

Public Comment Received

Public Comment/ Meeting of April 16
Nevada Commission on Ethics

I am Jeffrey Church and run RenoTaxRevolt.com and I offer this as an attachment to any public comment that I may make or for the record if I cannot attend via Zoom as I'm out of town.

I have expressed my distain for the NCOE in the past and it continues. It serves no real valid purpose and should be eliminated or completely 100% revamped by the legislature. My main concerns:

1. Ongoing Confidential Letters as a "get-around" from doing your job.
2. Failure to widely disseminate the Ancho decision on healthcare that affects 99% of elected officials statewide.
3. McDonald Carano conflict of interest and denial of due process to so many.

Ad Nauseum the panel skirts its duties by repeatedly issuing half-pregnant "Letters" where the matter is 'dismissed however'... which are confidential and actually deny all of due process and transparency as the recipient apparently can't appeal a dismissal and the public can only wonder what is in the letter.

However, it determined that good cause exists for the Commission to issue a **Confidential** Letter of Caution.

However, we take this opportunity to provide fair warning to any person(s) contemplating such misuse.

However, the Panel unanimously finds and concludes that there is sufficient cause to issue a **Confidential** Letter of Caution

However, in the interest of the Commission's purpose to help educate public officers, the issuance of a **Confidential** Letter of Instruction is appropriate to ensure Subject is aware of her ongoing duties under the Ethics Law ...

Nonetheless, education about the Ethics Law may be helpful to Subject regarding the allegations of the Complaint. The Commission therefore directs the Executive Director to issue a **Confidential** Letter of Instruction to Subject.

Nevertheless, this determination should not be taken to indicate that mixed use accounts with a minimal disclaimer would be allowed by the Commission. Public officers, including Mayberry, would be wise to follow the educational aspects of this Review Panel Determination or seek an advisory opinion about their individual circumstances.

Although the matter is being dismissed, the Review Panel determines that a **Confidential** Letter of Instruction shall be issued to advise Hoferer of her duty to avoid conflicts as a public officer

In almost all of these, a reading- when available- leads anyone with common sense to believe that a violation did, de facto, occur. At a bare minimum officials should be asked if they would waive confidentiality of the entire record.

In Ancho as well as apparently in 24-162C and who knows how many more hidden in the non-descriptive files of NCOE are confidential warnings that elected officials need to disclose all benefits in related votes such as healthcare benefits. It appears that such votes occur widely statewide with elected officials not disclosing that they too receive said health care/ insurance/ and other benefits. NCOE knows this and remains silent. Disgusting!

BTW: If an elected official is directly affected by a labor contract and/or budget item where they get the same level of health insurance/ benefits, how can they abstain? Then perhaps all would have to abstain, leaving no one to vote yes or no. Hummm.

"Advisory Opinion No. 23-066A Confidential " but then publish it only because "**Confidentiality Waived for Opinion Only**" "Ancho has a pecuniary interest in the cost of her health insurance and so the Ethics Law requires compliance with the disclosure and **abstention** requirements of NRS 281A.420 and the Code of Ethical Standards set forth in NRS 281A.400."*

I am so tired of seeing an employee of McDonald Carano abstain and thus denying the public official one ore set on "eyes on". The ongoing conflict is too obvious to ignore.

McDonald Carano

Commissioner Yen is a partner at the law firm of McDonald Carano, which represents Washoe County. ... Consequently, the independence of judgment of a reasonable person in Commissioner Yen's situation could be materially affected in voting upon items related to the Subject. To avoid conflicts of interest and any appearance of impropriety and comply with the Ethics Law and Judicial Canons applicable to the Commission, Commissioner Yen is disclosing these relationships and is abstaining from participation in this matter.

Finally, I note that NCOE decisions are non-descriptive such as "In re Public Officer, Opinion No 23-094A". Do citizens or agency legal advisors need to sit around glued to the website reading one by one each decision?

I think this well explains just some reasons for my ongoing distain and disgust for the NCOE. I hope at least you remove persons that have repeated conflicts and you look to change your approach to how you do business with our tax dollars and at least disseminate and educate officials and the public on matters such as healthcare.

Jeffrey Church