



ACTING IN COMMUNITY TOGETHER
IN ORGANIZING NORTHERN NEVADA

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September 15, 2020


VIA E-Mail Only

Elizabeth A. Brown
Clerk of the Supreme Court
201 South Carson St.
Carson City, NV 89701

ADKT 507

FILED

SEP 17 2020

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

**RE: ADKT - In the Matter of Residential Summary Eviction Actions and
Notices During COVID-19**

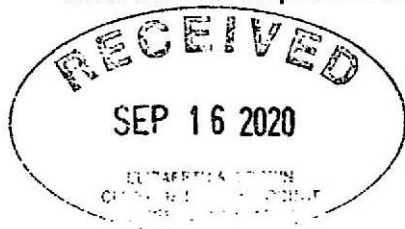
Dear Ms. Brown:

My name is J.D. Klippenstein and I am the Executive Director of ACTIONN, a non-profit advocacy organization in Washoe County. Many of the community members we work with on a regular basis are struggling to stay current with their rent due to job loss and other economic challenges created by COVID-19. They live in fear of falling too far behind and being evicted from their homes as soon as eviction moratoriums currently in place are lifted. Their future housing security will be greatly impacted by the eviction mediation program currently under consideration by the Nevada Supreme Court.

We believe that alternate dispute resolution is good for both tenants and landlords. In order to make the greatest impact though, the program needs to be an accessible and transparent process for the tenant. In particular:

- Tenants need to have an opportunity to elect mediation prior to an eviction hearing without cumbersome barriers to qualify for mediation.
- Tenants should not be disqualified for mediation if they have applied for rental assistance.
- Landlords should not have the option to opt-in in or out of mediation.

For these reasons, I am writing to express support for the program draft found in Exhibit A. This version of the eviction mediation program is better suited to address the unprecedented housing insecurity faced by thousands of Nevadans



20-34211

and takes meaningful steps to mitigate a wave of evictions and rise in homelessness that would otherwise further devastate communities still fighting to recover from COVID-19.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'JDK', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

J.D. Klippenstein
Executive Director
ACTIONN