



**NEVADA COMMISSION ON ETHICS
REQUEST FOR OPINION
(ETHICS COMPLAINT)
NRS 281A.440.2
Please print or complete online.**

RECEIVED
NOV 12 2010
COMMISSION
ON ETHICS

1. Provide the name, title, public agency, address, and telephone number for the public officer or employee you allege violated the Nevada Ethics in Government Law, NRS 281A. *(If more than one public officer or employee is alleged to have violated the law, use a separate form for each individual.)*

Name & Title:	Jim Shirley / Pershing County District Attorney		
Public Agency:	Pershing County District Attorney's Office		
Address:	400 Main St. / P.O. Box 934		
City, State, Zip:	Lovelock, NV, 89419	Telephone:	(775) 273-2613

2. Describe in specific detail the conduct of the public officer or employee identified above that you allege violated the provision(s) of chapter 281A of NRS. *(You must include specific facts and circumstances to support your allegations – including dates, times, places, and the name and position of each person involved.)*

Check here if additional pages are attached.

I would like your opinion as to whether the District Attorney abused his power as district attorney by sending out the attached news letter, which is derogatory toward the county sheriff who was running for re-election.
I would also like your opinion on whether using tax payer's money to send this letter out is legal.
I do not believe this is covered under NRS 252.100 as a duty of the District Attorney.

3. Identify all persons who might have knowledge of the facts and circumstances you have described, *as well as the nature of the testimony the person will provide*. Include the address and telephone number for each person.

Check here if additional pages are attached.

Name & Title:	Jim Shirley / Pershing County District Attorney		
Address:	400 Main St. / P.O. Box 934	Telephone:	
City, State, Zip:	Lovelock, NV, 89419		
Nature of Testimony:			

4. Attach two copies of all documents or items you believe provide credible evidence to support your allegations. NRS 281A.440.2(b)(1) requires you to submit all related evidence to support your allegations. NAC 281A.435.3 defines credible evidence as a minimal level of any reliable and competent form of proof provided by witnesses, records, documents, exhibits, minutes, agendas, videotapes, photographs, concrete objects, or other similar items that would reasonably support the allegations made within the complaint. Credible evidence does not include a newspaper article or other media report if the article or report is offered by itself.

State the total number of additional pages attached (including evidence) 2 pgs front and back.

REQUESTOR'S INFORMATION:

NAME: Doylane Craig	E-MAIL: dac8385@yahoo.com
ADDRESS: P.O. Box 257 / 235 Apache St.	
CITY, STATE, ZIP: Imlay, NV, 89418	
TELEPHONE (775) 538-7023	CELL PHONE: (775)224-6720

By my signature below, I do affirm that the facts set forth in the foregoing complaint and attachments thereto are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief and I am willing to provide sworn testimony if necessary regarding these allegations.

Doylane Craig
 Signature
 Print Name: Doylane Craig

11/8/10
 Date

Please return an original signed form, two copies of the form, and three copies of the supporting documents and evidence to:

**Executive Director
 Nevada Commission on Ethics
 704 W. Nye Lane, Suite 204
 Carson City, Nevada 89703**

Ethics complaints submitted by facsimile will not be considered as properly filed with the Commission.
NAC 281A.255.3

County District Attorney

400 Main Street
P.O. Box 934
Lovelock, Nevada 89419
Phone: 775-273-2613
Fax: 775 273 7058



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Prevention, Prosecution,
Protection

We're on
the Web.
Come to
our site

Email: JShirley@pershingcounty.net
<http://www.pershingcounty.com/>



DOYLANE AND SHEA CRAIG 3 1202
PO BOX 257
IMLAY NV 89418-0257

Purpose of the Newsletter

“I didn’t know _____” is a statement I hear often from citizens in the County. In an effort to better communicate with the citizens of Pershing County, the Pershing County District Attorney’s Office is publishing a newsletter. In speaking with individuals in the communities of this great county, it has become increasingly apparent that county officials have failed to let you know what is happening in your government. For example: People did not know that the Sheriff’s Office allowed nearly five hundred warrants to be purged from the criminal justice database (NCIC). Apparently, new Sheriff’s staff did not know the procedures that had been in place for 10 years and had failed to “validate” the data on the computer for the last two years. After I brought this up, it was resolved.

The recent community assessment identified a lack of communication with your representatives as one of the critical problems in the county. I decided that this letter would provide a means for my office to communicate with each household in a direct manner the dealings of the District Attorney’s Office. We will also be creating a new & more user-friendly website to assist with the communication issues. I have divided this newsletter into various sections or topic areas.

I hope this will be a way of periodically getting information out to individuals in the community. Please give me feedback by phone or e-mail. I would like to know if this letter achieves the desired result.

Sincerely,
Jim C. Shirley
District Attorney

Educate Yourself To Protect Your Financial Well-Being.

Be extremely careful with infomercials telemarketers and people coming to your door offering to do work or give you products. The Internet has created an avenue of fraud.

Another problem involves identity theft. Be extremely careful and monitor your credit and personal information. Some individuals will steal your identity. The time and effort spent in trying to clear up the theft will be staggering.

SCAMS TARGET YOU

PROTECT YOURSELF

An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.

Be careful of the overseas individual offering you large sums of money for helping transfer money to a US bank. These are often called "Nigerian scams." Serious financial and other trouble results from participating in such scams.

Protect yourself by educating yourself. These scams often pray upon the elderly. If you need our assistance, please call.

Here are trusted web pages you can check out:

<http://www.fbi.gov/cyberinvest/escams.htm>

<http://www.justice.gov/criminal/fraud/>

Child Support Program Is

Ninety-nine percent!!! This was the results of a recent compliance review that was performed recently of the Pershing County Child Support Program. This represents a substantial achievement by Elizabeth Blondheim. She has worked very hard and should be commended for her efforts. In 2005, Mr. Shirley set a goal of becoming one of the best child support offices in the State. With the skilled good personnel, The Pershing County Child Support Office has achieved

that distinction. The child support program is a division of the Pershing County District Attorney's Office. The program is designed to help minimize disputes over a child's financial picture. If you have any questions about our child support program, please contact the Child Support Office at (775) 273 5025.

99 PERCENT

Bad Check Program Helps Local Businesses

In Mr. Shirley's First Term as District Attorney, he implemented a program that would deal with checks that were written to local merchants that "bounced." The program is designed to address the needs of merchants and those who have made mistakes in their finances, while reducing law enforcement, court, and staff costs.



"Remind me to increase my fees to include suffering through lawyer jokes."

A little humor goes a long way.

The program has been a great success for the county. It has resulted in fewer man hours spent on investigations. Better and more efficient collections for businesses. The offenders receive education about finances. If you would like more information for your business, please contact the Pershing County District Attorney's Office at 775 273 2613 (talk to Rachel).

Fall Newsletter

Office of the Pershing County District Attorney

Message from the District Attorney

The Headline reads: "Escapee goes on a crime spree." That is a headline that I don't want to see. It doesn't matter if it has never happened before. I don't think that you want to see such a headline either.

My concerns in this regard began on September 8, 2010, when I personally became aware of the Pershing County Sheriff's illegal use of unconvicted inmates who were being held in jail. After investigating the matter, I became aware that the use had become wide-spread and problematic. I wrote a letter to the Commissioners (who have oversight over the jail) and the Sheriff (who has a duty to guard the inmates) asking that they address this issue (The letter and the memoranda that have been sent on that issue are available to the public for review).

A newspaper article has been printed which details some of the issues. While the article does a good job of covering the issue, it leaves several wrong impressions. First, the article leaves the impression that the Sheriff has the power to use unconvicted Felons as trustees out in the community. He does not. The Legislature has not given the Sheriff any power to allow unconvicted inmates to leave the jail on work detail.

Second, the article leaves the impression that nothing bad has

occurred. It only takes one incident to create a tragedy. The risk is not justified.

Third, the trustees lacked substantial supervision. For example, one of the more serious offenders was allowed to go home for his own birthday party. Even if the practice were legal, which it is **NOT**, there was no supervision.

Fourth, the article indicates that the Sheriff screened the inmates. Common sense would say that the screening was entirely inadequate based upon the inmates that were used.

While the Sheriff has ceased the practice, some, including the Sheriff, want to make this a political issue. This issue is **not** about politics. This issue is about doing what is right. The use of unconvicted inmates as trustees was not only improper, it was illegal.

To protect the community, an ordinance has been submitted which will not allow similar errors in judgment in the future. The ordinance also addresses issues that the Sheriff and Commissioners wanted addressed. Please contact the Commissioners at (775) 273 2342 and ask that they pass the Jail Ordinance. The Ordinance needs to be passed because it is the right thing to do for public safety and Pershing County Citizens.

Jim C. Shirley District Attorney

October 11, 2010

Volume 1, Issue 1

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Special points of interest:

- Find out some of the programs the District Attorney has implemented to help you.
- Get a feel for the statistics on criminal cases for the City of Lovelock and Pershing County.
- Find out about what the Child Support Division is all about.

Beginning in November 2010, the Pershing County District Attorney's Office will be sponsoring a course on becoming financially independent. The course will be free to the public. It will be held at the Community Center on Wednesday Nights at 7:00 p.m. Enrollment is limited, so if you would like to participate, please contact Heidi at (775) 273 2613 during regular business hours.

The Course will cover several topics and will last several weeks. The Office will be willing to provide additional



*If money be not thy servant, it
will be thy master.*
—Francis Bacon

courses to any organization or group that is interested. We would encourage local clergy to attend. The course will provide instruction to the attendees in variety of areas which are designed to assist each family/individual to become financially independent.

Young married couples and recent graduates from high school are strongly encouraged to attend. For responsible high school seniors/juniors, the classes will provide some needed life skills for the "real world" of money, debt, and savings. Anyone interested in learning more about their finances should plan on attending.

Recognize a Police Officer or Sheriff's Deputy

If you have been the victim of a crime and want to know about the status of your case, please contact my office at (775) 273 2613. Unless further investigation is requested, the turn-around for filing charges is a short period of time. If you have been told that we have your case and told we are not prosecuting the case, contact this office.

When law enforcement officers investigate an alleged crime, the officers generate a "report." The report may request criminal charges be

brought. An arrest does not always result in such charges being filed.

If you get a chance, recognize those frontline peace officers that try to protect and serve our communities. They may not be perfect, but they try to do what's right and try to do a good job.

*"Recognize those frontline peace officers that try to protect
and serve our communities"*

Traffic Diversion Program

In 2007, the Pershing County District Attorney's Office implemented a Traffic Diversion Program as part of Mr. Shirley's second term in office. The purpose of the program is to address the needs of the community, law enforcement, the courts, and Pershing County. An individual, who has a "ticket" for a minor traffic violation, may enroll in the program to have the points reduced. The program requires completion of a driver's education course.

An Additional Result: Less traffic offense related



u14782858 fotosearch.com

*Slow Down and
Obey the Speed Limit*

court-time. The driver and the community benefit with the education received. If you have any questions about this program or want information, Please contact the Pershing County District Attorney's Office at (775) 273 2613 (ask for Rachel)