

Steve Sisolak
Governor



Richard Whitley, MS
Director

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

DIVISION OF CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES
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Ross Armstrong
Administrator

NEVADA COALITION TO PREVENT THE COMMERCIAL SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN MEETING MINUTES

DATE: March 16, 2021, 10:00 am

LOCATION: This meeting will be conducted via teleconference, in accordance with Governor Sisolak's Declaration of Emergency Directive 006, Subsection 1; The requirement contained in NRS 241.023 (1) (b) that there be a physical location designated for meetings of public bodies where members of the public are permitted to attend and participate is suspended. Directive 006 was extended with Directive 29, Section 4.

TELECONFERENCE ACCESS: Join the meeting: [Click here to join the meeting](#)

Call in number: [+1 775-321-6111, 485589337#](#) Phone Conference ID: 485 589 337#

1. Call to Order, Roll Call, Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 10:04 a.m. by Ross Armstrong.

Members Present: Ross Armstrong, Eileen Hough, Justice Nancy Saitta, Nicole Reilly, Janice Wolf, Melissa Holland, Brennan Paterson, Amy Ayoub, Jessica Halling, Eboni Washington, Abbie Frierson, Cara Paoli

Liaison: Electra Skrzydlewski

Members Absent: Brigid Duffy, Pauline Salla Smith, Dan Musgrove, Assemblywoman Daniele Monroe-Moreno

Guests: Ali Banister, Mike Allerdycy, Anthony MacKenzie, Brenda Sandquist, Detective Leedy, Elynne Greene, Heather Hughes, Janice Wolf, Jason Mouannes, Lauren Boitel, Linda Anderson, Shannon McCoy, Michelle Sandoval, Kim Yaeger, Jeremy Wilson, Ryan Gustafson

DCFS Staff Members Present: Kathryn Roose, Esther Rodriguez-Brown, Dr. Megan Freeman, Hayley Jarolimek, Laurie Jackson, Elvira Saldana

Roll call was taken, and it was determined a quorum of the Nevada Coalition to Prevent the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children was present.

2. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

3. For Possible Action: Approval of the minutes from the December 15, 2020 meeting of the CSEC Coalition

Ross Armstrong asked if there were any corrections to the minutes. No recommendations were made.

Action: A motion was made by Justice Nancy Saitta to approve the minutes, seconded by Eboni Washington, and carried to approve the minutes of December 15, 2020.

4. For Possible Action: Review and Approve Subcommittee Charters

Ross Armstrong stated the subcommittees and responsibilities were determined at the last meeting.

Esther Rodriguez-Brown stated the goals of the External Engagement Subcommittee Charter will be to create public awareness, legislative or regulatory affairs, and other engagement with external partners to create awareness on CSEC, trafficking of children. The Local Task Force will assist local task forces develop policies, training, and technical assistance. The Funding, Data, and Sustainability Committee will identify and develop a comprehensive statewide CSEC database, identify methods to collect data in a safe and confidential way, and identify funding streams. The subcommittee agreements are to participate in meetings, review the meeting material sent prior to the meetings, participate in identified subcommittees and follow up on tasks assigned at meetings. Each of the subcommittees will focus on specific strategies. Timeline dates have been established for the subcommittees except for the Funding, Data, and Sustainability Committee. The recommendations by the subcommittees will be submitted to the Coalition for approval.

Nicole Reilly requested to have her last name updated to Reilly.

Elynn Greene stated under the Local Task Force Subcommittee, Sergeant Curtis Blake from the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department will be on the committee.

Esther Rodriguez-Brown stated she would update the requested changes.

Ross Armstrong asked if there were any thoughts on the subcommittee roles, objectives, or timeframes.

There were no suggestions.

Ross Armstrong commented for the External Engagement Subcommittee under objective 2b there are two groups they should be hitting, those who are going to need to do the assessment and the screening tool and the industries or groups who will need awareness to report. The Task Force group should maintain a roster of local task forces and identify where one needs to be created. Ross Armstrong stated from the Task Force group, he would appreciate a recommendation of a member from each local task force to be a formal voting member of this Task Force once they are established.

Action: A motion was made by Nicole Reilly to approve the Subcommittee Charters with the amended comments, seconded by Cara Paoli, and carried to approve the Subcommittee Charters.

5. For Information Only: Legislation including but not limited to AB 143, AB 113, SB 164

Ross Armstrong stated the legislature was supposed to have all their individual legislator bills completed by yesterday, however it has been extended. There may be additional bills.

AB 143

AB 143 is from Assemblywoman Krasner. It will be amended when it gets to work session. It would create a Coalition like this one for adult human trafficking or for all human trafficking. A work session date has not been established.

AB 113

AB 113 notes there will be no limitation from which a criminal prosecution for sex trafficking can be commenced. It would provide it may be commenced at any time after the violation is committed.

SB 164

SB 164 allows for victims of human trafficking to be immune from civil or criminal liability in some of the acts they may commit during their trafficking.

Ross Armstrong stated they still expect bills to come forward. Senator Ratti's bill based on the comprehensive study done during the interim has not been seen yet. It is anticipated to be introduced within the next week.

Amy Ayoub asked whose bill is the one relating to protecting victims from prosecution.

Ross Armstrong replied the main sponsors from the Senate are Senator Scheible, Harris and Ohrenschall. The joint sponsors from the Assembly are Nguyen, Gonzalez, and Watts.

Amy Ayoub asked if there are quite a few people on the meeting which are supporting the bill.

Melissa Holland replied they are still trying to get meetings with Senator Scheible to talk about implementation. They are unsure how it will be implemented.

Elynne Greene stated at Metro now, the way it is currently written they are opposed to it for the reasons Melissa Holland talked about. They need to work through what it will look like.

Nicole Reilly commented there is always the opportunity for vacatur. It is an unnecessary addition that could harm rather than do good.

Amy Ayoub asked Melissa Holland and Elynne Greene if they are in support of the other two bills.

Melissa Holland replied Assemblywoman Krasner's bill has done a lot of work with Ross and other important agencies. With the proposed amendments, they will support it.

Elynne Greene stated she still has some concerns; they are not going to oppose it. They are in neutral mode regarding the fact it could be another meeting and what it is going to look like. A statewide task force could be costly in terms of the administration.

Esther Rodriguez-Brown asked if any of the bills in this session are addressing the demand.

Ross Armstrong replied he has not seen any and asked members if they have done any work on AB 113.

Melissa Holland asked what the current statute of limitations is.

Amy Ayoub asked if the bill is stating there is no statute of limitations on being able to go after the trafficker.

Ross replied it is correct.

Amy Ayoub commented she votes yes.

Elynn Greene stated she votes yes; however, she is opposed to unkept promises. There needs to be more education so there are some parameters and victims are made aware when they come forth counting on something.

Ross Armstrong stated to answer the question, what the statute of limitations is now is very complex. The statutes are in NRS 171. The hardest part for victims and advocates to understand is the statute of limitations is a bar to prosecution, not a promise that a prosecution will happen.

Nicole Reilly commented they deal with victims not seeing prosecutions. It is good thing to eliminate the statute of limitation.

Justice Nancy Saitta stated she is in favor of such legislative consideration.

Ross Armstrong informed the Coalition an email would be sent out next week if there are any new trafficking bills associated with CSEC.

Melissa Holland asked Ross Armstrong what his thoughts are regarding Senator Scheible's proposal if it was coupled like Senator Ratti's bill and in a couple of years move in that direction. For Assemblywoman Krasner's bill, this type of committee be the working group to take the next couple of years to bring the proposal to the next legislative session.

Ross Armstrong stated the individuals doing the work every day could reach out to say they prefer it to go in the direction of a study bill. Making it an interim study bill and assigning it to a specific committee would be the way to do it.

6. For Possible Action: Saving Innocence Training/Licensing

Kathryn Roose stated the Division purchased a package of licenses and made them available to the Coalition in December. Kathryn Roose asked members who have attended the training to provide feedback.

Shannon McCoy replied she enjoyed the training. It has multiple applicability. It is geared towards CASA however has applicability for staff training, stakeholder training, and foster parent training. Shannon McCoy commented she is unsure if there is a way of using certain chapters of the training, show the segments, and build discussion points around that to build our own training.

Kathryn Roose stated if the Coalition has alternative ways to use it, it can be explored with the Saving Innocence group and see if there are different options to utilize the training.

Eileen Hough asked for clarification on the time involved to take the training.

Shannon McCoy replied it is an 8-hour training and broken down into nine chapters. There is flexibility to come in and out of the training and not have to dedicate a full 8 hours.

Kathryn Roose asked if anyone else had feedback on the training.

There was no additional feedback.

Kathryn Roose asked Esther if she had a sense of if the training fits into one of the subcommittees for planning and moving it forward.

Esther Rodriguez-Brown stated it could fit in two subcommittees, External Engagement and the Local Task Force. The training could be used to create awareness among community members and organizations and individuals who work within state and county agencies. To isolate modules and be able to use that as training, they will have to talk to Saving Innocence to ensure licensing or copyrights are not violated.

Kim Yaeger with the Nevada Trucking Association commented Truckers Against Trafficking offers many different trainings on sex trafficking. They do focus a lot on law enforcement with a victim center approach. Kim Yaeger offered to provide the website to anyone who is interested in reviewing the trainings. If there is interest in specific training, Kim Yaeger will be more than happy to see if it can be scheduled.

Eileen Hough requested the training information be sent to Kathryn Roose.

Ross Armstrong stated training has been a big topic. It is a great role for the External Engagement Subcommittee to vet the training and perhaps create a training section on the Coalition website for easy access for providers.

7. For Information Only: Provider Spotlight: Clark County Human Trafficking Task Force

Elyne Greene reported the task force has been in existence since 2005. Right now, they have a very robust task force with committees addressing victim services. The committees are the Education Committee, Ad-Hoc Legislative Committee, and Steering Committee. Part of the committee work is to look at best practices, develop policies and procedures, and formalize a lot of what they do. On the victim service side, they are looking to vet service providers to ensure they are meeting best practice standards. The best practice standards are being reviewed and they are developing a web portal through the Rape Crisis Center which will identify resources. People will apply, provide information about how they meet the best practice standards, and then they would qualify to be on the website. The web portal will have resources and information for victims and survivors. The Education Committee has developed a basic module. They are looking at dispelling some of the myths that are harmful to victims and survivors and identifying steps people can take to act. The medical community

and schools will be added to the module. The task force has been asked to do some training for social workers in the Clark County School District. A model was created for the demand side. The numbers have tripled in the last two years, in terms of the numbers of individuals which were identified on the buyers side of adults. On the juvenile side, they are doing some online work. The program was started March 8, 2020. They now have a database and have over 2,000 potential predators. Several hundred of arrests have been made. The efforts are continuing this year. They are looking at the demand side for both adults and juveniles. The task force is currently using their Facebook page to get information out. They are also working with the Nevada Resort Association to standardize the procedures when potential victims are identified. Through Adult Parole and Probation, perpetrators who were on parole and probation have been identified as victims of human trafficking. They now have a protocol during intake where they ask five questions. If two or more responses are in the affirmative, a Victim Advocate is dispatched to meet with the victim.

Jessica Halling asked what they use to identify victims.

Elynn Greene replied there are several mechanisms which are working. They are still looking at which works the best.

Jessica Halling asked Elynn Greene if she knows the numbers for demand arrests in 2020.

Elynn Greene replied she does and can send them out.

Janice Wolf commented a few years ago they had subcommittees for CSEC which worked on various aspects. One of the aspects had to do with implementation of assessment tools. Janice Wolf asked if the assessment tools the subcommittee came up with are being used.

Elynn Greene replied they are used however they are not used consistently.

Amy Ayoub requested to see the information regarding the identification of victims.

Elynn Greene replied she would request the questions asked during intake.

Amy Ayoub asked who invited the task force to train the social workers and who would conduct training.

Elynn Greene replied it was Brian. The task force will identify who will be doing the training.

Amy Ayoub strongly suggests a survivor be included.

Elynn Greene commented they are working closely with one of the Managing Dispatchers to get dispatchers trained to recognize victims. Some of it will be integrated in April.

Ross Armstrong asked if they have a special section on their agenda or committee which focuses on juveniles.

Elynn Greene replied they have not done that specifically. They are working on creating a CSEC Committee. Elynn Greene added the task force is working with Arizona State University on studies if Las Vegas is a site for sex tourism, the juvenile experience, and strangulation.

Ross Armstrong asked if there were additional questions.

Jen Robinson with Awaken commented the Youth Advisory might be a good resource for Elynn Greene.

8. For Possible Action: Review and Possible Modifications of Existing Coalition Bylaws

Ross Armstrong requested the Coalition members submit any feedback before May 1st. The approval of the bylaws will be incorporated into the next meeting agenda. The Executive Order purpose and membership will need to be adjusted. Survivor voice will also need to be included.

9. For Possible Action: Future Agenda Items

- Updates from Subcommittees
- Legislative Update
- Approval of Bylaws
- Provider Spotlight- ARYS

10. For Possible Action: Confirm Next Meeting Date

The next meeting date will be on Tuesday, June 15, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.

11. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

12. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:12 a.m.