



Fourth Judicial District Court
571 Idaho Street
Elko, Nevada 89801

MASON E. SIMONS
DISTRICT JUDGE, DEPARTMENT 3

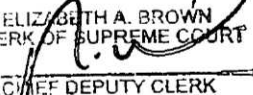
January 23, 2024

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Supreme Court of Nevada
201 S. Carson Street, Suite 201
Carson City, NV 89701-4702

FILED

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ELIZABETH A. BROWN
CLERK OF SUPREME COURT
BY: 
CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK

Re: ADKT 616 (Proposed changes to SCR 49.1)

Chief Justice Cadish -

I am writing to express my strong support for ADKT 616 which would amend SCR 49.1 to allow attorneys who are barred in another state who accept employment with a rural District Attorney's Office or Public Defender's Office to be admitted to practice in Nevada indefinitely while they continue employment in said office, and not require the passage of the Nevada bar exam.

As this Court is well aware, rural Nevada is in crisis with respect to the availability of legal representation. Rural Nevada is hemorrhaging lawyers as attorneys who have long practiced in these rural counties age out, retire, pass away or stop practicing law. The outflow of lawyers well exceeds the inflow. We simply are not getting lawyers moving into these counties in sufficient numbers to keep up with demand.

These issues are particularly acute in our District Attorney's Offices and Public Defender's Offices. These offices are having an extremely difficult time recruiting and retaining lawyers to work in these offices. Many of these offices have vacancies that have been open for months or years and that remain unfilled. This much needed change will serve to help address this void moving forward.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this critical issue. I urge the Court to adopt this much needed amendment, and to make it effective immediately.

Sincerely,


Mason E. Simons

24-04403