

ATTACHMENT 5

BLUE RIBBON PANEL MEMBERS

Blue Ribbon Panel

- Dr. Eric Albers – Nevada Commission on Mental Health and Developmental Services.

Dr. Albers is an Associate Professor in the School of Social Work at the University of Nevada, Reno. He is currently serving as Chair to the Commission on Mental Health and Developmental Services for the state.

- Justice Deborah Agosti – Nevada Supreme Court (retired)

Justice Agosti retired from the Nevada Supreme Court in 2005, where she was first elected in 1998. Previously, Justice Agosti was elected justice of the peace in Reno, Nevada in 1982, and then served as Washoe County District Court judge from 1984-1998. Justice Agosti is a faculty member at the National Judicial College and past president of the Nevada District Judges Association.

- Stuart Fredlund – Children’s Advocacy Alliance, Clark County

Mr. Fredlund retired from the Nevada Division of Child and Family Services in December 2003, having served as District Office Manager of Child Welfare Services for southern Nevada for most of his career with the state. Currently, Mr. Fredlund is a board member for the Children’s Advocacy Alliance and coordinates the Wednesday’s Child Christmas program for the foster children of southern Nevada.

- Susan Gerhardt – Nevada State Assemblywoman, Clark County District 29

Ms. Gerhardt is currently serving in the Nevada Legislature, and is a member of the Assembly Health and Human Services, Judiciary and Transportation Committees. Additionally she was appointed to the Interim Legislative Committee on Persons with Disabilities and the Advisory Committee on Sentencing. During her first term, she successfully sponsored legislation facilitating parents’ involvement in their children’s education, the monitoring of office surgeries and preventing those accused of domestic violence from settling their cases in civil court. She is a retired officer from the Las Vegas Metro Police Department where she received a Meritorious Award in 2003.

- Dr. Joanne Thompson – University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) School of Social Work.

Dr. Thompson holds a Ph.D. from Rutgers University and her Masters in Social Work from the University of Arkansas. Prior to joining UNLV, she was Professor and Director of the School of Social Work at the University of New England in Portland, Maine. She was also a member of the Social Work faculty at the University of Tennessee and University of Georgia. She served as a member of the Tennessee Board of Social Work Certification and licensure and was the Director of the Office of Policy Analysis for the Tennessee Department of Human Services. Dr. Thompson has also published extensively in several peer-reviewed journals. Dr. Thompson currently teaches courses in public policy, social work management, and legal and ethical issues in social work.

- Sergeant Pam Ojeda – North Las Vegas Police Department

Sgt. Ojeda has been with the North Las Vegas police Department for almost eleven years, currently serving as a Detective Sergeant in charge of Persons Crimes. Prior to that, Sgt. Ojeda worked as a Crime Scene Investigation Sergeant, a Patrol Sergeant, a Crime Scene Investigator and a Patrol Officer. She holds degrees in Criminal Justice and Criminal Justice Administration.

- Dr. Denise Montcalm – Dr. Montcalm is the Director of the School of Social Work at the University of Nevada Reno (UNR).

In addition, Dr. Montcalm currently coordinates the School's undergraduate (BSW) and distance education (UNR/GBC3 + 1) programs. Dr. Montcalm holds a Ph.D. and MSW from Michigan State University. She also completed a two year post-doctoral research fellowship; at the University of Michigan in applied aging research. Dr. Montcalm currently teaches statistics and research courses. Her research interests include family caregiving and research self-efficacy (among social workers).

- Bernie Anderson – Nevada State Assemblyman, Washoe County District 31

Assemblyman Anderson serves as Speaker pro Tempore and is the Chairman of Assembly Committee on Judiciary. He holds a B.S. in Education from the University of Nevada, Reno. Mr. Anderson recently retired after 33 years of teaching Social Studies to high school students. In 2004 he was awarded the Human Services Network Politician of the Year.

- Assemblywoman Bonnie Parnell – Nevada State Assembly District 40, Carson City and southern Washoe County.

Assemblywoman Parnell is Chairwoman of the Assembly Committee on Education and member of the Assembly Committee on Health and Human Services and the Assembly Committee on Government Affairs. She holds a Bachelor of Arts from Long Beach State University. Ms. Parnell has 23 years of experience teaching and was named Nevada Teacher of the year in 1998.

- Commander Steve Asher - Sparks Police Department

Commander Asher has been in law enforcement for over 20 years, and as Commander oversees the Family Violence and Major Crimes Units for the Sparks Police Department

- Wayne Yarbrough - Washoe County Sheriff's Department

Lieutenant Yarbrough has been with the Sheriff's Department for over 18 years and is currently with the Detective Division; which includes three units: Crimes vs. Persons, Crimes vs. Property, and Crimes vs. Juveniles.