



STATE OF NEVADA

BEFORE THE NEVADA COMMISSION ON ETHICS

In re **Jason Soto**, Police Chief,
Reno Police Department,
State of Nevada,

Ethics Complaint
Case No. 22-103C

Subject. /

REVIEW PANEL DETERMINATION

NRS 281A.730; NAC 281A.440

The Nevada Commission on Ethics ("Commission") initiated this Ethics Complaint on September 7, 2022, regarding the alleged conduct of Subject Jason Soto ("Soto"). On October 6, 2022, the Commission further instructed the Executive Director to investigate Soto's alleged violation of NRS 281A.400(7).

Soto is a public officer as defined in NRS 281A.160, and the Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to NRS 281A.280 because the allegations contained in the Complaint relate to Soto's alleged conduct as a public officer and have associated implications under the Ethics Law.

On November 16, 2022, a Review Panel ("Panel") consisting of Chair Kim Wallin, CPA, CMA, CFM (Presiding Officer) and Commissioner Thoran Towler, Esq. reviewed the following: (1) Ethics Complaint (2) Order on Jurisdiction and Investigation; (3) Soto's Response to the Complaint; and (4) Executive Director's Recommendation to the Review Panel with a Summary of Investigatory Findings.¹

The Review Panel determined that there was not sufficient credible evidence that just and sufficient cause exists to refer this matter to the Commission to render an opinion. However, it determined that good cause exists for the Commission to issue a Confidential Letter of Caution.

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

In particular, the letter should warn the Subject against the use of government equipment for personal interests and instruct the Subject regarding informing third parties about his obligations under NRS 281A.400(7) to avoid the appearance of impropriety when using photographs of Subject in his uniform in support of his private endorsement of political candidates. The allegations shall be dismissed upon issuance of the Confidential Letter of Caution.

Dated this 16th day of November, 2022.

REVIEW PANEL OF THE NEVADA COMMISSION ON ETHICS²

By: /s/ Kim Wallin
Kim Wallin, CPA, CMA, CFM
Chair/Presiding Officer

By: /s/ Thoran Towler
Thoran Towler, Esq.
Commissioner

By: /s/ Absent
Damian R. Sheets, Esq.
Commissioner

²Commissioner Sheets was assigned to serve on the Review Panel but did not participate in the consideration of this matter. Pursuant to NAC 281A.177(2), if a vacancy occurs in the membership of a review panel, the two remaining members have authority to act on all pending issues before the review panel.

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** via electronic mail, as consented to by the Subject, addressed as follows:

Jason Soto
c/o Jonathan D. Shipman, Esq.
Assistant City Attorney
City of Reno
1 E. First Street, Suite 300
Reno, NV 89501

Email: jdsotojdsoto@yahoo.com
Email: shipmanj@reno.gov

Dated: 11/17/22



Employee, Nevada Commission on Ethics