



STATE OF NEVADA
BEFORE THE NEVADA COMMISSION ON ETHICS

In the Matter of the Request for Opinion
Concerning the Conduct of **SHARLENE COONEY**,
Member, Humboldt General Hospital District,
Humboldt County, State of Nevada,

**Request for
Opinion No. 09-26C**

Subject.

PANEL DETERMINATION

NRS 281A.440(3)

Facts and Jurisdiction

An Ethics Complaint was filed against Sharlene Cooney (Cooney) alleging violations of NRS 281A (Ethics in Government Law), specifically NRS 281A.420(2) and (4), when she failed to disclose and/or abstain from voting on matters in which she had a pecuniary interest, as described more fully below in the Panel Proceeding.

At the time of the alleged conduct, Cooney was a Trustee for the Humboldt General Hospital District (HGH), a public officer as defined in NRS 281A.160. Therefore, the Nevada Commission on Ethics (Commission) has jurisdiction in this matter.

Panel Proceeding

On July 1, 2009, pursuant to NRS 281A.440(3), a Panel consisting of Commissioners George Keele and Paul Lamboley reviewed the following: Ethics Complaint; Cooney's response to the Complaint; Investigator's Report; Executive Director's Recommendation and the evidence collected by Commission staff.

The following are the Panel's unanimous conclusions:

Just and sufficient cause does not exist for the Commission to hold a hearing and render an opinion on the allegations that Cooney violated NRS 281A.420(2) and (4) at the January 27, 2009, HGH meeting, when she voted to approve the purchase of a medical device.

The Request for Opinion is, therefore, DISMISSED.

Dated: 7/2/09


Adriana G. Fralick, Esq.
General Counsel