



**NEVADA COMMISSION ON ETHICS
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION
REGARDING JUST AND SUFFICIENT CAUSE**

REQUEST FOR OPINION NO. 06-31

SUBJECT: CANDICE TRUMMELL, MEMBER
NYE COUNTY COMMISSION

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION FOR THE PANEL
JULY 31, 2006**

A. ADDITIONAL INVESTIGATIVE ACTIVITIES:

- Obtained affidavit of additional information from Ace Robison

B. RESULTS OF ADDITIONAL INVESTIGATION ACTIVITIES:

During the Panel Proceeding of July 20, 2006, it was determined that just and sufficient cause **DOES NOT EXIST** for the Commission to hold a hearing and render an opinion in this matter relating to the provisions of

- NRS 281.481 (1)
- NRS 281.481 (4)
- NRS 281.481 (5)
- NRS 281.481 (7)
- NRS 281.481 (10)
- NRS 281.501 (2)
- NRS 281.505.

However, it was also determined that additional information was needed in order to determine whether just and sufficient cause existed for the Commission to hold a hearing and render an opinion in this matter relating to the provisions of

- NRS 281.481(2).

The Panel directed staff to obtain additional information from Mr. Ace Robison.

Mr. Robison provided a response by affidavit to the following questions:

1. What are the position title, job description, and essential functions of the position held by Candice Trummell?
2. What do you know about Ms. Trummell's academic background?
3. What do you know about Ms. Trummell's consulting background?
4. What do you know about the communities that Ms. Trummell has lived in throughout Nevada?
5. Why was the position with Robison/Seidler, Inc., offered to Ms. Trummell?
6. Please state any other facts that qualify Ms. Trummell for her position with your firm.
7. What pecuniary interest does Ms. Trummell have in Robison/Seidler, Inc.?
8. When did Ms. Trummell start dealing at the casino?
9. What is Ms. Trummell's current level of interactivity between Nye County and Robison/Seidler?
10. How much of Robison/Seidler business is related to the Yucca Mountain Project?

The following is the response from Ace Robison:

1. Candice Trummell holds the position of Senior Policy Analyst. She is involved in business management, client relations, private sector business development, and property management of an office building owned by Robison/Seidler.
2. Candice has completed all but a few credits toward her bachelor's degree. We have discussed (and she has apparently discussed with her academic advisor) the possibility of her serving an internship with Robison/Seidler as part of her degree requirement. I'm not sure of the status of that but from our perspective we are very willing to assist in whatever way is considered appropriate by her academic advisor.
3. I was aware that Candice worked in political consulting prior to her election to the county commission, and she came highly recommended by those with whom she had worked. We were looking for a bright, attractive, young person (preferably female) who was quick on the uptake to fill a key position in our firm. Candice fit the need perfectly so when we learned that she would likely not seek reelection, we began discussions with her.
4. I am only aware that she has lived most of her life in Pahrump and is well acquainted with rural Nevada and rural issues which is important to our firm. I was also aware that she has lived in Las Vegas. That, together with her political consulting in Las Vegas, gives her a sound understanding of urban issues and politics. Again, this created a nice fit with our firm.
5. We offered Candice a position for the reasons described above.
6. She is bright, presents herself well in whatever environment she finds herself. We have, further, been pleased with her ability to learn how to interact in the Washington, DC arena where our firm works on a regular and frequent basis.
7. Candice has no pecuniary interest in Robison/Seidler, Inc.

8. I have no idea when Candice started dealing at the casino. I assume it was when she was elected to the county commission and needed to supplement her commission salary.
9. There is little interactivity between Robison/Seidler and Nye County. We do not, nor have we ever, any contractual relationship with Nye County. Any informal interactivity between my firm and Nye County is carried out by myself, my partner, or one of our other employees or consultants. We have been very careful to avoid even the appearance of conflict with regard to Nye County.
10. Historically much of our business has been Yucca Mountain related. At this time our only Yucca Mountain related work involves advising Lincoln County regarding their Yucca Mountain oversight program.

B. RECOMMENDATION:

Based on the additional investigative activities, it is hereby recommended the Panel find that just and sufficient cause **DOES NOT EXIST** for the Commission to hold a hearing and render an opinion in this matter relating to the provisions of:

- NRS 281.481 (2)

There is no evidentiary basis in support of the Commission further investigating the allegations.

DATED: July 28, 2006

Matthew C. Di Orio
MATTHEW C. DI ORIO
SENIOR INVESTIGATOR