

Supreme Court of Nevada  
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

KATHERINE STOCKS  
Director and  
State Court Administrator



JOHN MCCORMICK  
Assistant Court Administrator

**MEETING NOTICE AND AGENDA**  
**COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL SELECTION**

Date and Time of Meeting: Thursday, March 16, at 10:00 a.m.

Venue:

Zoom Meeting  
Public Access  
Meeting ID:  
893 9508 6420  
Pass:  
520980

Supreme Court  
Carson City  
Law Library  
Room 107  
201 S. Carson St.

Supreme Court  
Las Vegas  
1<sup>st</sup> Floor Conf Room  
408 E. Clark Ave.

**AGENDA**

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call and Determination of Quorum Pursuant to Rule 4.C.
3. Public Comment Pursuant to Rule 4.E.
4. Approval of Meeting Summary from February 7-10, 2023\*
5. Interviews for Eighth Judicial District Department C\*
6. Rules Amendment Meeting
7. Adjournment

\*Denotes items which the Commission may take action.

Accommodation: We are pleased to make reasonable accommodation for the members of the public who are disabled and wish to attend the meeting. If special arrangements for the meeting are necessary, please notify the Administrative Office of the Courts, in writing to [mbautista@nvcourts.nv.gov](mailto:mbautista@nvcourts.nv.gov) or call Margarita Bautista at (775) 684-1710.

Notice: Commission Rule 4.B. public notice of meeting was provided at least three working days prior to the meeting. Notice of this meeting was posted on the Supreme Court Website [www.nvcourts.gov](http://www.nvcourts.gov).

Supreme Court of Nevada  
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

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MEETING SUMMARY

Organization: Commission on Judicial Selection  
Eighth Judicial District, Departments VII, XXIX, C, N & O

Date and Time: Tuesday, February 7, 2023, at 8:15 a.m.  
Wednesday, February 8, 2023, at 1:00 p.m.  
Thursday, February 9, 2023, at 8:15 a.m.  
Friday, February 10, 2023, at 8:15 a.m.

Venue: The Commission will convene in the Supreme Court Courtroom of Las Vegas.  
Additional public viewing is available through YouTube.

Supreme Court YouTube <a href="https://tinyurl.com/Nevada-Supreme-Court-YouTube">https://tinyurl.com/Nevada-Supreme-Court-YouTube</a>	Supreme Court Las Vegas Courtroom 408 E. Clark Ave.
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AGENDA

Tuesday, February 7, 2023

Commissioners Present

Chair, Chief Justice Lidia Stiglich  
Vice-Chair Gregory Kamer Esq.  
Ms. Claudia Aguayo Esq.  
Ms. Donna Bath  
Ms. Justina Caviglia Esq.  
Mr. Andrew Diss  
Mr. Jeffrey Gilbert  
Mr. Peter Guzman  
Mr. Joel Locke Esq.

Guests Present

Mr. Adam Ganz  
Ms. Stephanie Phillips, Veterans in Politics  
Mr. Steve Sampson, Veterans in Politics

AOC Staff Present

Margarita Bautista, Commission Staff

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 8:17 a.m.

2. Roll Call and Determination of Quorum Pursuant to Rule 4.C.

Roll was called and a quorum was present.

3. Public Comment Pursuant to Rule 4.E.

Ms. Stephanie Phillips, on behalf of Veterans in Politics testified against the nomination of Mr. James Dean Leavitt.

Mr. Steve Sanson, on behalf of Veterans in Politics, testified in support of the following applicants Danielle Chio, Louis Schneider, Timothy Treffinger, and Lindsey Moors. Mr. Sanson testified in opposition to the nomination of Mr. James Dean Leavitt and Mr. Jason Stoffel.

4. Approval of Meeting Summary from January 26, 2023\*

This item was tabled to a later date within the current selection process.

5. Disclosures Pursuant to Rule 2.

Mr. Guzman provided disclosure that the entity which he works for, Latin Chamber of Commerce, has an endorsement process to which many of the applicants have gone through including the following applicants: Ms. Danielle Chio, Mr. Adam Ganz, Mr. James Dean Leavitt.

Ms. Bath provided disclosures that she had contact with Mr. James Dean Leavitt through LinkedIn prior to being appointed. She also stated that a Mr. McCarty from a union reached out, and she did not return his call.

The Commission proceeded without concern over the disclosures provided by the Commissioners.

6. Interview of Applicants for Department VII\*\*

08:29 a.m.	Adam Ganz
09:00 a.m.	Daniel Hooge
09:30 a.m.	-Break-
09:50 a.m.	Craig Newman
10:20 a.m.	James Dean Leavitt
10:58 a.m.	-Break-
11:03 a.m.	Danielle Chio
11:25 a.m.	Patrick Ferguson
11:55 a.m.	-Lunch-
12:50 p.m.	Robert Allen Stephens
1:30 p.m.	Nadine Morton
2:04 p.m.	-Break-
2:09 p.m.	Berna Rhodes-Ford
2:35 p.m.	Marni Watkins

7. Executive Session Pursuant to Rule 3.D

At the conclusion of interviews at 3:05 p.m., the Commission went into executive session pursuant to Commission Rule 3.D.

8. Selection of Department VII Nominees pursuant to Rule 9.D\*

At 3:34 p.m. the Commission returned to public session to commence voting. After one round of balloting, the Commission selected three nominees by majority vote. The nominees were:

- Danielle Chio
- Robert Allen Stephens
- Marni Watkins

9. Recess

The Commission recessed at 3:40 p.m.

Wednesday, February 8, 2023

Commissioners Present

Chair, Chief Justice Lidia Stiglich  
Vice-Chair Gregory Kamer Esq.  
Ms. Claudia Aguayo Esq.  
Ms. Donna Bath  
Ms. Justina Caviglia Esq.  
Mr. Andrew Diss  
Mr. Jeffrey Gilbert  
Mr. Peter Guzman  
Mr. Joel Locke Esq.

Guests Present

Ms. Stephanie Phillips, Veterans in Politics  
Mr. Steve Sanson, Veterans in Politics  
Ms. Faith Sanson

AOC Staff Present

Ms. Margarita Bautista, Commission Staff

10. Call to Reconvene

The meeting was reconvened at 12:55 p.m.

11. Roll Call and Determination of Quorum Pursuant to Rule 4.C.

- Roll was called and a quorum was present.
- The Commission went into executive session at 12:56 p.m.
- The Commission returned to public session at 1:10 p.m.
- Chair Stiglich recognized the public present in the courtroom and called for any public comment. There was no public comment.
- Chair Stiglich notified each applicant that interviews would consist of two portions, 15 minutes in public session and 15 minutes in executive session.

12. Interview of Applicants for Department C\*\*

1:11 p.m.	Audrey Beeson
1:42 p.m.	Louis Schneider
2:12 p.m.	-Break-
2:22 p.m.	Lynn Hughes
2:46 p.m.	Timothy R. Treffinger

13. Executive Session Pursuant to Rule 3.D

At the conclusion of interviews, at 3:16 p.m., the Commission went into executive session pursuant to Commission Rule 3.D.

14. Selection of Department C Nominees pursuant to Rule 9.D\*

At 3:55 p.m. the Commission returned to public session to commence voting. After one round of balloting, the Commission did not vote for a majority of three applicants. The Chair called for a second round of balloting. After the second round, a majority was not reached. The Chair asked each commissioner to state for the record, whether they would change their vote. Each commissioner indicated no intention to change their vote.

Rule 9.D.4 states: In the event of an impasse, the Commission may follow whatever voting procedure agreed upon by a majority of the Commission to accomplish the nominating process or, by two-thirds majority vote of the Commission, disqualify all applicants and begin the application and selection process anew.

Comm'r Locke made a motion to declare an impasse pursuant to Rule 9.D.4.

Comm'r Gilbert seconded the motion.

❖ The motion passed unanimously to declare an impasse pursuant to Rule 9.D.4.

The Chair asked all commissioners to be prepared to review the timeline for the reopened vacancy during the meeting on February 9, 2023.

The Commission recessed at 4:03 p.m.

Thursday, February 9, 2023

Commissioners Present

Chair, Chief Justice Lidia Stiglich  
Vice-Chair Gregory Kamer Esq.  
Ms. Claudia Aguayo Esq.  
Ms. Donna Bath  
Ms. Justina Caviglia Esq.  
Mr. Andrew Diss  
Mr. Jeffrey Gilbert  
Mr. Peter Guzman  
Mr. Joel Locke Esq.

Guests Present

Ms. Stephanie Phillips, Veterans in Politics  
Mr. Steve Sanson, Veterans in Politics

AOC Staf Present

Ms. Margarita Bautista, Commission Staff

15. Call to Reconvene

The meeting was reconvened at 8:20 a.m.

16. Roll Call and Determination of Quorum Pursuant to Rule 4.C.

Roll was called and a quorum was present.

17. Public Commet

There was no public comment.

18. Disclosures Pursuant to Rule 2

Mr. Guzman provided disclosure regarding Mr. Reynolds, that the applicant sought and received the endorsement of the Latin Chamber of Commerce.

The Commission proceeded without concern of impartiality over the disclosures provided by the Commissioner.

19. Interview of Applicants for Department XXIX\*\*

08:21 a.m.	Adam Breeden
08:54 a.m.	Jacob Reynolds
09:20 a.m.	-Break-
09:37 a.m.	David Gardner
10:07 a.m.	Douglas Hedger
10:33 a.m.	-Break-
10:39 a.m.	Lindsey Moors
11:02 a.m.	Kimberly Paige Stein
11:30 a.m.	-Lunch-
12:15 p.m.	Trent Richards
12:41 p.m.	Blair Parker

20. Executive Session Pursuant to Rule 3.D

At the conclusion of interviews, at 1:06 p.m., the Commission went into executive session pursuant to Commission Rule 3.D.

21. Selection of Department XXIX Nominees pursuant to Rule 9.D\*

At 1:30 p.m. the Commission returned to public session to commence voting. After one round of balloting, the Commission selected three nominees by majority vote. The nominees were:

- Mr. Douglas Hedger
- Mr. Jacob Reynolds
- Mr. Trent Richards

22. Recess

The Commission recessed at 1:40 p.m.

Friday, February 10, 2023

Commissioners Present

Chair, Chief Justice Lidia Stiglich  
Vice-Chair Gregory Kamer Esq.  
Ms. Claudia Aguayo Esq.  
Ms. Donna Bath  
Ms. Justina Caviglia Esq.  
Mr. Andrew Diss  
Mr. Jeffrey Gilbert  
Mr. Peter Guzman  
Mr. Joel Locke Esq.

Guests Present

Ms. Stephanie Phillips, Veterans in Politics  
Mr. Steve Sanson, Veterans in Politics

AOC Staff Present

Ms. Margarita Bautista, Commission Staff

23. Call to Reconvene

The meeting was reconvened at 8:18 a.m.

24. Roll Call and Determination of Quorum Pursuant to Rule 4.C.

Roll was called and a quorum was present.

25. Approval of Meeting Summary from January 26, 2023\*

Comm'r Caviglia made a motion to approve the meeting summary from January 26, 2023.

Comm'r Kamer seconded the motion.

Ms. Bath and Mr. Gilbert abstained.

❖ The meeting summary from January 26, 2023 was approved unanimously.

26. Interview of Applicants for Department O\*\*

08:21 a.m.	Kerri Maxey
08:49 a.m.	Robert O. Kurth Jr.
09:20 a.m.	-Break-
09:31 a.m.	Janette Reyes-Speer
10:00 a.m.	Regina McConnell
10:25 a.m.	-Break-
10:45 a.m.	Robert Cerceo
11:20 a.m.	Robert Hill
11:37 p.m.	Stephanie Keels

27. During the interview of Mr. Kurth, Com'r Kamer provided disclosure that as the interview proceeded he realized he may have had contact with Mr. Kurth through his firm. Com'r Kamer

noted he was reaching out to his firm for a conflicts check. At the conclusion of the interview, Mr. Kamer stated on the record that his firm has represented Steel Engineers. Com'r Kamer further stated that the last activity his firm had with Steel Engineers was in 2010 and it was not a matter that he personally handled. Com'r Kamer further stated that he was involved in unionization efforts in the 2000's with Steel Engineers. Com'r Kamer stated he could serve without conflict.

The Commission proceeded without concern of impartiality over the disclosures provided by the Commissioner.

28. Executive Session and Lunch Pursuant to Rule 3.D

At the conclusion of interviews, at 12:09 p.m., the Commission went into executive session pursuant to Commission Rule 3.D.

29. Selection of Department O Nominees pursuant to Rule 9.D\*

At 1:04 p.m. the Commission returned to public session to commence voting. After one round of balloting, the Commission selected three nominees by majority vote. The nominees were:

- Mr. Robert Cerceo
- Ms. Kerri Maxey
- Ms. Regina McConnell

30. Interview of Applicants for Department N\*\*

1:15 p.m.	Paul M. Gaudet
1:45 p.m.	Kristine Brewer
2:15 p.m.	-Break-
2:30 p.m.	Stephanie McDonald
3:03 p.m.	Jason Stoffel

31. The Chair called for public comment.

- a. Stephanie Phillips of Veterans in Politics, made public comment on the impasse that was reached during the nomination process for Department C. Ms. Phillips further stated that the Commission Rules appear disenfranchising to qualified candidates because the entire panel is disqualified when the Commission cannot come to agreement of three nominees.
- b. Steve Sanson, of Veterans in Politics, testified in opposition to the nomination of Mr. Jason Stoffel.

32. Executive Session Pursuant to Rule 3.D

At the conclusion of interviews and after public comment, at 3:34 p.m., the Commission went into executive session pursuant to Commission Rule 3.D.

33. Selection of Department N Nominees pursuant to Rule 9.D\*

At 4:17 p.m. the Commission returned to public session to commence voting. After one round of balloting, the Commission selected three nominees by majority vote. The nominees were:

- Paul M. Gaudet
- Stephanie McDonald
- Jason Stoffel

34. Adjournment

The Commission adjourned at 4:21 p.m.

# Exhibit One



From the Desk of:

# Stephanie L. Phillips

January 4, 2023

Nevada Commission on Judicial Selection  
201 S. Carson, Ste 250  
Carson City, NV 89701

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing you today in OPPOSITION to James Dean Leavitt for the EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT DEPARTMENT 7. I came to know Mr. Leavitt when I sat on the panel for Veterans In Politics International's endorsement interview. During the interview I asked Mr. Leavitt about his attempted suicide reported on the internet. Natural question to ask since one must have the proper temperament to be on the bench. He answered me that it was an "accidental discharge". Then he goes on to explain how he was depressed, two members of his family and two other members of his wife's family all had committed suicide. He talked about how he had disappointed his family and this was a private matter of mental health. He said we have HIPAA laws for a reason; which those are specifically for a Doctor to keep your medical records private.... has nothing to do with a panelist asking a candidate a valid question regarding an attempted suicide and mental health. Then he spoke about Abraham Lincoln and how he contemplated suicide. Mr. Leavitt spoke so much about suicide and depression, but yet he told me the incident was an accidental discharge. That, in my opinion, was dishonest. If you accidentally discharge a gun and accidentally shoot yourself you're not going to go on and on about suicide and be offended someone questions your mental health.

I watched Mr. Leavitt's behavior and demeanor during the interview and to me he came across very angry, bitter and unsettled. Then I read the transcript of the interview he had with the Review Journal where he clearly states he was in a state of depression, hallucinating and attempted suicide. That directly contradicts his original answer to me that it was an "accidental discharge". That's called spinning the facts, being deceitful, being dishonest or whatever you want to call it, his integrity is in question.

6655 W. Sahara Ave., Suite B-200 \* Las Vegas, Nevada 89146 \* Office: 702-339-6436

Later, I learned of the felony charge against Mr. Leavitt from 1998 which was negotiated down to a misdemeanor; however his driver's license was suspended and the insurance company paid out \$27,000.00 on that claim according to the Review Journal interview.

Also during the Review Journal interview it seemed as if he was somehow threatening the interviewer.... So much so the RJ called Metro to investigate. Leavitt said "Look what just happened with Jeff German, OK? Right? Do you understand... I mean this is serious s---, ....You guys need to report the news fairly is what I'm trying to tell you, and you guys didn't do that with me four years ago. That's what I'm trying to tell you". Please read the entire transcript of the interview, and anyone reading it will probably come to the same conclusion..... there is serious instability there.

I believe Mr. Leavitt should never be anywhere near the bench. In my opinion Mr. Leavitt should never have any power to rule over others due to lack of integrity, possible mental health concerns and his severe lack of judicial temperament. Nevada voters have spoken in the last two elections in which Mr. Leavitt was a candidate. He lost by huge margins and that speaks for itself.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

*Stephanie L. Phillips*

Stephanie L. Phillips

# Exhibit Two



# *Veterans In Politics, International®*

**POST OFFICE BOX 28211  
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89126 U.S.A.**

STEVE SANSON, USMC - PRESIDENT/DIRECTOR

CHRISTINA ORTIZ USA RET - SECRETARY  
DON WOOLBRIGHT USMC - TREASURER  
GEORGE CHEHADE - MINISTER  
RON Q. QUILANG - AUXILIARY DIRECTOR

January 23, 2023

To: Nevada Commission on Judicial Selection

RE: Danielle Chio

**Subject: IN SUPPORT OF DANIELLE CHIO EIGHTH JUDICIAL  
DISTRICT COURT DEPARTMENT 7**

Danielle Chio made an appearance on the Veterans In Politics talk show on September 3, 2022 (see the link to the show: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e19CM--cSNs> ), and we deemed her to have a wealth of knowledge and understanding of the legal system.

Chio has a humble heart for humanity being employed with the Clark County District Attorney's office and had the opportunity to work on the sexual assault team and currently heads the gang unit.

Chio is a hardcore prosecutor and has the capability and understanding to be fair and balanced. We believe Chio would be a champion for courtroom demeanor. Chio seemed to have a gift for understanding the victim, the perpetrators, and the families on both sides of the table.

Chio believes that if you are going to send people to prison or enforce the death penalty you have to visit those facilities to have a better understanding of where

the convicted will end up. Chio also believes that her tough upbringing has given her a better understanding of the accused.

Chio said as a legal professional you have to uphold the judicial canons and the code of ethics.

Chio explained the importance of the Veterans Treatment Court. We pointed out how law enforcement officers automatically go on paid administrative leave after they fired their weapons and receive mental care. The big difference is a Combat Veteran is not afforded the same opportunity, because they are constantly in the fight with multiple deployments and zero mental care.

We gave our endorsements to Danielle "Pieper" Chio when she ran for Las Vegas Justice of the Peace Department 9 and now we give our endorsement once again in this appointment process.

\*Footnote

Veterans In Politics International is extremely critical of Judges, especially in Family Court. We have a long history in family court. We have protested the corruption that has plagued the family court system. We have put together a court observation team that observes judges on the bench. We have created Youtube channels that showcase actual court cases, endorsement interviews, and one on one interviews. We have contracted with Court Cam and Court TV to show what happens in the courtroom to a nationwide audience. We have interviewed thousands of candidates for our endorsements and in many cases, we have done a complete background check on the candidates that appear before our panel. We have done articles and interviewed candidates for the bench on our talk show program, to educate the public before they go to the voting booth.

The reason I am bringing this to your attention is that we take the judiciary extremely seriously since 1998. We believe that a judge's decision impacts your life immediately and on a very personal level.

Respectfully Submitted By;



Steve Sanson

President of Veterans In Politics International,

President of Veterans In Politics Foundation,

President of Nevada Veterans Association,

Host and Founder of Veterans In Politics Video Internet Talk-show,

US Marine Corps Disabled Gulf War Veteran

US Army Logistics

PO BOX 28211, Las Vegas, Nv. 89126

[www.veteransinpolitics.org](http://www.veteransinpolitics.org)

[VipiPresident@cs.com](mailto:VipiPresident@cs.com)

702 283 8088

# Exhibit Three



# *Veterans In Politics, International®*

POST OFFICE BOX 28211  
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89126 U.S.A.

STEVE SANSON, USMC - PRESIDENT/DIRECTOR

CHRISTINA ORTIZ USA RET - SECRETARY  
DON WOOLBRIGHT USMC - TREASURER  
GEORGE CHEHADE - MINISTER  
RON Q. QUILANG - AUXILIARY DIRECTOR

January 24, 2023

To: Nevada Commission on Judicial Selection

RE: Louis Schneider

**Subject: IN SUPPORT OF LOUIS SCHNEIDER EIGHTH JUDICIAL  
DISTRICT COURT DEPARTMENT C**

On Saturday, August 21, 2021, the Veterans In Politics video internet talk show interviewed Louis Schneider a former Prosecutor and owner of Law Offices of Louis Schneider (see video of the interview:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yyC7bLtUJ54>).

Schneider hails from Massachusetts and for decades has made Nevada his home. We did a very extensive interview with Schneider and here are the results.

Schneider has been practicing law approaching 19 years and added that he has chosen family law over criminal law because in family law you can make a real difference, and in criminal law, most of your clients have done something wrong and you get them a soft landing.

Schneider said in family law he will not take a relocation case because it's heartbreaking to take one parent from the other.

Schneider said in Nevada the judges have to reunite the parents by law, but we all know that's not what happens.



Schneider said family court judges are the hardest-working judges in the county.

Schneider kept repeating the judges look for the “best interest of the children”.

Schneider would not order a litigant to take a drug test because it’s a violation of their constitutional rights, without probable cause and it’s a criminal court case matter.

Schneider said if you are ordered to take a drug test and you refuse, it’s deemed dirty.

Schneider said it’s the policy of the court. But here is the problem a court policy is not law!

We suggested having a jury trial or a tribunal in family court when dealing with the relocation of children and termination of parental rights.

Schneider said he believes mediation is the policy of the court, but yet some judges don’t order litigants to go to mediation before trial.

Schneider said lawyers are paying for judges’ campaigns that breed abuse.

Schneider said the Nevada State Bar beats up on one-man operations but refuses to go after established law firms.

Schneider explained that attorneys who walk off cases without notice abandoning the litigant in the courtroom that this behavior is against the law.

Schneider said a family court judge cannot order the federal government to garnish your service-connected disability benefits.

Schneider said all it takes for evil to triumph is for good people to do nothing!

We have observed Louis Schneider in the courtroom for years. Schneider has a no-nonsense attitude when corruption breeds its head and at the same time, this hard exterior of a man can be very humble and compassionate. This type of balance is what we need in our courtrooms across America today. It gives us great pleasure to support Louis Schneider in this seat.

**\*Disclaimer:**

We are also supporting Timothy Treffinger in this seat as well. We did not know Louis Schneider would also be in the same appointment process.


However, we are confident that either of these two attorneys will serve Nevada with honors and distinction.

**\*Footnote**

Veterans In Politics International is extremely critical of Judges, especially in Family Court. We have a long history in family court. We have protested the corruption that has plagued the family court system. We have put together a court observation team that observes judges on the bench. We have created Youtube channels that showcase actual court cases, endorsement interviews, and one on one interviews. We have contracted with Court Cam and Court TV to show what happens in the courtroom to a nationwide audience. We have interviewed thousands of candidates for our endorsements and in many cases, we have done a complete background check on the candidates that appear before our panel. We have done articles and interviewed candidates for the bench on our talk show program, to educate the public before they go to the voting booth.

The reason I am bringing this to your attention is that we take the judiciary extremely seriously since 1998. We believe that a judge's decision impacts your life immediately and on a very personal level.

Respectfully Submitted By;



Steve Sanson

President of Veterans In Politics International,

President of Veterans In Politics Foundation,

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Host and Founder of Veterans In Politics Video Internet Talk-show,

US Marine Corps Disabled Gulf War Veteran

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# Exhibit Four



# *Veterans In Politics, International®*

POST OFFICE BOX 28211  
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89126 U.S.A.

STEVE SANSON, USMC - PRESIDENT/DIRECTOR

CHRISTINA ORTIZ USA RET - SECRETARY  
DON WOOLBRIGHT USMC - TREASURER  
GEORGE CHEHADE - MINISTER  
RON Q. QUILANG - AUXILIARY DIRECTOR

January 1, 2023

To: Nevada Commission on Judicial Selection

RE: Timothy Treffinger

**Subject: IN SUPPORT OF TIMOTHY TREFFINGER FOR CLARK  
COUNTY DISTRICT COURT FAMILY DIVISION**

Let me start by saying that Veterans In Politics International is extremely critical of Judges, especially in Family Court. We have a long history in family court. We have protested the corruption that has plagued the family court system. We have put together a court observation team that observes judges on the bench. We have created Youtube channels that showcase actual court cases, endorsement interviews, and one on one interviews. We have contracted with Court Cam and Court TV to show what happens in the courtroom to a nationwide audience. We have interviewed thousands of candidates for our endorsements and in many cases, we have done a complete background check on the candidates that appear before our panel. We have done articles and interviewed candidates for the bench on our talk show program, to educate the public before they go to the voting booth.

The reason I am bringing this to your attention is that we take the judiciary extremely seriously since 1998. We believe that a judge's decision impacts your life immediately and on a very personal level.

With that said we know the heart of Timothy Treffinger and the negative, he had on his record regarding a situation in his personal life, which has been dismissed. Many people would take what happened to Mr. Treffinger out of context, but after interviewing him on the Veterans In Politics talk show the first of three interviews (see interview [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2FFvUze9E\\_8&t=1743s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2FFvUze9E_8&t=1743s)) this event made Mr. Treffinger a better person.

\*The YouTube channel's names fall under Veterans In Politics and Steve Sanson.

Treffinger is well-versed in many areas such as domestic violence, civil complaints, family law, criminal law, sex crimes, and police shootings. Treffinger was also Nevada's Deputy Attorney General.

Treffinger believes in applying the law no matter what his personal belief of the outcome and to apply the law consistently. Treffinger made it clear that he would treat everyone the same no matter what their status is in the community or financial capability.

One of the criteria that this commission looks for is electability. Treffinger ran his first and only race for Clark County District Attorney with no name recognition, financial funding, or cloth in comparison to the incumbent and he garnered 287,207. Treffinger had more votes than some judges that are currently on the bench.

During the third interview with Timothy Treffinger, we asked many questions about Family Court (see interview <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5bKNyfCWJpo&t=543s>). We asked if a jury trial is feasible when it pertains to the relocation of children and termination of parental rights. Treffinger said that he would be for jury trials versus a bench trial and it's a constitutional right. Treffinger said that you should have a predictable outcome in each department if the law is followed. Treffinger said that he is alarmed that there are no jury boxes in Family Court, he echoed that we trust jurors in death penalty cases but not in a child custody case. Which falls under the 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> Amendments of the US Constitution the right to a jury and the right to a fair judiciary.

We also discuss pro-se-litigants in Family Court, because close to 70% of litigants represent themselves in comparison to being represented by counsel. Because of this high number, many litigants are labeled vexatious by the court because of the constant filings, but many attorneys file the same or greater amount but that label doesn't follow them. Treffinger said that many times this type of action can be argued as a constitutional violation. We all know that this label stifles your constitutional rights by stopping you from filing and administrating any verbal arguments, therefore, making you defenseless especially if you are representing yourself.

Treffinger believes that civility needs to start with the bench.

Treffinger was asked about a civil court judge in family court who orders litigants to take a drug test. Treffinger said that it's an issue of violation of rights because only a criminal judge has that jurisdiction a 6<sup>th</sup> amendment violation of the US Constitution.

Treffinger said that he is confused as to why we would place an employed parent in jail for non-payment of child support.

Treffinger was asked about a judge's discretion vs. Federal and state law and believes discretion is a bias but our state law allows it.

Treffinger said that the only way to protect people's rights in family court when it pertains to contempt of court should be to refer to the District Attorney's office.

Treffinger was asked about the rule of evidence in family court concerning the none compliance of evidence with just hearsay argument. Treffinger responded that it lacks in family court and should be tighter controlled and stricken from the record when it's brought up inappropriately.

Treffinger said that a judge should not become a collector for third-party entity payments and its an undue burden on the court.

Treffinger is not afraid to answer questions and won't give you a political answer, he is a firm believer in the law, and he believes if the law is followed judges would never have to worry about being overturned.

In addition, Treffinger is extremely knowledgeable, he knows how to apply the law, and has the judicial temperament to do so.

I wanted to be very specific on these questions as to why we are in full support of Timothy Treffinger as a Clark County District Court Judge Family Division.

Respectfully Submitted By;



Steve Sanson

President of Veterans In Politics International,

President of Veterans In Politics Foundation,

President of Nevada Veterans Association,

Host and Founder of Veterans In Politics Video Internet Talk-show,

US Marine Corps Disabled Gulf War Veteran

US Army Logistics

PO BOX 28211, Las Vegas, Nv. 89126

[www.veteransinpolitics.org](http://www.veteransinpolitics.org)

[VipiPresident@cs.com](mailto:VipiPresident@cs.com)

702 283 8088



# Exhibit Five



# *Veterans In Politics, International®*

POST OFFICE BOX 28211  
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89126 U.S.A.

STEVE SANSON, USMC - PRESIDENT/DIRECTOR

CHRISTINA ORTIZ USA RET - SECRETARY  
DON WOOLBRIGHT USMC - TREASURER  
GEORGE CHEHADE - MINISTER  
RON Q. QUILANG - AUXILIARY DIRECTOR

January 2, 2023

To: Nevada Commission on Judicial Selection

RE: Lindsey Moors

**Subject: IN SUPPORT OF LINDSEY MOORS EIGHTH JUDICIAL  
DISTRICT COURT DEPARTMENT 7**

Lindsey Moors is a breath of fresh air she appeared on the Veterans In Politics Video Internet talk show in September 2022 (see interview <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7PNNFUCS44E&t=177s>). Moors is the Chief Deputy District Attorney and prosecutes sex crimes, it takes a person with thick skin to do this job.

Moors is barred in four states California, Oregon, Nevada, and Washington two of those are the hardest bar exams in the country and can be waived into New York if she wanted to. New York is the third hardest bar exam in the country. Moors is a very intelligent person.

Moors is not afraid to make a decision.

Moors apply for an appointment as Clark County District Court Judge recently and was one of three finalists to go before the last Nevada Governor. I am confident if selected again she would receive the appointment before this new Governor.

Moors have experience in both processes to become a judge the appointment and the electoral. This gives Moore a well-rounded look at the judiciary.

Moors believe judges need to be independent and impartial to accommodate blind justice.

Moors place judicial temperament to the highest degree, she says people have to be cordial no matter what the circumstance.

Moors believe that if anyone violates the law no matter what their status is, she must report them because no case is worth your reputation or integrity. Moors said that she would not allow unethical behavior in her courtroom and she will follow the judicial cannons.

Moors says arrogance is a stinky cologne and judges should remain humble.

Moors said she would not rule off the cuff unless it's a simple ruling she would rule from the bench. More than likely she would take the more difficult cases under advisement and would have a decision within 10 days.

Moors said that she has been practicing criminal law as a prosecutor. But she has a civil law background and the rule of evidence is the same.

Moors has a tremendous work ethic with over one hundred jury trials. Moors said her favorite amendment is the 19<sup>th</sup> which allows women to vote.

Moors believes in the separation of power, her job is to enforce the law not make the law and she is a firm believer in staying in her lane.

Moors said that she follows the Nevada rules of procedures whether criminal or civil to make sure that all filings are timely.

Moors believe that the mental health of a judge is paramount to being on the bench. Moors is an active runner and uses it to clear her mind.

Moors is bright, educated, and has a judicial temperament, she would be an excellent addition to the Eighth Judicial District Court Bench.

I gave my endorsement in the last election to Lindsey Moors and I don't take that very likely. It's an honor to give my support once again.

**\*Footnote**

Veterans In Politics International is extremely critical of Judges, especially in Family Court. We have a long history in family court. We have protested the corruption that has plagued the family court system. We have put together a court observation team that observes judges on the bench. We have created Youtube channels that showcase actual court cases, endorsement interviews, and one on one interviews. We have contracted with Court Cam and Court TV to show what happens in the courtroom to a nationwide audience. We have interviewed thousands of candidates for our endorsements and in many cases, we have done a complete background check on the candidates that appear before our panel. We have done articles and interviewed candidates for the bench on our talk show program, to educate the public before they go to the voting booth.

The reason I am bringing this to your attention is that we take the judiciary extremely seriously since 1998. We believe that a judge's decision impacts your life immediately and on a very personal level.

Respectfully Submitted By;



Steve Sanson

President of Veterans In Politics International,

President of Veterans In Politics Foundation,

President of Nevada Veterans Association,

Host and Founder of Veterans In Politics Video Internet Talk-show,

US Marine Corps Disabled Gulf War Veteran

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702 283 8088

# Exhibit Six



# *Veterans In Politics, International®*

POST OFFICE BOX 28211  
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89126 U.S.A.

STEVE SANSON, USMC - PRESIDENT/DIRECTOR

CHRISTINA ORTIZ USA RET - SECRETARY  
DON WOOLBRIGHT USMC - TREASURER  
GEORGE CHEHADE - MINISTER  
RON Q. QUILANG - AUXILIARY DIRECTOR

January 3, 2023

To: Nevada Commission on Judicial Selection

RE: James Dean Leavitt

**Subject: IN OPPOSITION OF JAMES DEAN LEAVITT EIGHTH  
JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT DEPARTMENT 7**

Part of the Veterans In Politics International mission is to expose candidates and elected officials that have done wrong especially when it comes to our judiciary by exercising our 1<sup>st</sup> amendment right. It gives us no pleasure to be in opposition to a candidate for an appointment.

But we owe it to the public to write this letter. Let me start by saying several years ago we put forward a Bill Draft Request (BDR) in a legislative session. The language in the bill described how important it is for the public to know the mental health of a judicial candidate and added that all judicial candidates undergo a Mental Health Evaluation as part of the requirement to become a judge. This bill never made it out of committee. We believed that judges are the individuals that take away your freedom, your children, your finances, your property, and your dignity its paramount to know that their mental health is intact.

With that said, we considered James Dean Leavitt a friend when he was on the University Board of Regent. We were stunned that he had attempted suicide after his loss in the Judicial run in 2018 for Las Vegas Justice of the Peace Department 9 although he said to me in a text that it was an accidental discharge while he was considering suicide, he told the Review-Journal Reporters a different scenario (see article attached).

Whichever direction Leavitt would like to spin it and we are ecstatic that he has sought help despite all of it we are not in any frame of mind convinced that he is ready to take the bench to judge any citizen of Clark County or any county for that matter.

Fast forward to Leavitt, no relation to the Leavitt family that has been a pillar of this community for years. Leavitt appeared in the Veterans In Politics endorsement interview with Clark County District Court Judge Maria Gall in August 2022 (see interview <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bsPRgVTWVc4&t=3606s>). In the opening of the interview, Leavitt immediately attacked the Judge's campaign and acted like a child asking if he should be first to answer questions by telling us how to run our organization when he is our guest.

Leavitt was asked how he felt about the appointment process vs. the electoral process, he made it clear that he trusts the people over any Governor to make that decision.

We believe Leavitt lacks the fundamentals for a judge and that's Judicial Temperament.

We asked questions to Leavitt about his attempted suicide and he said that he was shocked that we would address a private medical issue. Did Leavitt forget that he is a public figure and nothing is off the table? Leavitt claimed that it was an accidental discharge and went on a tangent and said that he and his wife had four family members that took their own life. Leavitt instead spoke about Abraham Lincoln and said that he is not on a platform to address suicide, he also stated that we have HIPPA laws for a reason. We believe Leavitt misquoted the definition of HIPPA it addresses healthcare providers and workers which our panel members are not. Leavitt was upset that the question was addressed and stated in so many words that we had no right to ask him such a question (see the interview that addresses

this question <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IqJDzMDKCuk&t=53s>). In addition, in a Las Vegas Review-Journal article dated October 13, 2022, attached Leavitt made the following statement to a reporter:

*Leavitt acknowledged suffering from depression, which he said runs in his family and said that prior to the suicide attempt, he had been unable to sleep for five days and was suffering from hallucinations.*

So is it an accidental discharge or a deliberate act? Leavitt gave two conflicting statements to two different organizations. The integrity and credibility of Leavitt are now in question.

Leavitt went after judge Gall stating that she was unprepared for this interview. We had a first-hand experience with the anger in Leavitt's voice that we deemed extremely inappropriate. Again questioning his judicial temperament.

In the closing portion of the interview, Leavitt said that he worked as a Board of Regent for **no pay** according to the University Board of Regent pay schedule laid out in Section 396.070 of the Nevada Revised Statutes. Members of the board are entitled to receive **\$80** for each meeting attended as well as a per diem of \$60 or the maximum rate established by the federal government. Again Leavitt's integrity is in question, and he served from 2004 to 2016 on this body.

Veterans In Politics aired a commercial showcasing Leavitt's hit and run in the State of Oregon (see commercial <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DEVId4ixWn4>). Leavitt was charged with a felony and plea bargain to a misdemeanor. The Las Vegas Review-Journal reported the following in a series of interviews first on November 5, 2018, and again on October 13, 2022:

November 5, 2018: *In the race for Las Vegas justice of the peace, former Regent James Dean Leavitt was indicted in 1998 for felony reckless driving after he struck a roadside flagger. He was convicted of a misdemeanor and had his driver's license suspended.*

October 13, 2022: *During an initial interview with a Las Vegas Review-Journal reporter, Leavitt objected to questions about a 1998 incident in Oregon in which he allegedly struck a flagman while slowly driving through a construction zone. He*



*was issued misdemeanor citations, but a prosecutor later sought an indictment for felony reckless driving. Leavitt eventually pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor and paid a fine. His insurance company later settled a lawsuit related to the incident for \$27,000.*

In an article by the Las Vegas Review-Journal (see attached article 2) the following was reported:

*James Dean Leavitt — who served on NSHE’s Board of Regents for 12 years, including as board chairman — applied over the summer for the board’s [chief of staff and special counsel position](#) but was rejected.*

Leavitt does not fare well with rejection and enjoys intimidation when he doesn’t get his way.

Following an October 13, 2022 interview with Leavitt the Las Vegas Review-Journal filed a police report claiming that Leavitt threatened their reporter. Leavitt’s statements are below:

*“Look what just happened with Jeff German, OK? Right? Do you understand. I mean, this is serious s—,” Leavitt said. “What I’m saying is, you guys have a responsibility to tell the whole truth. Now I have no idea whether that was the case with Telles, do you understand what I’m saying? And what he [Telles] did was sick and offensive, but it’s serious, right? You guys need to report the news fairly is what I’m trying to tell you, and you guys didn’t do that with me four years ago. That’s what I’m trying to tell you.”*

After Leavitt’s last election against Judge Gall when he lost the race by 146,417 votes. Leavitt contacted Judge Gall’s campaign manager Tom Letizia on November 18, 2022, to have me remove the negative commercials from our Youtube channel. When I refused Leavitt sent me a series of text messages in a frugal attempt to intimidate me. Leavitt also threatened me with his attorney. When he realized that I will stand my ground, his last text message to me on November 20, 22 is the following:

*OK Steve-you chose the hard way. Your call.*

In Closing; Leavitt clearly showed us that Clark County voters in two separate elections do not want him on the bench. We believe that Leavitt has a series of issues that have prohibited him to become a judge, mental instability, lack of integrity, and lack of judicial temperament. Leavitt should not hold any position as Hearing Master, Pro Tem, Judicial Officer, or any position that he is in the judgment of people in any jurisdiction.

If Leavitt receives an appointment to the bench you will be doing a terrible disservice to every single staff and judge in the Eighth Judicial District Court and most importantly the citizens of this great state and all who visit it.

**\*Footnote**

Veterans In Politics International is extremely critical of Judges, especially in Family Court. We have a long history in family court. We have protested the corruption that has plagued the family court system. We have put together a court observation team that observes judges on the bench. We have created Youtube channels that showcase actual court cases, endorsement interviews, and one on one interviews. We have contracted with Court Cam and Court TV to show what happens in the courtroom to a nationwide audience. We have interviewed thousands of candidates for our endorsements and in many cases, we have done a complete background check on the candidates that appear before our panel. We have done articles and interviewed candidates for the bench on our talk show program, to educate the public before they go to the voting booth.

The reason I am bringing this to your attention is that we take the judiciary extremely seriously since 1998. We believe that a judge's decision impacts your life immediately and on a very personal level.

Respectfully Submitted By;



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President of Veterans In Politics International,

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# Ex-regent faces off with appointed judge in Department 9



Maria Gall and James Dean Leavitt (courtesy)

By Steve Sebelius and Katelyn Newberg Las Vegas  
Review-Journal



October 13, 2022 - 8:19 am

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Updated October 13, 2022 - 12:32 pm



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A former university regent and an appointed judge are running for a truncated four-year term in District Court Department 9.

There was no primary election in the race since Gov. Steve Sisolak

appointed attorney Maria Gall to the bench on June 27, two weeks after the primary. The winner of the November election will remain in the seat until the term expires in 2026.

James Dean Leavitt received his law degree from the University of Idaho in 1991 and has been a member of the State Bar of Nevada since 1992.

Leavitt, 60, served as a university regent from 2004 until 2016, and was chairman of the board of regents in 2009 and 2010. Most recently, he applied for but was not included in a candidate pool for the job of chief of staff and general counsel to the board of regents. Leavitt, through an attorney, objected to being excluded from the finalist pool given his qualifications. He said he filed for the District Court opening on June 20 as a backup plan or “Plan B.” The following day, he learned he was not going to be considered for the university system job.

## **Threatening comments**

During an initial interview with a Las Vegas Review-Journal reporter, Leavitt objected to questions about a 1998 incident in Oregon in which he allegedly struck a flagman while slowly driving through a construction zone. He was issued misdemeanor citations, but a prosecutor later sought an indictment for felony reckless driving. Leavitt eventually pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor and paid a fine. His insurance company later settled a lawsuit related to the incident for \$27,000.

In the interview, Leavitt brought up the murder of Review-Journal investigative reporter Jeff German, allegedly at the hands of Public

Administrator Robert Telles, who was reportedly angry about stories German had done about mismanagement in that office.

“Look what just happened with Jeff German, OK? Right? Do you understand. I mean, this is serious s— –,” Leavitt said. “What I’m saying is, you guys have a responsibility to tell the whole truth. Now I have no idea whether that was the case with Telles, do you understand what I’m saying? And what he [Telles] did was sick and offensive, but it’s serious, right? You guys need to report the news fairly is what I’m trying to tell you, and you guys didn’t do that with me four years ago. That’s what I’m trying to tell you.”

In 2018, when Leavitt was running against then-District Attorney Elana Lee Graham for Las Vegas Justice Court Department 1, the Review-Journal reported on the criminal histories of several candidates for office, and recounted the 1998 incident involving Leavitt. Graham later aired a television ad featuring the flagman from the old case, in a race that featured Leavitt attacking Graham for allegedly trading favorable treatment of defendants for campaign contributions.

Graham went on to win the general election, 58 percent to 42 percent.

Following the initial interview, Review-Journal editors — concerned Leavitt’s comments were a threat — contacted Metropolitan Police Department detectives to report the conversation with Leavitt. Detectives interviewed Leavitt and presented the matter to the district attorney’s office, but attorneys there said that no crime had occurred.

Asked about the initial conversation with the Review-Journal reporter, Leavitt insisted that it was not his intent to menace or threaten

anyone with his comments.

“I’m telling you 100 percent that was not even remotely what I was referencing,” Leavitt said. “I don’t condone violence in any way, shape or form.”

Leavitt said he referenced German only after offering his condolences for the murder at the start of his interview, and added that he was frustrated that the 1998 incident was being brought up again in this year’s race for judge because of the role it may have played in his loss four years ago.

## **Election aftermath**

Leavitt was also open about the aftermath of the 2018 election, when on Jan. 5, 2019, police were called to his law office where he was found by his son suffering from a self-inflicted gunshot wound to the chest, according to a police report.

The Review-Journal typically does not report on suicide attempts but is doing so in this case because Leavitt is a public figure and is seeking a high-profile job that requires judicial temperament.

Leavitt acknowledged suffering from depression, which he said runs in his family, and said that prior to the suicide attempt, he had been unable to sleep for five days and was suffering from hallucinations. He said two of his family members had taken their own lives, and he was disconsolate over the collapse of a business venture and his loss in the 2018 election.

After being treated for the wound at University Medical Center, he

said, he spent two to three weeks in a psychiatric ward and was on anti-depressants. But now, nearly four years later, he says he's overcome his depression, in part through exercise, and sees no impediment to serving on the bench.

"But the good news is, I've never felt better," he said. "I'm at the top of my game. This was almost four years ago. Depression doesn't last forever. ... I've never been better, and I'm off my anti-depressants. The only thing I'm doing now is a little bit of walking and I recently added a Bowflex to my guest room. And, like I said, never felt better. So that's the current status."

## **Dispute with Rogers**

Leavitt was also at the center of a public dispute involving then-interim university system Chancellor Jim Rogers, the mercurial former owner of KSNV-TV, Channel 3, and other television stations around the west. Rogers wrote a letter to the board's then-chairman, Bret Whipple, threatening to quit if Leavitt was made chairman of the board.

"James Dean's lust for power along with his total lack of knowledge and sophistication in the operation of any large organization makes it impossible to deal with him," Rogers wrote. "Every week is worse than the previous week."

Shortly after the letter was sent, Leavitt called for Rogers' resignation, which promptly came in a two-word memo, "I quit."

But the resignation was short-lived; the pair met for dinner and smoothed over their differences, and Rogers offered a written apology.



They worked together after the incident, including on the creation of a medical school at UNLV.

## **Appointed incumbent**

Gall was appointed to the bench after the Commission on Judicial Selection nominated her and two other candidates for Sisolak to consider.

“I have the legal acumen and legal expertise, and the legal experience, to sit on this court and to make decisions from the bench,” Gall said.

Gall, 42, graduated from the University of Kentucky College of Law in 2006 and has been a member of the State Bar of Nevada since 2016. She practiced complex commercial litigation for 15 years before her appointment, including at the firm of Ballard Spahr.

Although she currently oversees civil cases, she said she would be comfortable overseeing criminal cases as well.

“The field of law is so broad, in my view if any one person says that they’re experienced in all fields, I would highly question that statement,” she said. “Because in my view, it’s impossible to know everything when you come to the bench.”

Leavitt has criticized Gall for a lack of criminal experience, saying she’s only qualified to do half the job of a judge. Leavitt has practiced in the criminal arena for years.

If elected, Gall said she would like to find ways to make it easier for others to navigate the court system, especially in civil cases where people aren’t guaranteed an attorney the way they are in criminal

matters.

“I see access to justice as the No. 1 problem we have in the justice system at the moment,” she said.

*If you’re thinking about suicide, or are worried about a friend or loved one, help is available 24/7 by calling or texting the Lifeline network at 988. Live chat is available at [988lifeline.org](https://988lifeline.org).*

Contact Steve Sebelius at [SSebelius@reviewjournal.com](mailto:SSebelius@reviewjournal.com) or 702-383-0253. Follow @SteveSebelius on Twitter. Contact Katelyn Newberg at [knewberg@reviewjournal.com](mailto:knewberg@reviewjournal.com) or 702-383-0240. Follow @k\_newberg on Twitter.

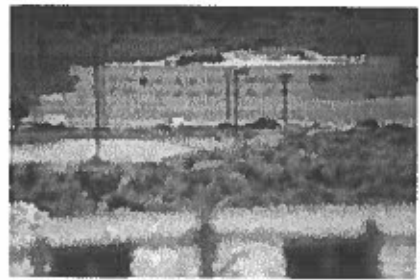
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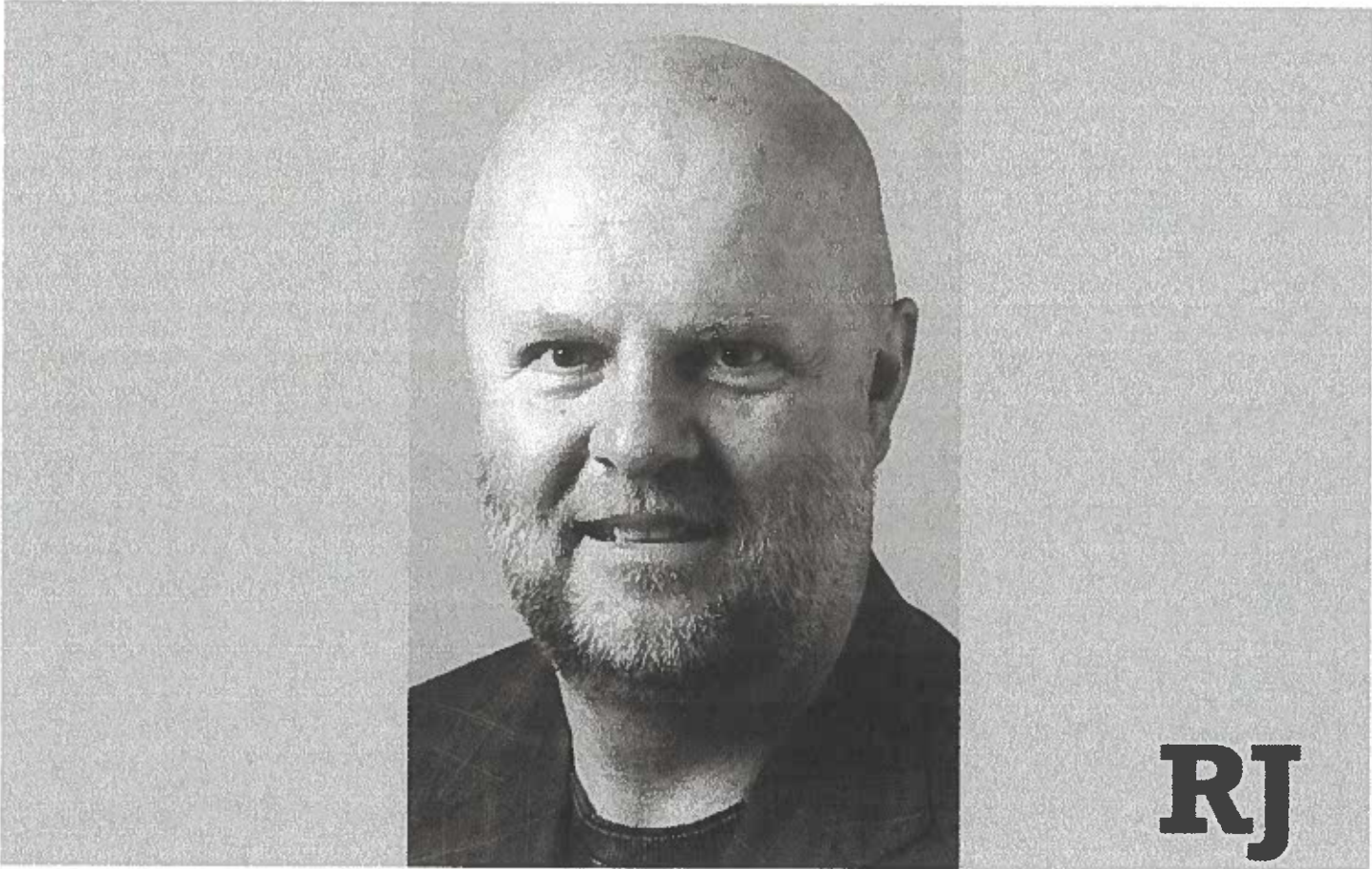
Carson City judge blocks commutations of death row sentences



Fresh off election loss, Fiore appointed to Nye County post

ARTICLE 2

# NSHE rejected qualified applicants for high-paying job, complaint says



James Dean Leavitt (Las Vegas Review-Journal file photo)

By Julie Wootton-Greener Las Vegas Review-Journal



October 19, 2021 - 7:06 pm

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A Las Vegas attorney who applied for a high-paying Nevada System of Higher Education post alleges his application wasn't "lawfully reviewed" and is calling on the Board of Regents to halt the search process.

James Dean Leavitt — who served on NSHE's Board of Regents for 12 years, including as board chairman — applied over the summer for the board's chief of staff and special counsel position but was rejected.

His attorney, Christian Gabroy, sent a seven-page letter dated Oct. 14 to select NSHE officials demanding the search process be “started anew” and that a meeting originally scheduled for Thursday at which finalists for the job may have been interviewed be canceled. The meeting was listed Tuesday on NSHE's website as “postponed.”

Among those receiving the complaint were Chief General Counsel Joe Reynolds, Chancellor Melody Rose, Human Resources Director Sherry Olson, Interim Chief of Staff Keri Nikolajewski, board Chair Cathy McAdoo and board Vice Chair and search committee Chair Patrick Carter.

Leavitt, 59, alleged in the letter that Nikolajewski determined he didn't meet minimum qualifications for the job “in order to benefit her believed preferred candidate.”

He also alleged “unreasonable, unprofessional, and unlawful conduct” by Nikolajewski, Olson, McAdoo and Carter. He said they should be excluded if a renewed job search is launched as requested “due to belief of bias and prejudice against Mr. Leavitt and possibly other individuals who have likely been improperly excluded from the prior and current search process.”

The posting for the position, which offers a starting salary of \$180,000 to \$220,000, lists minimum qualifications as a Juris Doctor degree, current membership in the Nevada Bar and at least five years of “progressive experience directly applicable to the position.” Leavitt

meets all three criteria, Gabroy said.

## **'Inexplicable and highly suspect'**

"It is inexplicable and highly suspect that Mr. Leavitt with 17 years of higher education experience and 29 years of legal experience was determined not to be minimally qualified, when others with none or minimal higher education experience were apparently advanced," the attorney wrote.

In an interview Tuesday, Gabroy also said he and his client still haven't received any valid reason from the system as to why he didn't meet the minimum qualifications for the job. He added that the best candidate should be selected for the position, not someone's best friend.

An NSHE spokesman declined to comment Tuesday.

Carter, the head of the search committee, said Tuesday it would be inappropriate to comment on an active search.

The hunt for a new chief of staff and special counsel already was in limbo after the job search committee voted 5-1 on Aug. 16 to "fail" the current process in order to broaden the applicant pool. Regent Jason Geddes opposed the move, calling it unnecessary.

Regent John Moran, who is also an attorney, raised concerns at a subsequent meeting on Sept. 30 meeting about whether the committee had violated the state Open Meeting Law by failing to provide adequate public notice. NSHE's deputy general counsel Tina Russom said she didn't believe that was the case.

## First search led to 4 finalists

The job was originally posted in early July and was open through July 30, Olson, the system's HR director, told the search committee. NSHE had 27 candidates for the position and of those, 11 met minimum qualifications, six were selected as semifinalists and four were deemed finalists by the search committee.

Leavitt's allegations are the latest accusing board members of improper conduct this month.

Chancellor Rose accused McAdoo and Carter in an Oct. 4 memo of creating a hostile work environment. The board leaders announced last week that an independent third party, which they did not identify, will investigate the accusations, but have not commented on the substance of the memo.

Among other things, Rose's 28-page memo referred to warnings she received before taking the chancellor post about an "Old Boys Club" environment at NSHE and requests for her assistance to change the culture.

The person who is ultimately hired as the board's chief of staff and special counsel will replace Dean Gould, who retired from NSHE in December 2020. He had come under harsh criticism prior to his departure after telling a female regent during an August 2020 meeting to stop with her "child speak."

Contact Julie Wootton-Greener at [jgreener@reviewjournal.com](mailto:jgreener@reviewjournal.com) or 702-387-2921. Follow @julieswootton on Twitter.

**More stories for you**

# Exhibit Seven





# Veterans In Politics, International®

POST OFFICE BOX 28211  
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STEVE SANSON, USMC - PRESIDENT/DIRECTOR

CHRISTINA ORTIZ USA RET - SECRETARY  
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GEORGE CHEHADE - MINISTER  
RON Q. QUILANG - AUXILIARY DIRECTOR

January 16, 2023

To: Nevada Commission on Judicial Selection

RE: Jason Stoffel

**Subject: IN OPPOSITION OF JASON STOFFEL FOR CLARK  
COUNTY DISTRICT COURT FAMILY DIVISION**

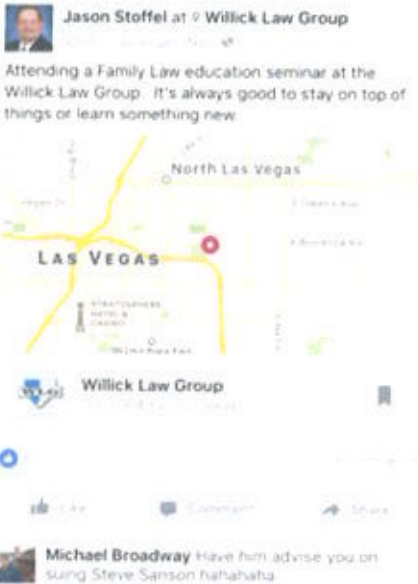
*The last thing that the Clark County Family Court needs is another prejudiced "judge" focused more on the enrichment of crony attorneys than on the best interests of the child."*

Veterans In Politics International (VIPI) would like to make sure that there are no corrupt judges on the bench – especially in Family Court. That is why we do our best to expose every single candidate we believe is bad for the citizens of Clark County.

If Stoffel is appointed, he will become just another toxic, robe-wearing crony puppet utilized by corrupt family lawyers to line their pockets, enrich court-connected experts, financially rape families, harm children, sadistically abuse litigants and their children, and generally abuse the



legal process in the Courts for profit under the protection of sealed cases where their reprehensible actions are shielded from exposure.



Not long ago, VIPI welcomed Stoffel with open arms. We invited him to many of our events and functions and we even referred multiple people to Stoffel to help them with their cases.

But as it turned out, Stoffel is a spineless sycophant. As soon as VIPI began exposing unethical behavior and corruption in family court, Stoffel was presented with a choice and decided to sell out and align with the corrupt snakes who infest the Family Court, namely his idol attorney Marshal Willick who he notoriously fawns over and never fails to brown nose. Willick seems to have a Svengali-Esque power over Stoffel. Another way we believe Stoffel demonstrated his allegiance to Willick was by using his position as President of the Clark County Bar Association to ban our organization from the “Meet your Judge Mixer”, which we had previously attended for years without incident. (See article: [Banned Meet Your Judge Mixers – A Broken System!](#))

As a reward for selling his soul to the corrupt “racketeers” of the Family Court, Stoffel has been rewarded by Willick and his fiancée and partner in slime, attorney Jennifer Abrams with much ado, praise, and adoration

through their online troll/bully/harassment front groups “Nevada Court Watchers” (NCW), “NCW PAC”, and their quasi-media front group “Our Nevada Judges.”

You can safely bet that Marshal Willick, his fiancée, and the other “lawyers” at The Willick Law Group won’t be on Stoffel’s recusal list despite their deep-seated relationship, however, any lawyer whose client’s case is assigned to Stoffel, where Willick, Abrams, or any of their staff is opposing counsel would be foolish to not use preempt Stoffel, who we believe would be a “judge” effectively controlled by Willick.

VIPI did not endorse Stoffel in the Primary of the 2014 campaign, but we supported him in the General election campaign against the incumbent, Judge Vincent Ochoa. During that campaign, Stoffel provided us with a wealth of information related to Ochoa’s son, Vicente Marcus Ochoa, who had robbed a balloon store during Judge Ochoa’s reelection campaign. (See article: [Las Vegas Police Make Arrest In West Valley Party Supply Store Armed Robbery](#))

Stoffel also advised us to look into Judge Ochoa’s disregard of Nevada Custody Laws in a radio interview with attorney Michele LoBello on AM720 (See article: [Vincent Ochoa Family Court Judge Admitted to Violating Nevada Custody Laws](#) ).

The feud between incumbent Judge Ochoa and Stoffel escalated when Ochoa confronted Stoffel regarding Stoffel’s allegations of the judge sleeping behind the bench and dozing off at a [Veterans In Politics Endorsement Interview](#). This eventually culminated in a bar fight between the two candidates. (See article: [Quarrel At A Bar Leads To Family Court Judge’s Removal From Custody Case.](#))





In 2016, Stoffel was sued by his client, Russell Zitch, for malpractice, breach of contract, negligent hiring, and infliction of emotional distress, however, the lawsuit was dismissed due to the Statute of limitations. (See *Eighth Judicial District Court*, case # A-16-738562-C, <https://www.clarkcountycourts.us/Anonymous/CaseDetail.aspx?CaseID=11693737>). Though the time for the court to hear the malpractice case expired, it is clear that Stoffel's client had substantive issues with his performance as an attorney.

In addition, it is clear that Stoffel's inability to control his temper to the point of getting into a physical altercation with the incumbent judge during his previous election campaign makes Stoffel an excellent candidate for psychiatric evaluation, but a lousy candidate for a judge, much less a judge adjudicating cases related to the best interests of children. Speaking of children, it stands to reason that decisions involving parent/child issues should probably be decided by someone that *has children!* Stoffel has never had the experience of being a parent but is expected to understand the concerns and anguish that some of the parents appearing before him.

The last thing that the Clark County Family Court needs is another prejudiced "judge" focused more on the enrichment of crony attorneys than on the best interests of the child.

Respectfully Submitted By;



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## Quarrel at bar leads to Family Court judge's removal from custody case



Jason Stoffel (Courtesy)

By CARRI GEER THEVENOT LAS VEGAS REVIEW-JOURNAL

June 20, 2014 - 10:43 am



Don't miss the big stories. Like us on Facebook.

A barroom quarrel between Family Court Judge Vincent Ochoa and his election opponent, Jason Stoffel, has spilled over into a Clark County custody case.

District Judge Elizabeth Gonzalez disqualified Ochoa from hearing the



case Friday after concluding that the March spat “creates the appearance of impropriety.”

The incident, which has been recounted in dozens of pages of court documents over the past three months, occurred on the night of March 6 at Champs bar in Ely during a State Bar of Nevada family law convention.

“It’s undisputed: He approached me,” Stoffel said Wednesday.

But Ochoa, who was elected to the Department S seat in 2010, said his opponent is using the confrontation as a publicity stunt to boost a failing campaign.

“It’s a one-minute incident in March, and he’s probably going to try to make a big thing out of it until November,” the judge said Wednesday.

Ochoa called Stoffel’s accusations “hurtful” and “embarrassing.”

According to an affidavit prepared by Stoffel, Ochoa approached him “in an aggressive manner” about 10:30 p.m. on March 6.

“Judge Ochoa put his finger in my face and yelled at me that ‘You better f—ing quit spreading rumors about me that I fall asleep on the record,’” Stoffel wrote.

When Ochoa started to curse, according to the affidavit, Stoffel had the impression that the judge was going to physically assault him.

Stoffel then told Ochoa in a “calm and nonthreatening manner” that he did not know what he was talking about, according to the document.

“I believe Judge Ochoa used terrible judgment coming up to me to try and intimidate me, use foul language, etc., especially in the presence of other legal professionals,” Stoffel wrote.

Stoffel prepared the affidavit in support of a motion to disqualify Ochoa in all cases involving Roberts Stoffel Family Law Group.

The motion was filed in a child custody case involving Monique and Randy Miller. Stoffel’s wife and business partner, Amanda Roberts, represents Randy Miller.

According to the motion, the Ely incident happened after the trial in the Miller custody case but before Ochoa had rendered his decision.

“Attorney Amanda Roberts is of the opinion that Judge Ochoa showed bias in his written opinion resulting from the fact his seat is being challenged by Mr. Stoffel,” according to the motion.

Chief District Judge Jennifer Togliatti denied the request to disqualify Ochoa from hearing all future cases involving the Roberts Stoffel firm, then reassigned the motion to Gonzalez for a ruling regarding only the Miller case.

In granting that aspect of the motion, Gonzalez concluded that “the nature of the interaction in Ely creates the appearance of impropriety and causes the judge’s impartiality to be reasonably questioned from the date of that interaction forward.”

Despite her ruling, Gonzalez noted that she has “full confidence” in Ochoa’s ability to act impartially. She also reviewed Ochoa’s draft order in the custody case, prepared before the Ely incident, as well as his final order before concluding “that no substantive change adverse



to” Randy Miller had occurred.

Roberts filed a motion for a new trial in the custody case on March 27. That motion also recounts details of the Ely confrontation.

“The altercation was solely caused by the judge who approached his opponent, the judge was seen drinking, and caused a scene to occur,” Roberts wrote.

She also accused Ochoa of using his bias against Stoffel “to improperly apply facts to this matter and/or use half-truths from the proceedings to support his unorthodox and improper decision and order.”

Ochoa admits he approached Stoffel in Ely to talk to him, but the judge denies he used profanity. Ochoa said he asked Stoffel to stop telling lies about him.

“Maybe I did wag my finger,” the judge said.

Ochoa said Stoffel denied telling people that he falls asleep on the bench, and the conversation ended with a handshake.

“The whole discussion lasted a minute,” Ochoa said. “There were a hundred attorneys there and two Supreme Court justices.”

Ochoa said he had consumed half a beer over the course of an hour and was not intoxicated.

“I didn’t do anything wrong,” he said.

Stoffel said Family Court Judge Jennifer Elliott witnessed the confrontation and later told him she had feared for his safety. On Wednesday, Elliott’s executive assistant said the judge did not want to



comment on the matter.

The candidate also said Family Court Administrator Leonard Cash was at the Ely bar and later tried to dissuade him from sharing the story with news media. According to an email from District Court spokeswoman Mary Ann Price on Wednesday, Cash will not be commenting on the incident.

### **More stories for you**

[NPRI appeals ruling in Nevada separation-of-powers case](#)

[Police investigate northeast Las Vegas homicide](#)

[Man pleads guilty to assaulting, killing daughter to avoid death penalty](#)

[Judge rules legislators with public jobs don't violate Nevada](#)

Supreme Court of Nevada  
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

KATHERINE STOCKS  
Director and  
State Court Administrator



JOHN MCCORMICK  
Assistant Court Administrator

MEETING NOTICE AND AGENDA

Organization: Commission on Judicial Selection  
Eighth Judicial District, Department C

Date and Time: Thursday, March 30, 2023, at 8:15 a.m.

Venue: The Commission will convene in the Supreme Court Courtroom of Las Vegas.  
Additional public viewing is available through YouTube.

Supreme Court YouTube <a href="https://tinyurl.com/Nevada-Supreme-Court-YouTube">https://tinyurl.com/Nevada-Supreme-Court-YouTube</a>	Supreme Court Las Vegas Courtroom 408 E. Clark Ave.
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**AGENDA**

8:30 a.m.

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call and Determination of Quorum Pursuant to Rule 4.C.
3. Public Comment Pursuant to Rule 4.E.

8:45 a.m.

4. Interview of Applicants for Department C\*\*

08:45 a.m.	Louis Schneider
09:00 a.m.	Gregory Gordon
09:30 a.m.	Jason Stoffel
09:45 a.m.	-Break-
09:55 a.m.	Lynn Hughes
10:10 a.m.	Janet Reyes-Speer
10:25 a.m.	Robert O Kurth Jr.
10:40 a.m.	-Break-
10:50 a.m.	Robert Cerceo
11:05 a.m.	Adriana Rincon White
11:35 a.m.	Timothy Treffinger
11:50 a.m.	-Break-
12:00 p.m.	Stephanie Keels
12:15 p.m.	Kerri Maxey
12:30 p.m.	Adam Ganz

12:45 p.m.

5. Executive Session Pursuant to Rule 3.D
6. Selection of Department C Nominees pursuant to Rule 9.D\*
7. Commission Rules Review
8. Adjournment

\* Denotes items which the Commission may take action.

\*\* There is a presumption that the Commission will conduct its interviews, deliberations and voting in public session, except where it is deemed necessary or appropriate to enter into an executive session because of the sensitive nature of matters or information to be discussed. Executive sessions may take place only to discuss applicants' individual or relative qualifications, or for conducting a portion of an interview. An executive session shall occur upon a motion made by a Commissioner and approved by a majority of the members present.

Accommodation: We are pleased to make reasonable accommodation for the members of the public who are disabled and wish to attend the meeting. If special arrangements for the meeting are necessary, please notify the Administrative Office of the Courts, in writing to [mbautista@nvcourts.nv.gov](mailto:mbautista@nvcourts.nv.gov) or call Margarita Bautista at (775) 684-1710.

Notice: Pursuant to Commission Rule 4.B. public notice of meeting was provided at least three working days prior to the meeting. Notice of this meeting was posted in the Supreme Court Website [www.nvcourts.gov](http://www.nvcourts.gov).