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FILED**JUN 17 2022**
 ELIZABETH A. BROWN
 CLERK OF SUPREME COURT
 BY S. Young
 DEPUTY CLERK

June 17, 2022

Via email to nvsecclerk@nvcourts.nv.gov
 Elizabeth A. Brown
 Clerk of the Supreme Court
 201 South Carson Street
 Carson City, NV 89701

Re: Support of ADKT 0598

Dear Ms. Brown:

Washoe Legal Services ("WLS") has reviewed the petition, proposed rule, and comments of Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada, ("LACSN"), the District Attorneys, and the State Bar, and submits the following regarding ADKT 0598. We apologize for the tardy submittal of our comments – it appears there was a mix up in our receipt of the scheduling order and I just became aware of the petition yesterday.

First, it is important to note that last year Washoe Legal Services provided children attorney services in NRS 432B cases to over 1,500 children in Washoe, Lyon, Humboldt, Storey and Pershing counties and Carson City and has represented tens of thousands of children over the many years it has practiced in child welfare law.

Washoe Legal Services supports and adopts the comments of LACSN and the State Bar in their entirety and urges adoption of ADKT 0598 as petitioned.

Adoption of the rules of conduct are necessary not only to protect the legal rights of our clients of all ages and abilities in NRS 432B cases, but also to provide clarity regarding the expectations of representation of children in child welfare cases. While the rules have not yet been adopted in Nevada, because they are largely implied in our professional requirements and because they are based on ABA Model Rules, we already abide by these rules and see them as necessary to ensure the competent and diligent representation of our clients. Clarifying the expectations will also benefit our clients (who have no access to their statutory rights without an attorney) by ensuring that child welfare attorneys understand the expectations for zealous advocacy for children in foster care.

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Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on ADKT 0598 and your continued work for children in foster care in Nevada. WLS strongly urge your support of these rules as petitioned.

Sincerely,



Deonne E. Contine
Executive Director



Jeff Briggs
Supervising Attorney, Children's Attorney Program