



STATE OF NEVADA

BEFORE THE NEVADA COMMISSION ON ETHICS

In re **Joel Dunn**, Former Executive
Director, Carson City Culture &
Tourism Authority, State of Nevada,

Request for Opinion No. 19-021C

Subject. /

**REVIEW PANEL DETERMINATION
AND REFERRAL ORDER**
NRS 281A.730; NAC 281A.440

The Nevada Commission on Ethics ("Commission") received Ethics Complaint No. 19-021C ("Complaint") on March 25, 2019, regarding the alleged conduct of Joel Dunn ("Dunn"), the former Executive Director of the Carson City Culture & Tourism Authority ("CTA"), in violation of the Ethics in Government Law set forth in NRS Chapter 281A ("Ethics Law"). The Commission instructed the Executive Director to investigate alleged violations of NRS 281A.400(1), (2), (3), (5), (9) and (10), NRS 281A.410(1)(b), NRS 281A.420(1) and (3), NRS 281A.430 and NRS 281A.550(5) for Dunn's conduct associated with policy changes he recommended to the CTA Board of Directors ("Board") on July 11, 2017 and Contract No. 2017-1013, which Dunn presented to the Board for approval on October 9, 2017.

Dunn is a former public employee as defined in NRS 281A.150. The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to NRS 281A.280 because the allegations contained in the Complaint relate to Dunn's conduct as a former public employee and have associated implications under the Ethics Law. Specifically, the Complaint alleged that Dunn misused his public position to benefit his private pecuniary interests.

On August 5, 2019, a Review Panel ("Panel") consisting of Commissioners Brian Duffrin (Presiding Officer), Teresa Lowry, Esq. and Amanda Yen, Esq., reviewed the following: 1) Ethics Complaint No. 19-021C; 2) Order on Jurisdiction and Investigation; 3) Subject's Response to the Complaint; and 4) Executive Director's Recommendation to the Review Panel with Summary of Investigatory Findings.¹

Under NAC 281A.430, the Panel unanimously finds and concludes that the facts establish credible evidence to support a determination that just and sufficient cause exists for the Commission to render an opinion in the matter regarding the alleged violations of NRS 281A.400(1), (2), (3) and (10), NRS 281A.420(1), NRS 281A.430 and NRS 281A.550(5).

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¹ All materials provided to the Panel, except the Complaint and the Order on Jurisdiction and Investigation, represent portions of the investigatory file and remain confidential pursuant to NRS 281A.750.

However, the Panel unanimously finds and concludes that there is not just and sufficient cause for the Commission to render an opinion in the matter for alleged violations of NRS 281A.400(5) and (9), NRS 281A.410(1)(b) and NRS 281A.420(3). Therefore, these allegations are dismissed.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

The Panel refers the Complaint to the Commission to render an opinion in the matter in furtherance of this just and sufficient cause determination.

Dated this 5th day of August, 2019.

NEVADA COMMISSION ON ETHICS

By: /s/ Brian Duffrin
Brian Duffrin
Commissioner/Presiding Officer

By: /s/ Amanda Yen
Amanda Yen, Esq.
Commissioner

By: /s/ Teresa Lowry
Teresa Lowry, Esq.
Commissioner

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I certify that I am an employee of the Nevada Commission on Ethics and that on this day in Carson City, Nevada, I transmitted a true and correct copy of the foregoing **REVIEW PANEL DETERMINATION AND REFERRAL ORDER** via U.S. Certified Mail and electronic mail addressed as follows:

Joel Dunn
c/o Mike Pavlakis
Allison MacKenzie
402 N. Division Street
Carson City, NV 89703

Certified Mail No.: 9171 9690 0935 0037 6380 68
Email: mpavlakis@allisonmackenzie.com
Email cc: sprice@allisonmackenzie.com

Dated: 8/5/19



Employee, Nevada Commission on Ethics