

# DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

DWWS

Cindy Pitlock, DNP *Administrator* 

DIVISION OF CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES Helping people. It's who we are and what we do.

#### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

## NEVADA COALITION TO PREVENT THE COMMERCIAL SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN: LEGISLATIVE SUBCOMMITTEE

**DATE:** Thursday, July 14, 2022

TIME: 10:00 am – 11:30 am (or until adjournment)
VIDEO CONFERENCE: Click here to join meeting
TELECONFERENCE: 1-775-321-6111 CONFERENCE

ID:984349254#

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https://dcfs.nv.gov/Programs/CWS/CSEC/2022MeetingsAndAgendas/

Members of the public may hear and observe the meeting, and participate in the meeting by video, phoneor in person. Members of the public may also provide live public comment during the public comment sections of the agenda. If members of the public desire to provide a pre-recorded public comment for a meeting, it must first be authorized before the meeting by the public body.

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- Items may be taken out of order, may be combined for consideration by the public body, and/or may bepulled or removed from the agenda at any time to accomplish business in the most efficient manner.
- "For Information" items are informal in nature and may include discussion and ideas
- "For Possible Action" items may be voted on or approved by members of the commission.

#### **MINUTES**

#### 1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Brigid Duffy called the meeting to order. Esther Rodriguez-Brown called roll.

**Members Present:** Brigid Duffy, Sara Stephan, Elynne Greene, Abigail Frierson, Brittany Hopballe, Cara Paoli, Jennifer Spencer, Jessica Cisneros, Greg Flores, Lauren Boitel, Makaya Swain, Nicole Reilly, Samantha Elkins, Tiffany Tyler-Garner, DeShun Jackson, Joseph Saiz

**Members Absent:** Kimberly Yeager, Jason Guinasso, Annie Lobert, Sharon Anderson, Christina Vela, Katie Ryan

Roll call was taken and quorum was established.

Esther Rodriguez-Brown introduced Lillian Agbeyegbe from the Polaris Project.

Lillian Agbeyegbe informed the Subcommittee that she works on the sex trafficking team at Polaris as the Community Engagement Manager. Ms. Agbeyegbe indicated that she is coordinating a safety net expansion initiative which consists of work in six cities, with an expansion this year to focus on Las Vegas, Dallas, and Detroit. Ms. Agbeyegbe explained that the focus of her work is to look at upstream prevention and prevent trafficking before it happens. As Polaris also has a legislative team, Ms. Agbeyegbe explained her desire to attend the CSEC Legislative Subcommittee meeting to learn about the legislative issues the Subcommittee deals with, as well as potentially provide support with communication planning campaigns.

Elynne Greene requested that Ms. Agbeyegbe add her email to the chat and explained that the Subcommittee is doing some research with Arizona State University as a task force looking at the implications of understanding both the traffickers and the victims as well as their history in the hopes of developing some prevention programs, and indicated her willingness to share this information with Ms. Agbeyegbe.

No further discussion on this item.

**2.** Public Comment and Discussion (Action may not be taken on any matter brought up under this agendaitem until scheduled on an agenda for a later meeting)

There was no public comment.

None.

**3. For Discussion and Possible Action:** Approval of June 9, 2022 minutes. Brigid Duffy opened the floor to discussion or corrections of the minutes.

**Action:** A motion was made by Elynne Greene to approve the June 9, 2022 Meeting Minutes, Joseph Saiz seconded the motion. No objections. Motion carries.

No further discussion on this item.

**4.** For Information Only: Updates on recommendations brought to the full Coalition

Sara Stephan indicated that she had provided a brief overview to the full Coalition on the Subcommittee's work. Ms. Stephan explained that she did not receive much in the way of feedback from the members of the Coalition.

Esther Rodriguez-Brown indicated that Pauline Salla-Smith had asked about coordinating the training for DJJS so as not to duplicate the trainings.

Sara Stephan added that the CSEC training was received through a specific agency and the Coalition members wondered if they could still go through that or use the materials in those sessions in lieu of additional training should it be redundant.

Brigid Duffy indicated that this follows up with her experience at NAJJA, explaining that they use a platform called PoliceOne, which has human trafficking training, but not titled CSEC. Ms. Duffy explained that they use that training for their requirements, by statute, under the POST certification. As

such, Ms. Duffy indicated her understanding of the concern regarding training redundancy and explained that this was her reasoning regarding writing of the statute to be similar to that of the last session including this training if it is not in conflict with other areas. Ms. Duffy reiterated that if POST-certified officers are doing training as required by other statutes, that would account for what CSEC is asking for in the 432C statute. Ms. Duffy next addressed the question raised at NAJJA regarding cost and who would pay for the training and indicated that if they are already doing the online free training, this is not a concern. However, Ms. Duffy indicated the importance of ensuring that the CSEC Coalition is reviewing whatever training is being looked at to ensure that it is up to date and appropriate for the purpose.

Joseph Saiz agreed, indicating that non-sworn officers are not bound by the training outlined in NRS 289, which requires human trafficking training and therefore, either a platform needs to be determined for the non-sworn officers or they need to be included in PoliceOne. Officer Saiz did indicate his belief that this would not be a barrier.

Esther Rodriguez-Brown explained that one of the conversations with DCFS revolved around creating a state-based training addressing the needs of Nevada, acknowledged that there area a lot of free trainings available, but indicated that Nevada has very unique needs that need addressing. Ms. Rodriguez-Brown explained that as these conversations are already occurring at the state level, the goal is that it would be free for the agencies to send whomever they wish to be trained and then, in turn, train other people in their agency.

Dr. Tiffany Tyler-Garner, questioned if the several agencies that have their own training in response to other mandates have the same training or if there is some uniformity in the key topics or areas covered and if not, if part of the legislative discussion could include some assurances around there being key topics or content always covered.

Brigid Duffy indicated her belief that the Subcommittee had listed specific areas that the training should cover.

Esther Rodriguez-Brown reminded the Subcommittee that the recommendation for three-tier training with all the topics needing inclusion was part of the SB-293 report with the three tiers as follows: Tier I, community; Tier II, direct services; and Tier II for therapists and mental wellness providers. Ms. Rodriguez-Brown indicated that all three tiers must be completed.

Brigid Duffy indicating that by following the model that's been used in other legislative sessions, DCFS would create regulations in NAC around these trainings, which is where the consistency piece would come in as everybody would then know exactly what training they needed and how often they needed to take it. Ms. Duffy explained that this is a general statement in statute that states that everyone needs to be trained on certain areas related to identification response and victim-centered prosecution.

No further discussion this item.

**5.** For Discussion and Possible Action: Continue development of the statutory language for legislative recommendation on the creation and function of multidisciplinary teams (MDT's) to support CSEC

Brigid Duffy reminded the Subcommittee that the last meeting included discussion around concern of how records are being shared and opened the floor for any more conversation regarding this topic.

• Discuss and revise proposed statutory language for mandatory training and assessments

Brigid Duffy indicated the need to get this letter out with the recommendation to HHS because the deadline is approaching, and the next HHS Subcommittee will be meeting next week. As such, Ms. Duffy indicated her desire to send out the best version of the MDT training statute.

Esther Rodriguez-Brown informed the Subcommittee that the Coalition did vote to move forward with the MDT.

Jessica Freeman added that although the Coalition did vote to move the MDT forward, it does not have the authority to push this forward. As such, Ms. Freeman indicated the importance of the Coalition determining what groups can push it forward.

Esther Rodriguez-Brown reiterated that although the Coalition does not have the authority to push this forward, they did approve it during the meeting.

Brigid Duffy asked for clarification, noting her understanding that the Coalition does not have a BDR and asking if this means that the Coalition will not make a recommendation to the Chairs of Judiciary and HHS to use one of the BDRs to sponsor this legislation.

Jessica Freeman indicated her difficulty in doing this because although she has been trying, she is running into roadblocks. Ms. Freeman further indicated that the Coalition has missed the deadline to have DCFS push this forward.

Esther Rodriguez-Brown asked who would recommend the work if the Coalition did it all, trying to clarify whether CSEC needs to reach out to legislators individually, and if not, whether or not there was a point to all this work.

Jessica Freeman concurred but indicated that DCFS can push the recommendations forward but unfortunately, the deadlines have been missed. As such, Ms. Freeman indicated that the work will need to be started sooner on the next go-around and in the meantime, other avenues will need to be explored.

Nicole Reilly indicated that she could forward this to her BDR Committee as part of her overview, receive feedback from them, and then bring that feedback to the Subcommittee. Ms. Reilly indicated her belief that Attorney General Ford would add this under the domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking BDR.

Esther Rodriguez-Brown thanked Ms. Reilly and indicated her support for this offer.

Brigid Duffy concurred.

Cara Paoli reiterated her concerns that she had raised at earlier meetings regarding sharing specific clinical information with the MDT, indicating the importance of the team to know that mental-health needs existed and if there's access to treatment, but not the specifics of the relationship with the therapist or diagnosis.

Brigid Duffy indicated that these are valid points and reminded the Subcommittee that this

was the basis for removing the word "records" and using the word "information" instead.

Cara Paoli raised the concern of what happens to the records once they are dispersed to the team, indicating that control of them at that point is lost.

Nicole Reilly questioned whether or not a confidentially agreement was included in the MDT.

Brigid Duffy confirmed that there is a confidentially piece within the MDT that makes it a crime to further disseminate any information.

Nicole Reilly asked that now that everything is done digitally rather than in-person whether or not there is a digital mechanism that can be used to share documents that prevents downloads of information.

Brigid Duffy was not familiar with any digital process that would allow this.

Nicole Reilly indicated that she would circulate this to the IT department and get feedback regarding confidentiality and then destruction of materials following meetings.

Cara Paoli agreed that this is a great suggestion.

Esther Rodriguez-Brown indicated that the presenter of the meeting could always share their screen and never actually share the documents themselves. As such, Ms. Rodriguez-Brown indicated that the person presenting would then be responsible for destroying the records.

Nicole Reilly indicated that law offices have an internal means of sharing specific documents with Committee members, but this may not be applicable to the MDT. Ms. Reilly then asked if those involved in these meetings find it sufficient to be shared via screen or if they need the information ahead of the meeting.

Brigid Duffy explained that in the MDTs in which she has been a participant, those involved in the meeting receive only a name in advance and then share the information in the meeting. As such, there is not a lot of paper sharing as actual records are not ever handed over. Ms. Duffy explained that in some cases, certain team members may bring records with them for discussion, but the records are not being physically shared. Ms. Duffy further indicated her belief that the Subcommittee does not need to vote on this again as there is nothing that can be done by the CSEC Coalition. Nonetheless, Ms. Duffy explained that if the AG's office does want to work with Ms. Duffy and Ms. Stephan as the drafter, they would be happy to work with them on that.

Nicole Reilly indicated that she would include Ms. Duffy and Ms. Stephan when she sends the information over to the AG's office.

 Development of statutory language to form a CSEC Executive committee including defining roles and responsibilities

Jessica Freeman indicated that there had been discussion regarding an executive committee for oversight and to add in that language in order to move things forward. Ms. Freeman

asked if the Subcommittee should look into beginning to draft something like this now.

Brigid Dufy indicated that she would add this and send it over to Nicole Reilly by Monday.

No further discussion on this item.

**6. For Discussion and Possible Action:** Continue discussion on addressing demand through potential separate statutory section including review of proposed statutory language regarding record sealing for solicitation of sex

Brigid Duffy informed the Subcommittee that she had a conversation with a police lieutenant regarding the issue of record sealing involved adults and the solicitation of adults rather than children because they are different statutory sections. As such, Ms. Duffy indicated that different groups are meeting regarding the topic of commercially, sexually exploited children and adult victims of sex trafficking and how they are tending to bleed together. Ms. Duffy then suggested removing this topic from discussion given that it involves adults and not children.

No further discussion on this item.

7. For Information Only: Discuss the Receiving Center and tier system for holding children, including services through no fault petitions

Brigid Duffy indicated her belief that this agenda would garner a lot of the discussion at today's meeting. Ms. Duffy indicated that the use of the word "secure" here is for political correctness when in actually, secure means locked. As such, a child with whom CSEC has intervened on multiple occasions in the past who is not engaging, will then be kept from the continued running behaviors and from running back to their abusers through the hold in the Receiving Center. Ms. Duffy reminded the Subcommittee that this facility is modeled after one in Georgia and according to Nevada statute, CSEC now has the ability to use this secured facility, called a receiving center. As such, Ms. Duffy indicated the importance of the Subcommittee's discussion today regarding what statutory language would need to be like to protect due process rights of victims who need to be in locked facilities for mental health treatment. Ms. Duffy further indicated the importance of not using a receiving center as a therapeutic detention facility. Ms. Duffy reminded the Subcommittee that Ms. Stephan and she had worked hard last session to get language together to support the receiving center and thus already have an outline. Ms. Duffy next informed the Subcommittee that the family service side of juvenile justice is not fully in support of using a secured facility and are invested in ensuring that children's due process rights are protected. As such, Ms. Duffy indicated that this will take a lot of vetting and partnership and critical thinking to determine how best to do that. Ms. Duffy next indicated that she was unsure how best to move forward and suggested talking with DFCS to determine if there is any use for the group to move forward on this.

Nicole Reilly suggested that Ms. Duffy send a list of recommendations in regards to that specific area in a separate document than that which has been approved by the CSEC Coalition and then Ms. Reilly can include it in her BDR Request. Ms. Reilly informed the Subcommittee that AG Ford collaborates beforehand and as such, will connect with Ms. Duffy, DFCS, CPS, and any other partners relevant to this legislation to determine what is needed.

Esther Rodriguez-Brown informed the Subcommittee of tomorrow's meeting with people from legal aid specifically to discuss this topic. Ms. Rodriguez-Brown indicated the importance of the language and reminded the Subcommittee that if the language is changed around CSEC, it also needs to be changed around how children are treated. Ms. Rodriguez-Brown further indicated that this needs to be evaluated on a case-by-case basis as not every child needs the same level of care or security. As such, Ms. Rodriguez-Brown discussed creating a tiered process by which children can be assessed and screened and that based on those needs, services can be determined.

Jessica Freeman indicated that drafting the regulations for the receiving center are in process and that any and all assistance and collaboration is welcome.

Esther Rodriguez-Brown reiterated that the tier is in discussion, and the tier possibility is being left in the regulations specifically to leave that door open and not have to write the regulations again.

Joseph Saiz informed the Subcommittee that a bill that created some additions to NRS 62C.015, limiting the types of offenses that can be brought to the juvenile center if there is reasonable cause to believe that a child has been commercially sexually exploited, was passed in 2019. Mr. Saiz indicated that the intent was to implement this in July 2021 but given the discussion around and time needed to build the receiving centers, was extended to July 2023. Mr. Saiz indicated that this conversation has been taking place in the local CSEC meetings and concurred that it is critical to find some sort of system to manage these children in lieu of detention.

Lauren Boitel asked if there is something that prohibits the Subcommittee from working with other agencies that have BDRs, reaching out to bill sponsors, or using traditional lobbying methods.

Brigid Duffy indicated her belief that there is no such prohibition in place.

Esther Rodriguez-Brown asked what has changed as the prior CSEC Coalition did submit bills back in 2016.

Brigid Duffy explained that they received sponsors for those bills and that this is something that will need to be discussed with the state offline.

Nicole Reilly assured Lauren Boitel that she would be included in the policy council on all of these conversations, as well as Ms. Duffy and the CSEC Coalition. As such, Ms. Reilly indicated that this topic is not being dropped, but is simply being shifted over to the AG's Office.

Lauren Boitel asked if the reason the Subcommittee is unable to move things forward is because the members are unable to reach out to lawmakers for sponsor or because it's not the best way to move things forward.

Brigid Duffy indicated that she does not know the reason and will need to find out.

No further discussion on this item.

**8.** For Discussion and Possible Action: Future agenda items This item was skipped in the meeting.

- **9. For Information Only: Next Meeting:** August 11, 2022. 10:00am-11:30am (or until adjournment) Brigid Duffy indicated that this meeting is cancelled and she will let the Subcommittee know whether or not it will be rescheduled.
- **10. Final Public Comment and Discussion** (Action may not be taken on any matter brough up under this agenda item until scheduled on an agenda for a later meeting)

  There was no public comment.

### 11. Adjournment

Brigid Duffy adjourned the July 14, 2022 CSEC Legislative Subcommittee meeting.