that occurred?
	18	A. I didn't say yes.
	19	MR. HAMILTON: I'll pass the witness.
12:01PM	20	Thank you, your Honor.
	21	THE COURT: Thank you.
	22	
	23	
	24	
12 : 01PM	25	

12:01PM	1	REDIRECT EXAMINATION
	2	BY MS. SCHEIBLE:
	3	Q. Miss Rouw, when you went over to AJ's
	4	house was this the first time you'd been there?
12:01PM	5	A. No.
	6	Q. How many times have you been there?
	7	A. Once, maybe twice just stopping by. But
	8	I'd only gone over there once before.
	9	Q. Do you know who lives at AJ's house?
12:01PM	10	A. I know his parents live there. I knew AJ
	11	lives there. I knew he had a little brother but that
	12	was pretty much it. I also met his sister once before
	13	I went there.
	14	Q. And when you got there early on in the
12 : 01PM	15	morning on the 22 nd , who was in the house?
	16	A. Who was awake or who was in the house?
	17	Q. Who was in the house?
	18	A. I didn't know at the time when I got
	19	there. I just saw who was awake.
12 : 02PM	20	Q. Who did you see who was awake at the
	21	house?
	22	A. Sam, Alexis, obviously me, AJ, Daniel and
	23	Justice and then their daughters, Alexis and Sam's
	24	children.
12:02PM	25	Q. And how old are the daughters
	I	

1	approximately?
2	A. Three.
3	Q. So little kids?
4	A. They're very little, yes.
5	Q. And how old if you know are AJ and Daniel?
6	A. AJ and Daniel are both 18 and Justice
7	recently turn 19.
8	Q. When you ultimately got up the next
9	morning were you initially planning on telling your
10	boyfriend what happened?
11	A. No.
12	MS. SCHEIBLE: I have nothing further.
13	THE COURT: Anything else?
14	MR. HAMILTON: Nothing further, your
15	Honor.
16	THE COURT: Thank you, ma'am. You're
17	excused.
18	THE WITNESS: Thank you.
19	THE CLERK: Raise your right hand.
20	Do you solemnly swear that the testimony
21	that you are about to give will be the truth, the whole
22	truth and nothing but the truth, so help you God?
23	THE WITNESS: Yes.
24	THE CLERK: Please be seated.
25	Please state your first and last name and
	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24

12 : 03PM	1	spell each for the record.
	2	THE WITNESS: L-I-A-N A, Liana
	3	R-I-V-E-R-A, Rivera.
	4	
12 : 06PM	5	LIANA RIVERA,
	6	having been first duly sworn, did testify as follows:
	7	DIRECT EXAMINATION
	8	BY MS. SCHEIBLE:
	9	Q. Ms. Rivera, what city do you live in?
12 : 06PM	10	A. Youngstown, Ohio.
	11	Q. And how long have you been living there?
	12	A. About a year.
	13	Q. I want to direct your attention to
	14	August 14 th of 2019. Were you here in Clark County,
12 : 06PM	15	Nevada on that date?
	16	A. Yes.
	17	Q. Do you remember where you were staying?
	18	A. At the Hard Rock Casino.
	19	Q. And when you got to the Hard Rock Casino
12 : 06PM	20	were you there by yourself or with other people?
	21	A. I was with other people.
	22	Q. How many other people?
	23	A. Three others.
	24	Q. And are these friends of yours?
12 : 06PM	25	A. Co-workers.

12 : 06PM	1	Q. And what were you guys doing on
	2	August 14 th ?
	3	A. We were relaxing in the hotel room just
	4	enjoying our day off. Later that evening we decided to
12 : 06PM	5	go get a bottle from the liquor store across the street
	6	and then we came back and we were drinking at the
	7	hotel.
	8	Q. And so you were consuming alcohol in the
	9	hotel room?
12:07PM	10	A. Correct.
	11	Q. About how much did you have to drink if
	12	you remember?
	13	A. From what I remember three shots.
	14	Q. And were you able to feel the effects of
12:07PM	15	the alcohol?
	16	A. Yes.
	17	Q. Did you become inebriated?
	18	A. Yeah. I was incoherent like before I left
	19	the room. I don't remember leaving the room. I don't
12 : 07PM	20	remember leaving the hotel.
	21	Q. But it sounds like you've since learned
	22	you did leave the hotel that night?
	23	A. Yes.
	24	Q. So the last thing you do remember is what?
12:07PM	25	A. Taking shots and getting ready.

12:07PM	1	Q. And that was in your room at the Hard
	2	Rock?
	3	A. Yes.
	4	Q. While you guys were there were you talking
12 : 07PM	5	about what your plan was for the evening?
	6	A. Yeah. They said they wanted to go to a
	7	club. I don't remember what club they wanted to go to
	8	but they wanted to go to the club.
	9	Q. And do you have memories from that night
12 : 07PM	10	that are hazy or clear or a combination of both?
	11	A. The only thing that I really remember
	12	after taking shots was being in an elevator and falling
	13	over and then being in my hotel room. I don't remember
	14	anything in between.
12 : 08PM	15	Q. So do you remember what time you were
	16	drinking in the hotel room?
	17	A. No.
	18	Q. And I think you already testified that you
	19	don't remember leaving the hotel room?
12 : 08PM	20	A. No.
	21	Q. Do you remember getting into a Lyft?
	22	A. No.
	23	Q. Do you remember becoming sick?
	24	A. No.
12 : 08PM	25	Q. Do you remember going with your friends to

12 : 08PM	1	another loca	tion, another casino?
	2	Α.	No.
	3	Q.	Do you remember getting a Lyft back to the
	4	hotel?	
12 : 08PM	5	Α.	No.
	6	Q.	Do you remember getting back up to your
	7	room?	
	8	Α.	No.
	9	Q.	Do you remember going into your room?
12:09PM	10	Α.	I remember being in my room, not going
	11	into the roo	m.
	12	Q.	Do you remember getting into your bed?
	13	Α.	No.
	14	Q.	You said that you remember being in an
12:09PM	15	elevator?	
	16	Α.	Yes.
	17	Q.	What do you remember about being in the
	18	elevator?	
	19	Α.	I just literally remember falling over. I
12:09PM	20	remember see	ing a man next to me and falling over but I
	21	don't rememb	er what the man looked like and it pretty
	22	much goes bl	ack after that.
	23	Q.	You had previously testified that you did
	24	remember bei	ng back in your room at some point?
12 : 10PM	25	Α.	Yes.

12 : 10PM	1	Q. When you got into your room do you
	2	remember being pushed down?
	3	A. Correct.
	4	Q. And what else do you remember?
12 : 10PM	5	A. I remember being pushed down and my pants
	6	being pulled off. I was on my period. I had a tampon
	7	in. I remember my tampon being pulled out. I remember
	8	turning over. I remember being in pain. I don't
	9	remember what specifically happened. I just remember
12:10PM	10	saying stop, I don't want to and I don't remember
	11	anything after that.
	12	Q. You said you remember being in pain. Do
	13	you remember where that pain was?
	14	A. Yeah. Anal.
12:11PM	15	Q. And did it come on suddenly?
	16	A. Yes.
	17	Q. Did it feel like somebody was penetrating
	18	you anally?
	19	A. Correct. Or trying, yeah.
12 : 11PM	20	Q. And did that pain persist?
	21	A. No. I don't really remember it to be
	22	honest. It was so fast and I just remember being in
	23	pain and saying no and stop and I don't remember
	24	anything after that.
12 : 11PM	25	Q. Do you remember eventually falling asleep?

12 : 11PM	1	A. No.
	2	Q. Do you remember eventually being asleep?
	3	A. No.
	4	Q. Do you remember being awakened?
12 : 12PM	5	A. Yes.
	6	Q. How were you awakened?
	7	A. The girls were knocking at the door at six
	8	o'clock in the morning and I woke up naked.
	9	Q. And how were you feeling when you woke up?
12 : 12PM	10	A. Sick. Nauseous.
	11	Q. Were you still in pain?
	12	A. I didn't recognize the pain when I woke
	13	up. I didn't recognize it until I used the bathroom.
	14	Q. What happened when you went to the
12 : 12PM	15	bathroom?
	16	A. I went to use the restroom, just went to
	17	go pee and it just I felt discomfort. It was like
	18	unusual for me to feel discomfort there. So I don't
	19	know, something felt off. I just kind of started
12:12PM	20	shaking and I came out of the bathroom not
	21	understanding why I was in pain, why I was hurting.
	22	Q. When you say you were in pain, are we
	23	still talking about your anus?
	24	A. Yes.
12 : 13PM	25	Q. And when you say that something felt off,

12:13PM 1 can you be a little bit r	nore specific?
2 A. No because :	it was just an intuitive
3 feeling.	
4 Q. Okay.	
12:13PM 5 A. Outside of t	the discomfort that I felt.
6 Q. So there was	s both the physical pain or
7 discomfort and then the	intuitive feeling that
8 something was off?	
9 A. Yeah. I ju	st felt sick to my stomach and
12:13PM 10 it just felt off, someth:	ing didn't feel right. I was
11 naked, I didn't have a ta	ampon. When I used the
12 bathroom I was in discom	fort.
13 Q. So I want to	o take a few steps back to when
14 you said that you remembe	ered being pushed down in your
12:14PM 15 room and you remember be	ing turned over and feeling
16 pain. Do you remember se	eeing anybody else there?
17 A. Yes. I saw	him. It was a quick glimpse
18 of his face and his hair,	, his chest, his penis.
19 Q. So you saw a	a man there in your room?
12:14PM 20 A. Yes.	
21 Q. And was it a	somebody who you knew?
22 A. No.	
23 Q. Was it some	body that you had agreed to
24 have sex with?	
12:14PM 25 A. No. And his	s face, that's the first

12 : 14PM	1	recognition of memory that I have of seeing his face.
	2	I have no memory of seeing his face prior to that.
	3	Q. And have you seen his face since then?
	4	A. Besides right now, no.
12 : 15PM	5	Q. Do you see him right now?
	6	A. Yes. He doesn't have hair anymore.
	7	Q. Can you point to him and identify an
	8	article of clothing he's wearing.
	9	A. Yes. He's wearing I think that's like a
12 : 15PM	10	navy blue shirt, tattoos.
	11	MS. SCHEIBLE: May the record reflect
	12	identification of the defendant?
	13	THE COURT: Yes.
	14	BY MS. SCHEIBLE:
12 : 15PM	15	Q. So this is the person that you saw in your
	16	room that night?
	17	A. Yes. His face. The only thing that's
	18	different is the hair.
	19	Q. And when you saw his face where was his
12 : 15PM	20	face in relation to yours?
	21	A. I was down low, he was standing up tall.
	22	So it was like I was looking up at him. It was quick.
	23	That's all I remember.
	24	Q. So the next day or hours later when you
12:16PM	25	actually woke up did you think what had happened was a

12 : 16PM	1	dream?
	2	A. Yes.
	3	Q. And thinking that it was a dream what did
	4	you do?
12 : 16PM	5	A. I went downstairs to talk to security. I
	6	asked them to check the footage to see if they saw
	7	someone come into my room after me. They advised that
	8	they were going to call the police to notify the police
	9	but I advised them not to, I didn't want to like affect
12 : 16PM	10	someone's career or life if I wasn't sure. I just
	11	wanted to know if someone came into my room after me.
	12	And then I went back up to my room and
	13	security and management came up to the room, at that
	14	point advised it was a crime scene and showed him
12 : 17PM	15	clocked in my room for 25 minutes.
	16	Q. And did you leave at that point?
	17	A. No. Well, after I spoke with the EMTs
	18	then yes, I did leave right at that point. They took
	19	me to the hospital and I did a rape kit.
12 : 17PM	20	MS. SCHEIBLE: I have nothing further,
	21	your Honor.
	22	THE COURT: Counsel.
	23	
	24	
12 : 17PM	25	

	1		
	1		CROSS-EXAMINATION
	2	BY MR. HAMIL	ron:
	3	Q.	Ms. Rivera, I represent the defendant
	4	Samuel Carus	o. Miss Rivera, did you invite Mr. Caruso
12 : 18PM	5	up to your ro	com?
	6	Α.	No.
	7	Q.	Were you able to recall your room number?
	8	Α.	No.
	9	Q.	How were you able to get to your room?
12 : 18PM	10	Α.	I don't remember.
	11	Q.	Once inside your room, Ms. Rivera, do you
	12	actually reca	all engaging or any sexual activity between
	13	you and the o	defendant?
	14	Α.	No. Just besides what I remember of what
12 : 18PM	15	I advised to	the plaintiff.
	16	Q.	But no actual sexual activity?
	17	Α.	No.
	18	Q.	And you testified that your anus hurt in
	19	the morning;	is that fair?
12 : 19PM	20	Α.	Correct.
	21	Q.	But you don't know one way or the other
	22	whether your	anus hurt because of some sexual activity,
	23	correct?	
	24	Α.	Correct.
12 : 19PM	25	Q.	Ms. Rivera, are you able to recall one way

12 : 19PM	1	or another whether Mr. Caruso was actually able to get
	2	an erection that night?
	3	A. I don't recall.
	4	Q. Would it surprise you if he were unable to
12 : 20PM	5	get an erection that night?
	6	MS. SCHEIBLE: Objection, your Honor.
	7	Calls for speculation.
	8	THE COURT: Well, I'll allow the question.
	9	Would it surprise her? It doesn't sound like she even
12 : 20PM	10	knows if he did.
	11	MS. SCHEIBLE: I'm not sure of the
	12	relevance either.
	13	THE COURT: I'll sustain the objection.
	14	BY MR. HAMILTON:
12 : 20PM	15	Q. Did you tell Mr. Caruso that it was okay
	16	he could not get an erection because you normally date
	17	females?
	18	MS. SCHEIBLE: Objection, your Honor.
	19	She's already indicated that she doesn't remember.
12 : 21PM	20	THE COURT: I think you have to ask if she
	21	remembers, not if she told. I agree with the State as
	22	to the question. I will sustain it.
	23	BY MR. HAMILTON:
	24	Q. Do you remember telling Mr. Caruso at any
12 : 21PM	25	point that you normally date females?

			Ì
12 : 21PM	1	A. No.	
	2	MR. HAMILTON: Nothing further, your	
	3	Honor.	
	4	THE COURT: Thank you.	
12 : 21PM	5	Anything else, counsel?	
	6	MS. SCHEIBLE: I just have a couple things	
	7	I wanted to clarify.	
	8		
	9	REDIRECT EXAMINATION	
12 : 21PM	10	BY MS. SCHEIBLE:	
	11	Q. So when you went up to your room that	
	12	night let's go back before that. Before you went up	
	13	into your room and remember being pushed on the bed and	
	14	turned over did you have any pain in your anus?	
12:22PM	15	A. No.	
	16	Q. So it started then?	
	17	A. Yes.	
	18	Q. And persisted into the morning?	
	19	A. Correct.	
12:22PM	20	Q. And you didn't put anything in your own	
	21	anus?	
	22	A. No.	
	23	MS. SCHEIBLE: Nothing further.	
	24	THE COURT: Thank you.	
12 : 22PM	25	Anything else, counsel?	

12:22PM	1	MR. HAMILTON: No, Judge.
	2	THE COURT: Thank you, ma'am. You are
	3	excused.
	4	MS. DERJAVINA: The State calls Detective
12 : 24PM	5	Nogle.
	6	THE CLERK: Raise your right hand.
	7	Do you solemnly swear that the testimony
	8	that you are about to give will be the truth, the whole
	9	truth and nothing but the truth, so help you God?
10:29AM	10	THE WITNESS: Yes.
	11	THE CLERK: Please be seated.
	12	Please state your first and last name and
	13	spell each for the record.
	14	THE WITNESS: My first name is Erica.
12 : 25PM	15	It's spelled E-R-I-C-A. Last name is Nogle, N-O-G-L-E.
	16	THE COURT: Go ahead, counsel.
	17	MS. DERJAVINA: Thank you, Your Honor.
	18	
	19	ERICA NOGLE, having been first duly sworn, did testify as follows:
12 : 25PM	20	naving been first dury sworn, did testiry as forrows.
	21	DIRECT EXAMINATION
	22	BY MS. DERJAVINA:
	23	Q. Ma'am, how are you employed?
	24	A. I'm employed with Las Vegas Metropolitan
12 : 25PM	25	Police Department sex crimes unit.

12 : 25PM	1	Q. And how long have you worked in that
	2	capacity?
	3	A. There in sex crimes for one year.
	4	Q. And how long with Metro in general?
12 : 25PM	5	A. Thirteen years.
	6	Q. I want to direct your attention
	7	specifically to August 14 th , 2019. Were you assigned
	8	to investigate a potential sexual assault that had
	9	occurred at 4455 Paradise Road?
12 : 25PM	10	A. Yes, that's correct.
	11	Q. And was that in your capacity as a
	12	detective in the sex crimes unit?
	13	A. Yes, that's right.
	14	Q. Now, is the 4455 address the Hard Rock
12 : 26PM	15	Hotel?
	16	A. Yes, that's right.
	17	Q. Is that here in Clark County?
	18	A. Yes, it is.
	19	Q. As part of your investigation were you
12 : 26PM	20	given information about a potential suspect in the
	21	sexual assault?
	22	A. Yes, I was.
	23	Q. And was one of the things you were given
	24	is that he's potentially a Lyft driver?
12 : 26PM	25	A. Yes.

12:26PM 1	Q. Were you told that the victim in the case
2	her name is Liana?
3	A. That's correct.
4	Q. And that she was put in a Lyft vehicle by
12:26PM 5	her friends?
6	A. Yes. To some degree. She was in the
7	vehicle with her friends at one point in time.
8	Q. Let's back up a little bit. I don't want
9	to jump. Were you told that it was Liana who ordered
12:26PM 10	the Lyft or her friends?
11	A. No. It was one of her friends.
12	Q. And then as part of your investigation did
13	her friends actually show you a screen shot of the Lyft
14	account that had ordered that car and the driver of
12:27PM 15	that car?
16	A. Yes, that's right.
17	MS. DERJAVINA: Your Honor, may I
18	approach?
19	THE COURT: You may.
12:27PM 20	MS. DERJAVINA: For the record I'm showing
21	defense counsel State's Proposed Exhibit 1.
22	THE COURT: Okay.
23	BY MS. DERJAVINA:
24	Q. Detective, I'm going to show you State's
12:27PM 25	Proposed Exhibit 1. If you could take a second. Do

12 : 27PM	1	you recognize that?
	2	A. Yes, I do.
	3	Q. And how do you recognize that?
	4	A. This was it was on the Lyft app that
12 : 27PM	5	was on Miss Liana's friend's phone. The friend that
	6	ordered it I believe was Daja Smith. So Miss Daja
	7	Smith during the interview provided her phone with the
	8	proof as far as what Lyft they had taken from where and
	9	final destination.
12 : 27PM	10	Q. And is it a fair and accurate photograph
	11	of that screen shot?
	12	A. Yes, it is.
	13	MS. DERJAVINA: Your Honor, at this time
	14	the State would move to admit State's Proposed Exhibit
12 : 27PM	15	1.
	16	MR. HAMILTON: No objection.
	17	THE COURT: It will be admitted.
	18	(State's Exhibit 1 was admitted.)
	19	MS. DERJAVINA: May I approach, your
12 : 27PM	20	Honor, to show it to you?
	21	THE COURT: Yes.
	22	BY MS. DERJAVINA:
	23	Q. Now, detective, were you informed as part
	24	of your investigation that the friend had actually put
12 : 28PM	25	the victim in that Lyft to take her back to the hotel

12 : 28PM	1	because she was intoxicated?
	2	A. Can you repeat the question.
	3	Q. As part of your investigation were you
	4	informed by the friends that they had actually put the
12 : 28PM	5	victim Liana into that Lyft to be taken back to the
	6	hotel because she was intoxicated?
	7	A. Yes, that's right.
	8	Q. Once you got that information and you got
	9	that screen shot, and in it for the record we can see
12 : 28PM	10	it says, "Thanks for riding with Samuel," did you
	11	obtain information about who that Lyft driver was, his
	12	identity?
	13	A. Yes, I did.
	14	Q. And what was his identity? What was his
12 : 28PM	15	name?
	16	A. Samuel Josiah Caruso and I don't recall
	17	date of birth.
	18	Q. If I show you your police report would
	19	that refresh your recollection?
12 : 28PM	20	A. Yes.
	21	MS. DERJAVINA: May I approach, your
	22	Honor?
	23	THE COURT: You may.
	24	BY MS. DERJAVINA:
12 : 28PM	25	Q. Detective, if you can just take a second

12:29PM 2	1	to look at t	his yourself and let me know when you're
	2	done looking	at it.
	3	Α.	Yes.
2	4	Q.	Looking at that did that refresh your
12:29PM 5	5	recollection	?
6	6	Α.	Yes.
-	7	Q.	And what was his date of birth?
8	8	Α.	It is October 5 th of 1986.
(9	Q.	Now, as part of your investigation did you
12:29PM 10	0	pull surveil	lance video from the Hard Rock?
11	1	Α.	Yes, I did.
12	2	Q.	Were you able to see Mr. Caruso and the
13	3	victim?	
14	4	Α.	Yes, I was.
12:29PM 15	5	Q.	Were you also able to see the vehicle as
10	6	it arrived?	
1	7	Α.	Yes.
18	8	Q.	Were you able to pull the license plate?
19	9	Α.	Yes.
12:29PM 20	0	Q.	And who did the license plate come back
21	1	to?	
22	2	Α.	When I ran the plate the sole registered
23	3	owner was a	Samuel Caruso.
24	4	Q.	As part of your investigation did you try
12:29PM 25	5	to make cont	act with Mr. Caruso?

12 : 29PM	1	A. Yes, I did.
	2	Q. And did you have a potential phone number?
	3	A. I first had an address and then later
	4	acquired a phone number for him.
12 : 29PM	5	Q. And did you go to that address?
	6	A. I did.
	7	Q. Did you make contact with the family
	8	members?
	9	A. Yes, I did, that's correct.
12 : 29PM	10	Q. Was he there at that point?
	11	A. He was not.
	12	Q. And you said as part of your investigation
	13	you were able to obtain a phone number for Mr. Caruso.
	14	Did you call that number?
12 : 30pm	15	A. Yes, I did.
	16	Q. Did you leave a voice mail?
	17	A. I did.
	18	Q. And at some point did Mr. Caruso call
	19	back?
12 : 30pm	20	A. Yes, he did.
	21	Q. Did he identify who he was?
	22	A. Yes, he did.
	23	Q. Initially when you talked to him what did
	24	he think that you were calling in regards to?
12 : 30PM	25	A. I introduced myself and he initially

12:30PM	1	thought that I was calling about the Henderson case is
	2	what he said.
	3	Q. So he thought you were calling regarding
	4	something that happened in Henderson?
12 : 30pm	5	A. Correct.
	6	Q. Did you inform him that you were calling
	7	regarding a passenger in his Lyft?
	8	A. Yes, that's correct.
	9	Q. Now, at this point did you read him his
12:30PM	10	Miranda Rights?
	11	A. No, I did not. I informed him of the
	12	allegation that was made by the occupant of the Lyft
	13	during the course of his duties as a driver.
	14	Q. And what was the purpose initially of this
12 : 30PM	15	telephone conversation?
	16	A. It was just to get an interview with him.
	17	Q. So you were going to ask him to come in to
	18	ask him questions?
	19	A. That's correct. Or we'd go to him.
12 : 31PM	20	Whichever.
	21	Q. Basically set up a meeting?
	22	A. Correct.
	23	Q. But you did inform him kind of what the
	24	allegations were?
12 : 31PM	25	A. Yes.

12:31PM	1	Q. And when you informed him of what the
	2	allegations were what was his response?
	3	A. So Mr. Caruso made some utterances. He
	4	initially said something to the effect of oh, man,
12 : 31PM	5	Liana so he identified her by her first name I
	6	should have had security take her to her room is what
	7	he uttered.
	8	Q. And then did he mention about having any
	9	kind of sexual contact with Liana?
12 : 31PM	10	A. Yes. Mutual oral sex was the way he
	11	described it.
	12	Q. So by mutual basically he had oral sex on
	13	her and then she had oral sex on him?
	14	A. Consenting, yes.
12:31PM	15	Q. But he said that that was consensual?
	16	A. Mutual oral sex so I imagine they gave
	17	each other oral sex and would be consenting.
	18	Q. That's what you assumed. Okay.
	19	A. Correct.
12:32PM	20	Q. Detective, obviously being that you're a
	21	detective in the sex crimes you're familiar with
	22	different sexual acts?
	23	A. Yes.
	24	Q. When somebody says oral sex, so a male
12 : 32PM	25	giving oral sex to a female, what does that mean?

12 : 32PM	1	A. Well, it would be cunnilingus.
	2	Q. And then what does cunnilingus mean?
	3	Usually what body part of a male touches what body part
	4	of a female?
12 : 33PM	5	A. It's penetration nonetheless, however
	6	slight, with the male inserting his tongue into the
	7	female's vagina.
	8	Q. So it would be the male which is in this
	9	case the defendant placing his mouth or tongue on the
12 : 33PM	10	genital opening of the female?
	11	A. That's correct.
	12	Q. What about if it's a female on a male
	13	giving oral sex?
	14	A. The male inserting penis into the mouth of
12 : 33PM	15	the female and her sucking the penis of the male.
	16	Q. So basically what it is is a male which in
	17	this case would be the defendant, if you're saying it
	18	was mutual oral sex it would be placing his penis in
	19	the victim's mouth?
12 : 33PM	20	A. Correct.
	21	MS. DERJAVINA: Nothing further, your
	22	Honor.
	23	THE COURT: Thank you.
	24	Counsel.
	25	

	1	CROSS-EXAMINATION
	2	BY MR. HAMILTON:
	3	Q. Detective Nogle?
	4	A. Yes.
12 : 33PM	5	Q. When you spoke to Mr. Caruso he indicated
	6	to you that Liana had in fact
	7	MS. DERJAVINA: Objection. Hearsay. The
	8	defendant's statement not being admitted by a party
	9	opponent.
12 : 34PM	10	THE COURT: I think you already asked
	11	that.
	12	MS. DERJAVINA: Well, I think he's going
	13	into more than I had asked.
	14	THE COURT: Let's hear the question.
12 : 34PM	15	MS. DERJAVINA: And I apologize if I
	16	jumped. I just knew where he was going to go.
	17	MR. HAMILTON: Kudos on your reflexes.
	18	THE COURT: I can't remember what the
	19	question was.
12 : 34PM	20	BY MR. HAMILTON:
	21	Q. Mr. Caruso had indicated to you in your
	22	conversation that any touching between the two parties
	23	was consensual; is that fair?
	24	A. He said they had mutual oral sex. So
12 : 34PM	25	outside of that. So he did utter that check the

55

12 : 34PM	1	camera.
	2	MS. DERJAVINA: And objection at this
	3	point. That's not his question. His question is
	4	whether he said it was consensual.
12 : 35PM	5	THE COURT: Ask another question. The
	6	question was whether there was consensual touching.
	7	BY MR. HAMILTON:
	8	Q. Did he at any point ask you to check the
	9	camera?
12 : 35PM	10	A. Yes.
	11	Q. Can you tell us more about that exchange
	12	about him asking you to check the cameras?
	13	MS. DERJAVINA: And I don't mean to
	14	interrupt. At this point I would object. Any kind of
12 : 35PM	15	conversation with the defendant at this point would be
	16	hearsay. I didn't elicit anything about their
	17	conversation.
	18	THE COURT: I will overrule that.
	19	BY MR. HAMILTON:
12 : 35PM	20	Q. Go ahead.
	21	A. He specified the location in this case,
	22	the registration area.
	23	Q. Did you take that to mean the defendant
	24	wanted you to observe his conduct?
12 : 35PM	25	A. Yes.

12 : 35PM	1	Q. And in your experience as a detective did
	2	that strike you as someone trying to get by with
	3	something or someone hoping that you will see that it
	4	was consensual?
12 : 36PM	5	MS. DERJAVINA: Objection. Speculation,
	6	relevance of others cases.
	7	THE COURT: He's asking her experience. I
	8	will allow the question.
	9	THE WITNESS: So I'm a neutral fact
12 : 36PM	10	finder.
	11	BY MR. HAMILTON:
	12	Q. Right.
	13	A. Open to both. I've got to conduct a full
	14	interview and look at all evidence available to include
12 : 36PM	15	all video from start to finish.
	16	Q. And how long have you been doing this,
	17	detective?
	18	A. Sex crimes detective?
	19	Q. Yes.
12 : 36PM	20	A. One year.
	21	Q. And in your one year of doing this is it
	22	your experience that guilty people normally ask you to
	23	look at tapes of them?
	24	MS. DERJAVINA: Again I think objection.
12 : 36PM	25	THE COURT: I will sustain the nature of

12 : 36PM	1	the question. Guilty. You can ask her if people do,	
	2	but not whether she knows they're guilty or not.	
	3	BY MR. HAMILTON:	
	4	Q. In your professional opinion as a	
12 : 36PM	5	detective does that cut one way or the other about	
	6	whether or not	
	7	A. No.	
	8	Q. That doesn't cut one way or the other?	
	9	A. No.	
12 : 37PM	10	Q. You reviewed all the tapes?	
	11	A. Yes.	
	12	Q. Is it correct that the alleged victim can	
	13	be seen kissing Mr. Caruso?	
	14	MS. DERJAVINA: Objection. Best evidence.	
12 : 37PM	15	She can't testify to what she saw in the video. She	
	16	wasn't watching it live. It would be like	
	17	THE COURT: Well, I will allow the	
	18	question, counsel. You guys ask that all the time. I	
	19	don't see a problem with asking if she saw the video	
12 : 37pM	20	that you asked her about and did she see them kissing	
	21	in the video. Overruled.	
	22	MS. DERJAVINA: Just for the record if we	
	23	had done it, defense objects all the time. The only	
	24	time it's appropriate is when she was watching it live,	
12 : 38PM	PM 25 that's one thing. But if she goes back every sind		

10 00514 1	
12:38PM 1	case I've done I have never
2	THE COURT: Watching what live? The video
3	live?
4	MS. DERJAVINA: Yes. For example, loss
12:38PM 5	prevention officer watches the video as it's happening.
6	He watched the defendant do that. They're allowed to
7	testify. They're watching it live. But I have never
8	had it where a detective can testify to what they saw
9	on the video without putting the video in. That's the
12:38PM 10	reason I didn't ask what could be seen in the video
11	because without putting the video in it's the best
12	evidence. Without putting the video in I can't have
13	somebody describe what they saw.
14	THE COURT: I don't have the video in
12:38PM 15	front of me.
16	MS. DERJAVINA: Exactly.
17	THE COURT: So I will sustain that
18	objection.
19	MR. HAMILTON: Judge, if I may be heard?
12:38PM 20	THE COURT: Yes.
21	MR. HAMILTON: The prosecution asked
22	several questions about the contents of the video. For
23	example, you saw the car, you saw we didn't object
24	even though she's saying we would have objected.
12 : 38PM 25	MS. DERJAVINA: If your Honor wants me to,

12:38PM 1		I didn't ask her what she saw in the video. I just
	2	said if she saw the license plate and whether she ran
	3	the license plate. I didn't have her describe exactly
4		what she saw happening in the video which would be
12 : 39PM	5	admitting the content of the video through her
	6	testimony. That's not what the State did.
	7	MR. HAMILTON: We're running into a
	8	situation
	9	THE COURT: Honestly I don't see the
12 : 39PM	10	difference. I don't see the difference between asking
	11	a witness if they saw a license plate and who it came
	12	back to and did you look at a video and did you see
	13	whether they kissed. I don't see the difference.
	14	MS. DERJAVINA: Well, the difference is if
12 : 39PM	15	you saw a license plate and then you ran it, it doesn't
	16	describe the actions that you can see in the video
	17	which is them driving into the parking lot, them going
	18	wherever and all of that.
	19	THE COURT: I agree with that, but you're
12 : 39PM	20	saying did you run the license plate but you are
	21	letting them say yeah, I ran the license plate, that's
	22	the one I saw and that's what it came back to. I don't
	23	see the difference.
	24	MS. DERJAVINA: I didn't elicit the
12 : 39PM	25	license plate number.

THE COURT: No. But you did ask who it 12:39PM 1 2 came back to. 3 MS. DERJAVINA: And that's fine. But he's 4 having her describe the actions of the defendant and 12:39PM 5 the victim in the video that --6 THE COURT: He's not asking her what kind 7 of kiss it was. He's saying did you see them kiss. 8 I'm going to allow that question, if you saw them kiss. MS. DERJAVINA: That's fine. We obviously 9 12:40PM 10 put our objection on the record. Thank you. 11 THE COURT: It's on the record. 12 MR. HAMILTON: Judge, if I may note it's 13 getting to the point where we're being dictated how we 14 can present our case and I just think it's 12:40PM 15 inappropriate. 16 THE COURT: Well, it's not inappropriate. 17 They can object all they want and if I feel that the 18 objection is warranted, I'll sustain it. I feel like 19 there have been questions asked about the video and I 12:40PM 20 don't see the difference and for the record I don't see 21 the difference between asking did you see the car, did 2.2 you see the license plate, who did it come back to and 23 who was it registered to. They're representing what 24 they saw on the video was the truth and you didn't 12:40PM 25 object but nevertheless the information came in. And

61

12 : 40PM	1	so he can cross-examine her about that information.
	2	And it was a video. Was it a different video than this
	3	one?
	4	MS. DERJAVINA: No, Your Honor. We have
12 : 41PM	5	some case law on the difference, but if your Honor has
	6	already made your ruling we'll take
	7	THE COURT: No. I'm interested in knowing
	8	what the case law says. But I need to read the case.
	9	MS. DERJAVINA: 103 Nevada 436. It talks
12 : 41PM	10	about the evidence rule requires production of the
	11	original document where the actual content of the
	12	document are at issue and sought to be proved.
	13	The reason he's admitting this video and
	14	the actions is he's trying to say oh, they kissed. The
12 : 41PM	15	reason I had elicited did you run the license plate and
	16	find out who it belonged to is to explain how she
	17	ultimately got to the defendant, contacted him and
	18	spoke to him.
	19	THE COURT: Does 103 Nevada 436 express a
12:41PM	20	difference between what you're saying and what he's
	21	saying or does it just say that you can look at a video
	22	and it's got to be admitted?
	23	MS. DERJAVINA: That's what it's saying.
	24	If you're actually trying to admit the content of a
12:41PM 25 video or a writing		video or a writing

12 : 41PM	1	THE COURT: But what were you doing? What
	2	did you do? You know how these work. You've been to
	3	moot court and you've been in a lot of courts.
	4	MS. DERJAVINA: Your Honor, I was
12 : 42PM	5	admitting it but not for the actual the writing
	6	the content of it. It doesn't matter what the license
	7	plate number said. It's to explain her running that
	8	license plate that she saw on the video and ultimately
	9	getting to his name and getting to him. It's
12 : 42PM	10	irrelevant. It could have been like 002478.
	11	THE COURT: It wouldn't have come back to
	12	him.
	13	MS. DERJAVINA: Exactly. But to explain
	14	how she ultimately gets to him. They are trying to
12 : 42PM	15	admit what's happening in the video for the actual
	16	content of the video and that you can see that they are
	17	kissing in the video. That's the difference. That
	18	goes to the core of the case and to the core of what
	19	the video would show.
12 : 42PM	20	THE COURT: So would it be admissible for
	21	him to say does it appear that they were kissing in the
	22	video?
	23	MS. DERJAVINA: No.
	24	THE COURT: But you're saying it appears
12 : 42PM	25	there was a license plate and you can't tell me that
	l	

63

what you're saying about the license plate was not 12:42PM 1 2 offered for the truth of the matter asserted because you took that license plate and you did something with 3 4 it and now you've come up with a conclusion it was his 12:43PM 5 license plate. I don't see the difference. 6 MS. DERJAVINA: The difference is even if, 7 for example, we say it wasn't -- she got an eight. She 8 called the number and it wasn't his license plate but 9 ultimately he called back and identified himself. It's 12:43PM 10 basically to explain to your Honor how she got to the 11 defendant. The relevance of the license plate at this 12 point really doesn't matter, but they're wanting what's 13 happening on the video for specifically that they are 14 kissing in the video. When you think about it the 12:43PM 15 license plate in this case is really irrelevant other 16 than to explain how they get to the defendant and that 17 they call his number and that he called back. But it 18 doesn't really matter what the license plate is. 19 THE COURT: I need to read your case. Let 12:43PM 20 me see your case. 21 MS. DERJAVINA: May I approach? 2.2 THE COURT: Yes. 23 MS. SCHEIBLE: I think I just have the 24 summary. 12:44PM 25 If it's no trouble can I MR. HAMILTON:

12 : 44PM	1	have a copy?		
	2	THE COURT: You bet.		
	3	MR. HAMILTON: I want to make sure I'm up		
	4	to date on the best evidence rule.		
12 : 47PM	5	THE COURT: It's 119 Chevrolet Motor		
	6	Vehicle versus the County of Nye. Is that a forfeiture		
	7	in a civil action or is it a criminal action?		
	8	MS. DERJAVINA: I believe based on the		
	9	title it's a civil case but it cites to NRS 52.235		
12 : 47PM	10	which is the best evidence rule that's also used in		
	11	criminal cases. And I'm looking, your Honor, at		
	12	Westlaw under that statute and that's where the cases		
	13	are cited. Like I said that's the statute we use in		
	14	criminal cases.		
12 : 47PM	15	MR. HAMILTON: Your Honor, to the extent		
	16	it makes any difference I'm through asking about the		
	17	video.		
	18	THE COURT: We didn't get an answer but		
	19	I'll keep it. But one of the things that I learned		
12 : 47PM	20	early was not to bring a civil case into a criminal		
	21	matter. I got kind of dusted on that one.		
	22	MS. DERJAVINA: I can understand that,		
	23	your Honor, and we appreciate you taking the time to		
	24	read that.		
12 : 48PM	25	THE COURT: Not a problem.		

	1	
12:48PM 1		Are you finished?
	2	MR. HAMILTON: Just briefly.
	3	THE COURT: Go ahead.
	4	BY MR. HAMILTON:
12 : 48PM	5	Q. Detective, is your only source of
	6	information about what occurred in the hotel room
	7	between Mr. Caruso and Miss Rivera the statements
	8	Mr. Caruso made to you?
	9	A. No.
12 : 48PM 1	LO	Q. What other information?
1	L1	A. What other evidence?
1	L2	Q. What other sources of evidence have you
1	L3	considered about what happened in that hotel room?
1	L4	A. The victim's statements, the victim's
12 : 48PM 1	L5	friends' statements, the actual video, the timeline,
1	L6	the Lyft receipt and the alteration of the destination.
1	L7	Q. Before we go off on a tangent about the
1	L8	video again, there is no video of the two of them
1	L9	actually in the hotel room, correct?
12 : 49PM 2	20	A. That's correct.
2	21	MR. HAMILTON: Nothing further.
2	22	THE COURT: Thank you. Anything else,
2	23	counsel?
2	24	MS. DERJAVINA: No, Your Honor. Thank
12 : 49PM 2	25	you.

12 : 49PM	1	THE COURT: Thank you. You're excused.
	2	THE WITNESS: Thank you, sir. Thank you,
	3	Judge.
	4	THE COURT: Does that conclude your case
12 : 49PM	5	in chief?
	6	MS. DERJAVINA: Before we rest we have
	7	amendments to make to the complaint. So, your Honor,
	8	on Page 2 for Count 6, line 22 the State is amending
	9	where it says by rubbing and/or touching the genital
12 : 50PM	10	area of RR over and/or under her clothing.
	11	THE COURT: Okay.
	12	MS. DERJAVINA: At this point those are
	13	the only amendments the State had, your Honor.
	14	THE COURT: All right. With that do you
12 : 50PM	15	rest?
	16	MS. DERJAVINA: Yes, your Honor.
	17	THE COURT: Now, if we can just get
	18	through that the other case real quick we can finish
	19	this one after.
12 : 50PM	20	MS. SCHEIBLE: I think we can, your Honor.
	21	(Recess.)
	22	THE COURT: Back in session on 19FH2101,
	23	State versus Caruso.
	24	Defense.
2:01PM	25	MR. HAMILTON: Your Honor, we do have four

67

2.010M	1	witnesses . We are gaing to the and he as economical			
2:01PM	1	witnesses. We are going to try and be as economical			
	2	with the time as possible.			
	3	THE COURT: Okay.			
	4	THE CLERK: Raise your right hand.			
2:01PM	5	Do you solemnly swear that the testimony			
	6	that you are about to give will be the truth, the whole			
	7	truth and nothing but the truth, so help you God?			
	8	THE WITNESS: Yes.			
	9	THE CLERK: Please be seated.			
2:01PM	M 10 Please state your first and last				
	11	spell each for the record.			
	12	THE WITNESS: Daniel Madrigal.			
	13	THE COURT: Spell your last name, please.			
	14	THE WITNESS: M-A-D-R-I-G-A-L.			
2:02PM	15	THE COURT: Have a seat.			
	16	Go ahead, counsel.			
	17				
	18	DANIEL MADRIGAL,			
	19	having been first duly sworn, did testify as follows:			
	20	DIRECT EXAMINATION			
	21	BY MR. HAMILTON:			
	22	Q. Good afternoon, Mr. Madrigal. I'm Ryan			
	23	Hamilton, counsel for Mr. Caruso. We met in the hall			
	24	briefly. Mr. Madrigal, am I correct your girlfriend is			
2:02PM	25	Raquelle Rouw?			

2:02PM	1	Α.	Yes.	
	2	Q.	And was she your girlfriend on the late	
	3	night of June	night of June 21, early morning June 22?	
	4	Α.	Yes.	
2:02PM	5	Q.	Do you recall late night June 21, early	
	6	morning June	22?	
	7	Α.	Yes.	
	8	Q.	Where were you at that time?	
	9	Α.	I was at my friend AJ's house.	
2:02PM	10	Q.	And does AJ go by any other names?	
	11	Α.	Andres Daniel Jaramillo.	
	12	Q.	Did you have any alcohol to drink that	
	13	night?		
	14	Α.	Yes.	
2:03PM	15	Q.	Did you become intoxicated?	
	16	Α.	Yes.	
	17	Q.	Approximately what time did you go to	
	18	sleep?		
	19	Α.	I'd say two.	
2:03PM	20	Q.	About 2:00 a.m.?	
	21	Α.	Somewhere around there.	
	22	Q.	And are you able to tell me how drunk you	
	23	were in your	own words when you went to sleep?	
	24	Α.	I was stumbling.	
2:03PM	25	Q.	I'm sorry?	

2:03PM	1	A. I was stumbling. Numb.
	2	Q. Where did you sleep?
	3	A. On the couch downstairs.
	4	Q. And when you say downstairs, is that in
2:03PM	5	the living room?
	6	A. Yes.
	7	Q. And anyone sleeping on or near you?
	8	A. Yes.
	9	Q. Who was that?
2:03PM	10	A. Raquelle.
	11	Q. And can you describe how the two of you
	12	were positioned?
	13	A. So I was laying down the couch is like
	14	an L. I was laying down on the longer side and she was
2:04PM	15	laying next to me on like a foot rest thing and so she
	16	was right next to me.
	17	Q. At any point if you recall did you have
	18	your arm around her?
	19	A. Yes.
2:04PM	20	Q. Where was your arm and where was it around
	21	her?
	22	A. Usually like this. I sleep whenever I
	23	sleep with her it's always around her.
	24	Q. And around by her neck or her arm?
2:04PM	25	A. Like mid section.

1	Q. To the best of your recollection is that
2	how you fell asleep that night?
3	A. I don't really remember.
4	Q. Did you ever wake up in the middle of the
5	night, the early morning June 22 nd ?
6	A. No, I did not.
7	Q. Did you ever notice anyone coming to
8	bother you or Raquelle?
9	A. No. I was sleeping.
10	Q. Around the time that you went to sleep did
11	you notice anyone leaving the house?
12	A. No, I did not.
13	Q. At some point did you learn that there had
14	been an allegation that Mr. Caruso had touched Raquelle
15	during the night?
16	A. Yes.
17	Q. Were you surprised by that allegation?
18	A. Yes.
19	Q. Can you explain why you were surprised?
20	A. I couldn't believe it. It's like that
21	really happened? She was sleeping right next to me. I
22	thought everything was safe. But I guess not.
23	Q. How much had you had to drink that
24	evening?
25	A. I'd say six shots.
	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 21 22 23 24

2:06PM	1	Q.	Can you tell the Court over what span of
	2	time?	
	3	Α.	Over like an hour or two.
	4	Q.	You're a big fellow. How much do you
2:06PM	5	weigh?	
	6	Α.	Back then?
	7	Q.	Yes. If it's different.
	8	Α.	Yeah. I weighed 209.
	9	Q.	And how tall?
2:06PM	10	Α.	6'2".
	11	Q.	What time did you wake up the next
	12	morning?	
	13	Α.	I'd say like nine o'clock.
	14	Q.	Was anyone up in the house at that time?
2:07PM	15	Α.	Yes.
	16	Q.	Who was up?
	17	Α.	OJ.
	18	Q.	Who is OJ?
	19	Α.	AJ's dad. His name is Orlando Jaramillo.
2:07PM	20	Q.	Am I right that at some point in the day
	21	you had lun	ch with a number of people in the house?
	22	Α.	Yes.
	23	Q.	Who all was at that lunch?
	24	Α.	It was OJ, AJ, Justice, me, Raquelle and I
2:07PM	25	think AJ's	brothers.

2:07PM	1	Q. And I apologize if I asked this already	•
	2	What time was that lunch?	
	3	A. I think it was like around 12.	
	4	Q. Did you guys watch some UFC fights?	
2:08PM	5	A. In the morning?	
	6	Q. At any point during the day of the 22^{nd}	
	7	A. I think we did, yes.	
	8	Q. And who all participated in watching UFC	C
	9	fights?	
2:08PM	10	A. Me, Raquelle, OJ, I think AJ and Justice	2
	11	were there.	
	12	Q. Do you remember one way or the other	
	13	whether or not Mr. Caruso was involved in that?	
	14	A. He was not there yet. I don't think so	
2:08PM	15	Q. What is your best recollection of when t	che
	16	viewing of the UFC fights occurred?	
	17	A. What do you mean?	
	18	Q. What time did that happen when you watch	ned
	19	the UFC fights?	
2:08PM	20	A. It was while we were eating so around 12	2.
	21	Q. And what time did you leave the Jaramil	lo
	22	house?	
	23	A. I think it was one. I think it was one	•
	24	Q. Around one o'clock?	
2:09PM	25	A. Yes. One or two.	

2:09PM	1	MR. HAMILTON: Pass the witness, your
	2	Honor.
	3	MS. DERJAVINA: Just brief cross.
	4	
	5	CROSS-EXAMINATION
	6	BY MS. DERJAVINA:
	7	Q. Do you mind if I call you Daniel? I can't
	8	pronounce your last name.
	9	A. Yes.
2:09PM	10	Q. Defense counsel asked you a couple
	11	questions about the morning and into the day of
	12	June 22 nd , okay?
	13	A. Uh-huh.
	14	Q. He asked you about whether you guys had
2:09PM	15	lunch and you watched the UFC fight?
	16	A. Yes.
	17	Q. Can you describe did anything catch your
	18	attention regarding Raquelle's demeanor that morning
	19	and that afternoon?
2:09PM	20	A. Yes. She was acting very awkward and
	21	really wanted to leave and go home.
	22	Q. Now, at some point did Raquelle tell you
	23	what happened?
	24	A. Yes.
2:09PM	25	Q. Without going into what she told you,

2:09PM	1	first of all where was this?
	2	A. It was in her car.
	3	Q. As you guys were about to leave?
	4	A. Uh-huh.
2:10PM	5	Q. Without telling us what she told you what
	6	was her demeanor like when she told you what happened?
	7	A. I was very angry.
	8	Q. What was her demeanor like?
	9	A. She was crying.
2:10PM	10	MS. DERJAVINA: Nothing further, your
	11	Honor.
	12	THE COURT: Anything else, counsel?
	13	
	14	REDIRECT EXAMINATION
2:10PM	15	BY MR. HAMILTON:
	16	Q. Mr. Madrigal, did you also stay for dinner
	17	that evening at the Jaramillo house?
	18	A. No, I didn't.
	19	MR. HAMILTON: I will pass the witness.
2:10PM	20	THE COURT: Anything further?
	21	MS. DERJAVINA: No, Your Honor.
	22	THE COURT: Thank you, sir. You're
	23	excused.
	24	THE CLERK: Raise your right hand.
2:10PM	25	Do you solemnly swear that the testimony

2:10PM	1	that you are about to give will be the truth, the whole
	2	truth and nothing but the truth, so help you God?
	3	THE WITNESS: Yes.
	4	THE CLERK: Please be seated.
2:10PM	5	Please state your first and last name and
	6	spell each for the record.
	7	THE WITNESS: Andres Jaramillo.
	8	A-N-D-R-E-S. Last name J-A-R-A-M-I-L-L-O.
	9	THE COURT: Thank you.
2:11PM	10	Go ahead, counsel.
	11	
	12	ANDRES JARAMILLO,
	13	having been first duly sworn, did testify as follows:
	14	DIRECT EXAMINATION
2:11PM	15	BY MR. HAMILTON:
	16	Q. Mr. Jaramillo, we met in the hall. I'm
	17	Ryan Hamilton, counsel for the defendant. Is it okay
	18	if I call you Andres only because we have another Mr.
	19	Jaramillo in the case?
2:12PM	20	A. Yes.
	21	Q. Andres, I'd like to direct your attention
	22	to late night June 21 st and early morning
	23	June 22 nd . Do you recall those dates?
	24	A. Yes.
2:12PM	25	Q. And were you present in the house on

2:12PM	1	Sitting Bull when Raquelle arrived?
	2	A. Yes.
	3	Q. Who else was present?
	4	A. Downstairs it was me, my girlfriend
2 : 12PM	5	Justice, Sam and my sister Alexis.
	6	Q. What's the relationship between your
	7	sister Alexis and the defendant?
	8	A. Like talking about Sam, right?
	9	Q. Yes, sir. Sam.
2:13PM	10	A. They were boyfriend and girlfriend.
	11	Q. And it's my understanding that people in
	12	the house were drinking alcohol; is that correct?
	13	A. Yes.
	14	Q. Were you able to observe Raquelle's
2 : 13PM	15	demeanor throughout the night?
	16	A. Yes.
	17	Q. And what was her demeanor like through the
	18	night?
	19	A. She was fine. She wasn't acting like
2 : 14PM	20	not like she was super drunk or something like out of
	21	the ordinary. She seemed normal.
	22	Q. Were you able to observe how much she had
	23	had to drink over the course of the evening?
	24	A. Sort of I think later in the night she
2 : 14PM	25	ended up getting pretty sick from it, yeah.
	-	

2:14PM	1	Q. Is that something you observed or just
	2	heard about?
	3	A. That's something I observed.
	4	Q. And when you say she got sick you mean she
2:14PM	5	was vomiting?
	6	A. Yeah. I believe she vomited.
	7	Q. What time did that occur?
	8	A. I'm not sure.
	9	Q. Am I correct that your girlfriend Justice
2:15PM	10	also became sick?
	11	A. Yes.
	12	Q. Did you observe Raquelle assisting
	13	Justice?
	14	A. At one point we were all kind of assisting
2:15PM	15	her. She went upstairs. I believe Sam was the first
	16	one up there with her and then we went upstairs and we
	17	caught up to them in the bathroom and Sam was like oh,
	18	she's sick, she says she wants you in there. So then
	19	it was me, Raquelle and Daniel. But then they ended up
2:15PM	20	leaving and it was just me and her.
	21	Q. It was just you and Justice?
	22	A. Yeah.
	23	Q. What time did you go to bed that evening?
	24	A. I'm not sure. It was shortly after my
2 : 15PM	25	girlfriend had gotten sick. She got sick and she just

78

2 : 15PM	1	wanted to la	ay down. So we ended up going to bed.
	2	Q.	I assume you had your own room at the
	3	house?	
	4	Α.	Yes.
2 : 16PM	5	Q.	Is that where you slept that night?
	6	Α.	Yeah.
	7	Q.	Do you know one way or the other where
	8	Alexis slept	2?
	9	Α.	In her room which is directly next to
2:16PM	10	mine.	
	11	Q.	Did you ever observe Sam in the room with
	12	Alexis?	
	13	Α.	No. I ended up going into the room. I
	14	just closed	the door.
2:16PM	15	Q.	Do you know one way or the other what time
	16	Raquelle wer	nt to sleep?
	17	Α.	No.
	18	Q.	Did you ever observe Sam leave the house?
	19	Α.	No.
2:17PM	20	Q.	Am I correct that you have a brother by
	21	the name of	Angelo?
	22	Α.	Yes.
	23	Q.	And where does Angelo live?
	24	Α.	Across the street.
2:17PM	25	Q.	Do you know one way or the other if Sam

2:17PM	1	went to go visit Angelo that night?
	2	A. I believe he did because we have a Ring.
	3	It's a doorbell system and it videotapes any time
	4	there's movement in front of the door and they have
2:17PM	5	like the movement of him leaving and coming back and
	6	leaving.
	7	Q. Were you able to observe what time Sam
	8	left and came back?
	9	A. Just through the Ring.
2:17PM	10	Q. And what time?
	11	A. I'm not sure. I can't really recall, but
	12	I think he had to have come back around four or five.
	13	MS. DERJAVINA: If I may, your Honor, the
	14	same objection that we had regarding the video.
2:18PM	15	THE COURT: I will sustain that objection.
	16	BY MR. HAMILTON:
	17	Q. Did you ever have any discussion with Sam
	18	about going to see your brother Angelo that night?
	19	A. Yes. I think he did bring it up that he
2:18PM	20	wanted to go over there.
	21	Q. And did you go over there with him?
	22	A. No, I didn't go.
	23	Q. What time did you wake up the next day?
	24	A. I'm not sure. I want to say around 10,
2:19PM	25	11.

2:19PM	1	Q. You have a brother named AJ?
	2	A. I'm AJ.
	3	Q. I'm sorry. How many brothers have you
	4	got?
2:19PM	5	A. I have three brothers and all of our
	6	initials are AJ but I'm the only one that goes by it.
	7	Q. So I hope you can understand my confusion.
	8	A. Were you going to say Alex?
	9	Q. Yes. That's the source of my confusion.
2:20PM	10	AJ, Andres, thank you for your time.
	11	I'll pass the witness.
	12	MS. DERJAVINA: The State has no
	13	questions, your Honor.
	14	THE COURT: Thank you, sir. You may step
2:20PM	15	down.
	16	THE CLERK: Raise your right hand.
	17	Do you solemnly swear that the testimony
	18	that you are about to give will be the truth, the whole
	19	truth and nothing but the truth, so help you God?
2:20PM	20	THE WITNESS: Yes, I do.
	21	THE CLERK: Please be seated.
	22	Please state your first and last name and
	23	spell each for the record.
	24	THE WITNESS: Orlando Jaramillo.
2:21PM	25	O-R-L-A-N-D-O J-A-R-A-M-I-L-L-O.

2:21PM	1	THE COURT: Thank you, sir. You may be
	2	seated.
	3	Go ahead, counsel.
	4	
2:21PM	5	ORLANDO JARAMILLO,
	6	having been first duly sworn, did testify as follows:
	7	DIRECT EXAMINATION
	8	BY MR. HAMILTON:
	9	Q. Mr. Jaramillo, Ryan Hamilton, we met out
2:21PM	10	in the hall briefly. May I call you Orlando just for
	11	ease of the record?
	12	A. Sure.
	13	Q. Orlando, do you recall the late night,
	14	early morning of June 21 and 22?
2:21PM	15	A. Yes, sir.
	16	Q. And is it correct you reside at a house on
	17	Sitting Bull?
	18	A. Yes, sir. 938.
	19	Q. Orlando, my questions are do you know one
2:21PM	20	way or the other whether Sam left your house early
	21	morning of June 22?
	22	A. He went across the street to my son's
	23	place. But I mean, I didn't see him and of course I
	24	was in bed.
2:22PM	25	MS. DERJAVINA: At this point I would

2:22PM	1	object to his knowledge.
	2	THE COURT: Sustained. Lay a foundation.
	3	BY MR. HAMILTON:
	4	Q. How do you know that?
2:22PM	5	A. We have a Ring app. The doorbell ring.
	6	Q. And so do you have knowledge of when Sam
	7	left the home, left your home?
	8	MS. DERJAVINA: And then I would object.
	9	The best evidence would be based on the video.
2:22PM	10	THE COURT: If you have the video let's
	11	watch it. You should be able to get it. I got mine.
	12	MR. HAMILTON: We'll get the video and
	13	then I'm going to really read up on this best evidence.
	14	THE COURT: Sustained.
2:23PM	15	BY MR. HAMILTON:
	16	Q. Orlando, I understand that a number of
	17	people were drinking in the early morning June 22 nd
	18	in your home. Is that your understanding?
	19	A. It's my understanding, but when I went to
2:23PM	20	bed there was none of those people at my house.
	21	Q. And that was going to be my followup.
	22	It's my understanding you didn't know
	23	A. The only people when I went to bed that
	24	were up and at my house at that time were Sam, my
2:23PM	25	daughter Alexis and AJ who had just gotten home and he

2 : 23PM	1	was eating. That's about it. Nobody else was there.			
	2	Q. Just a couple more brief questions. Did			
	3	you cook and serve lunch for a number of people on			
4 June 22 nd ?					
2:24PM	5	A. Yes, sir. The following day. I left			
	6	about eight o'clock in the morning, went to the store			
	7	about 8:30ish and then got food, brought it home and			
	8	prepared food for everybody.			
	9	Q. Approximately what time was it that lunch			
2:24PM 10 was served?					
	11	A. Oh, geez. I want to say probably around			
	12	11, 11:30, somewhere in there.			
	13	Q. Do you recall one way or another if people			
	14	were watching the UFC program during lunch?			
2:24PM	15	A. Everybody was just hanging out, yeah.			
16 There must have been UFC, yeah.		There must have been UFC, yeah.			
	17	Q. And do you have any knowledge as to when			
	18	Raquelle Rouw left your home on the 22 nd ?			
	19	A. No. I would say it was in the afternoon,			
2:25PM	20	though, for sure. I want to say, I don't know,			
	21	probably around 2:30 or 3:00. I'm not sure.			
	22	Q. Did you observe her demeanor during lunch,			
	23	her being Raquelle?			
	24	A. No, not really. There's so many people in			
2:25PM	25	my house on a regular basis. Just we have a big family			

2:25PM	1	so it just kind of blends in I guess so I didn't really		
	2	pay attention to anybody. I'm always busy cooking,		
	3	cleaning up. Just doing what we do.		
	4	MR. HAMILTON: Fair enough. I'll pass the		
2:25PM	5	witness. Thank you.		
	6	THE COURT: Any questions?		
	7	MS. DERJAVINA: No questions, your Honor.		
	8	THE COURT: Thank you. Sir, you're		
	9	excused.		
2:26PM	10	MR. HAMILTON: Judge, there is one more		
	11	witness but we are going to elect not to call her at		
	12	this time and we'll rest.		
	13	THE COURT: Thank you.		
	14	Argument?		
2:26PM	15	MS. SCHEIBLE: I would waive and reserve		
16		for rebuttal.		
	17	THE COURT: Counsel.		
	18	MR. HAMILTON: Judge, we do have brief		
	19	argument. There are essentially two cases here. Our		
2:26PM	20	argument will be directed toward the incident at the		
	21	Hard Rock Hotel and Casino with Miss Rivera. Miss		
	22	Rivera's testimony was clear that she did not recall		
	23	any sexual activity with the defendant in this case.		
	24	The only testimony there was was to the effect from		
2:27PM	25	Detective Nogle and there was no indication that any of		

2:27PM	1	the sexual activity that she spoke about was anything
	2	but consensual.
	3	MS. DERJAVINA: I would just object, and I
	4	apologize for having to interrupt defense counsel, but
2:27PM	5	again that kind of misstates the testimony of the
	6	detective.
	7	THE COURT: It's argument.
	8	MR. HAMILTON: Your Honor, what is clear
	9	is they were the only people who were in there in the
2:27PM	10	hotel room and my client vehemently denies he did
	11	anything improper. The alleged victim simply has no
	12	memory of whatever had occurred and we respectfully
	13	submit that the State has not met its burden with
	14	respect to any sexual misconduct claims with respect to
2:28PM	15	Ms. Rivera.
	16	They have made a burglary count suggesting
	17	that my client went to the premises with the intent to
	18	commit a felony, the felony being sexual assault. I
	19	would also submit there is no evidence of the requisite
2:28PM	20	intent on the part of my client showing that he
	21	intended to have a sexual assault or anything of that.
	22	With that, your Honor, we would rest.
	23	THE COURT: State.
	24	MS. SCHEIBLE: So I just want to clarify
2:28PM	25	it sounds like defense counsel is not making arguments

2:28PM 1 regarding Counts 1 through 6 which relate to the first victim Raquelle Rouw. I will summarize for you, your Honor, that I think we presented more than slight or marginal evidence that she in fact was assaulted by the defendant early in the morning of June 22nd at the house of Sitting Bull Drive.

7 And I will also turn now to the seventh 8 through tenth counts. Your Honor, I think that this is a pretty clearcut case of, you know, adding one plus 9 2:29PM 10 one to get two. If you have an individual who is so 11 drunk that she can't remember anything that happened 12 that night and then you have another individual having 13 sex with her, she clearly didn't have the capacity to consent. And so that right there is evidence of a 14 2:29PM 15 sexual assault having occurred in the Hard Rock Hotel. 16 Moreover, the one thing that she does remember is 17 saying no that she didn't want this to happen, that she 18 didn't want to do this. I think that there was plenty 19 of evidence adduced at the preliminary hearing today 2:29PM 20 that the defendant was the person who committed this 21 crime and that there was a crime committed against 2.2 Ms. Liana Rivera. She testified that she did not have 23 pain in her vaginal regions in the beginning of the 24 evening, that she remembers experiencing pain and that 2:30PM 25 pain lasted into the morning. She remembers somebody

2:30PM else taking off her pants and somebody else taking out 1 2 her tampon. Those kind of memories I think speak to 3 the violence of the act that occurred and I don't think 4 that there's any reasonable question as to whether or 2:30PM not the State's met its burden of proof at this 5 6 juncture of showing probable cause by all 10 of the 7 charges over. Speaking briefly to the burglary charge I 8 will go back again to noting that this victim was so 9 2:30PM 10 inebriated that she could not consent and she could not 11 remember anything that happened. So there's simply no 12 way that the defendant could have been going to the room for any purpose other than to commit this crime or 13 to commit a crime. He wasn't allowed in that hotel 14 2:31PM 15 room, he wasn't supposed to be in that hotel room, and 16 if he went up there and had sex with her, which is what 17 he told detectives he did, then he did that knowingly 18 and willingly. And all of those factors point towards 19 binding over all 10 charges in this case. And we would 2:31PM 20 respectfully ask that you do that. 21 THE COURT: I am in agreement. For 2.2 purposes of this preliminary hearing I find that 23 there's probable cause that the charges did occur and 24 that the defendant committed them. I will bind it over 2:31PM 2.5 to District Court, set it for initial arraignment on -

2:31PM	1	THE CLERK: December 18, 10:00 a.m., lower
	2	level.
	3	
	4	(The proceedings concluded.)
2:31PM	5	
	6	* * * *
	7	
	8	ATTEST: Full, true and accurate
	9	transcript of proceedings.
2:31PM	10	
	11	/S/Lisa Brenske
	12	LISA BRENSKE, CSR No. 186
	13	
	14	
	15	
	16	
	17	
	18	
	19	
	20	
	21	
	22	
	23	
	24	
	25	

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

THE STATE OF NEVADA, Petitioner, 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, Respondents, and JENNIFER LYNN PLUMLEE, Real Party in Interest. THE STATE OF NEVADA, Petitioner,	Electronically Filed Feb 16 2021 11:58 p.m. Elizabeth A. Brown Clerk of Supreme Court Case No. 82236 Original Action for Writ to Eighth Judicial District Court, Clark County, Nevada, Case No. C-20-346852-A
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, Respondents, and MATTHEW HANEY MOLEN, Real Party in Interest.	Case No. 82249 Original Action for Writ to Eighth Judicial District Court, Clark County, Nevada, Case No. C-20-348754-A

NEVADA LEGISLATURE'S AMICUS CURIAE BRIEF SUPPORTING REVERSAL OF THE DISTRICT COURT'S INTERPRETATION AND APPLICATION OF THE SEPARATION-OF-POWERS PROVISION IN ARTICLE 3, SECTION 1 OF THE NEVADA CONSTITUTION

KEVIN C. POWERS, General Counsel Nevada Bar No. 6781 LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL BUREAU, LEGAL DIVISION 401 S. Carson St. Carson City, NV 89701 Tel: (775) 684-6830; Fax: (775) 684-6761 Email: <u>kpowers@lcb.state.nv.us</u> *Attorneys for Legislature of the State of Nevada*

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TABLE OF AUTHORITIES	. iii
INTRODUCTION	1
ARGUMENT	3
I. Standards of review for writ relief.	3
II. Standards of review for constitutional challenges	5
III. The district court's decision was based on a clearly erroneous interpretation and application of the Due Process Clause because even if the defendants had proven that the prosecutor committed constitutional errors in prosecuting these cases, the defendants were not entitled to reversal of their convictions and new trials under the Due Process Clause because they did not make the required additional showing that the constitutional errors caused actual prejudice that resulted in unfair trials.	5
IV. The district court's decision was based on a clearly erroneous interpretation and application of constitutional and statutory law because deputy district attorneys serve as county employees—not as state officers or county officers—and they do not exercise sovereign functions belonging to the state executive branch when they participate in criminal prosecutions.	.10
V. The district court's decision was based on a clearly erroneous interpretation and application of the separation-of-powers provision because that provision does not prohibit legislators from holding positions of public employment with county governments as deputy district attorneys.	.15
A. The separation-of-powers provision does not prohibit legislators from holding positions of public employment with local governments because local governments and their officers and employees are not part of one of the three departments of state government	.16

B. Even if the separation-of-powers provision is interpreted to apply to local governments, the provision still would not prohibit legislators from holding positions of public employment as deputy district attorneys with county governments because deputy district attorneys are county employees who do not exercise sovereign functions belonging to the state executive branch when they participate in (1) Historical evidence. 25

TABLE OF AUTHORITIES

CASES

Attorney-General v. McCaughey, 43 A. 646 (R.I. 1899)
<u>Austin v. State Indus. Ins. Sys.</u> , 939 F.2d 676 (9th Cir. 1991)21
Botello v. Gammick, 413 F.3d 971 (9th Cir. 2005)12
Bradford v. Justices of Inferior Ct., 33 Ga. 332 (1862)
<u>Brady v. Maryland</u> , 373 U.S. 83 (1963)
<u>Brown v. Bowling</u> , 240 P.2d 846 (N.M. 1952)40
Bus. Computer Rentals v. State Treasurer, 114 Nev. 63 (1998)
<u>Callie v. Bowling</u> , 123 Nev. 181 (2007)5
<u>Carey v. Nev. Gaming Control Bd.</u> , 279 F.3d 873 (9th Cir. 2002)21
<u>Cass v. Dillon</u> , 2 Ohio St. 607 (1853)17
<u>Chenoweth v. Chambers</u> , 164 P. 428 (Cal. Dist. Ct. App. 1917)29, 32
City of Fernley v. State Dep't of Tax'n, 132 Nev. 32 (2016)17
<u>City of Sparks v. Sparks Mun. Ct.</u> , 129 Nev. 348 (2013)17, 58
Dayton Gold & Silver Mining Co. v. Seawell, 11 Nev. 394 (1876) 36-37
<u>Delaware v. Van Arsdall</u> , 475 U.S. 673 (1986)7
Dermott Special Sch. Dist. v. Johnson, 32 S.W.3d 477 (Ark. 2000)20
<u>Dunbar Elec. Supply, Inc. v. Sch. Bd.</u> , 690 So. 2d 1339 (Fla. Dist. Ct. App. 1997)
Eads v. City of Boulder City, 94 Nev. 735 (1978)

Eason v. Clark Cnty. Sch. Dist., 303 F.3d 1137 (9th Cir. 2002) 20-21
<u>Goldstein v. City of Long Beach</u> , 715 F.3d 750 (9th Cir. 2013)12
<u>Halverson v. Miller</u> , 124 Nev. 484, 488-89 (2008)
Hamilton v. Roehrich, 628 F. Supp. 2d 1033 (D. Minn. 2009)
<u>Heller v. Legislature</u> , 120 Nev. 456 (2004)24
<u>Hendel v. Weaver</u> , 77 Nev. 16 (1961)
<u>Herrera v. Russo</u> , 106 F. Supp. 2d 1057 (D. Nev. 2000) 20-21
<u>Hudson v. Annear</u> , 75 P.2d 587 (Colo. 1938)41
In re Contested Election of Mallory, 128 Nev. 436 (2012)11
<u>In re Sawyer</u> , 594 P.2d 805 (Or. 1979)46
Jenkins v. Bishop, 589 P.2d 770 (Utah 1978)41, 46, 56
King v. Bd. of Regents, 65 Nev. 533 (1948)
La Guardia v. Smith, 41 N.E.2d 153 (N.Y. 1942)19
Lane v. Second Jud Dist. Ct., 104 Nev. 427 (1988)11, 13, 14, 18, 22
Lincoln County v. Luning, 133 U.S. 529 (1890) 20-21
Loving v. United States, 517 U.S. 748 (1996)26
Mariposa County v. Merced Irrig. Dist., 196 P.2d 920 (Cal. 1948)19
<u>McMillian v. Monroe Cnty.</u> , 520 U.S. 781 (1997)12
Mistretta v. United States, 488 U.S. 361 (1989) 25-26
Monaghan v. School Dist. No. 1, 315 P.2d 797 (Or. 1957)

<u>Mt. Healthy City Sch. Dist. Bd. of Educ. v. Doyle</u> , 429 U.S. 274 (1977)21
<u>Mullen v. Clark Cnty.</u> , 89 Nev. 308 (1973)
<u>Munoz v. Keane</u> , 777 F. Supp. 282 (S.D.N.Y. 1991)
<u>Nev. Mining Ass'n v. Erdoes</u> , 117 Nev. 531 (2001)
<u>Nixon v. Adm'r of Gen. Servs.</u> , 433 U.S. 425 (1977)25
<u>Nunez v. City of N. Las Vegas</u> , 116 Nev. 535 (2000)17
<u>O'Connor v. State</u> , 686 F.2d 749 (9th Cir. 1982)21
<u>People v. Bollam</u> , 54 N.E. 1032 (Ill. 1899)
People v. Carter, 566 N.E.2d 119 (N.Y. 1990)
<u>People ex rel. Att'y Gen. v. Provines</u> , 34 Cal. 520 (1868)18
<u>People v. Provines</u> , 34 Cal. 520 (1868)
Poynter v. Walling, 177 A.2d 641 (Del. Super. Ct. 1962)19
<u>Robinson v. State</u> , 20 P.3d 396 (Utah 2001)51
<u>Romano v. Bible</u> , 169 F.3d 1182 (9th Cir. 1999)21
<u>Saint v. Allen</u> , 126 So. 548 (La. 1930)
Salman v. Nev. Comm'n on Jud. Discipline, 104 F. Supp. 2d 1262 (D. Nev. 2000)
<u>Sawyer v. Dooley</u> , 21 Nev. 390 (1893)50
<u>Shelby v. Alcorn</u> , 36 Miss. 273 (1858)54
<u>Smith v. Phillips</u> , 455 U.S. 209 (1982)7, 10

Sparks Nugget v. State Dep't of Tax'n, 124 Nev. 159 (2008)	5
<u>State v. Coulon</u> , 3 So. 2d 241 (La. 1941)	20
State v. Dist. Ct. (Armstrong), 127 Nev. 927 (2011)	4-5
State v. Dist. Ct. (Hedland), 116 Nev. 127 (2000)	4
State v. Dist. Ct. (Schneider), 132 Nev. 600 (2016)	3
State ex rel. Barney v. Hawkins, 257 P. 411 (Mont. 1927)	37
State ex rel. Black v. Burch, 80 N.E.2d 294 (Ind. 1948)	41, 44
State ex rel. Cardwell v. Glenn, 18 Nev. 34 (1883)	35
State ex rel. Coffin v. Howell, 26 Nev. 93 (1901)	35, 37
State ex rel. Crawford v. Hastings, 10 Wis. 525 (1860)	51
State ex rel. Harvey v. Second Jud. Dist. Ct., 117 Nev. 754 (2001)	
State ex rel. Herr v. Laxalt, 84 Nev. 382 (1968)	34, 49
State ex rel. Josephs v. Douglass, 33 Nev. 82 (1910)	52
State ex rel. Kendall v. Cole, 38 Nev. 215 (1915)	54, 58
State ex rel. Mason v. Bd. of Cnty. Comm'rs, 7 Nev. 392 (1872)	17-18,
State ex rel. Mathews v. Murray, 70 Nev. 116 (1953)2	24, 55, 58, 59
State ex rel. Perry v. Arrington, 18 Nev. 412 (1884)	52
State ex rel. Spire v. Conway, 472 N.W.2d 403 (Neb. 1991)	47, 57
State ex rel. Stratton v. Roswell Ind. Schools, 806 P.2d 1085 (N.M. Ct. App. 1991)	
State ex rel. Torreyson v. Grey, 21 Nev. 378 (1893)	35

State v. Gallion, 572 P.2d 683 (Utah 1977)51
State v. Osloond, 805 P.2d 263 (Wash. Ct. App. 1991)
Steward v. McDonald, 958 S.W.2d 297 (Ark. 1997)5
Stilwell v. City of N. Las Vegas, 129 Nev. 720 (2013)4
<u>Stokes v. Harrison</u> , 115 So. 2d 373 (La. 1959)20
<u>Tam v. Colton</u> , 94 Nev. 452 (1978)
United States ex rel. Norton Sound Health Corp. v. Bering Strait Sch. Dist., 138 F.3d 1281 (9th Cir. 1998)19
Univ. & Cmty. Coll. Sys. v. DR Partners, 117 Nev. 195 (2001) 17, 58-61
Wash. State Dep't of Transp. v. Wash. Natural Gas Co., 59 F.3d 793 (9th Cir. 1995)
<u>Webb v. Sloan</u> , 330 F.3d 1158 (9th Cir. 2003) 12-14, 23
Weiner v. San Diego Cnty., 210 F.3d 1025 (9th Cir. 2000)12

UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION

J.S. Const. art. I, § 6, cl. 2	.27
--------------------------------	-----

UNITED STATES CODE (U.S.C.)

18 U.S.C. § 431	28
-----------------	----

UNITED STATES ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINION

2 Op. U.S. Att'y Gen. 38 (1826)	
---------------------------------	--

NEVADA CONSTITUTION

Nev. Const. art. 3, § 1	passim
Nev. Const. art. 4, § 2	56
Nev. Const. art. 4, § 29	56
Nev. Const. art. 4, § 32	11
Nev. Const. art. 6, § 6	4
Nev. Const. art. 15, §§ 2, 3, 10 and 11	

NEVADA REVISED STATUTES (NRS)

NRS 218F.7201	
NRS 252.070passim	

NEVADA LEGISLATIVE BILLS

Assembly Bill No. 477 (AB 477), 2005 Nev. Stat., ch. 209, § 6, at 682.....14

OTHER STATE CONSTITUTIONS

Cal. Const. art. 4, § 13	
Cal. Const. art. 4, § 19	30
Or. Const. art. XV, § 8	44
Utah Const. art. V, § 1	51

OTHER AUTHORITIES

16 C.J.S. <u>Constitutional Law</u> § 112, at 377 (1984)19
Affidavit of Guy L. Rocha, Former Assistant Administrator for Archives and Records of the Division of State Library and Archives of the Department of Cultural Affairs of the State of Nevada (Apr. 29, 2004)
Affidavit of Donald O. Williams, Former Research Director of the Research Division of the Legislative Counsel Bureau of the State of Nevada (Apr. 28, 2004)
Amendments to Constitution and Proposed Statutes with Arguments Respecting the Same to be Submitted to the Electors of the State of California at the General Election on Tuesday, November 7, 1916 (Cal. State Archives 1916)
Annotation, <u>Offices Within Constitutional or Statutory Provisions Against Holding</u> <u>Two Offices</u> , 1917A L.R.A. 231 (1917)
<u>Chambers Studies Amendment No. 6: Proposal to Make Legislature Members</u> <u>Ineligible to State Jobs is Perplexing</u> , Sacramento Bee, Oct. 28, 1916, at 931
Measure Alarms Legislators on 'Side' Payroll, S.F. Chron., Oct. 28, 1916, at 5 30
Nevada Legislative Manual (LCB 1967-2019)
The Federalist No. 47, pp. 325-326 (J. Cooke ed. 1961)25
2 <u>The Founders' Constitution</u> 346-57 (Philip B. Kurland & Ralph Lerner eds., 1987)27

INTRODUCTION

The Legislature of the State of Nevada (Legislature), by and through its counsel the Legal Division of the Legislative Counsel Bureau ("LCB Legal") under NRS 218F.720, hereby files this amicus curiae brief supporting reversal of the district court's interpretation and application of the separation-of-powers provision in Article 3, Section 1 of the Nevada Constitution.¹

In its orders, the district court decided that a deputy district attorney who prosecutes criminal cases and who also serves in the Legislature violates a criminal defendant's rights to "procedural due process" on the basis that such dual service violates the separation-of-powers provision. (*Plumlee App. V1:249-52; Molen App. V1:233-36.*) The Legislature asks this Court to reverse and vacate the district court's decision in these cases because the decision was based on a clearly erroneous interpretation and application of constitutional and statutory law.

First, the district court's decision was based on a clearly erroneous interpretation and application of the Due Process Clause because even assuming that the defendants had proven that the prosecutor committed constitutional errors

¹ The Legislature's amicus brief is limited solely to legal issues supporting reversal of the district court's interpretation and application of the separation-of-powers provision. This brief does not address any other legal issues arising from the particular facts of these cases, and this brief does not support or oppose any of the parties with regard to any other legal issues.

in prosecuting these cases, the defendants were not entitled to reversal of their convictions and new trials under the Due Process Clause because they did not make the required additional showing that the constitutional errors caused actual prejudice that resulted in unfair trials.

Second, the district court's decision was based on a clearly erroneous interpretation and application of constitutional and statutory law because deputy district attorneys serve as county employees—not as state officers or county officers—and they do not exercise sovereign functions belonging to the state executive branch when they participate in criminal prosecutions.

Third, the district court's decision was based on a clearly erroneous interpretation and application of the separation-of-powers provision because that provision does not prohibit legislators from holding positions of public employment with county governments as deputy district attorneys. In particular, the separation-of-powers provision does not prohibit legislators from holding any positions of public employment with local governments because local governments and their officers and employees are not part of one of the three departments of state government. Furthermore, even if the separation-of-powers provision is interpreted to apply to local governments, the provision still would not prohibit legislators from holding positions of public employment as deputy district attorneys with county governments because deputy district attorneys are county

employees who do not exercise sovereign functions belonging to the state executive branch when they participate in criminal prosecutions.

Therefore, the Legislature asks this Court to issue a writ to Respondents, the Eighth Judicial District Court and the Honorable Richard Scotti, District Judge, reversing and vacating the district court's decision in these cases because the decision was based on a clearly erroneous interpretation and application of constitutional and statutory law.

ARGUMENT

I. Standards of review for writ relief.

Because writ relief is an extraordinary remedy that invokes this Court's original jurisdiction, the decision whether to grant such relief lies within this Court's sole discretion. <u>State v. Dist. Ct. (Schneider)</u>, 132 Nev. 600, 603 (2016). This Court may grant writ relief when the petitioner does not have a plain, speedy and adequate remedy in the ordinary course of the law to challenge the district court's decision. <u>Id.</u> Additionally, this Court may grant writ relief "where an important issue of law needs clarification and public policy is served by this court's invocation of its original jurisdiction." <u>Bus. Computer Rentals v. State Treasurer</u>, 114 Nev. 63, 67 (1998). For example, writ relief is warranted when the petition "raises pressing issues involving the Nevada Constitution and the public policy of this state." <u>Id.</u>

Under the Nevada Constitution, state district courts "have final appellate jurisdiction in cases arising in Justices Courts and such other inferior tribunals as may be established by law." Nev. Const. art. 6, § 6(1). As a result, when the district court exercises its final appellate jurisdiction and reverses a criminal conviction in the justice court or municipal court, the district court's decision is not subject to further appellate review in the ordinary course of the law by an appeal to this Court. <u>Stilwell v. City of N. Las Vegas</u>, 129 Nev. 720, 722 (2013). Under such circumstances, the State does not have a plain, speedy and adequate remedy in the ordinary course of law to challenge the district court's decision, and the State's only remedy is to petition this Court for extraordinary writ relief. Schneider, 132 Nev. at 603.

As a general rule, this Court has "declined to entertain writs that request review of a decision of the district court acting in its appellate capacity unless the district court has improperly refused to exercise its jurisdiction, has exceeded its jurisdiction, or has exercised its discretion in an arbitrary or capricious manner." <u>State v. Dist. Ct. (Hedland)</u>, 116 Nev. 127, 134 (2000). Under these standards, this Court will grant writ relief to correct an arbitrary or capricious exercise of discretion when the district court's decision is based on "[a] clearly erroneous interpretation of the law or a clearly erroneous application of a law or rule." <u>State</u>

<u>v. Dist. Ct. (Armstrong)</u>, 127 Nev. 927, 932 (2011) (quoting <u>Steward v. McDonald</u>, 958 S.W.2d 297, 300 (Ark. 1997)).

In these cases, this Court should exercise its discretion to entertain the State's writ petition because: (1) the State does not have a plain, speedy and adequate remedy in the ordinary course of the law to challenge the district court's decision; (2) the district court's decision raises important issues of state constitutional and statutory law and adversely affects the public policy of this State which protects the concept of the "citizen-legislator" as the cornerstone of an effective, responsive and qualified part-time legislative body; and (3) the district court's decision was based on a clearly erroneous interpretation and application of constitutional and statutory law.

II. Standards of review for constitutional challenges.

This Court "applies a de novo standard of review to constitutional challenges." <u>Callie v. Bowling</u>, 123 Nev. 181, 183 (2007). Under that standard, this Court reviews the district court's interpretation and application of constitutional provisions de novo "without deference to the district court's decision." Sparks Nugget v. State Dep't of Tax'n, 124 Nev. 159, 163 (2008).

III. The district court's decision was based on a clearly erroneous interpretation and application of the Due Process Clause because even if the defendants had proven that the prosecutor committed constitutional errors in prosecuting these cases, the defendants were not entitled to reversal of their convictions and new trials under the Due Process Clause because they did not

RA 000104

make the required additional showing that the constitutional errors caused actual prejudice that resulted in unfair trials.

In its orders, the district court determined that a deputy district attorney who prosecutes criminal cases and who also serves in the Legislature violates a criminal defendant's rights to "procedural due process" on the basis that such dual service violates the separation-of-powers doctrine. (*Plumlee App. V1:249-52; Molen App.* V1:233-36.) As a result, the district court concluded that the defendants in these cases were entitled to reversal of their convictions and new trials in the justice court because they were deprived of their rights to "procedural due process" given that the deputy district attorney who prosecuted their cases served in the Legislature at the time of their trials. (Plumlee App. V1:249-52; Molen App. V1:233-36.) In particular, the district court reasoned that because the deputy district attorney's dual service as a prosecutor and legislator violated the separation-of-powers doctrine, the deputy district attorney "did not have the legal authority to prosecute" these cases, so each "trial was a nullity." (Plumlee App. *V1:250; Molen App. V1:233.*)

Thus, the district court's decision to reverse the convictions and grant new trials was based solely on its conclusion that the defendants were deprived of their rights to procedural due process by the prosecutor's alleged separation-of-powers violation in prosecuting the cases. However, the district court's decision to reverse the convictions and grant new trials based solely on the alleged violation of

procedural due process contradicts well-established principles of constitutional law because even if a defendant proves that the prosecutor has committed constitutional errors in prosecuting the case, the defendant is not entitled to reversal of the conviction and a new trial under the Due Process Clause unless the defendant makes the required additional showing that the constitutional errors caused actual prejudice that resulted in an unfair trial. <u>Smith v. Phillips</u>, 455 U.S. 209, 218-21 (1982).

The U.S. Supreme Court has stressed that "the Constitution entitles a criminal defendant to a fair trial, not a perfect one." <u>Delaware v. Van Arsdall</u>, 475 U.S. 673, 681 (1986). Therefore, the Supreme Court has "rejected the argument that all federal constitutional errors, regardless of their nature or the circumstances of the case, require reversal of a judgment of conviction." <u>Id.</u>

In the context of constitutional errors committed by the prosecutor, the Supreme Court has stated that "the touchstone of due process analysis in cases of alleged prosecutorial misconduct is the fairness of the trial, not the culpability of the prosecutor." <u>Smith</u>, 455 U.S. at 219. Thus, even if a defendant proves that the prosecutor has committed constitutional errors in prosecuting the case, the defendant is not entitled to reversal of the conviction and a new trial unless the defendant makes the required additional showing that the constitutional errors caused actual prejudice that resulted in an unfair trial. <u>Id.</u> at 219-21. The reason

for this rule is that "the aim of due process is not punishment of society for the misdeeds of the prosecutor but avoidance of an unfair trial to the accused." <u>Id.</u> at 219 (quoting <u>Brady v. Maryland</u>, 373 U.S. 83, 87 (1963)). Consequently, even if the district court finds that the prosecutor has committed constitutional errors in prosecuting the case, the district court commits its own constitutional error "when it conclude[s] that prosecutorial misconduct alone requires a new trial." <u>Id.</u> at 220.

For example, several courts have rejected claims by defendants that they were automatically entitled to reversal of their convictions and new trials because, at the time of trial, the prosecutors were not licensed to practice law in the prosecuting jurisdiction or their law licenses had been suspended or restricted. People v. Carter, 566 N.E.2d 119, 123-24 (N.Y. 1990); Munoz v. Keane, 777 F. Supp. 282, 284-87 (S.D.N.Y. 1991); Hamilton v. Roehrich, 628 F. Supp. 2d 1033, 1050-54 (D. Minn. 2009). The courts rejected the defendants' arguments that their trials were inherently unfair because the prosecutors were not legally authorized to practice law at the time of the trials. Id. The courts concluded that the defendants were not entitled to reversal of their convictions and new trials because they did not show that the prosecutors' lack of legal authority to practice law caused actual prejudice that resulted in an unfair trial. As stated by the New York court, "in the absence of prejudice, the fact that [the prosecutor] was not a lawyer did not result in a deprivation of defendants' constitutional due process rights." <u>Carter</u>, 566 N.E.2d at 124.

In these cases, the defendants argued that the deputy district attorney's dual service as a prosecutor and legislator violated the separation-of-powers doctrine. (*Plumlee App. V1:179, 231-33; Molen App. V1:154-55; 173-74.*) The defendants also argued that each "trial was a nullity" based solely on the alleged separation-of-powers violation. (*Plumlee App. V1:179, 231-33; Molen App. V1:154-55; 173-74.*) However, the defendants did not include any arguments attempting to make the required additional showing that the alleged separation-of-powers violation caused actual prejudice that resulted in an unfair trial. (*Plumlee App. V1:179, 231-33; Molen App. V1:154-55; 173-74.*)

Similarly, the district court determined that the deputy district attorney's dual service as a prosecutor and legislator violated the separation-of-powers doctrine. (*Plumlee App. V1:249-52; Molen App. V1:233-36.*) As a result, the district court concluded that the defendants in these cases were entitled to reversal of their convictions and new trials in the justice court because they were deprived of their rights to "procedural due process" given that the deputy district attorney who prosecuted their cases served in the Legislature at the time of their trials. (*Plumlee App. V1:249-52; Molen App. V1:233-36.*) In reaching its conclusion, the district court stated that it found "a violation of procedural due process of nearly the

highest order." (*Plumlee App. V1:250; Molen App. V1:234.*) However, the district court did not make any findings that the violation caused actual prejudice that resulted in an unfair trial. (*Plumlee App. V1:249-52; Molen App. V1:233-36.*)

Under such circumstances, the district court's decision to reverse the convictions and grant new trials based solely on its finding that the prosecutor had committed constitutional errors in prosecuting these cases contradicts well-established principles of constitutional law because the district court "concluded that prosecutorial misconduct alone requires a new trial." <u>Smith</u>, 455 U.S. at 220. Therefore, the district court's decision was based on a clearly erroneous interpretation and application of the Due Process Clause because even if the defendants had proven that the prosecutor committed constitutional errors in prosecuting these cases, the defendants were not entitled to reversal of their convictions and new trials under the Due Process Clause because they did not make the required additional showing that the constitutional errors caused actual prejudice that resulted in unfair trials.

IV. The district court's decision was based on a clearly erroneous interpretation and application of constitutional and statutory law because deputy district attorneys serve as county employees—not as state officers or county officers—and they do not exercise sovereign functions belonging to the state executive branch when they participate in criminal prosecutions.

In its orders, the district court determined that a deputy district attorney "enforcing the laws of the State of Nevada, and representing the State of Nevada,

is actually exercising powers belonging to the [s]tate executive branch." (*Plumlee App. V1:250-51; Molen App. V1:234.*) However, the district court's determination contradicts well-established constitutional and statutory law which classifies deputy district attorneys as county employees and which does not authorize deputy district attorneys to exercise sovereign functions belonging to the state executive branch when they participate in criminal prosecutions.

Under Article 4, Section 32 of the Nevada Constitution, because the office of the district attorney is a county office, Nevada's district attorneys are not state officers of the executive branch. <u>Lane v. Second Jud Dist. Ct.</u>, 104 Nev. 427, 437 (1988); <u>In re Contested Election of Mallory</u>, 128 Nev. 436, 439 (2012). As explained by this Court:

The plain language of Article 4, Section 32 clearly declares that district attorneys are county officers. And because the Nevada Constitution plainly identifies district attorneys as county officers, it necessarily follows that the office of district attorney cannot be considered a "state office[.]"

<u>Mallory</u>, 128 Nev. at 439. Thus, this Court has determined that Nevada's district attorneys are not acting as state officers of the executive branch when they conduct criminal prosecutions. <u>Lane</u>, 104 Nev. at 437.

Based on Nevada law, the Ninth Circuit has also determined that Nevada's district attorneys are not acting as state officers of the executive branch when they are sued for federal civil rights violations stemming from their exercise of

policymaking authority in conducting criminal prosecutions. <u>Webb v. Sloan</u>, 330 F.3d 1158, 1164-65 (9th Cir. 2003); <u>Botello v. Gammick</u>, 413 F.3d 971, 979 (9th Cir. 2005). Under the federal civil rights statute in 42 U.S.C. § 1983, a county can be sued for damages for certain constitutional violations committed by county officers who exercise "policymaking authority." <u>McMillian v. Monroe Cnty.</u>, 520 U.S. 781, 785 (1997). By contrast, "[s]tates and state officials acting in their official capacities cannot be sued for damages under Section 1983." <u>Goldstein v.</u> <u>City of Long Beach</u>, 715 F.3d 750, 753 (9th Cir. 2013).

Because district attorneys perform a variety of official functions for the state and local governments, they can exercise policymaking authority for the state for some official functions and policymaking authority for the county for other official functions. <u>Weiner v. San Diego Cnty.</u>, 210 F.3d 1025, 1028-31 (9th Cir. 2000); <u>Goldstein</u>, 715 F.3d at 753-59. Therefore, to determine whether the county can be sued for constitutional violations stemming from the district attorney's exercise of policymaking authority in conducting criminal prosecutions, federal courts must decide "whether the district attorney acted as a county official or as a state official when he decided to proceed with [the defendant's] criminal prosecution." <u>Weiner</u>, 210 F.3d at 1028. When federal courts make this determination, their "answer to that question is dependent on state law." <u>Id.</u> In <u>Webb</u>, the Ninth Circuit reviewed Nevada law, including this Court's decision in <u>Lane</u>, and determined that Nevada's district attorneys are acting as county officers, not as state officers of the executive branch, when they conduct criminal prosecutions. <u>Webb</u>, 330 F.3d at 1164-65. Therefore, the Ninth Circuit concluded that Nevada's district attorneys exercise policymaking authority for the county—instead of the state executive branch—when they conduct criminal prosecutions. <u>Id.</u>

In <u>Webb</u>, the Ninth Circuit also reviewed Nevada law to determine whether Nevada's deputy district attorneys exercise policymaking authority for the county in a manner similar to the district attorneys who employ them. <u>Id.</u> at 1164-66. At the time, Nevada law provided in NRS 252.070(1) that:

All district attorneys are authorized to appoint deputies, who may transact all official business relating to the offices to the same extent as their principals.

NRS 252.070(1) (2001). The Ninth Circuit determined that "[b]y its plain text, that statute confers authority on deputy district attorneys that is coextensive with the authority enjoyed by principal district attorneys. Thus, if principal district attorneys are final policymakers, then so are their deputies." <u>Webb</u>, 330 F.3d at 1164. In making this determination, the Ninth Circuit noted that its decision was based on the Nevada statutes that were in effect at the time of the decision and that

"it is within the Nevada [L]egislature's power to constrain the authority of deputies if it should see fit." <u>Id.</u> at 1166 n.5.

Following the Ninth Circuit's interpretation of Nevada law with regard to deputy district attorneys, the Legislature amended NRS 252.070(1) in 2005 to provide explicitly that deputy district attorneys do not exercise "policymaking authority for the office of the district attorney or the county by which the deputy district attorney is employed." Assembly Bill No. 477 (AB 477), 2005 Nev. Stat., ch. 209, § 6, at 682. After the 2005 amendment, NRS 252.070(1) now states:

All district attorneys may appoint deputies, who are authorized to transact all official business relating to those duties of the office set forth in NRS 252.080 and 252.090 to the same extent as their principals and perform such other duties as the district attorney may from time to time direct. The appointment of a deputy district attorney must not be construed to confer upon that deputy policymaking authority for the office of the district attorney or the county by which the deputy district attorney is employed.

NRS 252.070(1) (2019) (emphasis added).

Thus, under Nevada law, deputy district attorneys are not state officers because they do not exercise sovereign functions of the executive branch when they conduct criminal prosecutions. <u>See Lane</u>, 104 Nev. at 437; <u>Webb</u>, 330 F.3d at 1164-65. Furthermore, deputy district attorneys are not county officers because they do not exercise "policymaking authority for the office of the district attorney or the county by which the deputy district attorney is employed." NRS 252.070(1). Consequently, under Nevada law, deputy district attorneys are county employees who do not exercise sovereign functions belonging to the state executive branch when they participate in criminal prosecutions. Accordingly, the district court's decision was based on a clearly erroneous interpretation and application of constitutional and statutory law because deputy district attorneys serve as county employees—not as state officers or county officers—and they do not exercise sovereign functions belonging to the state executive branch when they participate in criminal prosecutions.

V. The district court's decision was based on a clearly erroneous interpretation and application of the separation-of-powers provision because that provision does not prohibit legislators from holding positions of public employment with county governments as deputy district attorneys.

In its orders, the district court rejected the State's and LCB Legal's arguments that the separation-of-powers provision does not prohibit legislators from holding positions of public employment with local governments because local governments and their officers and employees are not part of one of the three departments of state government. (*Plumlee App. V1:249-52; Molen App. V1:233-36.*) The district court also rejected the State's and LCB Legal's arguments that the separation-of-powers provision does not prohibit legislators from holding positions of public employment with the state executive branch because persons who hold such positions of public employment do not exercise any sovereign functions appertaining to the state executive branch. (*Plumlee App. V1:249-52; Molen App. V1:249-52; Molen App. V1:249-52; Molen App. V1:249-52; Molen App. V1:233-36.*) The district court's rejection of these arguments was based on a

clearly erroneous interpretation and application of the separation-of-powers provision because the district court's reasoning conflicts with historical evidence, legal treatises and other authorities on constitutional law, case law from other jurisdictions interpreting similar state constitutional provisions, common-law rules governing public officers and employees and, most importantly, the intent of the Framers and their underlying public policies supporting the concept of the "citizenlegislator" as the cornerstone of an effective, responsive and qualified part-time legislative body.

A. The separation-of-powers provision does not prohibit legislators from holding positions of public employment with local governments because local governments and their officers and employees are not part of one of the three departments of state government.

The separation-of-powers provision provides that "[t]he powers of the Government of the **State of Nevada** shall be divided into three separate departments,—the Legislative,—the Executive and the Judicial." Nev. Const. art. 3, § 1 (emphasis added). By using the term "State" in the separation-of-powers provision, the Framers of the Nevada Constitution expressed a clear intent to have the provision apply only to the three departments of state government. As explained by the Ohio Supreme Court:

[I]n general at least, when the constitution speaks of the "State," the whole State, in her political capacity, **and not her subdivisions**, is intended. That such is the natural import of the language used, no one denies. That such must be its construction, to make the constitution consistent with itself, and sensible, is very apparent.

Cass v. Dillon, 2 Ohio St. 607, 616 (1853) (emphasis added).

This Court recently stated that "the language of the separation-of-powers provision in the Constitution does not extend any protection to political subdivisions." City of Fernley v. State Dep't of Tax'n, 132 Nev. 32, 43 n.6 (2016). This determination is consistent with prior cases in which this Court has recognized that political subdivisions are not part of one of the three departments of state government. See Univ. & Cmty. Coll. Sys. v. DR Partners, 117 Nev. 195, 203-04 (2001) ("Neither state-owned institutions, nor state departments, nor public corporations are synonymous with political subdivisions of the state."); Nunez v. City of N. Las Vegas, 116 Nev. 535, 540 (2000) ("Although municipal courts are created by the legislature pursuant to authority vested in that body by the Nevada Constitution, these courts are separate branches of their respective city governments.....[T]hey are not state governmental entities."); City of Sparks v. Sparks Mun. Ct., 129 Nev. 348, 362 n.5 (2013) ("While municipal courts are included within the state constitutional judicial system, they are nonetheless primarily city entities, rather than an extension of the state.").

Because political subdivisions are not part of one of the three departments of state government, their local officers generally are not considered to be state officers who are subject to the separation-of-powers provision. <u>See State ex rel.</u> <u>Mason v. Bd. of Cnty. Comm'rs</u>, 7 Nev. 392, 396-97 (1872) (noting that the

exercise of certain powers by a board of county commissioners was not limited by the doctrine of separation of powers); <u>Lane</u>, 104 Nev. at 437 (noting that the doctrine of separation of powers was not applicable to the exercise of certain powers by the district attorney because he was not a state constitutional officer).

Furthermore, the Nevada Constitution was modeled on the California Constitution of 1849. <u>State ex rel. Harvey v. Second Jud. Dist. Ct.</u>, 117 Nev. 754, 761 (2001). Because Nevada's constitutional provisions were taken from California's 1849 constitutional provisions, Nevada's provisions "may be lawfully presumed to have been taken with the judicial interpretation attached." <u>Mason</u>, 7 Nev. at 397.

In construing the separation-of-powers provision in the California Constitution of 1849, the California Supreme Court held that the separation-of-powers provision did not apply to local governments and their officers and employees. <u>People ex rel. Att'y Gen. v. Provines</u>, 34 Cal. 520, 523-40 (1868). In <u>Provines</u>, the court stated that "[w]e understand the Constitution to have been formed for the purpose of establishing a *State* Government; and we here use the term 'State Government' in contradistinction to local, or to county or municipal governments." <u>Id.</u> at 532. After examining the history and purpose of the Separation-of-powers provision, the court concluded that "the Third Article of the Constitution means that the powers of the *State* Government, not the local

governments thereafter to be created by the Legislature, shall be divided into three departments." <u>Id.</u> at 534. Thus, the court held that the separation-of-powers provision had no application to the functions performed by a person at the local governmental level. <u>Id.</u> at 523-40.

In later cases, the California Supreme Court reaffirmed that under California law, "it is settled that the separation of powers provision of the constitution, art. 3, § 1, does not apply to local governments as distinguished from departments of the state government." <u>Mariposa County v. Merced Irrig. Dist.</u>, 196 P.2d 920, 926 (Cal. 1948). This interpretation of the separation-of-powers doctrine is followed by a majority of other jurisdictions. <u>See, e.g.</u>, <u>Poynter v. Walling</u>, 177 A.2d 641, 645 (Del. Super. Ct. 1962); <u>La Guardia v. Smith</u>, 41 N.E.2d 153, 156 (N.Y. 1942); 16 C.J.S. <u>Constitutional Law</u> § 112, at 377 (1984).

Consequently, it is well settled that "a local government unit, though established under state law, funded by the state, and ultimately under state control, with jurisdiction over only a limited area, is not a 'State.'" <u>United States ex rel.</u> <u>Norton Sound Health Corp. v. Bering Strait Sch. Dist.</u>, 138 F.3d 1281, 1284 (9th Cir. 1998). Furthermore, "a local government with authority over a limited area, is a different type of government unit than a state-wide agency that is part of the organized government of the state itself." <u>Wash. State Dep't of Transp. v. Wash.</u> <u>Natural Gas Co.</u>, 59 F.3d 793, 800 n.5 (9th Cir. 1995). Thus, "[w]hile local

subdivisions and boards created by the state may have some connection with one of the departments of the state government as defined by the Constitution, they are not 'departments of state government' within the intent and meaning of the [law]." <u>State v. Coulon</u>, 3 So. 2d 241, 243 (La. 1941). In the face of these basic rules of law, courts have consistently found that cities, counties, school districts and other local governmental entities are not included within one of the three departments of state government. <u>See, e.g., Dermott Special Sch. Dist. v. Johnson</u>, 32 S.W.3d 477, 480-81 (Ark. 2000); <u>Dunbar Elec. Supply, Inc. v. Sch. Bd.</u>, 690 So. 2d 1339, 1340 (Fla. Dist. Ct. App. 1997); <u>Stokes v. Harrison</u>, 115 So. 2d 373, 377-79 (La. 1959); <u>Coulon</u>, 3 So. 2d at 243.

Likewise, in the context of the Eleventh Amendment, federal courts interpreting Nevada law have consistently found that cities, counties, school districts and other local governmental entities in this state are not included within one of the three departments of state government and that these local political subdivisions are not entitled to Nevada's sovereign immunity in federal court. <u>See, e.g., Lincoln County v. Luning</u>, 133 U.S. 529, 530 (1890); <u>Eason v. Clark Cnty.</u> <u>Sch. Dist.</u>, 303 F.3d 1137, 1144 (9th Cir. 2002); <u>Herrera v. Russo</u>, 106 F. Supp. 2d 1057, 1062 (D. Nev. 2000). These federal cases are important because when a federal court determines whether a political subdivision is part of state government for the purposes of the Eleventh Amendment, the federal court makes its

determination based on **state law**. <u>See Mt. Healthy City Sch. Dist. Bd. of Educ. v.</u> <u>Doyle</u>, 429 U.S. 274, 280-81 (1977); <u>Austin v. State Indus. Ins. Sys.</u>, 939 F.2d 676, 678-79 (9th Cir. 1991).

After examining state law in Nevada, federal courts have found that the Nevada Gaming Control Board, the Nevada Gaming Commission, the Nevada State Industrial Insurance System, the Nevada Supreme Court and the Nevada Commission on Judicial Discipline are state agencies included within one of the three departments of state government and that these state agencies are entitled to Nevada's sovereign immunity under the Eleventh Amendment. See Carey v. Nev. Gaming Control Bd., 279 F.3d 873, 877-78 (9th Cir. 2002); Romano v. Bible, 169 F.3d 1182, 1185 (9th Cir. 1999); Austin, 939 F.2d at 678-79; O'Connor v. State, 686 F.2d 749, 750 (9th Cir. 1982); Salman v. Nev. Comm'n on Jud. Discipline, 104 F. Supp. 2d 1262, 1267 (D. Nev. 2000). By contrast, after examining state law in Nevada, federal courts have found that cities, counties and school districts in Nevada are not included within one of the three departments of state government and that these local political subdivisions are not entitled to Nevada's sovereign immunity under the Eleventh Amendment. See Lincoln County, 133 U.S. at 530; Eason, 303 F.3d at 1144; Herrera, 106 F. Supp. 2d at 1062. Thus, as viewed by federal courts that have interpreted Nevada law, local political subdivisions in this state are not included within one of the three departments of state government.

Accordingly, because local political subdivisions in Nevada are not included within one of the three departments of state government, their officers and employees also are not part of one of the three departments of state government, and legislators who hold such positions with local governments are not serving in positions within one of the three departments of state government. Consequently, given that the separation-of-powers provision applies only to the three departments of state government, the separation-of-powers provision does not prohibit legislators from holding positions of public employment with local governments because local governments and their officers and employees are not part of one of the three departments of state government. Therefore, the district court's decision was based on a clearly erroneous interpretation and application of the separationof-powers provision because that provision does not prohibit legislators from holding positions of public employment with county governments as deputy district attorneys.

B. Even if the separation-of-powers provision is interpreted to apply to local governments, the provision still would not prohibit legislators from holding positions of public employment as deputy district attorneys with county governments because deputy district attorneys are county employees who do not exercise sovereign functions belonging to the state executive branch when they participate in criminal prosecutions.

As discussed previously, under Nevada law, deputy district attorneys are not state officers because they do not exercise sovereign functions of the executive branch when they conduct criminal prosecutions. See Lane, 104 Nev. at 437; Webb, 330 F.3d at 1164-65. Furthermore, deputy district attorneys are not county officers because they do not exercise "policymaking authority for the office of the district attorney or the county by which the deputy district attorney is employed." NRS 252.070(1). Consequently, under Nevada law, deputy district attorneys are county employees. As such, even if the separation-of-powers provision is interpreted to apply to local governments, the provision still would not prohibit legislators from holding positions of public employment as deputy district attorneys are county employees who do not exercise sovereign functions belonging to the state executive branch when they participate in criminal prosecutions.

Under Nevada's separation-of-powers provision, because legislators hold elective offices that are expressly created by Article 4 of the Nevada Constitution governing the Legislative Department, legislators are "charged with the exercise of **powers** properly belonging to one of these departments," which is the Legislative Department. Nev. Const. art. 3, § 1 (emphasis added). As a result, legislators are not allowed by the separation-of-powers provision to "exercise any **functions**, appertaining to either of the others, except in the cases expressly directed or permitted in this constitution." <u>Id.</u> (emphasis added).

Thus, the critical issue under the separation-of-powers provision is whether legislators who hold positions of public employment with the state executive branch or with local governments exercise any "functions" appertaining to the state executive branch which cause their public employment to be constitutionally incompatible with their service as legislators in the state legislative branch. This Court has never directly addressed this issue of constitutional law in a reported opinion. <u>See Heller v. Legislature</u>, 120 Nev. 456 (2004); <u>State ex rel. Mathews v.</u> <u>Murray</u>, 70 Nev. 116 (1953).

Because there is no controlling Nevada case law directly on point to resolve this issue of constitutional law, it is appropriate to consider: (1) historical evidence of the practices in the Federal Government and Congress immediately following the ratification of the Federal Constitution; (2) historical evidence of the practices in the California Legislature under similar state constitutional provisions which served as the model for the Nevada Constitution; (3) historical evidence of the practices in the Nevada Legislature since statehood; (4) legal treatises and other authorities on constitutional law; (5) case law from other jurisdictions interpreting similar state constitutional provisions; (6) common-law rules governing public officers and employees; and (7) the intent of the Framers and their underlying public policies supporting the concept of the "citizen-legislator" as the cornerstone of an effective, responsive and qualified part-time legislative body. Taking all these compelling historical factors, legal authorities and public policies into consideration, this Court should conclude that the separation-of-powers provision does not prohibit legislators from holding positions of public employment with the state executive branch or with local governments.

(1) Historical evidence.

(a) Federal Government and Congress.

Based on the Federalist Papers, federal judicial precedent and long-accepted historical practices under the United States Constitution, the Founders did not believe that the doctrine of separation of powers absolutely prohibited an officer of one department from performing functions in another department.

On many occasions, the U.S. Supreme Court has discussed how the Founders adopted a pragmatic, flexible view of the separation of powers in the Federalist Papers. See, e.g., Mistretta v. United States, 488 U.S. 361, 380-82 (1989); Nixon v. Adm'r of Gen. Servs., 433 U.S. 425, 441-43 (1977). Relying on the Federalist Papers, the Supreme Court has consistently adhered to "Madison's flexible approach to separation of powers." <u>Mistretta</u>, 488 U.S. at 380. In particular, Madison stated in the Federalist Papers that the separation of powers "d[oes] not mean that these [three] departments ought to have no *partial agency* in, or no *controul* over the acts of each other." <u>Id.</u> at 380-81 (quoting The Federalist No. 47, pp. 325-326 (J. Cooke ed. 1961)).

In light of Madison's statements and other writings in the Federalist Papers, the Supreme Court has found that "the Framers did not require—and indeed

RA 000124

rejected—the notion that the three Branches must be entirely separate and distinct." <u>Mistretta</u>, 488 U.S. at 380. Thus, as understood by the Framers in the Federalist Papers, the doctrine of separation of powers did not impose a hermetic, airtight seal around each department of government. <u>See Loving v. United States</u>, 517 U.S. 748, 756-57 (1996). Rather, the doctrine created a pragmatic, flexible template of overlapping functions and responsibilities so that three coordinate departments could be fused into a workable government. <u>See Mistretta</u>, 488 U.S. at 380-81. Therefore, the Founders believed in a "pragmatic, flexible view of differentiated governmental power." <u>Id.</u> at 381.

Moreover, in the years immediately following the adoption of the United States Constitution, it was a common and accepted practice for judicial officers of the United States to serve simultaneously as executive officers of the United States. <u>See Mistretta</u>, 488 U.S. at 397-99. For example, the first Chief Justice, John Jay, served simultaneously as Chief Justice and Ambassador to England. Similarly, Oliver Ellsworth served simultaneously as Chief Justice and Minister to France. While he was Chief Justice, John Marshall served briefly as Secretary of State and was a member of the Sinking Fund Commission with responsibility for refunding the Revolutionary War debt. <u>Id.</u> at 398-99. Such long-accepted historical practices support the conclusion that the doctrine of separation of powers does not

absolutely prohibit an officer of one department from performing functions in another department.

Finally, the Founders did not believe that, on its own, the doctrine of separation of powers would prohibit an executive officer from serving as a member of Congress. <u>See 2 The Founders' Constitution</u> 346-57 (Philip B. Kurland & Ralph Lerner eds., 1987). Therefore, the Founders added the Incompatibility Clause to the United States Constitution. <u>Id.</u> The Incompatibility Clause provides that "no Person holding any Office under the United States, shall be a Member of either House during his Continuance in Office." U.S. Const. art. I, § 6, cl. 2. The history surrounding the Incompatibility Clause supports the conclusion that the doctrine of separation of powers does not prohibit a legislator from holding a position of public employment in the executive branch.

In 1806, Congressman J. Randolph introduced a resolution into the House of Representatives which provided that "a contractor under the Government of the United States is an officer within the purview and meaning of the [Incompatibility Clause of the] Constitution, and, as such, is incapable of holding a seat in this House." 2 <u>The Founders' Constitution</u> 357. Congressman Randolph introduced the resolution because the Postmaster General had entered into a contract of employment with a person to be a mail carrier and, at the time, the person was also a member of the Senate. <u>Id.</u> at 357-62.

RA 000126

In debating the resolution, many Congressmen indicated that the Incompatibility Clause was the only provision in the Constitution which prohibited dual officeholding and that, based on the long-accepted meaning of the term "office," a person who held a contract of employment with the executive branch was not an officer of the United States and was not prohibited from serving simultaneously as a member of Congress. <u>Id.</u> After the debate, the House soundly rejected the resolution because many members believed the resolution banning members of Congress from employment with the executive branch contained an interpretation of the Incompatibility Clause which expanded the meaning of the provision well beyond its plain terms. <u>Id.</u>

Shortly thereafter, in 1808, Congress passed a federal law which prohibited an executive officer of the United States from entering into a contract of employment with a member of Congress. <u>Id.</u> at 371. A version of that federal law remains in effect. 18 U.S.C. § 431; 2 Op. U.S. Att'y Gen. 38 (1826) (explaining that the federal law prohibited all contracts of employment between officers of the executive branch and members of Congress).

Based on this historical evidence, it is quite instructive that, a mere 19 years after the United States Constitution was drafted, many members of the House of Representatives expressed the opinion that the Federal Constitution did not prohibit a person who held a contract of employment with the executive branch

from serving simultaneously as a member of Congress. This historical evidence supports the legal conclusion that the doctrine of separation of powers does not prohibit an officer of one department from being employed in another department.

(b) California Legislature.

As discussed previously, because the Framers of the Nevada Constitution modeled its provisions on the California Constitution of 1849, it is appropriate to consider historical evidence and case law from California when interpreting analogous provisions of the Nevada Constitution. Harvey, 117 Nev. at 763. No California court has ever held that the separation-of-powers provision in the California Constitution prohibits a legislator from being a state executive branch employee. Furthermore, the historical evidence from California establishes that during California's first 67 years of statehood, it was a common and accepted practice for California Legislators to hold positions as state executive branch employees until 1916, when the California Constitution was amended to expressly prohibit legislators from being state executive branch employees. See Chenoweth v. Chambers, 164 P. 428, 430 (Cal. Dist. Ct. App. 1917) (explaining that the constitutional amendment "was intended to reach a practice in state administration of many years' standing.").

At the general election held in California on November 7, 1916, one of the ballot questions was Amendment No. 6, which was an initiative measure to amend

Cal. Const. art. 4, § 19, to read as follows:

No senator or member of the assembly shall, during the term for which he shall have been elected, hold or accept any office, trust, or employment under this state; *provided*, that this provision shall not apply to any office filled by election by the people.

1916 Cal. Stat. 54.²

In the weeks leading up to the 1916 general election, the proposed constitutional amendment was described in several California newspapers. In an article dated October 28, 1916, the San Francisco Chronicle reported that:

Some thirty-five or forty legislators in the employ of the State in various capacities are anxiously awaiting the result of the November election, for if the electorate should adopt amendment six on the ballot, known as the ineligibility to office measure, State Controller John S. Chambers probably will refuse to draw warrants in favor of legislators then in the employ of the State.

Measure Alarms Legislators on 'Side' Payroll, S.F. Chron., Oct. 28, 1916, at 5

(Leg.'s Amicus Br. Exs. at 9).

² As a result of subsequent constitutional amendments, the substance of the 1916 constitutional amendment is now found in Cal. Const. art. 4, § 13, which provides: "A member of the Legislature may not, during the term for which the member is elected, hold any office or employment under the State other than an elective office."

In another article dated October 28, 1916, the Sacramento Bee reported that many California Legislators were employed at that time by executive branch agencies, including the State Lunacy Commission, State Motor Vehicles Department, State Labor Commissioner, State Pharmacy Commission, State Pharmacy Board, State Railroad Commission, Folsom State Prison and State Inheritance Tax Commission. <u>Chambers Studies Amendment No. 6: Proposal to Make Legislature Members Ineligible to State Jobs is Perplexing</u>, Sacramento Bee, Oct. 28, 1916, at 9 (*Leg.'s Amicus Br. Exs.* at 11).

On the ballot at the 1916 general election, the ballot arguments relating to the proposed constitutional amendment stated that "some of our most efficient officials have been men holding appointments under the state, [while] at the same time being members of the legislature." <u>Amendments to Constitution and Proposed Statutes with Arguments Respecting the Same to be Submitted to the Electors of the State of California at the General Election on Tuesday, November 7, 1916 (Cal. State Archives 1916) (*Leg.'s Amicus Br. Exs.* at 13). Those arguments also stated that:</u>

Here and there the state, by reason of such a law, will actually suffer, as it frequently happens that the most highly specialized man for work in connection with a certain department of state is a member of the legislature. There are instances of that sort today, where, by the enactment of such a law, the state will lose the services of especially qualified and conscientious officials.

Another argument advanced by the proponents of this measure is that members of the legislature who are appointed to state offices receive two salaries, but the records will show that leaves of absence are invariably obtained by such appointees during sessions of the legislature and the actual time of the legislative session is generally about eighty days every two years.

<u>Id.</u>

Shortly after the constitutional amendment was adopted, the California Court of Appeal was called upon to interpret whether the amendment applied to legislators whose terms began before the effective date of the amendment. <u>Chenoweth v. Chambers</u>, 164 P. 428 (Cal. Dist. Ct. App. 1917). The court held that the amendment was intended to apply to those legislators. <u>Id.</u> at 434. In reaching its holding, the court noted that the constitutional amendment "was intended to reach a practice in state administration of many years' standing and which the people believed should be presently eradicated." <u>Id.</u> at 430.

Taken together, these historical accounts establish that before the California Constitution was amended in 1916, California Legislators routinely held positions as state executive branch employees. This is notable because, at that time, the separation-of-powers provision in the California Constitution was nearly identical to the separation-of-powers provision in the Nevada Constitution. Thus, the historical evidence in California supports the legal conclusion that, in the absence of a specific constitutional amendment expressly banning legislators from public employment, the separation-of-powers provision does not prohibit a legislator from holding a position as a state executive branch employee.

(c) Nevada Legislature.

For many decades, state and local government employees have served simultaneously as members of the Nevada Legislature. Affidavit of Guy L. Rocha, Former Assistant Administrator for Archives and Records of the Division of State Library and Archives of the Department of Cultural Affairs of the State of Nevada (Apr. 29, 2004) (Leg.'s Amicus Br. Exs. at 1-3). Although there are no official records specifically detailing the occupations of legislators who served in the Legislature during the 1800s and early 1900s, the records that are available indicate that state and local government employees have been serving in the Legislature since at least 1903. Id. The earliest known examples of local government employees who served as members of the Legislature are Mark Richards Averill, who was a member of the Assembly in 1903, and Ruth Averill, who was a member of the Assembly in 1921. Id. The earliest known examples of state executive branch employees who served as members of the Legislature are August C. Frohlich, who was a member of the Assembly in 1931, and Harry E. Hazard, who was a member of the Assembly in 1939. Id.

Based on research conducted by the Legislative Counsel Bureau covering the period from 1967 to 2019, state and local government employees have served as

members of the Legislature during each regular session convened over the past 50plus years. <u>See Nevada Legislative Manual</u> (LCB 1967-2019); <u>Affidavit of</u> <u>Donald O. Williams, Former Research Director of the Research Division of the</u> <u>Legislative Counsel Bureau of the State of Nevada</u> (Apr. 28, 2004) (*Leg.'s Amicus Br. Exs.* at 4-5).

Thus, the historical evidence from the Nevada Legislature supports the legal conclusion that the separation-of-powers provision does not prohibit a legislator from holding a position as a state executive branch employee or a local government employee. Under well-established rules of constitutional construction, this historical evidence represents a long-standing interpretation of the separation-of-powers provision by the Legislature which must be given great weight.

When interpreting a constitutional provision, this Court "looks to the Legislature's contemporaneous actions in interpreting constitutional language to carry out the intent of the framers of Nevada's Constitution." <u>Halverson v. Miller</u>, 124 Nev. 484, 488-89 (2008). Because the Legislature's interpretation of a constitutional provision is "likely reflective of the mindset of the framers," such a construction "is a safe guide to its proper interpretation and creates a strong presumption that the interpretation was proper." <u>Id.</u> (internal quotation marks omitted); <u>Hendel v. Weaver</u>, 77 Nev. 16, 20 (1961); <u>State ex rel. Herr v. Laxalt</u>, 84 Nev. 382, 387 (1968); <u>Tam v. Colton</u>, 94 Nev. 452, 458 (1978).

Furthermore, when the Legislature's construction is consistently followed over a considerable period of time, that construction is treated as a long-standing interpretation of the constitutional provision, and such an interpretation is given great weight and deference by this Court, especially when the constitutional provision involves legislative operations or procedures. <u>State ex rel. Coffin v.</u> <u>Howell</u>, 26 Nev. 93, 104-05 (1901); <u>State ex rel. Torreyson v. Grey</u>, 21 Nev. 378, 387-90 (1893) (Bigelow, J., concurring); <u>State ex rel. Cardwell v. Glenn</u>, 18 Nev. 34, 43-46 (1883). As a result, "[a] long continued and contemporaneous construction placed by the coordinate branch of government upon a matter of procedure in such coordinate branch of government should be given great weight." Howell, 26 Nev. at 104.

The weight given to the Legislature's construction of a constitutional provision involving legislative operations or procedures is of particular force when the meaning of the constitutional provision is subject to any uncertainty, ambiguity or doubt. <u>See, e.g.</u>, <u>Nev. Mining Ass'n v. Erdoes</u>, 117 Nev. 531, 539-40 (2001). Under such circumstances, this Court has stated that "although the [interpretation] of the legislature is not final, its decision upon this point is to be treated by the courts with the consideration which is due to a co-ordinate department of the state government, and in case of a reasonable doubt as to the meaning of the words, the

construction given to them by the legislature ought to prevail." <u>Dayton Gold &</u> <u>Silver Mining Co. v. Seawell</u>, 11 Nev. 394, 399-400 (1876).

This Court has also stated that when the meaning of a constitutional provision involving legislative operations or procedures is subject to any uncertainty, ambiguity or doubt, the Legislature may rely on an opinion of LCB Legal which interprets the constitutional provision, and "the Legislature is entitled to deference in its counseled selection of this interpretation." Nev. Mining Ass'n, 117 Nev. at 540. For example, when the meaning of the term "midnight Pacific standard time," as formerly used in the constitutional provision limiting legislative sessions to 120 days, was subject to uncertainty, ambiguity and doubt following the 2001 regular session, this Court explained that the Legislature's interpretation of the constitutional provision was entitled to deference because "[i]n choosing this interpretation, the Legislature acted on Legislative Counsel's opinion that this is a reasonable construction of the provision. We agree that it is, and the Legislature is entitled to deference in its counseled selection of this interpretation." Id.

With regard to state and local government employees serving as legislators, the Legislature has chosen to follow LCB Legal's long-standing interpretation of the separation-of-powers provision for decades, and it has acted on LCB Legal's opinion that this is a reasonable construction of the separation-of-powers provision.

As a result, "the Legislature is entitled to deference in its counseled selection of this interpretation." <u>Nev. Mining Ass'n</u>, 117 Nev. at 540.

Therefore, under the rules of constitutional construction, the Legislature's long-standing interpretation of the separation-of-powers provision "should be given great weight." <u>Howell</u>, 26 Nev. at 104 ("A long continued and contemporaneous construction placed by the coordinate branch of government upon a matter of procedure in such coordinate branch of government should be given great weight."). Furthermore, to the extent there is any ambiguity, uncertainty or doubt concerning the interpretation of the separation-of-powers provision, the interpretation given to it by the Legislature "ought to prevail." <u>Dayton Gold & Silver Mining</u>, 11 Nev. at 400 ("[I]n case of a reasonable doubt as to the meaning of the words, the construction given to them by the legislature ought to prevail.").

(2) Case law from other jurisdictions.

Several courts from other jurisdictions have decided cases involving the legal issue of whether a state constitutional separation-of-powers provision prohibits legislators from being state or local government employees. However, the cases from the other jurisdictions are in conflict on this issue.

In <u>State ex rel. Barney v. Hawkins</u>, 257 P. 411, 412 (Mont. 1927), an action was brought to enjoin the state from paying Grant Reed his salary as an auditor for

the state board of railroad commissioners while he served as a member of the state legislature. The complaint alleged that Reed was violating the separation-ofpowers provision in the state constitution because he was occupying a position in the executive branch of state government at the same time that he was serving as a member of the state legislature. Id. at 412. At the time, the separation-of-powers provision in the Montana Constitution provided that "no person or collection of persons charged with the exercise of powers properly belonging to one of these departments shall exercise any powers properly belonging to either of the others." Id. at 413. The complaint also alleged that Reed was violating section 7 of article 5 of the state constitution, which provided that " $[n]_0$ senator or representative shall, during the term for which he shall have been elected, be appointed to any civil office under the State." Id. The Montana Supreme Court framed the issue it was deciding as follows:

The only question for us to decide is—is the position of auditor, held by Grant Reed, a civil office(?); for, if it be a civil office, he is holding it unlawfully; and, if it be not a civil office, he is not an officer, but only an employee, subject to the direction of others, and he has no power in connection with his position, and is not exercising any powers belonging to the executive or judicial department of the state government. In the latter event, Article IV of the Constitution [separation of powers] is not involved.

<u>Id.</u>

After considering voluminous case law concerning the definition of a "civil office," including cases from Nevada that will be discussed below, the Montana

Supreme Court determined that Reed was not exercising any portion of the sovereign power of state government when he was acting as an auditor for the board of railroad commissioners and that, therefore, Reed did not occupy a civil office. <u>Id.</u> at 418. Rather, the court found that Reed was simply an employee "holding a position of employment, terminable at the pleasure of the employing power, the Board of Railroad Commissioners." <u>Id.</u> Thus, because Reed did not occupy a civil office, the court concluded that he had "no powers properly belonging to the judicial or executive department of the state government, for he is wholly subject to the power of the board, and, having no powers, he can exercise none; and, therefore, his appointment was not violative of Article IV of the Constitution [separation of powers]." Id.

The reasoning of the Montana Supreme Court was followed by the New Mexico Court of Appeals in <u>State ex rel. Stratton v. Roswell Ind. Schools</u>, 806 P.2d 1085, 1094-95 (N.M. Ct. App. 1991). In <u>Stratton</u>, the Attorney General argued that two members of the state legislature were violating the separation-of-powers provision in the state constitution because the legislators also occupied positions as a teacher and an administrator in local public school districts. <u>Id.</u> at 1088. At the time, the separation-of-powers provision in the New Mexico Constitution was identical to the separation-of-powers provision interpreted by the Montana Supreme Court in <u>Hawkins</u>: "no person or collection of persons charged

with the exercise of powers properly belonging to one of these departments, shall exercise any powers properly belonging to either of the others[.]" <u>Id.</u> at 1094.

Like the Montana Supreme Court, the New Mexico Court of Appeals determined that a violation of the separation-of-powers provision could occur only if the members of the legislature were invested in their positions as school teacher and school administrator with sovereign power that properly belonged to another Id. Because only public officers exercised sovereign branch of government. power, the court determined that the separation-of-powers provision "applies [only] to public officers, not employees, in the different branches of government." Id. at 1095. After considering the nature of the public school positions, the court concluded that "[p]ublic school instructors and administrators are not 'public officials.' They do not establish policy for the local school districts or for the state department of education." Id. at 1094. Instead, "[a] school teacher employed by a common school district is [an] 'employee' not [an] 'officer', and the relationship between school teacher and school board is contractual only." Id. at 1095 (citing Brown v. Bowling, 240 P.2d 846, 849 (N.M. 1952)). Therefore, because the school teacher and school administrator were not public officers, but simply public employees, the court held that they were not barred by the separation-of-powers provision from being members of the legislature. Id.

The Colorado Supreme Court has also adopted this view. <u>Hudson v. Annear</u>, 75 P.2d 587, 588-89 (Colo. 1938) (holding that a position as chief field deputy for the state income tax department was not a civil office, but a position of public employment, and that therefore a legislator could occupy such a position without violating Colorado's separation-of-powers provision). <u>See also Jenkins v. Bishop</u>, 589 P.2d 770, 771-72 (Utah 1978) (Crockett, J., concurring in a memorandum per curiam opinion and arguing that Utah's separation-of-powers provision would not prohibit a legislator from also being a public school teacher); <u>State v. Osloond</u>, 805 P.2d 263, 264-67 (Wash. Ct. App. 1991) (holding that a legislator who served as a judge pro tempore in a criminal case did not violate the principle of separation of powers as recognized in Washington, which does not have an express separation-of-powers provision in its constitution).

In stark contrast to the foregoing court decisions are several court decisions from Indiana, Oregon and Nebraska. The court decisions from Indiana and Oregon are especially notable because the language in the separation-of-powers provisions of those states more closely resembles the language in Nevada's separation-ofpowers provision.

In <u>State ex rel. Black v. Burch</u>, 80 N.E.2d 294 (Ind. 1948), actions were brought to prevent the state from paying four members of the state legislature salaries that they had earned while occupying positions with various state

commissions and boards in the executive branch of government. After reviewing the relevant statutes relating to these positions, the court held that the legislators' positions in the executive branch "are not public offices, nor do they in their respective positions, perform any official functions in carrying out their duties in these respective jobs; they were acting merely as employees of the respective commission or boards by whom they were hired." <u>Id.</u> at 299. In other words, "[i]n performing their respective jobs, none of these [legislators] were vested with any functions pertaining to sovereignty." Id. Having determined that the legislators occupied positions of public employment, rather than public offices, the court's next task was to determine whether such public employment in another branch of state government violated Indiana's separation-of-powers provision, which provided at the time that "no person, charged with official duties under one of these departments[,] shall exercise any of the functions of another[.]" Id. The court framed the issue as follows: "[I]t now becomes necessary for this Court to determine what is the meaning of the phrase 'any of the functions of another,' as set out in the above quoted section of the Constitution." Id.

In interpreting the use of the term "functions," the court noted that the term "power" had been used instead of the term "functions" in the original draft of the separation-of-powers provision. <u>Id.</u> at 302. However, the term "functions" was inserted in the final version of the provision that was adopted by the drafters of the

constitution. <u>Id.</u> The court then stated that "[i]t would seem to us that these two words are interchangeable but, if there is any distinction, the term 'functions' would denote a broader field of activities than the word 'power.'" <u>Id.</u> The court also quoted extensively from the decision in <u>Saint v. Allen</u>, 126 So. 548 (La. 1930), in which the Louisiana Supreme Court held that a member of the state legislature was prohibited from being employed by the executive department of state government pursuant to the separation-of-powers provision in the Louisiana Constitution, which provided at the time that "[no] person or collection of persons holding office in one of [the departments], shall exercise power properly belonging to either of the others[.]" <u>Saint</u>, 126 So. at 550. In particular, the Louisiana Supreme Court held that:

It is not necessary, to constitute a violation of the article, that a person should hold office in two departments of government. It is sufficient if he is an officer in one department and at the same time is employed to perform duties, or exercise power, belonging to another department. The words "exercise power," speaking officially, mean perform duties or functions.

<u>Id.</u> at 555.

Based on the Saint case and other court decisions, the Indiana Supreme Court

in <u>Burch</u> concluded that:

In view of the fact that it is obvious that the purpose of all these separation of powers provisions of Federal and State Constitutions is to rid each of the separate departments of government from any control or influence by either of the other departments, and that this object can be obtained only if § 1 of Art. 3 of the Indiana Constitution is read exactly as it is written, we are constrained to follow the New York and Louisiana cases above cited. If persons charged with official duties in one department may be employed to perform duties, official or otherwise, in another department the door is opened to influence and control by the employing department. We also think that these two cases are logical in holding that an employee of an officer, even though he be performing a duty not involving the exercise of sovereignty, may be and is, executing one of the functions of that public office, and this applies to the cases before us.

80 N.E.2d at 302.

The reasoning of the Indiana Supreme Court was followed by the Oregon Supreme Court in Monaghan v. School Dist. No. 1, 315 P.2d 797 (Or. 1957), superseded by Or. Const. art. XV, § 8. In that case, the court was asked "to determine whether or not [a state legislator, Mr. Monaghan,] is eligible for employment as a teacher in the public schools of this state while he holds a position as a member of the [state] House of Representatives." Id. at 799. At that time, the separation-of-powers provision in the Oregon Constitution provided that "no person charged with official duties under one of these departments, shall exercise any of the functions of another[.]" Id. at 800. Mr. Monaghan argued that the term "official duties" was synonymous with the term "functions," and that therefore the separation-of-powers provision applied only to a person holding a public office in more than one department of state government and not to a person merely occupying a position of public employment. Id. at 801. The court flatly rejected this argument:

It is not difficult to define the word "official duties." As a general rule, and as we think the phrase is used in the section of the constitution, they are the duties or obligations imposed by law on a public officer. 67 C.J.S. Officers § 110, p. 396; 28 C.J.S. Duty, p. 597. There can be no doubt that Mr. Monaghan, as a legislator, is "charged with official duties." But the exercise of the "functions" of a department of government gives to the word "functions" a broader sweep and more comprehensive meaning than "official duties." It contemplates a wider range of the exercise of functions including and beyond those which may be comprehended in the "official duties" of any one officer.

It may appear to some as a construction of extreme precaution, but we think that it expresses the considered judgment and deliberation of the Oregon Convention to give greater force to the concepts of separation by thus barring any official in one department of government of the opportunity to serve any other department, even as an employee. Thus, to use the language of <u>O'Donoghue v. United States</u>, <u>supra</u> [289 U.S. 516], in a sense, his role as a teacher subjugates the department of his employment to the possibility of being "controlled by, or subjected, *directly or indirectly*, to the coercive influence of" the other department wherein he has official duties and vice versa. (Emphasis supplied.) In the <u>Burch case, supra</u> [80 N.E.2d 294, 302], when considering the word "functions" in its similar setting in the Indiana Constitution, the court observed that the term "functions" denotes a broader field of activities than the word "power."

Our conclusion is that the word "functions" embodies a definite meaning with no contradiction of the phrase "official duties," that is, he who exercises the functions of another department of government may be either an official or an employee.

* * *

<u>Id.</u> at 802-04. Although acknowledging that a public school teacher was not a public officer, the court concluded, nevertheless, that a public school teacher was a public employee who was exercising one of the functions of the executive department of state government. <u>Id.</u> at 804-06. Therefore, the court held that Mr.

Monaghan could not be employed as a public school teacher while he held a position as a member of the state legislature. <u>Id.</u>; <u>see also Jenkins</u>, 589 P.2d at 773-77 (Ellett, C.J., concurring and dissenting in a memorandum per curiam opinion and arguing that Utah's separation-of-powers provision would prohibit a legislator from also being a public school teacher).

After the decision in <u>Monaghan</u>, the Oregon Constitution was amended to permit legislators to be employed by the State Board of Higher Education or to be a member of any school board or an employee thereof. <u>In re Sawyer</u>, 594 P.2d 805, 808 & n.7 (Or. 1979). However, the amendment did not apply to other branches of state government. <u>Id.</u> In <u>Sawyer</u>, the Oregon Supreme Court was asked whether the state's separation-of-powers provision prohibited a judge from being regularly employed as a part-time professor at a state-funded college. The court answered in the affirmative, stating that:

It is true that Judge Sawyer is not a full-time teacher. In our opinion, however, a part-time teacher regularly employed for compensation by a state-funded college to perform the duties of a teacher also performs "functions" of the executive department of government within the meaning of Article III, § 1, as construed by this court in <u>Monaghan</u>.

<u>Id.</u> at 809. The court noted, however, that "[w]e do not undertake to decide in this case whether the same result would necessarily follow in the event that a judge should occasionally, but not regularly, lecture at a state-funded college, but without other responsibilities as a teacher." <u>Id.</u> at 809 n.8.

Finally, in <u>State ex rel. Spire v. Conway</u>, 472 N.W.2d 403 (Neb. 1991), the Attorney General brought an action claiming that the separation-of-powers provision of the Nebraska Constitution prohibited a person from occupying a position as an assistant professor at a state-funded college while simultaneously serving as a member of the state legislature. At the time, Nebraska's separation-of-powers provision provided that "no person or collection of persons being one of these departments, shall exercise any power properly belonging to either of the others." <u>Id.</u> at 404.

Unlike most other courts, the Nebraska Supreme Court determined that, under certain circumstances, an assistant professor at a public college could be considered to be holding a public office. <u>Id.</u> at 406-07. However, despite this determination, the court found that the public officer-public employee distinction was not "determinative of the [separation-of-powers] issue now under consideration, for article II does not speak in terms of officers or employees; it speaks of persons 'being one of' the branches of government." <u>Id.</u> at 408. Rather, the court found that "[t]he unusual expression 'being one of these departments' is not clear; accordingly, construction is necessary. One thing that is clear, however, is that 'being one of these departments' is not intended to be synonymous with 'exercising any power of' a branch." <u>Id.</u> at 409.

After considering the text and history of the Nebraska Constitution, the court determined that the provision should be construed to read, "no person or collection of persons being [a member of] one of these departments." <u>Id.</u> at 412. Based on this construction, the court held that the separation-of-powers provision "prohibits one who exercises the power of one branch--that is, an officer in the broader sense of the word--from being a member--that is, either an officer or employee--of another branch." <u>Id.</u> The court then applied this construction to conclude that an assistant professor at a state college is a member of the executive branch and that a legislator, therefore, could not occupy such a position during his term in the legislature. <u>Id.</u> at 414-16. Specifically, the court held that:

Although we have neither been directed to nor found any case explicitly stating that the state colleges are part of the executive branch, there are but three branches, and the state colleges clearly are not part of the judicial or legislative branches.

* * *

The Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska performs a function for the university which is identical to that of the Board of Trustees of the Nebraska State Colleges. While the Board of Regents is an "independent body charged with the power and responsibility to manage and operate the University," it is, nevertheless, an administrative or executive agency of the state. As the regents are part of the executive branch, so, too, are the trustees.

Since the Board of Trustees, which governs the state colleges, is part of the executive branch, those who work for those colleges likewise are members of that branch. Respondent, as an assistant professor at the college, is thus a member of the executive branch within the meaning of article II. * * *

Respondent is therefore a member of one branch of government, the executive, exercising the powers of another, the legislative, and, as a consequence, is in violation of article II of the state Constitution.

Id. at 414-15 (citations omitted).

This Court should reject the reasoning of the courts of Indiana, Oregon and Nebraska. Instead, this Court should follow the reasoning of the courts of Montana, New Mexico and Colorado and conclude that the separation-of-powers provision does not prohibit legislators from holding positions as state executive branch employees or local government employees. This reasonable interpretation of the separation-of-powers provision is supported by the text and structure of the Nevada Constitution and by the concept of the "citizen-legislator," which is a concept that is the cornerstone of an effective, responsive and qualified part-time legislative body.

(3) Interpretation of Nevada's separation-of-powers provision.

It is a fundamental rule of constitutional construction that the Nevada Constitution must be interpreted in its entirety and that each part of the Constitution must be given effect. <u>State ex rel. Herr v. Laxalt</u>, 84 Nev. 382, 386 (1968). Therefore, the separation-of-powers provision in the Nevada Constitution cannot be read in isolation, but rather must be construed in accordance with the Nevada Constitution as a whole. Thus, the meaning of the phrases "no persons charged with the exercise of powers properly belonging to one of these

RA 000148

departments" and "shall exercise any functions, appertaining to either of the others" cannot be based on a bare reading of the separation-of-powers provision alone. Rather, these phrases must be read in light of the other parts of the Nevada Constitution which specifically enumerate the persons who are to be charged with exercising the powers and functions of state government. As stated by this Court:

[Article 3, Section 1] divides the state government into three great departments, and directs that "no person charged with the exercise of powers properly belonging to one of these departments shall exercise any functions appertaining to either of the others, except in the cases herein expressly directed or permitted." As will be noticed, it is the state government as created by the constitution which is divided into departments. These departments are each charged by other parts of the constitution with certain duties and functions, and it is to these that the prohibition just quoted refers.

Sawyer v. Dooley, 21 Nev. 390, 396 (1893) (emphasis added).

According to this Court, the prohibition in Article 3, Section 1 applies only to persons who are charged by other parts of the Nevada Constitution with exercising powers or duties belonging to one of the three departments of state government. In other words, for the purposes of the separation-of-powers provision, the officers who are prohibited from exercising functions appertaining to another department of state government are limited to those officers in the legislative, executive and judicial departments who are expressly given powers and duties under the Nevada Constitution. This construction of the separation-of-powers provision in the Nevada Constitution is consistent with the Utah Supreme Court's construction of an identical separation-of-powers provision in section 1 of article V the Utah Constitution. As to that provision, the Utah Supreme Court has held:

[T]he prohibition of section 1, is directed to a "person" charged with the exercise of powers properly belonging to the "executive department." The Constitution further specifies in Article VII, Section 1, the persons of whom the Executive Department shall consist. Thus it is the "persons" specified in Article VII, Section 1, who are charged with the exercise of powers belonging to the Executive Department, who are prohibited from exercising any functions appertaining to the legislative and judicial departments.

<u>State v. Gallion</u>, 572 P.2d 683, 687 (Utah 1977); <u>accord Robinson v. State</u>, 20 P.3d 396, 399-400 (Utah 2001).

Consequently, a constitutional officer is an officer of the legislative, executive or judicial department who is "charged with the exercise of powers properly belonging to one of these departments." Nev. Const. art. 3, § 1; <u>see also People v.</u> <u>Provines</u>, 34 Cal. 520 (1868). No other person may exercise the powers given to a constitutional officer by the Nevada Constitution. As a result, when the Nevada Constitution grants powers to a particular constitutional officer, "their exercise and discharge by any other officer or department are forbidden by a necessary and unavoidable implication. Every positive delegation of power to one officer or department implies a negation of its exercise by any other officer, department, or person." King v. Bd. of Regents, 65 Nev. 533, 556 (1948) (quoting State ex rel.

<u>Crawford v. Hastings</u>, 10 Wis. 525, 531 (1860)). Thus, the constitutional powers of each department may be exercised only by the constitutional officers from that department to whom the powers have been assigned.

Even though it is only the constitutional officers of each department who may exercise the constitutional powers given to that department, the Framers realized that each department would also be charged with the exercise of certain nonconstitutional functions. Accordingly, the Framers provided for the creation by statute of nonconstitutional officers who could be charged by the Legislature with the exercise of nonconstitutional functions. <u>See</u> Nev. Const. art. 15, §§ 2, 3, 10 and 11. As observed by this Court:

[T]he framers of the constitution decided for themselves that the officers named [in the constitution] were necessary and should be elected by the people; but they left it to the legislature to decide as to the necessity of additional ones, whether state, county, or township.... The duty of deciding as to the necessity of any office, other than those named in the constitution, is placed upon the legislature[.]

<u>State ex rel. Perry v. Arrington</u>, 18 Nev. 412, 417-18 (1884). As a result, the Nevada Constitution recognizes two distinct types of offices, "one which is created by the constitution itself, and the other which is created by statute." <u>Douglass</u>, 33 Nev. at 93 (quoting <u>People v. Bollam</u>, 54 N.E. 1032, 1033 (Ill. 1899)).

Like the framers of other state constitutions, the Framers of the Nevada Constitution could have simply stated that a constitutional officer shall not exercise any "powers" appertaining to another department of state government. However,

the Framers of the Nevada Constitution provided that a constitutional officer shall not exercise any "functions" appertaining to another department of state government. The Framers used the term "functions" because they realized that, in each department of state government, the functions of the department would be performed by constitutional officers and by nonconstitutional officers. Thus, had the Framers used only the term "powers" in Article 3, Section 1, the separation-ofpowers provision would have been too restrictive in its meaning, for it may have been construed simply to mean that a constitutional officer in one department could not exercise the powers entrusted to the constitutional officers in another department. To avoid this restrictive construction, the Framers used the term "functions" to ensure that a constitutional officer in one department could not perform the sovereign functions entrusted to both constitutional officers and nonconstitutional officers in another department.

Therefore, by using the term "functions," the Framers intended to prohibit a constitutional officer in one department from holding constitutional offices or nonconstitutional offices in another department, because persons holding constitutional or nonconstitutional offices in another department exercise the **sovereign functions** of state government. Because public employees do not exercise the sovereign functions of state government, the Framers did not intend to prohibit a constitutional officer from holding a position of public employment in

another department of state government. This conclusion is based on a wellestablished body of case law which holds that public officers are the only persons who exercise the sovereign functions of state government and that public employees do not exercise such sovereign functions.

In <u>State ex rel. Kendall v. Cole</u>, 38 Nev. 215 (1915), the Nevada Supreme Court discussed extensively the attributes of a public office, and the court also cited numerous cases that had been decided in other jurisdictions well before the Nevada Constitution was drafted in 1864. <u>See Bradford v. Justices of Inferior Ct.</u>, 33 Ga. 332 (1862); <u>Shelby v. Alcorn</u>, 36 Miss. 273 (1858); <u>see also</u> Annotation, <u>Offices Within Constitutional or Statutory Provisions Against Holding Two</u> <u>Offices</u>, 1917A L.R.A. 231 (1917). From these cases, this Court concluded that the single most important characteristic of a public office is that the person who holds such a position is "clothed with some portion of the sovereign functions of government." <u>Cole</u>, 38 Nev. at 229 (quoting <u>Attorney-General v. McCaughey</u>, 43 A. 646 (R.I. 1899)). In later cases, this Court expressed a similar view:

The nature of a public office as distinguished from mere employment is the subject of a considerable body of authority, and many criteria of determination are suggested by the courts. Upon one point at least the authorities uniformly appear to concur. A public office is distinguishable from other forms of employment in that its holder has by the sovereign been invested with some portion of the sovereign functions of government.

<u>State ex rel. Mathews v. Murray</u>, 70 Nev. 116, 120-21 (1953) (citation omitted). Simply put, "the sovereign function of government is not delegated to a mere employee." <u>Eads v. City of Boulder City</u>, 94 Nev. 735, 737 (1978).

Thus, in each department of state government, only two types of persons are empowered to exercise the sovereign functions of that department, those who hold constitutional offices and those who hold nonconstitutional offices. This is how the Framers of the Nevada Constitution understood the structure and organizational framework of each department of state government, and this is why the Framers used the word "functions" in Article 3, Section 1-to prohibit a constitutional officer in one department of state government from holding any other **public office** that was empowered, either by the constitution or statute, to exercise the sovereign functions of another department of state government. Because public employees do not exercise the sovereign functions of state government, a broader construction of the term "functions" to include public employees would not be consistent with the manner in which the sovereign functions of government are exercised in Nevada.

Moreover, a broader construction of the term "functions" to include public employees would run counter to "the constituency concept of our legislature in this state, which can accurately be described as a citizens' legislature." <u>Stratton</u>, 806 P.2d at 1093. The Framers of the Nevada Constitution realized that "[i]n a

sparsely populated state . . . it would prove difficult, if not impossible, to have a conflict-free legislature." <u>Id.</u> In addition, any potential conflicts of interests experienced by a legislator who is also a public employee in another branch of state government are no greater than those conflicts experienced by other members of the Legislature. As stated by Justice Crockett of the Utah Supreme Court:

In our democratic system, the legislature is intended to represent the people: that is, to be made up from the general public representing a wide spectrum of the citizenry. It is not to be doubted that legislators from the ranks of education are affected by the interests of that calling. But all other legislators also have interests. No one lives in a vacuum.

Jenkins, 589 P.2d at 771 (Crockett, J., concurring).

Finally, it is clear that the Framers intended the Nevada Legislature to be a part-time legislative body. In particular, the Framers provided for biennial legislative sessions in Article 4, Section 2 of the Nevada Constitution, and they originally limited those biennial sessions to 60 days in Article 4, Section 29. Although Article 4, Section 29 was repealed in 1958, the fact that the citizens of Nevada voted in 1998 to limit biennial sessions to 120 days is a clear indication that the citizens of Nevada, like the Framers, want the Nevada Legislature to be a part-time legislative body.

The economic reality of a part-time Legislature is that most legislators must continue to be employed in other occupations on a full-time or part-time basis during their terms of legislative service. This is as true today as it was when the Nevada Constitution was originally adopted. Given this economic reality, it is likely that the Framers fully expected that public employees, like other citizens, would be members of the Legislature, especially since some of the most qualified and dedicated citizens of the community often occupy positions of government employment. As stated by Chief Justice Hastings of the Nebraska Supreme Court in his dissent in <u>Conway</u>:

A senatorial position in the Nebraska Legislature is a part-time position. Therefore, it is not uncommon for senators to have additional sources of income and careers. An uncompromising interpretation of the separation of powers would inhibit the ability of a part-time legislature to attract qualified members.

472 N.W.2d at 417 (Hastings, C.J., dissenting). Therefore, construing the term "functions" in Article 3, Section 1 to prohibit a member of the Nevada Legislature from occupying a position of public employment would not comport with the concept of the "citizen-legislator" that was undoubtedly envisioned by the Framers of the Nevada Constitution.

Based on this construction of the separation-of-powers provision, if a legislator holds another position in state government, the deciding issue under the Nevada Constitution should be whether the other position is a public office or a position of public employment. If the other position is a public office, then the legislator would be prohibited by the separation-of-powers provision from holding the public office. However, if the other position is merely a position of public employment, then the legislator would not be prohibited by the separation-ofpowers provision from holding the position of public employment.

As discussed previously, this Court has addressed the distinction between a public officer and a public employee on many occasions. See State ex rel. Kendall v. Cole, 38 Nev. 215 (1915); State ex rel. Mathews v. Murray, 70 Nev. 116 (1953); Mullen v. Clark Cnty., 89 Nev. 308 (1973); Eads v. City of Boulder City, 94 Nev. 735, 737 (1978). As recently as 2013, this Court reaffirmed that "as is clear from our jurisprudence, officers are fundamentally different from employees." City of Sparks v. Sparks Mun. Ct., 129 Nev. 348, 361 (2013). In one of its more recent cases on the issue, this Court restated the two fundamental principles that distinguish a public officer from a public employee. Univ. & Cmty. Coll. Sys. v. DR Partners, 117 Nev. 195, 200-06 (2001) (holding that, for the purposes of the Open Meeting Law, the position of community college president is not a public office).

The first fundamental principle is that a public officer must serve in a position created by law, not one created by mere administrative authority and discretion. <u>Id.</u> The second fundamental principle is that the duties of a public officer must be fixed by law and must involve an exercise of the sovereign functions of the state, such as formulating state policy. <u>Id.</u> Both fundamental principles must be satisfied before a person is deemed a public officer. <u>See Mullen v. Clark Cnty.</u>, 89 Nev.

RA 000157

308, 311 (1973). Thus, if a position is created by mere administrative authority and discretion or if the person serving in the position is subordinate and responsible to higher-ranking policymakers, the person is not a public officer but is simply a public employee. These fundamental principles are best illustrated by the cases of <u>State ex rel. Mathews v. Murray</u>, 70 Nev. 116 (1953), and <u>Univ. & Cmty.</u> <u>Coll. Sys. v. DR Partners</u>, 117 Nev. 195 (2001).

In Mathews, the defendant accepted the position of Director of the Drivers License Division of the Public Service Commission of Nevada. 70 Nev. at 120. The Attorney General brought an original action in quo warranto in this Court to oust the defendant from that position because when the defendant accepted his position in the executive branch he was also serving as a State Senator. Id. The Attorney General argued that the defendant acted in violation of the separation-ofpowers provision of the Nevada Constitution. Id. Before this Court could determine the constitutional issue, it needed to have jurisdiction over the original action in quo warranto. Id. Because an original action in quo warranto could lie only if the defendant's position in the executive branch was a public office, the issue before this Court was whether the position of Director of the Drivers License Division was a public office or a position of public employment. Id. This Court held that the Director's position was a position of public employment, not a public

office, and thus this Court dismissed the original action for lack of jurisdiction without reaching the constitutional issue. <u>Id.</u> at 124.

In concluding that the Director's position was a position of public employment, this Court reviewed the statutes controlling the state department under which the Drivers License Division operated. <u>Id.</u> at 122. This Court found that the position of Director of the Drivers License Division was created by administrative authority and discretion, not by statute, and that the position was wholly subordinate and responsible to the administrator of the department. <u>Id.</u> at 122-23. In this regard, this Court stated:

Nowhere in either act is any reference made to the "drivers license division" of the department or to a director thereof. Nowhere are duties imposed or authority granted save to the department and to its administrator. It appears clear that the position of director was created not by the act but by the administrator and may as easily by him be discontinued or destroyed. It appears clear that the duties of the position are fixed not by law but by the administrator and may as easily by him be modified from time to time. No tenure attaches to the position save as may be fixed from time to time by the administrator. The director, then, is wholly subordinate and responsible to the administrator. It cannot, then, be said that that position has been created by law; or that the duties which attach to it have been prescribed by law; or that, subject only to the provisions of law, the holder of such position is independent in his exercise of such duties. It cannot, then, be said that he has been invested with any portion of the sovereign functions of the government.

<u>Id.</u> at 122-23.

In <u>DR Partners</u>, this Court was asked to determine whether the position of community college president was a public office for the purposes of the Open

Meeting Law, which is codified in chapter 241 of NRS. Although the Open Meeting Law does not define the term "public office" or "public officer," this Court found that the definition of "public officer" in chapter 281 of NRS was applicable because "[t]he Legislature's statutory definition of a 'public officer' incorporates the fundamental criteria we applied in <u>Mathews</u> and <u>Kendall</u>, and is in harmony with those cases, as we subsequently confirmed in <u>Mullen v. Clark</u> <u>County</u>." 117 Nev. at 201.

When this Court applied the fundamental criteria from <u>Mathews</u> and <u>Kendall</u> and the statutory definition from chapter 281 of NRS to the position of community college president, this Court concluded that the position of community college president was not a public office. <u>DR Partners</u>, 117 Nev. at 202-06. In reaching this conclusion, this Court first found that the position of community college president is not created by the Nevada Constitution or statute, but is created by administrative authority and discretion of the Board of Regents. <u>Id.</u> Second, this Court found that a community college president does not exercise any of the sovereign functions of the state. <u>Id.</u> Instead, a community college president is wholly subordinate to the Board of Regents and simply implements policies made by higher-ranking state officials. <u>Id.</u> As explained by this Court:

The community college president holds an important position, but the sovereign functions of higher education repose in the Board of Regents, and to a lesser degree in the chancellor, and not at all in the community college president.

Because the president is wholly subordinate and responsible to the Board, and can only implement policies established by the Board, we conclude that the community college president does not meet the statutory requisites of a public officer set forth in NRS 281.005(1)(b).

<u>Id.</u> at 205-06.

Accordingly, state executive branch employees and local government employees are not public officers because they do not exercise any sovereign functions appertaining to the executive branch of state government. As a result, the separation-of-powers provision does not prohibit legislators from holding positions of public employment because persons who hold such positions of public employment do not exercise any sovereign functions appertaining to the state executive branch. Therefore, even if the separation-of-powers provision is interpreted to apply to local governments, the provision still would not prohibit legislators from holding positions of public employment as deputy district attorneys with county governments because deputy district attorneys are county employees who do not exercise sovereign functions belonging to the state executive branch when they participate in criminal prosecutions.

CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing, the Legislature asks this Court to issue a writ to Respondents, the Eighth Judicial District Court and the Honorable Richard Scotti, District Judge, reversing and vacating the district court's decision in these cases

* * *

because the decision was based on a clearly erroneous interpretation and application of constitutional and statutory law.

DATED: This <u>16th</u> day of February, 2021.

By: <u>/s/ Kevin C. Powers</u> **KEVIN C. POWERS** General Counsel Nevada Bar No. 6781 LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL BUREAU, LEGAL DIVISION 401 S. Carson St. Carson City, NV 89701 Tel: (775) 684-6830; Fax: (775) 684-6761 Email: <u>kpowers@lcb.state.nv.us</u> *Attorneys for Legislature of the State of Nevada*

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

1. We hereby certify that this amicus curiae brief complies with the formatting requirements of NRAP 21(d), NRAP 32(a)(4) and NRAP 32(c)(2), the typeface requirements of NRAP 32(a)(5) and the type style requirements of NRAP 32(a)(6) because this brief has been prepared in a proportionally spaced typeface using Microsoft Office Word 2010 in 14-point font and Times New Roman type.

2. We hereby certify that this amicus curiae brief complies with the typevolume limitations of NRAP 21(d) and NRAP 32(a)(7) because, excluding the parts of this brief exempted by NRAP 32(a)(7)(C), this brief is proportionately spaced, has a typeface of 14 points or more, and contains <u>15,076</u> words, which exceeds the type-volume limitation of 7,000 words. However, we certify that a motion to exceed the type-volume limitation for this brief will be filed pursuant to NRAP 32(a)(7)(D).

3. We hereby certify that we have read this amicus curiae brief, and to the best of our knowledge, information and belief, it is not frivolous or interposed for any improper purpose. We further certify that this brief complies with all applicable Nevada Rules of Appellate Procedure, in particular NRAP 28(e)(1), which requires every assertion in this brief regarding matters in the record to be supported by a reference to the page and volume number, if any, of the transcript

RA 000163

or appendix where the matter relied on is to be found. We understand that we may be subject to sanctions in the event that this brief is not in conformity with the requirements of the Nevada Rules of Appellate Procedure.

DATED: This <u>16th</u> day of February, 2021.

By: <u>/s/ Kevin C. Powers</u> **KEVIN C. POWERS** General Counsel Nevada Bar No. 6781 LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL BUREAU, LEGAL DIVISION 401 S. Carson St. Carson City, NV 89701 Tel: (775) 684-6830; Fax: (775) 684-6761 Email: <u>kpowers@lcb.state.nv.us</u> *Attorneys for Legislature of the State of Nevada*

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I am an employee of the Nevada Legislative Counsel Bureau, Legal Division, and that on the <u>16th</u> day of February, 2021, pursuant to NRAP 25 and NEFCR 9, I filed and served a true and correct copy of Nevada Legislature's Amicus Curiae Brief Supporting Reversal of the District Court's Interpretation and Application of the Separation-of-Powers Provision in Article 3, Section 1 of the Nevada Constitution, by means of the Nevada Supreme Court's electronic filing system, directed to:

STEVEN B. WOLFSON

Clark County District Attorney **ALEXANDER CHEN** Chief Deputy District Attorney OFFICE OF THE CLARK COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY 200 Lewis Ave. Las Vegas, NV 89155 <u>Alexander.Chen@clarkcountyda.com</u> Attorneys for Petitioner State of Nevada

CRAIG A. MUELLER, ESQ.

CRAIG MUELLER & ASSOCIATES 723 S. Seventh St. Las Vegas, NV 89101 <u>receptionist@craigmuellerlaw.com</u> *Attorneys for Real Party in Interest Matthew Haney Molen and Real Party in Interest Jennifer Lynn Plumlee*

AARON D. FORD

Attorney General OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL 100 N. Carson St. Carson City, NV 89701 Attorneys for Petitioner State of Nevada

/s/ Kevin C. Powers An Employee of the Legislative Counsel Bureau

AFFIDAVIT OF GUY L. ROCHA ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR FOR ARCHIVES AND RECORDS DIVISION OF STATE LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS

4 STATE OF NEVADA) 5 CARSON CITY)

SS:

1

2

3

6

7

8

9

I, Guy L. Rocha, being first duly sworn, state that I have personal knowledge and am competent to testify to the following:

1. I am the Assistant Administrator for Archives and Records of the Division of State Library and Archives of the Department of Cultural Affairs of the State of Nevada.

Based on my research, I have not found any official records specifically detailing the
occupations of state legislators who served in the Nevada Legislature during the 1800s and early
1900s. Information concerning the occupations of state legislators who served in the Nevada
Legislature during this period must be obtained from Nevada newspapers that are indexed and from
other historical records.

15 The earliest known example that I have been able to find of a state legislator who held a 3. position as a state executive department employee while serving simultaneously as a member of the 16 17 Nevada Legislature is Assemblyman August C. Frohlich. Mr. Frohlich was elected to the Nevada Assembly in November 1930. During the 1931 Legislative Session, Mr. Frohlich operated the 18 19 Commercial Soap Company in Reno. After the 1931 Legislative Session, Mr. Frohlich sold his interest in the Commercial Soap Company. During his legislative term, Mr. Frohlich was 20 appointed on February 26, 1932, as a purchasing agent for the State Mental Hospital located in 21 Sparks. The appointment was made by Dr. George R. Smith, the Superintendent of the State 22 Mental Hospital. Mr. Frohlich held his position of state employment until October 1, 1932. I have 23 not found any evidence in Nevada newspapers of an official resignation by Mr. Frohlich from his 24



seat in the Nevada Assembly before or after Mr. Frohlich accepted his position with the State
Mental Hospital. During his legislative term, Mr. Frohlich also was a local candidate in Reno for a
seat on the School District Board of Trustees, but he lost at the election held on April 2, 1932. At
the general election held on November 8, 1932, Mr. Frohlich was again a local candidate in Reno,
and this time he was elected to the Office of Justice of the Peace.

6 4. Another early example that I have been able to find of a state legislator who held a position 7 as a state executive department employee while serving simultaneously as a member of the Nevada 8 Legislature is Assemblyman Harry E. "Hap" Hazard. Mr. Hazard was elected to the Nevada 9 Assembly in November 1938 while working for the Las Vegas Review-Journal. After the 1939 Legislative Session, Mr. Hazard was appointed by the State Tax Commission as the supervisor of 10 the Liquor Division of the State Tax Commission effective April 16, 1939. Mr. Hazard relocated 11 12 from Las Vegas to Carson City where Mr. Hazard worked in the Executive Department during the 13 remainder of his legislative term. I have not found any evidence in Nevada newspapers of an official resignation by Mr. Hazard from his seat in the Nevada Assembly before or after Mr. 14 Hazard accepted his position with the State Tax Commission. Mr. Hazard was not a member of the 15 Nevada Legislature during the 1941, 1943 and 1945 Legislative Sessions. In 1946, Mr. Hazard 16 was again elected to the Nevada Assembly. During the 1947 Legislative Session, Mr. Hazard 17 served as the Speaker of the Assembly. While a member of the 1947 Legislature, Mr. Hazard also 18 19 served as a member of the Board of the Clark County Housing Authority, a local government 20 agency.

5. The earliest known example that I have been able to find of a state legislator who held a position as a local government employee while serving simultaneously as a member of the Nevada Legislature is Assemblyman Mark Richards Averill. Mr. Averill served in the Nevada Assembly during the 1903 Legislative Session, and Mr. Averill also served as the clerk of a local school



district during his legislative term. Another early example is Mr. Averill's daughter, Ruth Averill, who served in the Nevada Assembly during the 1921 Legislative Session. Ruth Averill was a primary school teacher during her legislative term. day of April, 2004. DATED this is Roch GUY] ƙđ CHA Subscribed and sworn to before me this 24^{th} day of April, 2004. Notary Public in and for the State of Nevada KAREN KADE NOTARY PUBLIC NEVADA ppt. Recorded in CARSON CIT My Appt. Exp. Jan. 10, 200

AFFIDAVIT OF DONALD O. WILLIAMS	
RESEARCH DIRECTOR	
RESEARCH DIVISION OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL BUREA	JU

STATE OF NEVADA)

CARSON CITY

ï

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

) ss:

I, Donald O. Williams, being first duly sworn, state that I have personal knowledge and am competent to testify to the following:

I am the Research Director of the Research Division of the Legislative Counsel Bureau of
the State of Nevada.

Based on research conducted by the Research Division of the Legislative Counsel Bureau,
beginning with the 1967 Session of the Nevada Legislature, public employees have served as
members of the Nevada Legislature during each Regular Session convened over the past 37 years.
The following table indicates the number of state legislators who held positions as public
employees while serving simultaneously as members of the Nevada Legislature during each
Regular Session convened since 1967:

6	Year of Legislative Session:	Number of state legislators who held positions as public employees:
7 [1967	2
	1969	1
3 [1971	2
	1973	7
] [1975	4
	1977	7
) [1979	6
	1981	5
	1983	7
	1985	9
2 -	1987	12
. [1989	13
8 -	1991	13
. [1993	12
┇╢┝	1995	10

Year of Legislative Session: Number of state legislators who held positions as public employees: DATED this _28 day of April, 2004. DONALD O. WILI JAMS day of April, 2004. Subscribed and sworn to before me this ______ Notary Public in and for the State of Nevada **EVELYN BENTON** NOTARY FUBLIC . NEVADA Appt. Recorded in CARSON CITY No.02-79243-3 My Appt. Exp. Dec. 12, 2006 RA000150

MAR-25-2004 THU 02:38 9



OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

DEAN HELLER Secretory of State March 25, 2004

The Honorable Brian Sandoval Nevada Attorney General 100 N. Carson Street Carson City, Nevada 89701

Dear Attorney General Sandoval.

On March 1, 2004, you issued an opinion to my office, wherein you found that Article 3. Section 1 of the Nevada Constitution bars any employee from serving in the executive branch of government and simultaneously serving as a mamber of the Nevada State Legislature. Based on that opinion. I hereby request that, as my counsel, you bring an action on my behalf to compet the Legislature to follow the Nevada Constitution, and receive a determination from the Nevada Supreme Court concerning whether the separation of powers doctrine also bars local government employees from simultaneously serving in the Legislature.

As you are aware, there are currently several members of the Nevada State Legislature that are also serving as state executive branch employees, county government employees or city government employees. Based on your opinion, it appears that many or all of these members may be violating the separation of powers doctrine contained in the Nevada Constitution. Because the Legislature has delegated to me the power under NRS 293.124 to enforce all "state and federal laws relating to elections in this state," I believe that action should be taken to require the Legislature to compel its members to serve consistent with the Constitution. In addition, it is imperative that the state of the law be clarified prior to May 3, 2004 when candidate filing begins for the 2004 election.

As we have discussed, I believe that you can proceed on my behalf in one of two ways. The first option would be to petition the Nevada Supreme Court for a writ of mandamus to compel the State Legislature to unsent any member who is currently violating the Constitution. As part of that action, the Supreme Court would be required to determine which legislators are improperly serving in dual positions, including local positions if the court so determines that dual service involving local government employees is prohibited. A second option would be to proceed under NRS 29.010 to reach agreement with the Legislature that a controversy exists and request the Nevada Supreme Court's ruling in the same manner as option one. Because time is of the essence with candidate filing "around the corner," I request that you only proceed under NRS 29.010 if you are able to obtain the Legislature's agreement by March 31, 2004 to proceed in this manner.

> CARSON CITY, NEVADA 89701-6785 VI-1009-0100 V FAX 17751 584-5717

1. m

The Honorable Brian Sandoval March 25, 2004 Page 2

Because this matter involves compliance with the provisions of the Nevada Constitution, and as set forth above we have little time for appeals or other post judgment relief. I am requesting you bring the above referenced petition in the Nevada Supreme Court; if you determine an alternate legal strategy is appropriate, please consult with me before proceeding on my behalf. Indeed, as we discussed, the Nevada Supreme Court has original jurisdiction to issue write of mandamus pursuant to the Nevada Constitution Article 6, Section 4 as well as Nevada Revised Statutes Section 34.150, et seq.

Please do not besitue to contact me if you have any questions or require additional information.

Respectfully

DEAN HELLER Secretary of State

CARSON CITY, NEVADA 89701-4786 (779) 007-3700 * FAX (775) 684-5717





Society Leaders break trailition at-Politics in two "dirty" for and have taken the

af 11 10 TI

LONDON, October 23 .- The French Line steamer Chicag arrived as Fayal, Ameres island, according to Lio out is being done to entingaish the fire abourd.

TILLE, Detabar it -- tabil the fre is ant sert

Cupid Is Outdone In Contest With Imp of Divorce

for sports RADOUT class country prop

To Lend at !

eta property o

Episcopaliat ecular rather than fairs. It reviewed a United States and the threat the Otlent alism which as-

patriotism." gere may lie lurking ern horizon "it as-iy be averted by a which has not al-b our dealings with

LIP GAPING"

he church were ad-netify their wealth y of their substance it heing added that Armenia, Poland and gaping to the sky dumb appeal to God inter in part follows: Involved today in-fusion which finds expression in the m which fings pression in the pe. No salf-iso-is possible. The nations are inter ds of a tapeatry, er again be seci is benreforth being in a disme being in 'a dis-ering unity, in days <u>itr. whese order and</u> it<u>r. whese order and</u> its of the set of the ns of lifeless space. tance in the head to but from the head to unity,

out from the head to appediancy may in re neutrality of the sumat hold fn leash of the individual cit-unat be passionless. manbood.

FOR SHUGNESS at our Nation is not. no ground for anug-upon us the searchity of exaiting the peace and incorpor-our national life. often assume o often Banumes the group selfshinks or n. Local conditions t form this disease nder it breaks forth rash of war; here in prosperity which is manhood to decay.

that in some quar-iske of gain, still where of industry nouts of her little illows human life to the inventions of luction from lack of rds, that heeds but of the poor and y of the poor and of at peace, even of at/war. If pres-to act as peace If of the warring aspirations be tenflection that we are n-disease of warsts & tion of war is a rause. God hates by peace as much mrighteous war.

GIVE LITTLE diy said that in pro-er swollen wealth, ribution to the inho-in Eugraph is the r. A fow have given to haying down their a due proportion. to e: the vest majority If America comen disorder richer in rid disorner richer in rer in manhood, sha n herself the penalty, if or even of igning

teast of all so vast

MIRCI 1 M IOTCEB G The only the ocial order.

t, the preparedness and upon life with Ge WARRING NATIONS THACH US

character based upon life with Ged. WARHING NATIONS TEACH US "Would that our pears today were like rivers and our rightsousness as the waves of the sea. Then de's mations. But how different a case it is The hations now at war have as grach to teach us as we have to teach them. They robiks our wor-ship of coufort and money by the daily offering, upon a reaking ditar-ref life and treastire: they declare to us that intoxicating illuor, which is a freely and carnieshy drunk in our land, is a national memark to be dependent with the galar of heightened virility; they teach us-thet food is 'be staff of physical life, not an invitation in daiminass and giuttony; they rebuke our spir-litum powerfy by the spiender of though the staff of a physical-from God and breeds new virtuer in they shame our spit-indu

rences by a degree of generation that is 'rmyal,' "Whatever apology or explanation mey he mond, at home or abroad, for the world confusion, it's noue the use an outcome and a reven-tion of, universitien primiples that "May dominated the life of Westery Christenden and at which both the "church and the nations have need to "mean"

GREED USURES THRONE

GILPED UNITET TIRDAN "Green of passrasiona, of honor be pleasure have literally dethroned Gild from his-supreme place among men. The sole curie is to exait God. "Thus far the church has been only eirong enough to son and ravel, nösstering enough to consum-nath har-liftai. Her own disubion dime her impes and linkers her progress. A divided-shurch is powerless to create an undivided world.

orld. History makes plain to us that many expensity is Goi's oppor-unity. Heneath www.poil of play of muna exteently is God's oppor-tunity. Henchin every pell of tragedy. Nice hidden the glory of God-new visions of faith, new coursels of virtue-to be revealed and discoveredy those who look not at the things which are seen, but at things which are not seen, and wreells with God for a bless-ing."

Hermon Van-Luven Is Buried on Birthday

Late Banker's Funeral Is Held From the Masonic Temple

On what would have been his forty

On what would have been his forty-sighth birthday, had he lived, the funced-of-like-late-Horknon van Luven, cashier and sceretary of the Union Trust Composity, was held yea-ignday from the Magonic Templa, at Oak' street and Van Ness avenue. The services were conducted by Chilfornia Lodge, No. 1. F. and A. M., of which Yan Luven was a momber and formerly treasurer, Jeans M. Whited, maslor of the lodge, officiated, sealasted by Acting Menfor Warden Halmon F. Conlink,

statised by Aning Menor Warden Harry L. Dewey and Junior Warden Raimon F. Conliek. San Francisco Lodge, No. 3, R.-P. O. 5, Jahn Tempin of the Mystic Shrine, and the Nottish litis bodies represented. The Interment was Drivale.

at the Republican persinge



danger Double Pay if It-Carried at Election

BACRAMENTO, October 27 .- Som thirty-five or forty legislators in the emplo, of the State in various capaciare anxiously dwalting the rasult of the November election; for if the electorate should adopt, smendt siz on the ballot, known as the Incligibility to office measure, Blate Controller John S. Chambers protiably will refuse fo draw warrants in favor of legislators then 'in the em-ploy of the State. The sot is con-struct to mean that resignations as legislators alther before or after elec-tion will not be able to circumvent its intent.

its intest. Section 39 of the act reads: No-Sensitor or Assemblyman shall dur-ing the term for which he shall have been stretted, hold or accept any office. trust or employment under the flatter provided, that this provision shall not. arply to any office filed by election by the prople." There are a number of Sanators and

"There are a number of Banators and Assemblymen whose terms expire on January 1, 1917, and it is possible that they might spree to work for the State a month and /three-quarters gratist in order to held their bottions. but there are alasta number of legisbut there are sleets number of legis-lators who will either be re-elected or are holdover Senators.

Company Sues Former President for \$7500

Services of Attorney J. L. Taugher Subject of Dispute

The controversy between John Tangher, an attorney of this city, and the Moore Filter Company of Portland, Me., was renewed yesterday by the filing in the United Stales by the minus in the Onited states jinflet(Court of a suit by the com-puny scalast Taigher for \$7500.) It is alloged that Taugher, while president and director of the com-pany in 3013, bud the directors vulce to pay him \$12,000 for his services, although he was entitled to only \$2000

months are Taugher was awarded \$18,000 revolegal services for the com-juny. The company gave notice of populat

ment of the Do

brings the Donrun in a string of the provided of the second string string of the second string strin

The main hestific positions in the east bern at Designion and ended in the west on the Danube. This position had been strongly fortified prior to the outbreak of the war. Torrai-Sarl and Txonadin /wrs constructed tike fortresses. They had strong forces as servisions and wore armed with heavy

Sarriadous and wore armod with neavy artillery. "The Rünslans held the conter while the Roumanians had to defend both wings. The general line of the cas-tral allies sweiched south of the kos-tile Math. position from Talaspace and Amusace. Coracian and Eniges.

and Amusacen Chencian and Eniges, (r the west of Bairu, "The attack began on the moruing of October 19. The west here being bright, the artillery was batter and to measure the distances and its fire was, more officient. The right wing Jack more encounter two hours of ar-cities encours of art-tiller. All and tensrious fighting was thrown in from the first positions. On the evening of the lifed day of the bal-tia the following line had hern frach-ed: The beights 33, 10 and 74, southwhich is the heights 33, to bind 14, south-west of Tuzia, and the heights south of Mura-Tanu-Burne, south of Topral-Sari. Warther to the west the ensmy on this day was detained by uninter-rupted attacks which forced him from several points of gupport.

TUXIA OCCUPIEN

"On (Wibber 20 the hattin was con-linued with the utmost energy. The fighting for Topral-Seri especially was y had evacuation Tusia ing. In the evening the "glit wing,

bor

"Top of the fail of here the addition of the failed for the failed Mrs. Mrs. Pran night was brought shead-sis thompy

WARSHIPS ENTER PRAY

night 'On October 23, seven Russian warafter "On October 23, seven Russian War-ships tried to operate from the sea the h between Gunstanna and Tusia against the right wing of the castral attras. Nucleon the ships were not successful, and the ships were forced by counter insatures to keep a long distance litte way from the cost. Cit

a way from the coast, <u>FNO</u> time was left in the defension enemy for the defense of Constants, if he wanted to mive humerit. Bein-forced by the paymer and hunghtin in-fantry, the hungarian cavalry app-iared the Roumonitan support, and en-the parallar trooms reached Islam-tap on a Kalantp. "In Dictober 23, the defeated enemy once more tried to concentrate inter-

once more tried to concentrate instants forces near Medijidie. Fresh Ruppian was Worl forces near Madijidie. Fresh Riussian forces were thrown into the engage-troops were routed in the same quirk procession, and in the ovening Medi-jidie was raptured after a hard strus; Bia. To the west we inclusion the heights northeast of Rachova. "Army sproplanes contributed much to our successe, by. excellent facon-troits success. the inter inter

Ŧ1.

tunn to our



We are fortunate in having readers in every part of every State, and a few weeks ago, we calle special correspondents and tell us how local feeling candidates.

The two questions we asked our readers we date in your neighborhood in 1912?" and "Which In THE LITERARY DIGEST for Octo

of the replies received.

This "straw vote" is unique in that while it do of those who responded, it is inclined more to re the correspondent resides

Other news articles of great interest in this 1:



A Comprehensive Explanation of the Cri-How England Answers the Mail-Seizure Question Japan Blocking China's Open Doorway, Germany's Harassed Chancellor China's National Comedy A Submarine Mine-Layer00009 How Electricity Travels Through the Body Shakespeare, A Source of Artistic



In a suff in the Federal Court thre





Amendments to Constitution

Proposed Statutes

with

and

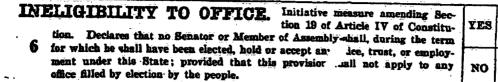
Arguments Respecting the Same

To be Submitted to the Electors of the State of California at the

General Election on.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 1916

Index, ballet titles with numbers, and conditions appear in last pages Proposed changes in previousne are prisited in blackflood type Provisions proposed to be repealed an picture in itslics



The electors of the State of California present to the secretary of state this petition, and re-quest that a proposed amendment to section nineteen of article four of the Constitution of the State of California, as hereinafter set forth, be submitted to the people of the State of Cali-fornia for their approval or rejection, at the next ensuing general election, or as provided by law. The proposed amendment is as follows:

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

Section nineteen of article four of the Constitu-tion of the State of California is hereby amended to read as follows:

PROPOSED AMENDMENT.

Section 19. No senator or member of as-sembly shall, during the term for which he shall have been elected, hold or accept any office, trust, or employment under this state; provided, that this provision shall not apply to any office filled by election by the people.

Section nineteen of article four, proposed to be amended, now reads as follows:

EXISTING PROVISIONS.

Section 19. No senator or member of assembly shall, during the term for which he shall have been elected, be appointed to any civil of-fice of profit under this state which shall have been created, or the emoluments of which have been created, during such term, except such of-flows as may be filled by election by the people.

ARGUMENTS IN FAVOR OF INELIGIBILITY TO OFFICE AMENDMENT.

It has always been the aim of any repub-lican form of government to remove the legis-lative branch of the government from the con-trol of the executive branch. It is evident that where a member of the legislature is helding a paid position in the executive department of the state that the separation which should exist between these two branches of the government is at an end. The American theory has always been that those who execute the laws should not be the same individuals as those who make the laws, yet one who is both an assemblyman and a member of the executive department is in just that position. It would not be an edify-ing spectacle, nor would it make for civic de-cence, to see such an individual introducing a bill in his legislative cepacity which would in-crease the pay he would receive in his executive conceity.

There is another reason why this measure capacity. There is another reason why this measure should pass. We should remember that a legis-lator who is holding a position on the state pay real is too apt to allow the wishes of the one responsible for his appointment to dictate the manner is which his vote shall be cast. A man in such a position, is, to say the least, not in that independent frame of mind which should be possessed by the ideal legislator. There can be no doubt that a vote "Yes" on this measure will tend materially to raise the standard of the California legislature of the future. Assemblyman Sixty-sixth District.

While some of our most efficient officials have been men holding appointment under the state, at the same time being members of the legisla-ture, the practice is one which some day may be subjected to abuse. The proposed law to render a member of the legislature ineligible to any office under the state, other than an elective office, during the term for which he shall have peen elected, is therefore in the interest of good government and should be adopted.

£

Once such a law is written into our statutes, we eliminate the incentive which a legislator may have to favor a law creating a position to which later he may contemplate appointment. The legislator should have no seliah interest in connection with the enactment of any law or the creation of any office. The proposed law without doubt will very largely eliminate the possible selfish considerationa. Here and there the state. by reason of such a

possible selfash considerationa Here and there the state, by reason of such a law, will actually suffer, as it frequently hap-pens that the most highly specialized man for work in connection with a certain department of state is a member of the legislature. There are instances of that sort today, where, by the enact-ment of such a law, the state will lose the services of especially qualified and conscientious officials. To my mind, however, the advantages from the proposed law wholly outweigh the disad-yantages, and the net result of such a law will be beneficial allies to the legislature and to the public. Ds. JOHN R. HAYNES.

ARGUMENT AGAINST INELIGIBILITY TO OFFICE AMENDMENT.

ARGUMENT AGAINST INELIGIBILITY TO OFFICE AMENDMENT. To pass this constitutional amendment is in effect to say that every governor and member of the state legislature is dishonest and without integrity or character, because those who urge its adoption are loud in their cries that it will prevent the governor from bartering for legisla-tive votes by appointing senators and assembly-men who favor administration measures to state offices, and that it will further destroy the incen-tive for members of the legislature to vote with the governor in the hope of obtaining a state position is reward thereof. It is certainly a sad commentary on the integrity of our governors and legislators by thus stigmatizing executive he so lacking in integrity and unmindful of the obligations of his high office, secure the same legislative votes by appointing relatives or politi-cal friends of such service to legislators. Do you realise that under the sposting rise other isones of political service to legislators. Do you realises that under the sposting ri-and bartical service to legislators. Do you realise that under the sposition? In many instances it makes for efficiency to appoint upon commission created or a law enacted. Another argument advanced by the proponentis of this measure is that members of the legis-lature who would self the sposition for the service examination for a state position for another argument advanced by the proponentis of this measure is that members of the legis-lature who have given careful study to the needs, alow enacted.

aims and objects of a commission created or a law enacted. Another argument advanced by the proponents of this measure is that members of the legisla-ture who are appointed to state offices receives two salaries, but the records will show that leaves of absence are invariably obtained by such appointees during sessions of the legislature and the actual time of the legislative session is gen-erally about eighty days every two years. Thus the people lose nothing, while the incumbent of a state position who is a member of the state legislature is better fitted through his legislative attraction people love fair play; they like to reward efficient and faithful public services by promotion, yet the adoption of this proposed measure would render every member of the legis-lature ineligible for promotion to higher positions and graver duties and responsibilities, however efficient and meritorious his services in the legis-lature may have been. Thos, P. WHITE, Presiding Judge, Police Court, Los Angeles.

[Fortz-three]

3