



# STATE OF NEVADA MEETING NOTICE AND AGENDA RESILIENCE COMMISSION

**Name of Organization:** RESILIENCE COMMISSION  
**Date and Time of Meeting:** TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2019 – 9:00 A.M.

| <b>Carson City Venue:</b>                              | <b>Carson City Address:</b> |
|--------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Division of Emergency Management                       | 2478 Fairview Drive         |
| State Emergency Operations Center                      | Carson City, NV 89701       |
| <b>Las Vegas Venue:</b>                                | <b>Las Vegas Address:</b>   |
| Clark County Fire Administration Building              | 575 E. Flamingo Road        |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor Multi-Agency Coordination Center | Las Vegas, NV 89119         |
| <b>Elko Venue:</b>                                     | <b>Elko Address:</b>        |
| Elko County School District                            | 850 Elm Street              |
| Conference Room #2                                     | Elko, NV 89801              |

**NOTE:** Valid photo identification will be required prior to entrance to the Division of Emergency Management building on the Nevada Army National Guard complex in Carson City.

**THIS MEETING WILL BE VIDEO CONFERENCED AND/OR TELECONFERENCED BETWEEN THE LOCATIONS SPECIFIED ABOVE BEGINNING AT 9:00 A.M.**

The Resilience Commission (Commission) may take action on items marked “For Possible Action.” Items may be taken out of the order presented on the agenda at the discretion of the Co-Chairs. Items may be combined for consideration by the Commission at the discretion of the Co-Chairs. Items may be pulled or removed from the agenda at any time.

**Please Note:** Witnesses wishing to have their complete testimony/handouts included in the permanent record of this meeting should provide a written or electronic copy to the Commission administrative support staff. Minutes of the meeting are produced in a summary format and are not verbatim.

- 1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL** – Co-Chairs, Chief Caleb Cage, State Administrative Agent (SAA), and Deputy Chief John Steinbeck, Urban Area Administrator (UAA).
- 2. PUBLIC COMMENT**– (Discussion Only) – No action may be taken upon a matter raised under this item of the agenda until the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an item upon which action may be taken. Public comments may be limited to 3 minutes per person at the discretion of the Co-Chairs. Comments will not be restricted based on viewpoint.
- 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – (Discussion/For Possible Action) – Co-Chairs, Chief Caleb Cage, (SAA), and Deputy Chief John Steinbeck, (UAA). This agenda item will discuss whether or not to approve the minutes of the December 11, 2018, Commission meeting.

4. **REVIEW OF CURRENT RESILIENCE COMMISSION BYLAWS** – (Discussion/For Possible Action) – Co-Chairs, Chief Caleb Cage, SAA, and Deputy Chief John Steinbeck, UAA. The Commission will review the bylaws adopted on October 25, 2018, as a quarterly requirement denoted in the current bylaws. The Commission may vote to amend the bylaws based on issues identified during the review.
5. **UPDATE ON CURRENT EFFORTS APPLIED TO THE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT STRATEGIC PLAN AND DEVELOPMENT OF RESILIENCE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES** - (Discussion/for Possible Action) – Co-Chairs, Chief Caleb Cage, SAA, and Deputy Chief John Steinbeck, UAA. The Co-Chairs will provide an update on efforts to date regarding the current Emergency Management Strategic Plan including updates on what the definition of Resilience should be for Nevada, continued discussion on the next phases of strategic plan development involving the State Resilience Goal and Objectives, an update on the Resilience cycle, and alignment with the 100 Resilient Cities concept. Commissioners may be asked to vote on the acceptance of a Resilience definition as presented or modified during the meeting. Commissioners may also vote on accepting the Resilience Goal and Objectives as presented or modified during the meeting.
6. **UPDATE ON THE OUTLINE OF THE 2019 RESILIENCE COMMISSION REPORT** – (Discussion Only) – Co-Chairs, Chief Caleb Cage, SAA, and Deputy Chief John Steinbeck, UAA. The Co-Chairs will provide an update on the outline of the 2019 Report of the Resilience Commission. This outline will provide an updated framework for how the report will be developed in the coming year. Commissioners will be provided an opportunity to provide input into the ongoing process.
7. **BRIEFING ON CURRENT LEGISLATIVE EFFORTS AFFECTING THE STATEWIDE RESILIENCE STRATEGY** – (Discussion Only) – Co-Chairs, Chief Caleb Cage, SAA, and Deputy Chief Steinbeck, UAA. The Co-Chairs will brief the Commission on the current status of legislative efforts pertaining to the Statewide Resilience Strategy to include budget submissions for the Division of Emergency Management (DEM) in support of the strategy and Bill Draft Requests (BDR). This brief may include the status on the following efforts:
  - Assembly Bill 71: Makes various changes concerning expenditures related to disasters and emergencies;
  - Senate Bill 15: Provides for the establishment of incident management assistance teams;
  - Senate Bill 34: Revises provisions related to emergency management;
  - Senate Bill 35: Creates the Nevada Resilience Advisory Committee;
  - Senate Bill 66: Revises provisions relating to emergency management;
  - Senate Bill 67: Revises provisions governing local emergency management;
  - Senate Bill 68: Provides for the expedited granting of certain provisional registrations to volunteer providers of health or veterinary services during an emergency declaration; and
  - Senate Bill 69: Revises provisions relating to emergencies and cybersecurity.
8. **UPDATE ON HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM (HSGP) PROJECT PROPOSALS REQUESTING USE OF FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR (FFY) 2016 DEOBLIGATED FUNDING** – (Discussion Only) – Kelli Anderson, Emergency Management Program Manager, DEM. Ms. Anderson will update the Commission on the current status of FFY16 deobligations to include project names, subrecipients, deobligation amounts, and reasons for the deobligation. The Commission will be given an opportunity to discuss the information provided.

- 9. BRIEFING ON THE DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT REOBLIGATION GUIDELINES AND LESSONS LEARNED FROM THE DECEMBER 11, 2018, RESILIENCE COMMISSION MEETING ON THE FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR (FFY) 2016 HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM (HSGP) DEOBLIGATION REQUESTS** – (Discussion Only) – Chief Caleb Cage, SAA, and Kelli Anderson, DEM. The Commission will be briefed on the existing Reobligation Guidelines used to ensure the Nevada Commission on Homeland Security (NCHS), State Administrative Agent (SAA), and HSGP subgrantees provide for the best utilization of grant resources when cost savings or cost shortfalls are realized during a grant performance period. Additional information will be provided on lessons learned from the December 11, 2018, Commission meeting regarding the process used to review the FFY 2016 HSGP deobligation requests and the process moving forward to address future grant deobligations. Commissioners will be provided an opportunity to provide input into the ongoing process.
  - 10. UPDATE ON THE 2018 HAZARD MITIGATION ASSISTANCE (HMA) GRANT CYCLE** – (Discussion Only) – Janell Woodward, State Hazard Mitigation Officer, DEM. Ms. Woodward will present an update on the ranked Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) Post Fire applications submitted to FEMA by January 24, 2019. The Commission will hear an overview of the Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) grant applications submitted to FEMA by January 31, 2019.
  - 11. OVERVIEW OF THE NEVADA EARTHQUAKE SAFETY COUNCIL (NESC) HISTORICAL ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES** – (Discussion Only) – Dr. Graham Kent, University of Nevada - Reno. Dr. Kent will provide an overview of the NESC including the council's historical role, responsibilities, and representative membership on the Western States Seismic Policy Council (WSSPC).
  - 12. OVERVIEW OF THE STATE EMERGENCY RESPONSE COMMISSION (SERC) ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES** – (Discussion Only) – Bart Chambers, State Fire Marshal, SERC Chair. Mr. Chambers will provide an overview of the SERC including its role and responsibilities pertaining to statewide emergency management efforts.
  - 13. PRESENTATION ON THE DRUG THREAT ASSESSMENT INVOLVING STATEWIDE OPIOID ISSUES** – (Discussion Only) – Dr. Stephanie Woodard, Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health, and Lieutenant Andy Rasor, Nevada Threat Analysis Center. The Commission will be presented with a brief overview regarding statewide opioid use in Nevada to include current statistics, current threats, reporting methods, and community preparedness plans. The Commission will hear information on the Overdose Detection Mapping Application (OD MAP) used to track drug overdoses, how OD MAP works, and how OD MAP will assist public health agencies and first responders with the drug overdose situation in Nevada.
  - 14. OVERVIEW OF NEVADA PREPAREDNESS EFFORTS** – (Discussion Only) – Jim Walker, Emergency Management Program Manager, DEM. The Commission will be provided an overview of DEM proposed planning, training, and exercise goals for 2019.
  - 15. PUBLIC COMMENT** - (Discussion Only) - No action may be taken upon a matter raised under this item of the agenda until the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an item upon which action may be taken. Public comments may be limited to 3 minutes per person at the discretion of the Co-Chairs. Comments will not be restricted based on viewpoint.
  - 16. ADJOURN** – (Discussion/For Possible Action)
-

This is a public meeting. In conformance with the Nevada Public Meeting Law, this agenda was posted or caused to be posted on or before 9:00 a.m. on February 13, 2019, at the following locations:

Las Vegas Governor's Office, 555 E. Washington Avenue, Las Vegas, NV;  
Carson City Governor's Office, 101 N. Carson Street, Carson City, NV;  
NV State Emergency Operations Center, 2478 Fairview Drive, Carson City, NV;  
Clark County Fire Department, 575 E. Flamingo Road, Las Vegas, NV;  
Elko County School District, 850 Elm Street, Elko, NV; and  
Posted to the following websites:

- Nevada Department of Public Safety's Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security Public Meeting Notifications/Information Website: [DEM Public Meeting Website at http://dem.nv.gov/DEM/2019\\_Resilience\\_Commission/](http://dem.nv.gov/DEM/2019_Resilience_Commission/)
- Nevada Public Notice Website: [www.notice.nv.gov](http://www.notice.nv.gov)

We are pleased to make reasonable accommodations for members of the public who are disabled. If special arrangements for the meeting are necessary, or if you need to obtain meeting materials, please notify Karen Hall, Commission Analyst, Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security, 2478 Fairview Drive, Carson City, Nevada 89701 or (775) 687-0300. 24-hour advance notice is requested. Thank you.



## Administrative Protocols

[Agenda Items #1, #2, and #3]

- **Agenda Item #1** - Call to order and Roll Call
- **Agenda Item #2** - Public Comment
- **Agenda Item #3** - Approval of Minutes – 12/11/18





## **Agenda Item #4**

### **REVIEW OF CURRENT RESILIENCE COMMISSION BYLAWS**

**Presenters:**

***Chief Caleb Cage, Division of Emergency Management  
Deputy Chief John Steinbeck, Clark County Fire Department***

## **Agenda Item #5**

### **UPDATE ON CURRENT EFFORTS APPLIED TO THE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT STRATEGIC PLAN AND DEVELOPMENT OF RESILIENCE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

**Presenters:**

***Chief Caleb Cage, Division of Emergency Management  
Deputy Chief John Steinbeck, Clark County Fire Department***

## Agenda Item #5 Cont. – Cage/Steinbeck

- **Resilience Defined:** *Proactive, flexible, and unified leadership throughout all four phases of emergency management that allows for Nevada communities to adapt to and grow back stronger from disasters.*
- **State Resilience Goal:** *Nevada will increase resilience across the whole community by focusing on collaboration in policy development, building operational capacity, and maximizing financial resources throughout all four phases of the emergency management cycle.*
- **Obj 1:** *Develop comprehensive policies for all levels of government in order to improve resilience across disciplines and hazards.*
- **Obj 2:** *Improve preparedness for response and recovery operations through a unified, statewide planning, training, and exercise effort, in order to improve resilience before, during, and after actual events.*
- **Obj 3:** *Distribute limited financial resources from various sources with maximum efficiency, predictability, and accountability, in order to best focus on improving statewide resilience.*



## Agenda Item #5 Cont. – Cage/Steinbeck

- **Next Steps:**
  - Incorporate Governor/DPS Strategic Planning Frameworks (when available)
  - Develop Resilience-specific vision statement
  - Develop strategies and milestones for each objective
  - Develop a method for implementation of the plan
  - Develop method/schedule for evaluation, maintenance, and revision of the plan
  - Vote to approve these items during March meetings and after





Agenda Item #5 Cont. – Cage/Steinbeck



## A version of the Resilience Cycle

(From the New Jersey Resilience Network)

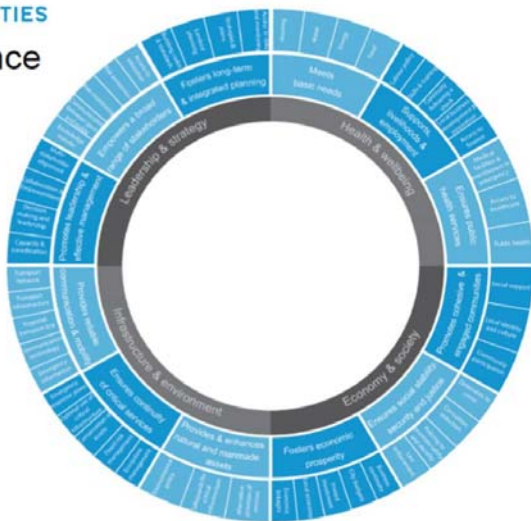


Agenda Item #5 Cont. – Cage/Steinbeck

### 100 RESILIENT CITIES

#### City Resilience Framework

- Understanding interdependencies between shocks and stresses



#### 100 Resilient Cities

- Developed by the Rockefeller Foundation and ARUP
- Both theory and practical
- “City Resilience Framework” addresses building resilience at the city level
- Organizes government systems, policies, and leaders into:
  - 4 Categories
  - 12 Goals
  - 52 Indicators
  - 156 Variables
  - (And 7 Qualities)





## 100 Resilient Cities

- **Four Categories**

- *Leadership and Strategy*
- *Health and Wellbeing*
- *Economy and Society*
- *Infrastructure and Ecosystem*

## 100 Resilient Cities

- 12 Goals
- A resilient city is a city where there is or are...
  - **Minimal human vulnerability:** Indicated by the extent to which everyone's basic needs are met.
  - **Diverse livelihoods and employment:** Facilitated by access to finance, ability to accrue savings, skills training, business support and social welfare.
  - **Effective safeguards to human health and life:** Relying on integrated health facilities and services, and responsive emergency services.
  - **Collective identity and community support:** Observed as active community engagement, strong social networks and social integration.
  - **Comprehensive security and rule of law:** Including law enforcement, crime prevention, justice, and emergency management.
  - **Sustainable economy:** Observed as sound financial management, diverse revenue streams, the ability to attract business investment, adequate investment, and emergency funds.

# 100 Resilient Cities

## 12 Goals, Cont'd:

- **Reduced exposure and fragility:** Indicated by environmental stewardship; appropriate infrastructure; effective land use planning; and enforcement of planning regulations.
- **Effective provision of critical services:** Indicated by diverse provision and active management; maintenance of ecosystems and infrastructure; and contingency planning.
- **Reliable communications and mobility:** Indicated by diverse and affordable multimodal transport systems and information and communication technology networks; and contingency planning.
- **Effective leadership and management:** Involving government, business and civil society, and indicated by trusted individuals; multi-stakeholder consultation; and evidence-based decision-making.
- **Empowered stakeholders:** Indicated by education for all, and access to up-to-date information and knowledge to enable people and organizations to take appropriate action.
- **Integrated development planning:** Indicated by the presence of a city vision; an integrated development strategy; and plans that are regularly reviewed and updated by cross-departmental working groups.



# 100 Resilient Cities

## Seven “Qualities of Resilient Systems”:

- **Reflective:** Reflective organizations and systems embrace a changing and uncertain landscape, and they have internal features that allow them to evolve as well.
- **Robust:** Robust systems, designs, and organizations are thoughtfully conceived and developed, and are supported with adequate resources to address the existing and potential threats and hazards.
- **Redundant:** Redundant systems plan for additional capacity that can be employed during times of shock or prolonged disruption.
- **Flexible:** Flexibility refers to mechanisms inherent to a system that allow for changes when conditions change.
- **Resourceful:** Resourceful systems are made up of people who can quickly achieve their goals even if normal procedures and methods are disrupted.
- **Inclusive:** Inclusiveness states that communities are more likely to be resilient if they seek and obtain input from as broad an audience as possible, including vulnerable groups.
- **Integrated:** Integration refers to the alignment of public, private, and other entities toward a single goal and vision.





## Agenda Item #6

### UPDATE ON THE OUTLINE OF THE 2019 RESILIENCE COMMISSION REPORT

*Presenters:*

*Chief Caleb Cage, Division of Emergency Management  
Deputy Chief John Steinbeck, Clark County Fire Department*

## Ongoing Annual Assessment

*Agenda Item #6 Cont. – Cage/Steinbeck*

- **PART 1 (2018/2019)**
  - Introduction/Executive Summary
  - Overview to Date
  - Strategic Plan/Resilience Goal/Objs
  - Legislative Changes
- **PART 2 (CY2019)**
  - Overview of Statewide EM Program
  - Combined Threat/Hazard Assessments
  - Grant Program Overview
  - Overview of Statewide P,T,&E Program
  - Overview of Statewide Response & Recovery Efforts



Agenda Item #6 Cont. – Cage/Steinbeck

## Ongoing Annual Assessment

- **PART 3 (2020 and after)**
  - Recommendations for sustainment projects
  - Recommendations for policy changes
  - Recommendations for budget changes
  - Recommendations for operations changes
- **PART 4 (Administrative)**
  - Member biographies
  - Acronym lists
  - Glossary



## Agenda Item #7

### BRIEFING ON CURRENT LEGISLATIVE EFFORTS AFFECTING THE STATEWIDE RESILIENCE STRATEGY

Presenters:

*Chief Caleb Cage, Division of Emergency Management  
Deputy Chief John Steinbeck, Clark County Fire Department*



*Agenda Item #7 Cont. – Cage/Steinbeck*

- **Assembly Bill 71:** Makes various changes concerning expenditures related to disasters and emergencies.
- **Senate Bill 15:** Provides for the establishment of incident management assistance teams.
- **Senate Bill 34:** Revises provisions related to emergency management.
- **Senate Bill 35:** Creates the Nevada Resilience Advisory Committee.
- **Senate Bill 66:** Revises provisions relating to emergency management.
- **Senate Bill 67:** Revises provisions governing local emergency management.
- **Senate Bill 68:** Provides for the expedited granting of certain provisional registrations to volunteer providers of health or veterinary services during an emergency declaration.
- **Senate Bill 69:** Revises provisions relating to emergencies and cybersecurity.



*Agenda Item #7 Cont. – Cage/Steinbeck*

## **ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 71 – DRA EAA**

### **An ACT:**

- Relating to state financial administration
- Authorizing the Attorney General to enter into an agreement with a tribal government for the provision of grants and loans to the tribal government from the Disaster Relief Account because of a disaster
- Creating a revolving account for the provision of grants relating to owner-occupied homes damaged by disasters
- Authorizing a temporary advance to the Emergency Assistance Account from the State General Fund for the payment of expenses incurred during a state of emergency or declaration of disaster under certain circumstances
- Effective upon passage and approval/ July 1, 2019



*Agenda Item #7 Cont. – Cage/Steinbeck*

## **SENATE BILL NO. 15 – Disaster Assistance Response Team**

### **An ACT:**

- Relating to emergency management
- authorizing the Governor or the Governor's duly designated representative to establish one or more incident management assistance teams
- authorizing certain volunteers to serve as members of such teams
- Effective on July 1, 2019



*Agenda Item #7 Cont. – Cage/Steinbeck*

## **SENATE BILL NO. 34 – Grant Regulations**

### **An ACT:**

- Relating to emergency management
- Requiring the Division of Emergency Management of the Department of Public Safety to adopt certain regulations
- Creating an exemption to provisions requiring certain grant recipients to report funds received for certain purposes to the Nevada Commission on Homeland Security
- Effective upon passage and approval





*Agenda Item #7 Cont. – Cage/Steinbeck*

## **SENATE BILL NO. 35 – Resilience Commission**

### **An ACT:**

- Relating to public safety
- Creating the Nevada Resilience Advisory Committee
- Setting forth the membership and duties of the Committee
- Providing certain exceptions to the open meeting law
- Requiring the Nevada Resilience Advisory Committee to prepare an annual report and submit the annual report to certain entities
- Authorizing the Nevada Resilience Advisory Committee to appoint subcommittees in certain situations
- Effective upon passage and approval



*Agenda Item #7 Cont. – Cage/Steinbeck*

## **SENATE BILL NO. 66 – Disaster ID Team**

### **An ACT:**

- Relating to public safety
- Renaming the State Disaster Identification Team as the State Disaster Identification Coordination Committee
- Revising the membership and duties of the Committee
- Transferring the duty to adopt regulations governing the Committee from the Department of Public Safety to the Division of Emergency Management of the Department
- Requiring providers of health care to report to the Committee certain information regarding any person who comes or is brought in for treatment of an injury which appears to have been inflicted as a result of certain emergencies or disasters or an illness which appears to have been contracted during certain health events
- Effective upon passage and approval





*Agenda Item #7 Cont. – Cage/Steinbeck*

## **SENATE BILL NO. 67 – Local Emergency Management**

### **An ACT:**

- Relating to emergency management
- Creating the Nevada Tribal Emergency Coordinating Council
- Prescribing the membership and duties of the Council
- Revising provisions governing a local organization for emergency management
- Effective upon passage and approval



*Agenda Item #7 Cont. – Cage/Steinbeck*

## **SENATE BILL NO. 68 - Licensure**

### **An ACT:**

- Relating to public safety
- Providing for the expedited granting of certain provisional registrations to volunteer providers of health or veterinary services while an emergency declaration is in effect
- Effective upon passage and approval



*Agenda Item #7 Cont. – Cage/Steinbeck*

## **SENATE BILL NO. 69 – Emergency Response Plans**

### **An ACT:**

- Relating to public safety
- Designating the month of October of each year as “Cybersecurity Awareness Month”
- Revising requirements relating to emergency response plans for schools, cities, counties and resort hotels
- Clarifying the authority of the Governor to call members of the Nevada National Guard into state active duty in the event of a significant cybersecurity incident
- Requiring each city or county to adopt and maintain a cybersecurity incident response plan
- Requiring the Nevada Office of Cyber Defense Coordination of the Department of Public Safety to provide certain training and briefings and submit a quarterly report to the Governor regarding cybersecurity.
- Effective upon passage and approval



## **Agenda Item #8**

### **UPDATE ON HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM (HSGP) PROJECT PROPOSALS REQUESTING USE OF FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR (FFY) 2016 DEOBLIGATED FUNDING**

#### **Presenter:**

***Kelli Anderson, Emergency Management Program Manager  
Grants, Recovery, and Mitigation***

## **Agenda Item #9**

**BRIEFING ON THE DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT  
REOBLIGATION GUIDELINES AND LESSONS LEARNED FROM THE  
DECEMBER 11, 2018, RESILIENCE COMMISSION MEETING ON  
THE FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR (FFY) 2016 HOMELAND SECURITY  
GRANT PROGRAM (HSGP) DEOBLIGATION REQUESTS**

**Presenters:**

***Chief Caleb Cage, Division of Emergency Management  
Kelli Anderson, Division of Emergency Management***

## **Agenda Item #10**

**UPDATE ON THE 2018 HAZARD MITIGATION  
ASSISTANCE (HMA) GRANT CYCLE**

**Presenters:**

***Janell Woodward, State Hazard Mitigation Officer  
Brian Heller, Assistant Director, City of Reno Public Works  
Ward Patrick, Director, State Public Works Board***



## 2018 Hazard Mitigation Grant Cycle

- **HMGP – Post Fire Application Ranking**
  - Due to FEMA January 24, 2019
- **2018 PDM Grant Application Presentations**
  - Due to FEMA January 31, 2019



## HMGP POST-FIRE APPLICATIONS

HMGP Draft List of Applications for HMGP - Post Fire

| County        | Agency               | Project                                                   | Project Type                                               | Federal Cost           | NCM_FED MATCH          | Total Project Cost     | BCA          | Final after Titleholder |
|---------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|--------------|-------------------------|
| Elko          | NDF                  | Mountain City                                             | Fire resistant building around water tower                 | \$ 8,293.75            | \$ 2,781.25            | \$ 10,925.00           | 5%           | 1                       |
| Statewide     | NDF                  | Mobile Weather Stations                                   | Weather Stations for burn scar areas                       | \$ 45,300.00           | \$ 15,035.47           | \$ 60,335.47           | 5%           | 2                       |
| Elko          | Elko Co              | Lamoille Canyon - Roy Scout Camp                          | Fire retardant siding and roofing on cabins that survived  | \$ 155,525.75          | \$ 38,507.25           | \$ 194,033.00          | 5%           | 3                       |
| Elko          | NDF                  | Spring Creek Association                                  | Fire Reduction/Disposal                                    | \$ 502,025.50          | \$ 167,340.50          | \$ 669,366.00          | 5.49         | 4                       |
| Washoe        | North Lake Tahoe FPD | Fire Adapted Communities Assistance Project               | Roof reduction/Defensible space/ignition-resistant roofing | \$ 596,620.00          | \$ 178,875.93          | \$ 775,505.93          | 12.08        | 5                       |
| Douglas       | Tahoe Douglas FPD    | Tahoe Township                                            | Fire reduction/Renewing                                    | \$ 525,000.00          | \$ 175,000.00          | \$ 700,000.00          | 10.00        | 6                       |
| Lyon          | NDF                  | Lyon County CWPP Update                                   | Community Wildfire Protection Plan Update                  | \$ 270,264.38          | \$ 90,088.13           | \$ 360,352.51          | Not required | 7                       |
| Elko          | NDC                  | West Elko                                                 | Fire Reduction/Defensible space                            | \$ 257,242.25          | \$ 79,080.75           | \$ 336,323.00          | Waiting      | 8                       |
| Douglas       | NDF                  | South Douglas - Hollbrook/Tepes Ranch Estates/Tripes Lake | Fire reduction/Defensible space                            | \$ 303,000.00          | \$ 101,000.00          | \$ 404,000.00          | Waiting      | 9                       |
| Lyon          | Central Lyon FPD     | CLC Fire Reduction Program                                | Fire reduction/Defensible space                            | \$ 130,954.00          | \$ 43,658.00           | \$ 174,612.00          | 5.79         | 10                      |
| Lyon          | SNWCD***             | SV Fire Reduction                                         | Fire Reduction                                             | \$ 215,889.25          | \$ 71,929.75           | \$ 287,819.00          | 5.89         | 11                      |
| Washoe        | NDF                  | Washoe CWPP Update                                        | Community Wildfire Protection Plan Update                  | \$ 535,604.69          | \$ 171,201.56          | \$ 706,806.25          | Not required | 12                      |
| Washoe        | NDF                  | Bellevue NDA                                              | Fire reduction/Defensible Space                            | \$ 72,139.75           | \$ 24,046.25           | \$ 96,186.00           | 5.62         | 13                      |
| Elko          | NDOH                 | Hunter                                                    | Rebuilding                                                 | \$ 95,458.00           | \$ 30,486.00           | \$ 125,944.00          | Not Required | 14                      |
| <b>Totals</b> |                      |                                                           |                                                            | <b>\$ 3,576,474.72</b> | <b>\$ 1,192,158.24</b> | <b>\$ 4,768,632.96</b> |              |                         |

As of January 16, 2019:

- ✓ 14 Projects submitted and ranked totaling **\$3,576,474.72**
- ✓ Grant Funding Available - **\$3,400,062**
- ✓ **\$176,412.72 Over Requested**



*Agenda Item #10 – City of Reno*

# ***Reno City Hall Seismic Upgrade Project***



*Agenda Item #10 Cont. – City of Reno*

## **Reno City Hall Seismic Upgrade—Background**

- Miyamoto International, Earthquake and Structural Engineers, were hired to conduct an initial analysis of Reno's City Hall high rise building, due to reports of excessive motion during wind events and consequent concern of how the structure will respond during an earthquake event. In addition, the University of Nevada's Seismic Laboratory had expressed concerns about the building's seismic structural resilience.



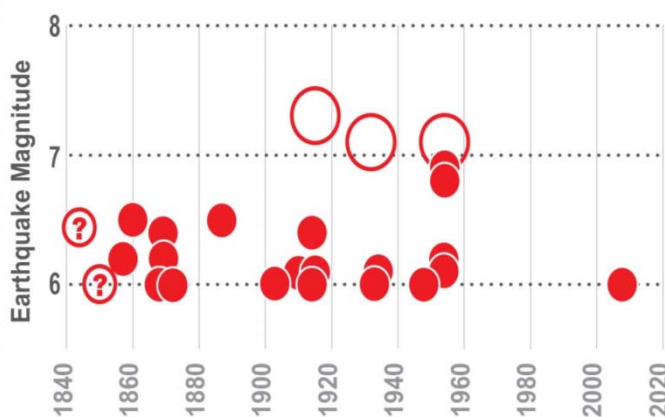
## Reno City Hall Seismic Upgrade—Seismic History

- According to Dr. Graham Kent, Director at the Nevada Seismology Laboratory, “The average frequency of >6 magnitude earthquakes in Nevada has been about one every 10 years, while earthquakes >7 magnitude once every 27 years. In the 20<sup>th</sup> century there were seven magnitude 6.5 or larger earthquakes in Nevada—but none have occurred since 1954!”



## Reno City Hall Seismic Upgrade—Seismic History

- With the exception of the Wells earthquake in 2008, Nevada has not had a significant earthquake since the City Hall building was built in 1962.



Source: The Great Nevada ShakeOut website





## Reno City Hall Seismic—Miyamoto Preliminary Analysis

### Analyzed three scenarios:

1. Existing building
2. Adding seismic dampers at and above the 8<sup>th</sup> floor
3. Adding seismic dampers on all floors

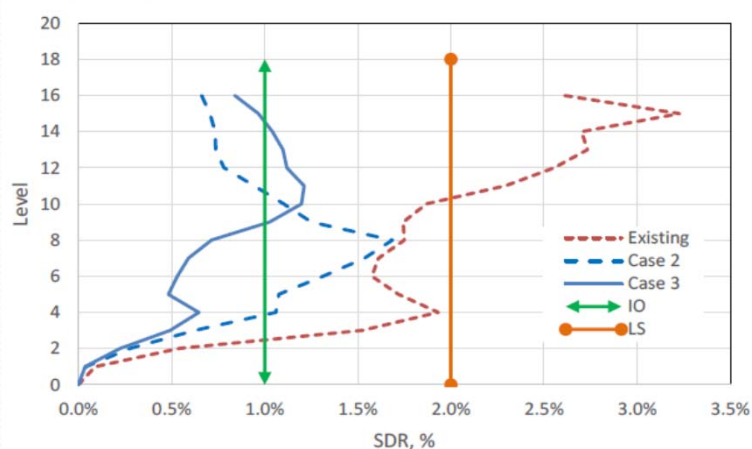
### Story Drift Ratio (SDR)

- A measure of the relative motion between stories of the building

SDR of each scenario (case) is compared in the next slide



## Reno City Hall Seismic—Miyamoto Preliminary Analysis



- **LS—Life Safety**
  - Get people out of the building, but not usable
- **IO—Immediate Occupancy**
  - Can be used again



## Reno City Hall Seismic—Estimated Costs

### Construction

|                                       |                    |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|
| <i>Seismic Dampers</i>                | \$2,496,000        |
| <i>Mechanical System Alterations</i>  | \$ 192,000         |
| <i>Column Splice Repairs</i>          | \$ 600,000         |
| <i>Asbestos Mitigation</i>            | \$ 300,000         |
| Engineering & Design Costs            | \$ 450,000         |
| Construction Management               | \$ 250,000         |
| Staff/Tenant Relocation During Const. | \$ 200,000         |
| Contingency (Miyamoto suggested 20%)  | \$ <u>812,000</u>  |
| <b>Total Cost</b>                     | <b>\$5,300,000</b> |



## State Public Works Division



### FEMA Grant Application Project Presentation

*Marlette Lake Dam Resilient Infrastructure Project*

*Hobart Reservoir Dam Advance Assistance*

*Reno Purchasing Warehouse Emergency Generator Project*

January 24, 2019





## How will the State Public Works Division complete these projects?

- The State Public Works Division (SPWD) is within the State of Nevada's Department of Administration and performs planning, maintenance and construction services for state owned facilities.
- SPWD has implemented large grant programs in the past, including FEMA PDM grants and has established procedures for implementation of grant funded projects.
  - o Project managers will be assigned to oversee the projects to ensure that the mitigation activities are within the grant scope, schedule, and budget.
  - o Engineering consultants will be hired to provide design, bidding and construction administration services.
  - o Construction contractors will be procured through in accordance with State and FEMA PDM grant requirements.
  - o The project managers will hold regular metering with key personnel to provide regular updates as required by the FEMA PDM grant program.



## Past SPWD FEMA PDM Projects

- **Caliente Youth Center Bridge Flood Mitigation Project**
  - This project constructed a new access bridge to the Caliente Youth Center in Caliente, Nevada.
  - Winner of the 2017 Nevada APWA Project of the Year Award (Under \$5 million category).
- **Seismic Repairs to Stewart Buildings 12 & 13**
  - This project provided seismic retrofits to the unreinforced masonry building at the Stewart Facility in Carson City Nevada.







## Overview of the Marlette Lake Water System



## Overview of the Marlette Lake Water System

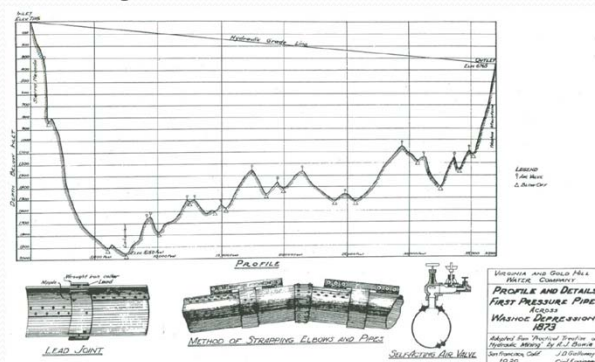
- **Year built – 1873 (Hermann Schussler)**
  - Owners – Virginia and Gold Hill Water Company 1873
  - Name changed to Virginia City Water Company, 1933
  - Curtis-Wright Corporation – August 8, 1957.
  - Marlette Lake Company Dec 2, 1957.
  - State ownership – June 23, 1963 for \$1.65 million.
- **Purpose**
  - Water for domestic and mining use (Comstock District)
  - Only water supply to Virginia City, Gold Hill and Silver City
  - Provides fresh water to Carson City



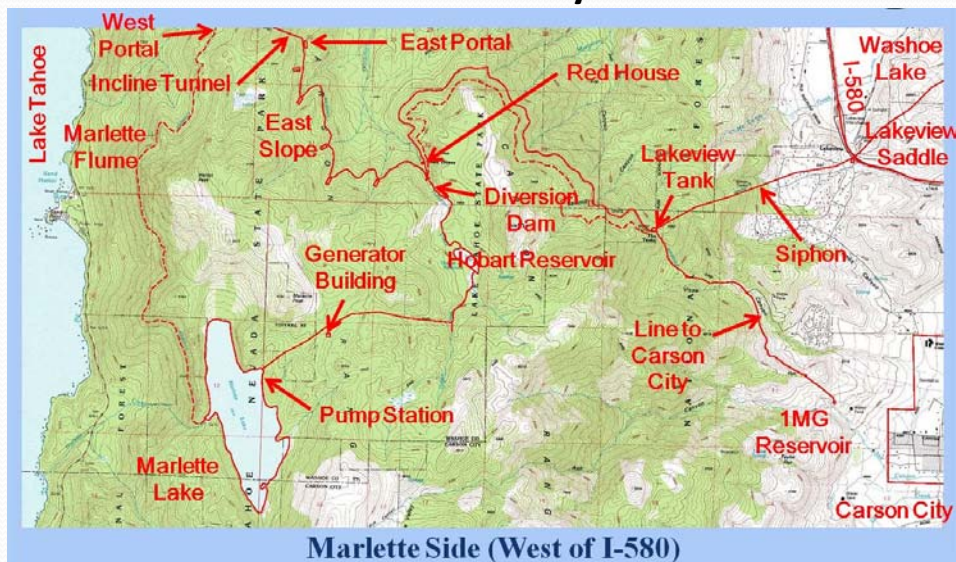
## Overview of the Marlette Lake Water System

### • An Engineering Feat

- Historic Civil Engineering Landmark by ASCE (1975)
- Listed on National Register of Historic Places (1992)

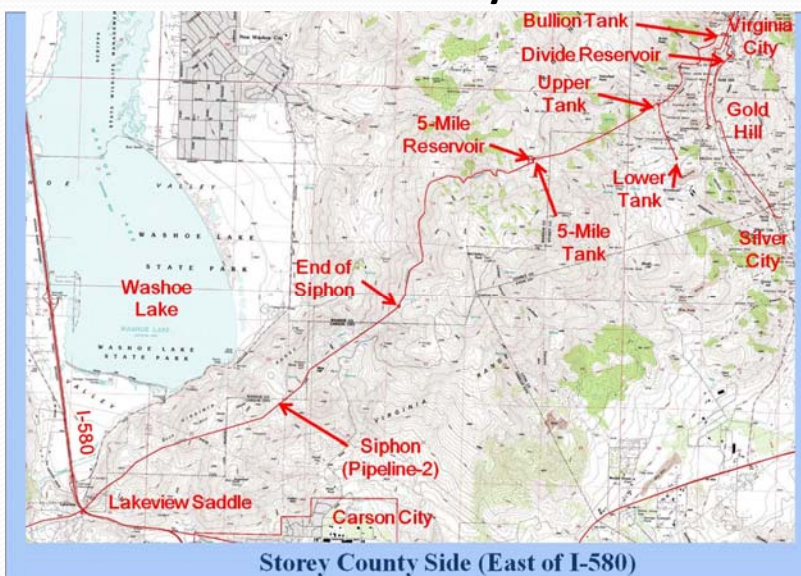


## Overview of the Marlette Lake Water System





## Overview of the Marlette Lake Water System



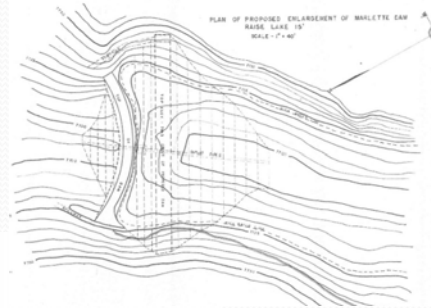
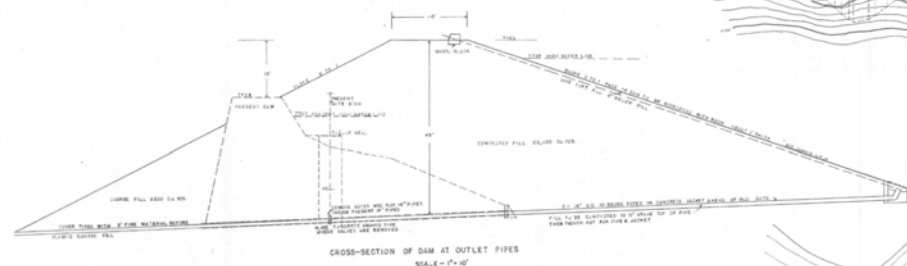


# Marlette Lake Dam Resilient Infrastructure Project



# Marlette Lake Dam Resilient Infrastructure Project

- The Mariette Lake Dam is an approximately 33' high earthen structure that was originally constructed in the late 1870's and most recently raised in 1959.
- It impounds 11,780-acre feet of water.



## Marlette Lake Dam Resilient Infrastructure Project



## Marlette Lake Dam Resilient Infrastructure Project

- Recent safety evaluations indicate a high probability of a dam breach due to an earthquake and subsequent flooding.
- Failure of this dam would not only interrupt water supplies to Carson City and Storey County, but would potentially damage life and property in the Lake Tahoe Basin.





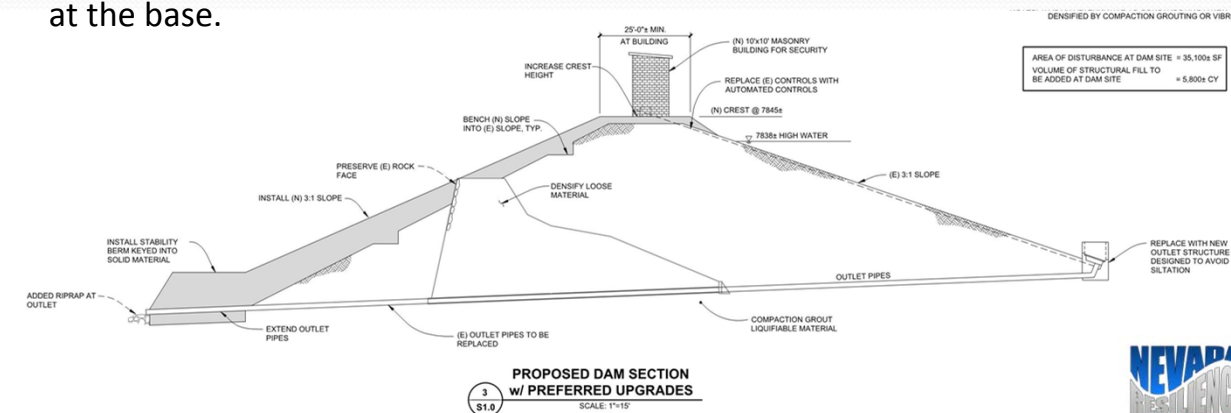
## Marlette Lake Dam Resilient Infrastructure Project

- The project will perform a complete survey, geotechnical investigation and survey of the existing structure that will result final design recommendations and construction documents. Bidding and construction of the design recommendations are also included.



## Marlette Lake Dam Resilient Infrastructure Project

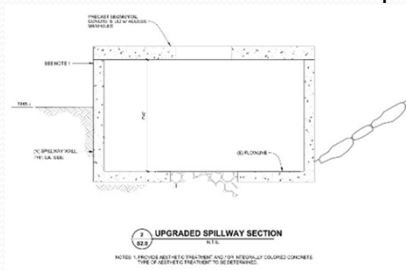
- The conceptual design proposes to stabilize the dam by enlarging the existing embankment, flattening the downstream slope to 3:1, adding a stability berm at the base.





## Marlette Lake Dam Resilient Infrastructure Project

- The project also includes:
  - Spillway improvements
  - Replacements of the outlet pipes and control valves
  - Installation of automated controls and monitoring equipment
  - Increase of the crest height to reduce the risk of overtopping
  - Extensive environmental and historical permitting



## Marlette Lake Dam Resilient Infrastructure Project

- This project will reduce the risk to the public, critical infrastructure, and the environment in multiple jurisdictions:
  - Lake Tahoe (within California & Nevada)
  - The historic Thunderbird Lodge on the shore of Lake Tahoe
  - State Route 28 owned by the Nevada Department of Transportation
  - The Incline Village General Improvement District major effluent pipeline along State Route 28.
  - The water supply for Carson City, Storey County, and Lyon County rely on this resource.
- The risk reduction will be achieved by mitigation of dam break, earthquake and flood effects related to Marlette dam with a Benefit Cost Ratio of 2.37.





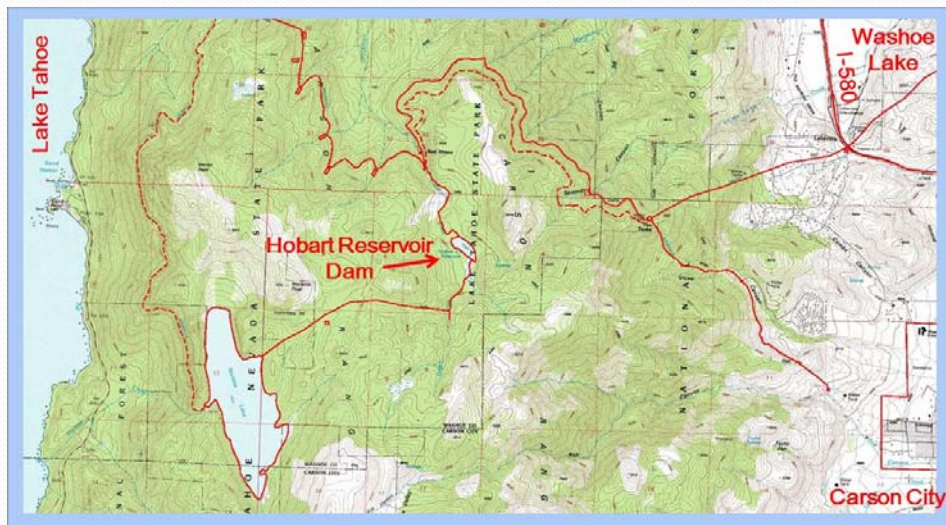
Agenda Item #10 Cont. – State Public Works Hobart

## Hobart Reservoir Advance Assistance



Agenda Item #10 Cont. – State Public Works HOBART

## Hobart Reservoir Dam Advance Assistance





## Hobart Reservoir Dam Advance Assistance

- The Hobart Reservoir Dam is an approximately 24' high earthen structure that was originally constructed in the late 1870's and most recently retrofitted after a breach in 1956.
- It impounds 35 million gallons of water.



## Hobart Reservoir Dam Advance Assistance

- Recent safety evaluations indicated a high probability of a dam breach due to an earthquake or storm event and subsequent flooding. This dam also exhibits active seepage and erosion on the downstream side.
- The project will perform a complete survey, geotechnical investigation and survey of the existing structure that will result final design recommendations and construction documents.



*Agenda Item #10 Cont. – State Public Works HOBART*

## **Hobart Reservoir Dam Advance Assistance**



*Agenda Item #10 Cont. – State Public Works RPWEGP*

## ***Reno Purchasing Warehouse Emergency Generator Project***





## Reno Purchasing Warehouse Emergency Generator Project



## Reno Purchasing Warehouse Emergency Generator Project

| Budget: \$1,033,524                                   |           | Scope                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Professional Services Total                           | \$113,878 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This project will replace the existing 140 kW generator and automatic transfer switch with a 350 kW emergency generator, automatic transfer switch, main service entrance switchgear, concrete pad and wiring.</li> </ul> |
| Building & Misc. Total                                | \$919,646 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Grant Funding (\$575,000)<br>State Funded (\$458,524) |           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |

## **Reno Purchasing Warehouse Emergency Generator Project**

- The existing generator is inadequate due to facility growth and may fail to provide adequate emergency power to a critical cold food storage facility.
- A proposed freezer addition will exceed the existing generator's capacity.
- The existing generator is approximately 20 years old and has reached the end of its useful life.



## ***In Summary***





## State of Nevada Public Works Division Funding Match & Maintenance Commitments

- **Marlette Lake Dam Resilient Infrastructure Project**

- The Project Budget is \$13,780,132 and the Federal Grant Request is \$10,000,000
- The State of Nevada will exceed the 25% match requirement with \$3,780,132 of funding.
- The State of Nevada commits to budgeting \$14,070 annually for maintenance.

- **Hobart Reservoir Dam Advanced Assistance**

- The Project Budget is \$264,816 and the Federal Grant Request is \$198,439.34
- The State of Nevada will meet the 25% match requirements with \$66,666.66 of funding.

- **Reno Purchasing Warehouse Emergency Generator Project**

- The Project Budgets is \$1,033,524 and the Federal Grant Request is \$575,000.
- The State of Nevada will exceed the 25% match requirement with \$458,524 of funding.
- The State of Nevada commits to budgeting \$3,330 annually for maintenance.



## Summary of Project Benefits and Risk Mitigation

- The Marlette Lake Dam Resilient Infrastructure Project will mitigate potential for loss of life and or extreme loss downstream in the event of a dam breach as the result of a seismic breach.
  - Seismically retrofitting the dam will protect lives, protect the drinking water and other critical infrastructure and protect the economy of the multiple jurisdictions.
  - The Benefit Cost Ratio for this \$13,780,132 project is 2.37.
- The Hobart Reservoir Dam Advance Assistance will provide the first step in mitigating potential for loss of life and or extreme loss downstream in the event of a dam breach as the result of a seismic breach.
- The Reno Purchasing Warehouse Emergency Generator Project will mitigate
  - Replacement of the generator, automatic transfer switch, and main service entrance switchgear will mitigate generator failure, food spoilage, and revenue loss due to excessive electrical load requirements.



## Agenda Item #11

### OVERVIEW OF THE NEVADA EARTHQUAKE SAFETY COUNCIL (NESC) HISTORICAL ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Presenters:

*Dr. Craig dePolo, Nevada Earthquake Safety Council Chair*

*Dr. Graham Kent, University of Nevada Reno*

Agenda Item #11 – dePolo, Kent

## The Nevada Earthquake Safety Council

Twenty Years of vision and promotion of an earthquake-resilient Nevada





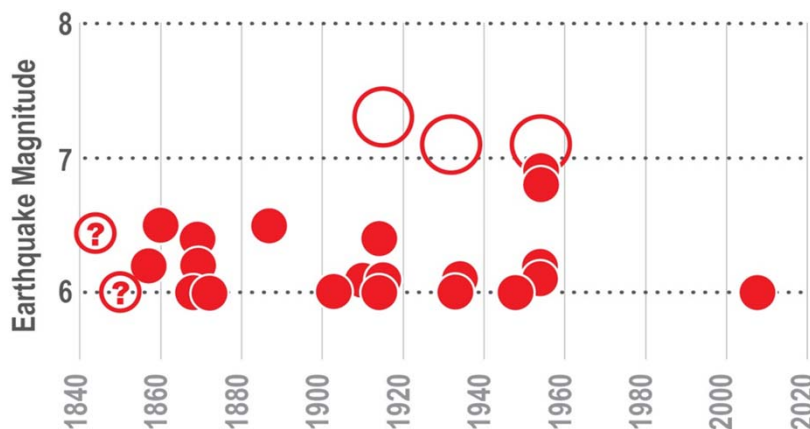
Agenda Item #11 – dePolo, Kent

## Nevada's Earthquake Threat

- Usually happens without warning
- Worst damage within first few minutes
- Widespread comprehensive damage at many scales (large events are multi-community disasters)
- Compound disaster – injuries, damage, fires, HAZMAT, rescue
- Short time for large multi-faceted response
- 17% M6+ were multiple events within 12 hours



Agenda Item #11 – dePolo, Kent



## Nevada's Major Earthquake History



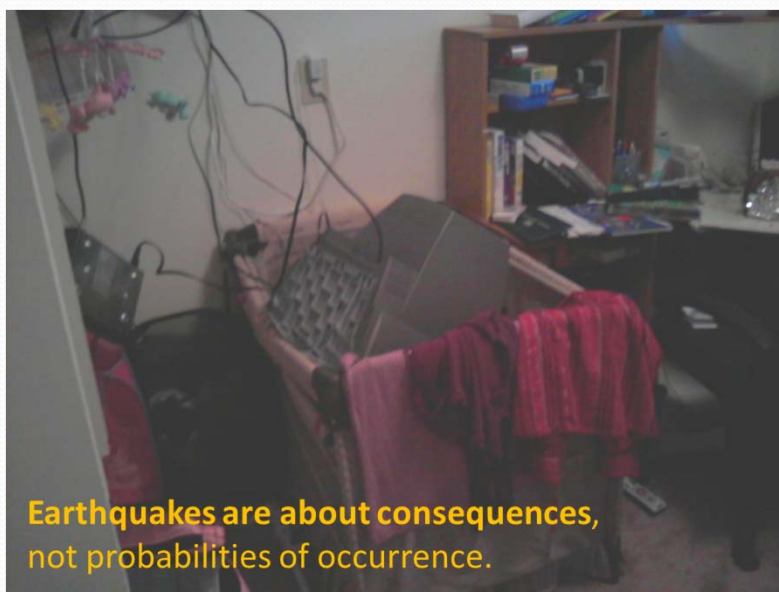
Agenda Item #11 – dePolo, Kent

## Nevada's Earthquake History

- 23 eqs  $M \geq 6$  since 1857 (ave. 1 in 6.9 yrs)
- 3 eqs  $M \geq 7$  since 1857
- >25 Nevada communities had eq damage
- At least 8 communities had repetitive eq damage
- 15 out of 17 Nevada counties had eq damage



Agenda Item #11 – dePolo, Kent



Earthquakes are about consequences,  
not probabilities of occurrence.





Agenda Item #11 – dePolo, Kent

## Nevada's Earthquake Safety Council

- August 1978 Governor Mike O'Callaghan established the 10-member Ad Hoc Panel on Seismic Hazard Mitigation
- 1990s NBMG, NSL, NDEM formed a preliminary panel, first meeting May 27, 1992
- 1993 NESC decided to alternate meetings N – S
- 1993 first sponsored event – 2 day eq safety conference at UNR

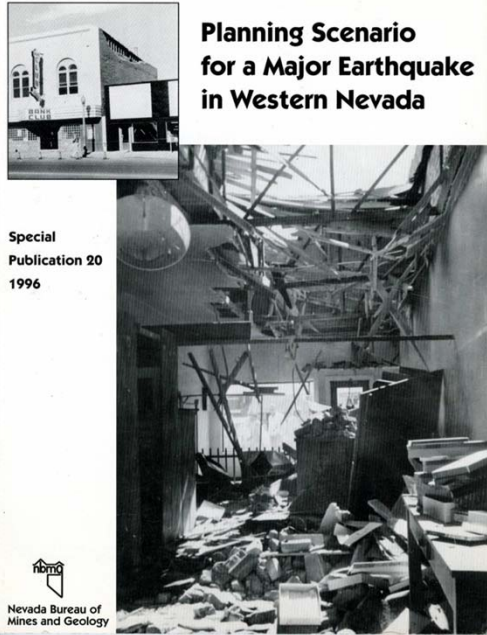


Agenda Item #11 – dePolo, Kent

- 1993 first *Earthquake Awareness Week*
- 1994 Northridge eq
- 1994 initiated the Reno-Carson City Earthquake Planning Scenario
- 1994 Spanish translation "Eqs in NV & How to Survive Them"
- 1995 Strategic Plan for Earthquake Safety in Nevada
- 1996 potential Surface-rupture guidelines



*Agenda Item #11 – dePolo, Kent*



**Planning Scenario  
for a Major Earthquake  
in Western Nevada**

Special  
Publication 20  
1996

Nevada Bureau of  
Mines and Geology



*Agenda Item #11 – dePolo, Kent*

- 1996 added subcommittees (education, geosciences, engineering, risk assessment)





**Proceedings of a Conference  
on Seismic Hazards  
in the Las Vegas Region**

*"Working Towards an Understanding"*



**University of Nevada, Las Vegas  
November 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>, 1996**

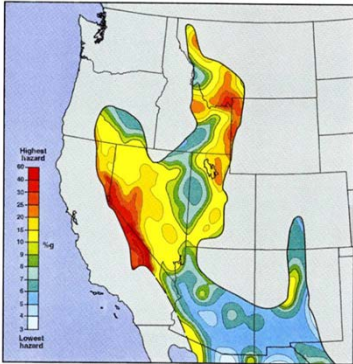
*Agenda Item #11 – dePolo, Kent*



WESTERN STATES SEISMIC POLICY COUNCIL

**Basin and Range Province  
Seismic Hazards Summit**

**BRPSHS**



Peak horizontal accelerations (%g) having 10% probability  
of being exceeded in 50 years

**PROGRAM AND ABSTRACTS  
Reno, Nevada  
May 12-15, 1997**

*Agenda Item #11 – dePolo, Kent*



Agenda Item #11 – dePolo, Kent



Agenda Item #11 – dePolo, Kent

## **NESC Awards in Excellence began 2000**

- Corey Farley, RGJ columnist
- NDOT Highway 80 Bridge Retrofit
- Keith Rogers, LVRJ reporter
- Carson City School District, nonstruct. mit.
- iGo Corporation, employee eq. awareness
- Las Vegas Academy, eq. prep.
- Nevada Public Works, CC Courthouse retro.





Agenda Item #11 – dePolo, Kent

- **2000 Nevada Earthquake Calendar**
  - 60 entries for poster contest across the state
  - >17,000 delivered to each teacher in the state
- **2001 Post-Earthquake Media Scripts**
- **2002 Nevada Earthquake Safety Act of 2003**  
(required seismic provisions of building codes be used)
- **2007 Joint meeting with the Utah Seismic Safety Commission**



Agenda Item #11 – dePolo, Kent

**LIVING WITH EARTHQUAKES IN NEVADA**

Put the odds in your favor!

A Nevadan's guide to preparing for, surviving, and recovering from an earthquake



Agenda Item #11 – dePolo, Kent

# Effective Nonstructural Mitigation Strategies for Earthquakes in Nevada

April 28, 2004

Boomtown Hotel and Casino  
Verdi, Nevada



Agenda Item #11 – dePolo, Kent

# BEAT THE QUAKE!

## Steps to Earthquake Safety

### DUCK, COVER, and HOLD during an earthquake.

Identify safety spots at home and work  
Don't panic and run; stay inside

### Identify and secure or relocate shaking hazards.

Bookcases, heavy objects on shelves, mirrors, computers, water heaters  
Secure, relocate, replace, or remove dangerous and valuable objects

### Prepare an emergency safety kit.

Flashlight, first aid kit, water,  
non-perishable food, blanket

### Make an earthquake plan.

Family meeting plans,  
out-of-town telephone contact

### Work on long-term earthquake fixes.

Bolt house to foundation  
Brace weak walls and cripple walls

### Get earthquake information.

visit an earthquake safety web site, [www.seismo.unr.edu](http://www.seismo.unr.edu)  
and "Living with Earthquakes in Nevada," [www.nhmg.unr.edu](http://www.nhmg.unr.edu)





## 2007 WSSPC ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Agenda Item #11 – dePolo, Kent



RISK COMMUNICATION, BUILDING CODES,  
AND CONSEQUENCES:  
THE FUTURE OF EARTHQUAKE SAFETY IN THE U.S.

September 30-October 3, 2007  
Grand Sierra Resort, Reno, Nevada  
[www.wsspc.org/Conference](http://www.wsspc.org/Conference)



Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology Special Publication 36

### The 21 February 2008 $M_w$ 6.0 Wells, Nevada Earthquake



A compendium of earthquake-related investigations prepared by the  
University of Nevada, Reno

Edited by  
Craig M. dePolo and Daphne D. LaPointe

2011



Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology  
Mackay School of Earth Sciences and Engineering  
College of Science  
University of Nevada, Reno

Agenda Item #11 – dePolo, Kent



Agenda Item #11 – dePolo, Kent

## Lessons Learned from the February 21, 2008 Wells, Nevada Earthquake

By

NEVADA EARTHQUAKE SAFETY COUNCIL

2011

With Contributions and Support from:

NEVADA BUREAU OF MINES AND GEOLOGY

NEVADA SEISMOLOGICAL LABORATORY

NEVADA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

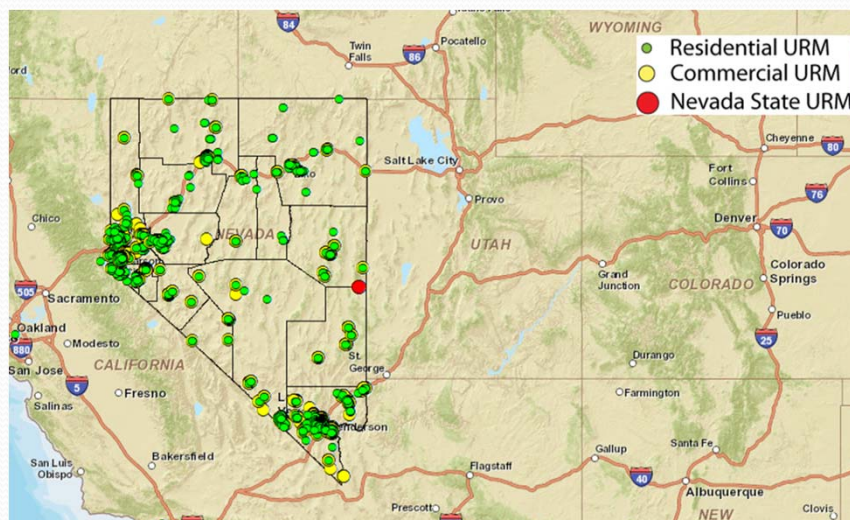
U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

CITY OF WELLS



## 2011-2012 Nevada URM Building Inventory

Agenda Item #11 – dePolo, Kent





*Agenda Item #11 – dePolo, Kent*

**Final Report of the Committee on Unreinforced Masonry Buildings of  
the Nevada Earthquake Safety Council  
[DRAFT REPORT]**

**Craig M. dePolo, Chairperson**

**Committee Members:**

**Michael Blakely  
Timothy Ghan  
Werner Hellmer  
Gennady Stolyarov, II  
Kyle West**



## **Agenda Item #12**

### **OVERVIEW OF THE STATE EMERGENCY RESPONSE COMMISSION (SERC) ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

**Presenter:  
Bart Chambers  
State Fire Marshall**



## MISSION STATEMENT

“Protect the citizens of the state of Nevada against the negative effects of hazardous materials and terrorism.”

- Planning
- Training
- Hazardous chemical inventory reporting
- Toxic chemical release reporting/notification



- On October 17, 1986, President Reagan signed the Superfund Amendment and Reauthorization Act (SARA) into law. Title III of this ACT (which is referred to separately as EPCRA) establishes requirements for Federal, State and local governments, and industry regarding emergency planning and community right to know reporting on hazardous chemicals. This legislation builds upon the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) Chemical Emergency Preparedness Program and numerous state and local programs aimed at helping communities to meet their responsibilities concerning potential chemical emergencies.
- The Act requires the governor of each state to designate a State Emergency Response Commission (SERC). On March 17, 1987, the Commission on Hazardous Materials was designated as the Nevada State Emergency Response Commission (SERC).







## Superfund Amendment and Reauthorization Act (SARA)

The Act has four major sections:

- Emergency planning
- Emergency notification
- Hazardous chemical inventory reporting
- Toxic chemical release reporting

The sections are interrelated in a way that unifies the emergency planning and community right to know provisions of SARA and Title III.



## Superfund Amendment and Reauthorization Act (SARA)

The Act requires the establishment of Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPC). LEPC membership includes;

- Elected County Municipal Officials, Police, Fire, Civil Defense, Public Health Professionals, Environmental, Hospital and Transportation Officials, Representatives of Facilities, Community Groups and the Media
- The Act also requires the LEPC's to develop hazardous materials emergency response plans. In developing a plan, the local committees evaluate available resources for preparing for and responding to a potential accident involving hazardous materials at the various sites within their jurisdiction.
- SERC is dedicated to assuring that our first responders have access to the most current training and equipment, also that our communities are kept safe. This is done by awarding LEPC's grant awards, LEPC's then award funding to qualifying recipients. SERC is currently overseeing three grants, but hopefully will be able to attain other grant opportunities in order to offer more opportunities to our sub-recipients.



## Grants:

- **Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP)**
  - Grant program sponsored by US-DOT is intended to provide financial and technical assistance as well as national direction and guidance to enhance State, Territorial, Tribal, and local hazardous materials emergency planning and training.



## Grants (cont.)

- **SERC OPTE**
  - State Emergency Response Commission, Operational, Planning, Training, Equipment. Funded by the TRI, monies from facilities paying fees for the reportable quantities they have within their facilities.
- **United We Stand (UWS)**
  - Fees Collected from the sales of the "United We Stand" license plates provide grant funds to support preparedness to combat terrorism for the Local Emergency Planning Committees.





*Agenda Item #12 Cont. - Chambers*

# Questions!

## **Agenda Item #13**

**PRESENTATION ON THE DRUG THREAT ASSESSMENT  
INVOLVING STATEWIDE OPIOID ISSUES**

***Presenters:***

***Dr. Stephanie Woodard***

***Lieutenant Andy Rasor***

## Nevada's Overdose Deaths

Opioid-Related Overdose Deaths by Drug Category, State of Nevada Residents, 2010-2018\*

| Year  | Heroin | Natural and Semi-Synthetic | Methadone | Synthetic Opioids | Unspecified Narcotic |
|-------|--------|----------------------------|-----------|-------------------|----------------------|
| 2010  | 19     | 298                        | 98        | 39                | 45                   |
| 2011  | 40     | 300                        | 97        | 45                | 46                   |
| 2012  | 42     | 301                        | 69        | 25                | 40                   |
| 2013  | 48     | 241                        | 70        | 25                | 39                   |
| 2014  | 61     | 216                        | 63        | 31                | 37                   |
| 2015  | 79     | 254                        | 57        | 31                | 37                   |
| 2016  | 82     | 228                        | 52        | 49                | 28                   |
| 2017  | 92     | 234                        | 45        | 64                | 18                   |
| 2018* | 25     | 50                         | 9         | 15                | 0                    |

A person can be included in more than one drug group, and therefore the counts above are not mutually exclusive.

\*Preliminary data for January 1, 2018 - March 31, 2018 only.



## Heroin, Fentanyl and Methamphetamine

- Nevada HIDTA has classified heroin, fentanyl, and methamphetamines as three of the top threats in 2018 (Nevada HIDTA, 2018)
- Fentanyl is 50-100 times more potent than heroin
- Can be mixed into drug supply (pills, heroin, methamphetamine)
- 2018: Washoe County: 21 fentanyl-related deaths  
89 Methamphetamine-related deaths
- Clark County: 42 fentanyl-related deaths  
222 methamphetamine-related deaths





Agenda Item #13 Cont. – Woodard/Rasor

## Data and Information Exchange

Law Enforcement, First Responders, Health Care Providers, and Public Health Data and Information

- Timeliness: ODMAP/AB474 Overdose Reporting
- Quality: Syndromic Surveillance, Outbreak Investigation
- Actionable: Community Preparedness Plans
- Parameters and permissions for exchange, disclosure



Agenda Item #13 Cont. – Woodard/Rasor

## Community Preparedness Plans



EMERGENCY  
MANAGEMENT, &  
PUBLIC HEALTH  
PREPAREDNESS;  
NALOXONE  
AVAILABILITY



RELEASE DATE: JULY  
23, 2018 ; AVAILABLE  
THROUGH FEBRUARY  
2019  
EMS, COUNTIES,  
COALITIONS



FUNDING FOR THE  
OPIOID OVERDOSE  
COMMUNITY  
PREPAREDNESS  
PLANS FOR EACH  
COUNTY IN NEVADA



FUNDING AVAILABLE  
RANGES FROM \$20K-  
\$7K, WASHOE \$15K



DATA AND  
INFORMATION  
SHARING-PUBLIC  
HEALTH/LAW  
ENFORCEMENT



Agenda Item #13 Cont. – Woodard/Rasor

## Community Preparedness Plans

- Each community will need to identify and implement a real time overdose mapping system. This system will be utilized to track information that guides activities pre-overdose spikes, during an overdose spikes, and post overdose spikes.
- Identify the stakeholders (e.g. EMS, Law Enforcement, Health Department, Coroners, treatment centers, etc.) that will be integral to your plan. Each stakeholder will need clear definitions of their role and responsibility.
- Select leaders that will assist with coordinating the action plan with the stakeholders. This group of leaders will assign responsibilities among the stakeholders based upon the community's resources and needs. This may include the coalitions, Health Department, and/or local EMS
- Create a clear definition as to what a spike of opioid overdoses will be in your community. A spike is the number of suspected overdoses in a certain timeframe that will trigger the response plan. To best develop this definition, historical data in your community will be needed to understand what constitutes a spike.



Agenda Item #13 Cont. – Woodard/Rasor

## Community Preparedness Plans

- Establish and determine pre-opioid spike, during opioid crisis spike and post-opioid spike activities.
- Communicate with the community to best identify local contributors to overdose risk. Factors may include local drug trends and use, availability and access to treatment, evaluation of current outreach strategies or materials.
- Establish line of communication with the press in the event of a spike in OD deaths, especially if due to fentanyl and/or carfentanyl in an area.
- Identify local resources and what assistance may be needed.
- Implement a system of evaluation to assess the effectiveness of the current plan and adjust as needed to remain operative.





## Community Preparedness Plans

A system of information delivery of community resources will need to be developed. Communities will need access to information regarding services beyond treatment including:

- Establishment of naloxone distribution centers that are accessible to community members.
- Provide drug disposal and unused prescription medication drop off sites.
- Support meetings available for those who are at risk (i.e. NA, AA, SMART Recovery, etc.) as well those who support those individuals (i.e. Al-Anon, Nar-Anon, etc).
- Provide continued education on Good Samaritan Law protections and provisions.
- Deliver education on harm reduction strategies that can help prevent overdoses.
- Provide school and community education programs to raise awareness and educate about the risk of opioid misuse, opioid overdose, and opioid overdose rescue training



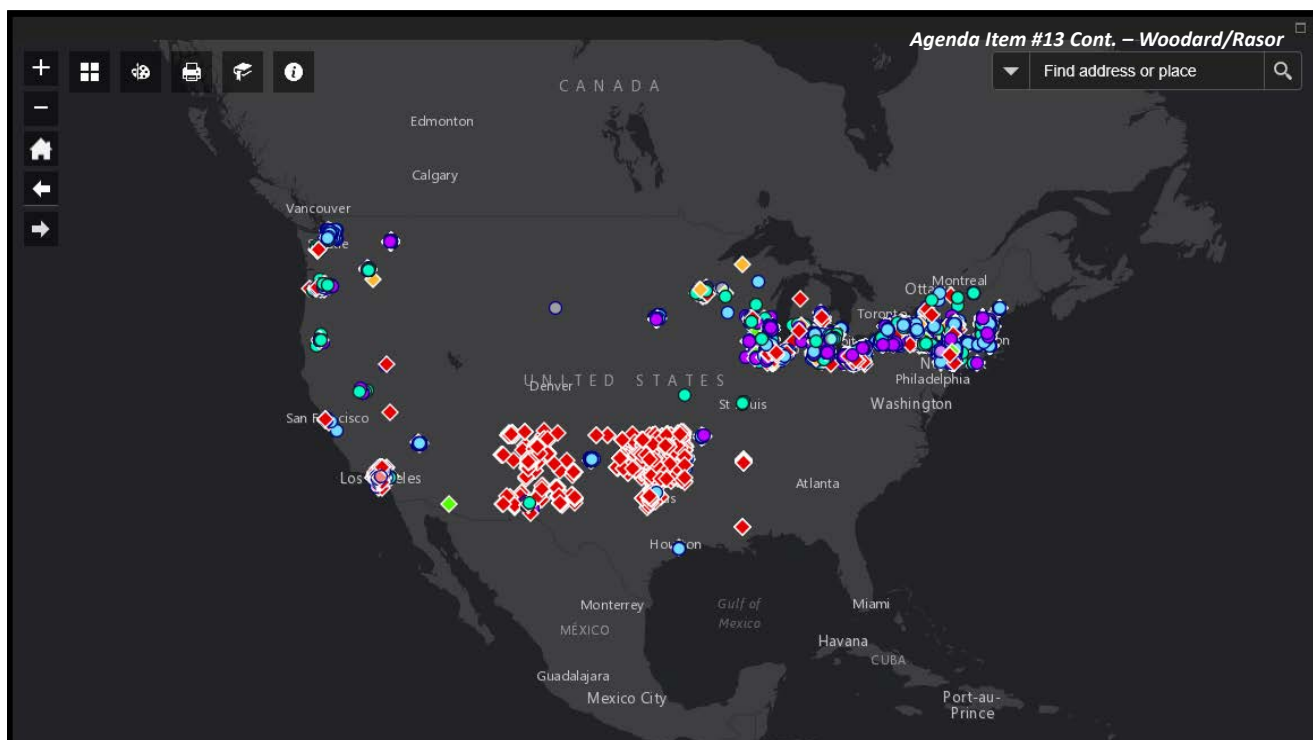
## OD MAP

- OD Map: Overdose Detection Mapping Application Program
- Developed by the Washington D.C.-Baltimore High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) to track drug overdoses and spikes
- Provides surveillance of known or suspected drug overdose events as close as possible to real-time.
- Allows participating agencies to collect and store suspected drug overdose events in a geocoded manner (hence the name OD Map).

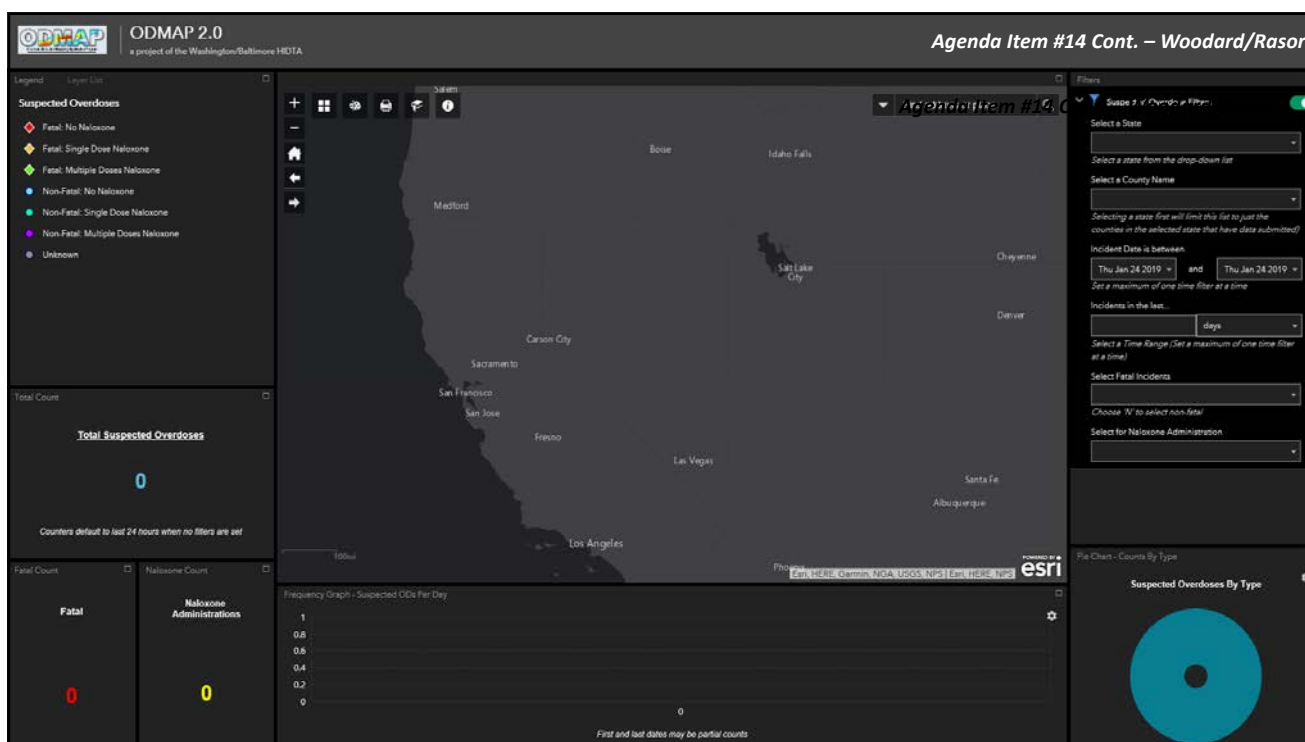
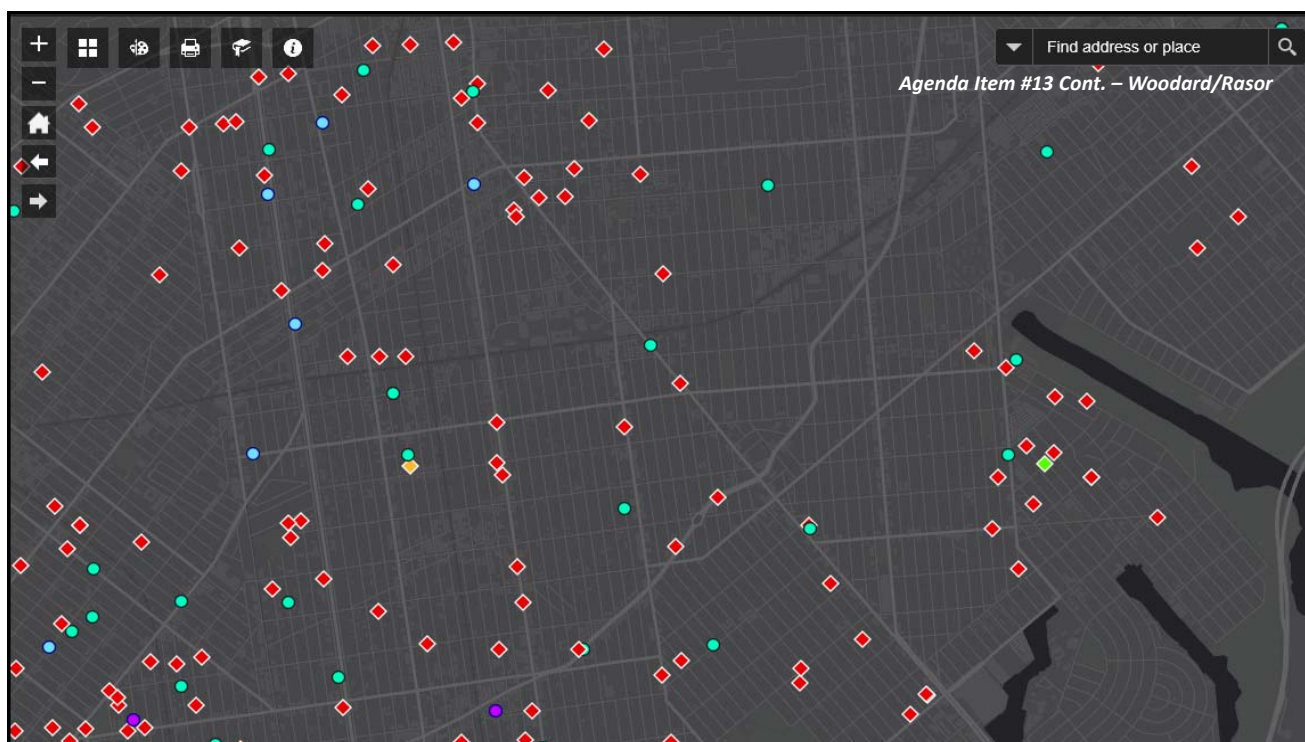


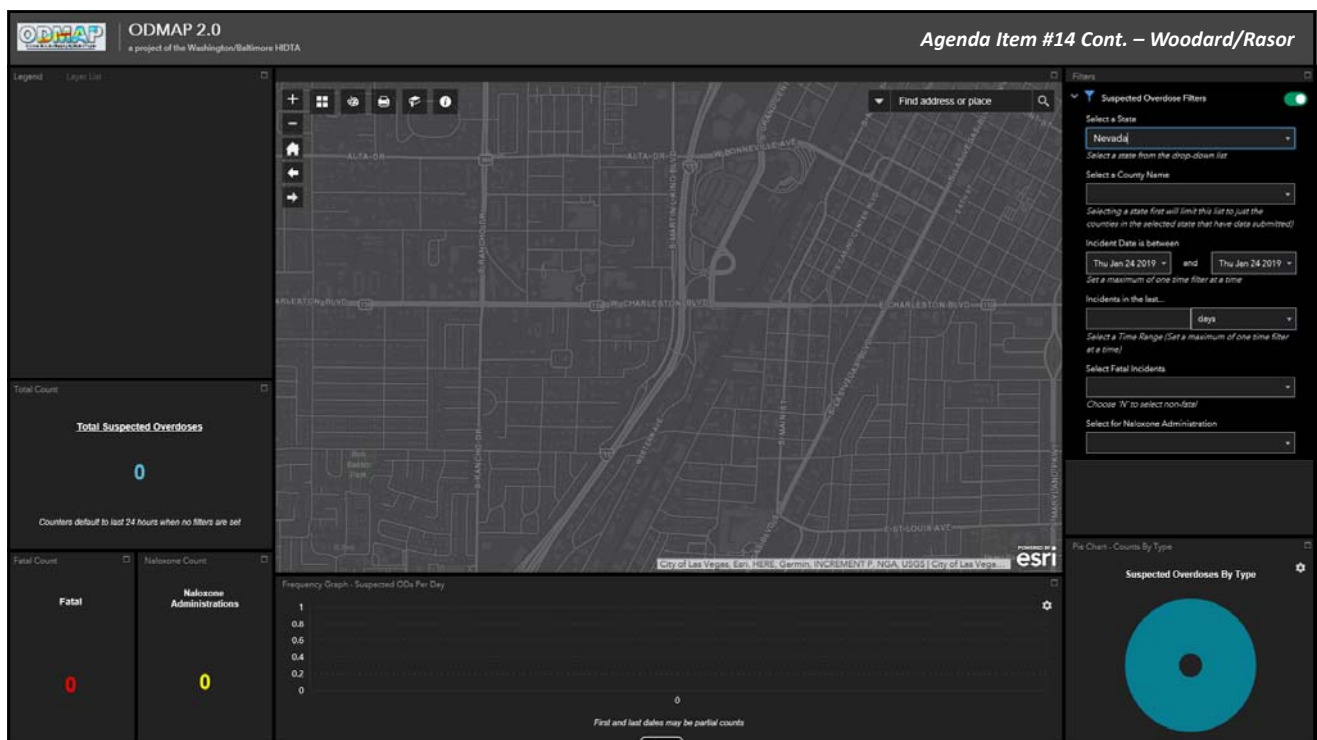
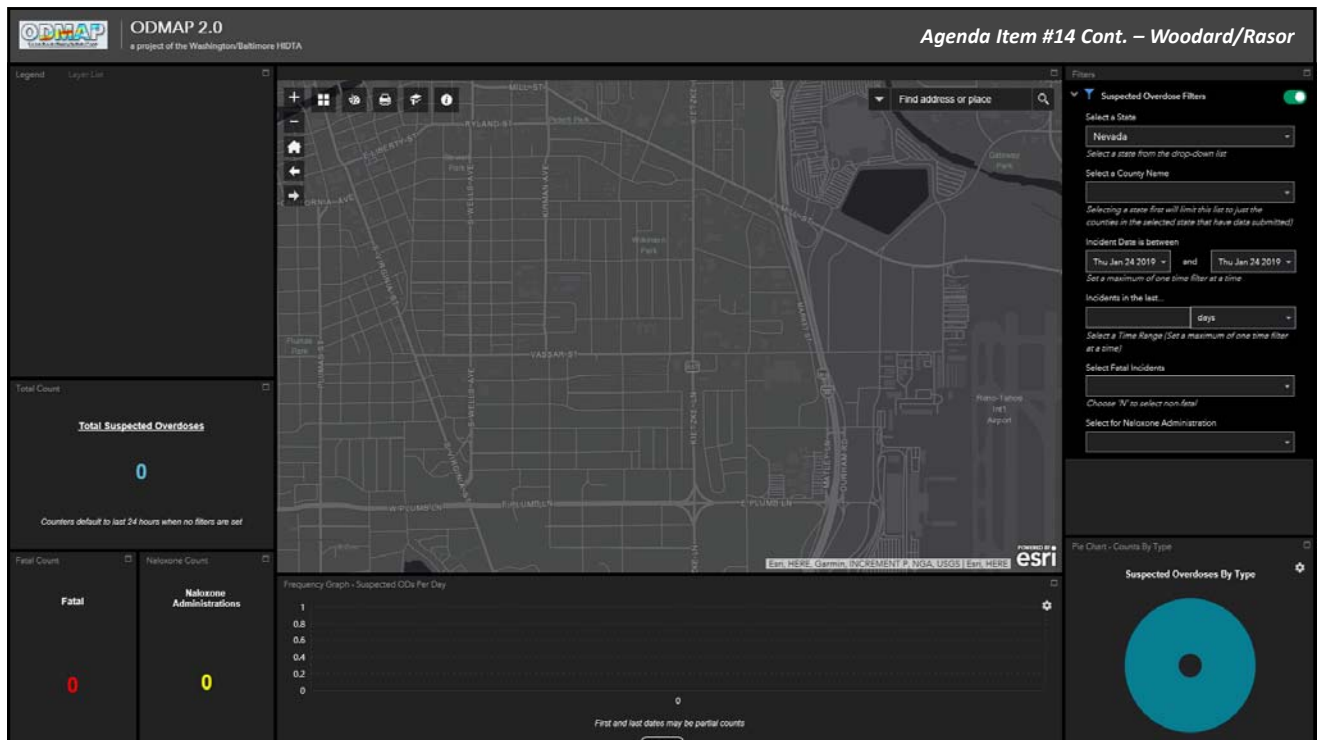
## OD MAP

- Allows public health, law enforcement, and other select government agencies the ability to electronically identify and respond to sudden increases or spikes for drug overdose events.
- Already implemented in other parts of the country, especially the East Coast where Heroin, opioids, and Fentanyl overdoses are more prevalent











*Agenda Item #13 Cont. – Woodard/Rasor*

## **OD MAP**

### **How it Works**

- First response agencies (fire, EMS, police) will designate which individuals they want to serve as Level I and Level II users for data collection and entry into OD Map.
- When responding to an event of an individual having a suspected drug overdose, these OD Map users will collect the necessary information for submission into OD Map.

*Agenda Item #13 Cont. – Woodard/Rasor*

## **OD MAP**

### **How it Works**

- A designated Level I user from an agency will enter the following information about a suspected drug overdose utilizing his/her mobile device:
  - Incident type: fatal/ non-fatal
  - Naloxone administered: yes or no
  - Number of Naloxone doses given to patient
  - Suspected drug involved: Meth, Heroin, Fentanyl, etc.
  - Agency event number
  - Age and gender of patient



## OD MAP

### How it Works

- Level I user can select “use my current location” feature on mobile device or can manually enter in location.
- Level I user clicks “submit” if data is correct, and user is done.



## OD MAP

### How it Works

- Level II users have more access rights, such as viewing the actual overdose map, seeing the types of events posted on the map, and can enter previously undocumented events into OD Map to help increase the database.
- Several agencies in Nevada are in the process now of entering previously undocumented overdose events to help increase Nevada’s data in OD Map.





## OD MAP

### How it Works

- Level II users can also enter the following information:
  - Incident Date and Time
  - County Name
  - Location of event
  - State abbreviation
  - User Agency
  - User name and contact information
  - Any applicable event or case numbers



## OD MAP

### How it Works

- OD Map **does not contain** any personally identifying information (PII) about the patient, nor can it contain any PII based on the parameters of data required for submission. The data entry contains:
  - No patient name
  - No patient date of birth
  - No patient race
  - No other identifying information about the patient, such as Social Security or driver license numbers, or contact info



Agenda Item #13 Cont. – Woodard/Rasor

## OD MAP

### How it Works

- What it does:
  - Allows first responders and public health agencies to see if there are concerns or spikes related to drug overdoses in their areas.
  - Allows participating agencies, first responders, and decision makers to develop effective strategies to address overdose incidents occurring in their jurisdictions.
  - Allows participating agencies to enhance regional strategies designed to prevent the spread of substance abuse disorders resulting in overdose incidents.



Agenda Item #1 Cont. – Woodard/Rasor

## OD MAP

### How it Works

- What OD Map ***is not***:
  - It is not an intelligence sharing database.
  - It is not intended to be an official repository of original records.
  - It is not intended to be used in official statistical reports.
  - It does not confirm the type of drug involved with the suspected drug overdose.
    - Note: laboratory/ toxicology reports can take up to 8 weeks or longer for drug confirmation





Agenda Item #13 Cont. – Woodard/Rasor

## OD MAP

- OD Map is solely a mapping tool that displays known or suspected overdose event location data.
- OD Map is essentially a pointer system that advises agencies about a problem in their area.



Agenda Item #13 Cont. – Woodard/Rasor

## Questions?

For more information, please contact:

Stephanie Woodard, Psy.D.  
Nevada Department of Health and Human Services  
Office: 775-684-2211  
Email: [swoodard@health.nv.gov](mailto:swoodard@health.nv.gov)

Andy Rasor, Director  
Nevada Threat Analysis Center  
Office: 775-687-0309  
Email: [arasor@dps.state.nv.us](mailto:arasor@dps.state.nv.us)

## **Agenda Item #14**

### **OVERVIEW OF NEVADA PREPAREDNESS EFFORTS**

**Presenters:**

***Jim Walker, DEM***

## **Administrative Protocols**

**[Agenda Items #15 and #16]**

- Agenda Item #16 - Public Comment
- Agenda Item #17 - Adjourn





# Meeting Minutes Resilience Commission

|                                               |          |                                                                                                                              |                                                 |                   |         |  |
|-----------------------------------------------|----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|-------------------|---------|--|
| Attendance                                    | DATE     | December 11, 2018                                                                                                            |                                                 |                   |         |  |
|                                               | TIME     | 9:00 A.M.                                                                                                                    |                                                 |                   |         |  |
|                                               | LOCATION | Nevada Division of Emergency Management<br>State Emergency Operations Center<br>2478 Fairview Drive<br>Carson City, NV 89701 |                                                 |                   |         |  |
|                                               | METHOD   | Video-Teleconference                                                                                                         |                                                 |                   |         |  |
|                                               | RECORDER | Karen Hall                                                                                                                   |                                                 |                   |         |  |
| Commission Member Attendance                  |          |                                                                                                                              |                                                 |                   |         |  |
| Member Name                                   | Present  | Member Name                                                                                                                  | Present                                         | Member Name       | Present |  |
| Caleb Cage                                    | X        | Melissa Friend                                                                                                               | X                                               | Connie Morton     | X       |  |
| John Steinbeck                                | X        | Mike Heidemann                                                                                                               | X                                               | Todd Moss         | X       |  |
| Roy Anderson                                  | X        | Eric Holt                                                                                                                    | X                                               | Shaun Rahmeyer    | X       |  |
| Solome Barton                                 | Abs      | David Hunkup                                                                                                                 | X                                               | Andy Rasor        | X       |  |
| Bunny Bishop                                  | X        | Jeremy Hynds                                                                                                                 | X                                               | Carlito Rayos     | X       |  |
| Felix Castagnola                              | X        | Kacey KC                                                                                                                     | Abs                                             | Misty Robinson    | X       |  |
| Bart Chambers                                 | Abs      | Aaron Kenneston                                                                                                              | X                                               | Jim Seebock       | Abs     |  |
| James Chrisley                                | X        | Graham Kent                                                                                                                  | X                                               | Rachel Skidmore   | X       |  |
| Cassandra Darrough                            | Abs      | Annette Kerr                                                                                                                 | X                                               | Corey Solferino   | X       |  |
| Craig dePolo                                  | X        | Mary Ann Laffoon                                                                                                             | X                                               | Malinda Southard  | X       |  |
| Michael Dietrich                              | Abs      | Chris Lake                                                                                                                   | X                                               | Mike Wilson       | X       |  |
| Dave Fogerson                                 | Abs      | Bob Leighton                                                                                                                 | X                                               | Stephanie Woodard | X       |  |
| Jeanne Freeman                                | X        | Carolyn Levering                                                                                                             | X                                               |                   |         |  |
| Legal Representative                          |          |                                                                                                                              | Entity                                          |                   | Present |  |
| Samantha Ladich – Sr. Deputy Attorney General |          |                                                                                                                              | Nevada Attorney General's Office                |                   | X       |  |
| Analyst/Support Staff                         |          |                                                                                                                              | Entity                                          |                   | Present |  |
| Karen Hall                                    |          |                                                                                                                              | Nevada Division of Emergency Management - North |                   | X       |  |
| Robert Plant                                  |          |                                                                                                                              | Nevada Division of Emergency Management – North |                   | X       |  |
| Paul Burke                                    |          |                                                                                                                              | Nevada Division of Emergency Management - South |                   | X       |  |

## 1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chief Caleb Cage, Division of Emergency Management (DEM), called the meeting to order. Roll call was performed by Karen Hall, DEM. Quorum was established for the meeting.

## 2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chief Cage opened discussion for public comment in all venues. Terry Daus, City of Henderson, spoke to broad range of agency support in southern Nevada for the Nevada Department of Administration's (NDOA) Cybersecurity Professional Development project under consideration today by the Resilience Commission (Commission). Mr. Daus emphasized the dynamic and complex discipline of cybersecurity. Jefferson Grace, Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department (LVMPD), spoke to meeting with government sector Chief Information Officers and the necessity for the government sector to retain and develop cybersecurity trained employees. The proposal presented by NDOA is a starting point. Chief Cage thanked support staff, Commission members, and those that have participated in the meeting today for their efforts.

### **3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Chief Cage called for a motion to approve the draft minutes from the November 20, 2018, Commission meeting. A motion to approve was presented by Annette Kerr, Elko County, and a second was provided by Mary Ann Laffoon, Northeast Nevada Citizen Corps/CERT. All were in favor with no opposition. Motion passed unanimously.

### **4. UPDATE ON CURRENT EFFORTS APPLIED TO THE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT STRATEGIC PLAN AND DEVELOPMENT OF RESILIENCE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

Chief Cage provided an update on current efforts applied to the Emergency Management Strategic Plan and the development of Resilience goals and objectives. Highlights of the discussion are as follows:

- Historical timeline on the creation of the state's five-year Emergency Management Strategic Plan created for the entire emergency management program with input from stakeholders. Emphasis was placed on revisions in 2017 based on unprecedented events and the need to transform the existing plan to coincide with the Statewide Resilience Strategy. Discussion included the necessity to revise the vision, mission, and goals to reflect a resilience model.
- The requirement to establish the Resilience Commission and the use of the Emergency Management Strategic Plan as a baseline to use in further examining and identifying statewide needs and requirements. Significant outreach has ensued to request feedback on this strategy from numerous stakeholders, internal staff members, and committees. The aim for this meeting is to discuss defining resilience goals and objectives, and to come back to the Commission at the next meeting having a more built-out deliverable.
- A review of defining what resilience means. Chief Cage presented the Commission with four academic resilience definitions as a starting point for discussion emphasizing the progression of definitions from recovering to a normal state to recovering stronger and more resilient. Chief Cage spoke to Definition #4 as perhaps one of the best definitions addressing the goal of Nevada recovering stronger after an incident. Considerable discussion ensued with consensus that portions of many of the resilience definitions were applicable, but recovering in a stronger position was supported by many of the Commission members.
  - Dr. Craig dePolo, University of Nevada Reno (UNR), emphasized the need to anticipate needs prior to an incident and the preparation necessary to accomplish that endeavor;
  - Annette Kerr emphasized the inclusion of adaptation and growth in future definitions of resilience;
  - Dr. Graham Kent, UNR, emphasized the need for resilience not just after an event, but during one such as an earthquake or flood, as to not lose situational awareness during the event itself. Chief Cage reiterated the importance of resilience during an event, noting that data resilience and system resilience is extremely important;
  - Misty Robinson, Southern Nevada Health District, spoke to combining Definition 3 and 4 to address defining resilience;
  - Dr. Malinda Southard, Division of Public and Behavioral Health, spoke to the importance noted in Definition 2 in maintaining system core purpose and integrity;
  - James Chrisley, McCarran International Airport, noting that recovery from an event is often a long term process. Chief Cage agreed that while response can be measured in the short term, recovery is often measured in years;
  - Bunny Bishop, Nevada Division of Water Resources, supported Definition 4 with the inclusion of verbiage addressing mitigation. Once damage occurs, rebuilding an area to a better level helps to break the cycle of damage; and



- Jeremy Hynds, City of Henderson, spoke to the discussion so far as hitting specific phases of emergency management, and his understanding that what is really trying to be done here is to address all phases, and that Definition 4 appears to address that direction. Chief Cage indicated that resilience, over all phases of emergency management, is about addressing basic assumptions about emergencies using a risk-based approach to drive plans for rebuilding efforts. Additional discussion was presented on how to get stakeholders involved to prepare for events, and how to see such events through a lens to create change. Connie Morton, Southern Nevada VOAD, spoke to changing thought process about resilience and adaptive models.
- Discussion on the applications of resilience as a concept, and how other states and cities have moved forward with resilience initiatives. Specific emphasis was placed on the Colorado Model for resilience, and the adaptation of a similar model currently in use in Washoe County. This model captures the applied definitions referred to in earlier discussion.
- Discussion on what the next steps in the process will be to include revision of a resilience definition based on input from the Commission, and then aligning the Emergency Management Strategic Plan's framework with one of resilience addressed in the vision, mission, values, and goals of the plan. Chief Cage emphasized the development of a conceptual approach through the frame of resilience, the resilience and emergency management cycles, and building out objectives accordingly.
- Discussion on the specific goals and objectives as written currently. Chief Cage called for discussion and input from the Commission.
  - Rachel Skidmore, LVMPD, presented concern on Goal #3, and the requirement of only 50% pass-through from DEM to the emergency management community as it relates to grant funding. Ms. Skidmore indicated her belief that grant requirements required a higher percentage of pass through. Carolyn Levering, City of Las Vegas, spoke to the fact that the Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) has no pass through requirements, and Nevada is one of only a few states that actually pass that funding through to local recipients. Ms. Levering indicated that the fact that Nevada does this is highly advantageous. Chief Cage spoke to this being a concern internally when developing this goal. DEM is approximately 90% grant funded, and receiving more general funding may enable more pass through funding to local partners. This effort is evidenced through budget recommendations supported and passed to the Nevada Legislature earlier this year in the support of sharing more grant resources, not less.
  - Dr. Jeannie Freeman, Carson City Health and Human Services, requested that any draft of defining resilience be kept simple, urging the Commission to not get stuck with inclusion of ambiguous or inflexible wording. Chief Cage will provide a starting definition of resilience based on input received today, and update the goals discussed in addition to providing more information on resilience cycles.

## **5. PRESENTATION ON THE THREAT AND HAZARD IDENTIFICATION RISK ASSESSMENT (THIRA) AND STAKEHOLDER PREPAREDNESS REVIEW (SPR) PROCESS IN NEVADA**

Lori Degristina, State Emergency Planner, DEM, presented the Commission with an overview of the THIRA and SPR process in Nevada to include the following highlights:

- Defining THIRA and SPR as foundational in addressing threats and hazards, as well as consequences of such threats and hazards in assessing strengths and weaknesses in Nevada's communities;
- The importance of local and state hazard mitigation;
- The requirement of the THIRA and SPR as components of the Homeland Security Grant Program in addressing response and recovery efforts and investments;

- Changes in THIRA and SPR methodology, in a phased approach, to better understand national preparedness to include:
  - Requirement in 2018 to conduct THIRA and complete assessment on 19 core capabilities in the mission areas of response, recovery, and 3 cross-cutting capabilities of Planning, Public Information and Warning, and Operational Coordination
  - Requirement in 2019 to report on remaining 13 core capabilities in the mission areas of Prevention, Protection, and Mitigation in addition to review of the 19 core capabilities from the 2018 process that will, moving forward, become a 3-year THIRA-only cycle;
  - In 2020 and 20201, jurisdictions will only be required to complete the SPR; and in 2022, jurisdictions will be asked to complete the THIRA and SPR process accordingly.
- The steps in the THIRA process to include:
  - Identification of the top threats in Nevada which are currently earthquake, wildfire, active assailant, cyber- attack, and human pandemic;
  - Assigning context and impact to such threats; and
  - Creation of standardized target language or statements providing the framework for the capability targets to capture the level of capability realistically sought.
- The steps in the SPR process to include:
  - Identification of how closely the state is to meeting target capabilities based on projections of a catastrophic event and applied to the Planning, Organization, Equipment, Training, and Exercise (POETE) model, and whether capability was gained or lost
  - Provision of narratives to explain capability gaps in each of the POETE areas, and the actions to address such gaps; and
  - Identification of the funding source used to sustain and build capability.
- Amendments to the existing process and new requirements causing a short turn-around requirements, and that the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) having to complete their own SPR in addition to having to submit a THIRA leading to:
  - Additional contracted support provided to assist the UASI, and potentially local and state emergency management officials in their THIRA/SPR development;
  - Assistance from the State's planning team

## **6. PRESENTATION ON HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM (HSGP) DEOBLIGATIONS**

Kelli Anderson, DEM, presented an overview of historical HSGP funding deobligations. Highlights included deobligations as follows:

- Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2013 State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) deobligations totaling \$283,706;
- FFY 2014 SHSP deobligations totaling \$259,250;
- FFY 2014 Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) deobligations totaling \$94,071;
- FFY 2014 SHSP deobligations totaling \$129,439;
- FFY 2015 UASI deobligations totaling \$104,202;
- FFY 2016 SHSP deobligations totaling \$394,871.53; and
- FFY 2016 UASI deobligations totaling \$208,464.47.

Annette Kerr presented concern on the amount of SHSP funding dropping since last reported, with Ms. Anderson indicating there was a reconciliation of the grant awards. Ms. Kerr also presented concern on the 2015 deobligations, with clarification from Ms. Anderson on what the concern was about. The list provided is the deobligation amount only from specific entities that were awarded the funding initially. Additional discussion was presented by Ms. Anderson on funding time-sensitive projects and to the 2011 reobligation



guidelines that protect the program, and the State Administrative Agent and Urban Area Administrator authority to make such time-sensitive decisions to address capability gaps. Carolyn Levering spoke to the fact that the majority of the deobligated funding was eventually reobligated; however she was somewhat concerned that the UASI gave back money in a year that it wasn't awarded funding at all federally. Ms. Anderson spoke to the 2014 UASI deobligations and the processes changed since that time to address future funding issues, so there was a significant drop in reverted funds as a result. FFY 2016 and 2017 have not yet closed. Rachel Skidmore spoke to the performance period of 2016 not closing yet, so the funding is allocated to ongoing projects still underway.

## **7. URBAN AREA WORKING GROUP (UAWG) MEETING REVIEW**

Rachel Skidmore, LVMPD, provided an update of the UAWG meeting on December 3, 2018, at the request of Chief Cage. Ms. Skidmore spoke to 11 projects submitted for consideration of the FFY 2016 deobligations. Noting the process used to work through the proposals and how to allocate remaining funds, Ms. Skidmore indicated that projects were vetted on specific components indicating the ability to complete the projects in the allotted performance period, and direct outputs involving the gap analysis for the 1-October event. Additionally, project requestors were asked to tie their project components to after action reporting. Three projects were funded included the Las Vegas Fire and Rescue Bomb Squad, LVMPD TASS Vehicle, and the Clark County Fire Department Skid Unit with a combined total matching the deobligation amount available. The UAWG voted to support the projects noted.

Kelli Anderson spoke to the TASS vehicle project, and concern that if it's not funded using SHSP, the multi-funded project vehicle one of those projects under UASI, if it's not funded using SHSP projects, the multi-funded project will not move forward or at the least be moved to a phased project. Ms. Skidmore spoke to the TASS TRV Project as a direct output via after-action report resulting from 1-October addressing mitigation related to communication gaps and intelligence and information sharing capability. A small reduction had to be taken in order to fund through UASI, and they are requesting the second half of the project to be funded from SHSP.

## **8. PRESENTATION ON HSGP PROJECT PROPOSALS REQUESTING USE OF FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR (FFY) 2016 DEOBLIGATED FUNDING**

Chief Cage spoke to transparency and accountability within this process, and predictability for stakeholders and partners in addition to allowing opportunities for organizations to find scenarios and to build and maintain capacity. There is a focus on filling those gaps, and this is the first time that deobligations have been put forth to an advisory body such as the Commission. The SAA and UAA do have the authority to make decisions regarding funding, and will take recommendations from this Commission into consideration when making decisions for time-sensitive decisions. The goal is to move the conversation on grants around the concept of Statewide Resilience to increase community capacity, identify gaps, and filling those gaps with the ongoing transition process.

Kelli Anderson, DEM, spoke to process surrounding the FFY 2016 HSGP deobligations with the following highlights:

- Total funding available is \$39,871.53;
- Emphasis on the Homeland Security Working Group's operational role in the HSGP process and the history of work with stakeholders;
- Proposals, detailed budgets, and investment justifications received were numerous, and this will be a first look at what this body will be up against in 2019 for the full HSGP process; and
- Emphasis on this as a first time deobligated funds being put through this, or any advisory body. Once a recommendation is created from this Commission, it will be pushed to the Nevada Commission on

Homeland Security's Finance Committee and then potentially the NCHS once the administration transition occurs.

- In order to be transparent with these funds, where they are going, and where they need to go, DEM wanted this body to see the project proposals, investment justifications, and line item details. Ms. Anderson spoke to the hours invested in reviewing these projects, comparing to priorities, the 1-October incident, other active shooter incidents, and sustainment issues. Additionally, there was review on investing in existing capacity. The CERT investments and the return on investment. Performance periods were reviewed to see what could be achieved in a small amount of time which is left in the performance period of the FFY 2016 funding.
- Emphasis was placed on the issue of sole sourcing and bidding constraints, streamlining the applications, and how quickly FEMA can process the request. DEM also looked at who had deobligated funding in 2016.
- Recommendations for funding from DEM including:
  - Carson City Sheriff Mobile Operation Center - \$16,416.53
  - Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe CERT - \$27,000.00
  - Storey County Portable Radios - \$4,291.00
  - Tahoe Douglas Bomb Squad Spec. Explosive Breaching Class - \$30,000.00
  - Clark County Emergency Operation Plan Annex - \$37,450.00
  - Clark County THIRA Development - \$93,000.00
  - LVMPD Tactical Vehicle Event Planning - \$31,814.00
  - LVMPD Tactical Vehicle TASS - \$151,900.00
  - **TOTAL SHSP Recommended Funding: \$391,871.53**

Chief Cage opened discussion, with Dr. Kenneston, Washoe County, presenting concern that no cyber projects appeared to be recommended, and whether that was an issue as it was a priority this year. Kelli Anderson spoke to her review of the cyber project presented, and the concern with the amount of deliverables in such a short period in addition to the fact that there has been a large deobligation previously. The decision to recommend the presented list of projects recommendations, due to significant previous events, was deemed appropriate in addressing more gaps. With regards to some of the larger projects such as the TASS vehicle, those can be procured all at once. With the cyber project, going out to bid and completing the scope of work in the short time frame required is likely not possible. Dr. Kenneston voiced his support of moving forward with the cyber-training if possible. Dr. Freeman concurred with the need for cyber training, but the timing does not match with what is required to do in a 6-month period. Dave Hunkup, Reno Sparks Indian Colony, inquired on the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe (PLPT) CERT program and the funding provided to purchase equipment. Mr. Hunkup spoke to the tribes receiving CERT bags, and wants a breakdown on how they are going to utilize those funds. Kelli Anderson read the budget provided, and training would be in kind and provided internally. Mr. Hunkup inquired if training would be opened to other agencies, with Cassandra Darrough indicating that she would open it up on multiple weekends. Annette Kerr inquired on the applications, and if the applications were not completely filled out, what was the policy in reviewing those submissions. Kelli Anderson indicated that no applications were denied based on missing information due to the extreme turnaround time prior to this meeting. Should projects be recommended for funding, the details missing will be provided, including any missing AEL numbers. All projects will be reviewed for potential supplanting of wages as well, and if identified, the funding amount requested would be reduced. Upon receipt of any necessary fiscal statements to support project-based wages that are provable, supplanting would not exist. All requests will be submitted to DHS for review. Shaun Rahmeyer, Office of Cyber Defense Coordination, offered additional value in hearing project presentations. Chief Cage spoke to the balance that is trying to be maintained between advisory review of deobligation requests with that of full project presentations for the process moving forward in 2019. This agenda item does not include individual project

presentations. Dr. Freeman inquired if any contact has been made to project owners that could use this funding after being partially funded in the past. Ms. Anderson spoke to the decision to recommend the projects presented, and the process of looking at line items to see if the line items could be reduced. Dr. Freeman presented concerns that any project presented use all of the money allocated to the project, with Ms. Anderson indicating that is not a guarantee as line item costs may change based on numerous factors. Dr. Kenneston concurs that the process of vetting such projects should be looked at for future meetings. Mr. Rahmeyer echoed similar concerns noting industry expertise is important to the pre-vetted process. Chief Cage reiterated the steps taken previously, and emphasized that this is a better process than keeping the process internal. This process is intended to be similar and mirror the HSGP process and other grant processes to make sure there is input from such expertise. Carolyn Levering indicated she also supports streamlining the review of deobligations moving forward, and expressed concern to see a list of recommendations provided by DEM as well as not including several projects she feels should be considered. Per Ms. Anderson, the decision to not include those projects was based on compliance concerns and time limitations.

Ms. Anderson emphasized that this is a completely new and additional in-depth process that resulted in unanticipated workload for her staff in support of this Commission's request. The HSWG process itself takes nearly 3 months normally, and no one wants to set anyone up for failure. 29 deobligation submissions are unprecedented. Rachel Skidmore motioned to move forward with approving the recommendations provided by DEM. Annette Kerr seconded the motion. Chief Cage spoke to the realistic time management component to this problem with regards to these meetings and moving the discussion forward. Carlito Rayos, Las Vegas Valley Water District, inquired if the receipt of 29 projects is an anomaly, and how will the Commission review such projects for sustainment based on different timelines. Additional discussion was presented on sustainment of projects and capabilities versus sustainment funding. Per Ms. Anderson, as these meetings move forward, any deobligation information will contain a better scope to hopefully limit any applications for funding.

Deputy Chief John Steinbeck, Clark County Fire Department, spoke to sustainment definitions, and this Commission's recommending what capacities to sustain in Nevada. The Co-chairs are looking at the Commission's expertise to move the strategy driving projects. This transition will take time. If there is a project that is imperative to fund now, and not through the next grant process, that is a cause for action to address an immediate safety concern. Chief Cage spoke to this agenda item calling for a vote of support, and how this body can move forward continuing the discussion. Both Rachel Skidmore and Annette Kerr were asked to withdraw the former motion and second, which they did. Chief Cage asked, on the list provided, are there any projects that are overlooked that need to be addressed. Chief Bob Leighton, Reno Fire Department, spoke to City of Reno project and it not being considered. Eric Millette, City of Sparks, spoke to his agency's project. Ms. Anderson addressed both concerns indicating that there were issues identifying previous HSGP funded equipment and other missing information presenting compliance concerns. Misty Robinson, Southern Nevada Health District inquired on Project #4, and a concern on the timeline. Ms. Anderson indicated that the project was vetted in 2018 as well. It does require going out to bid, and based on that, it will be very difficult to achieve.

Chief Cage called for further comments or changes. Dr. Chris Lake, Nevada Hospital Association motioned to recommend funding as presented, with Dr. dePolo seconding the motion. All were in favor with no opposition. Motion passed unanimously.

***\*\* Meeting Break at 11:30 a.m. – Resumed at 11:40 a.m. \*\****

## **9. PRESENTATION ON THE HISTORY OF THE NEVADA STATE CITIZEN CORPS COUNCIL AND COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM (CERT) INITIATIVES**



Mary Ann Laffoon, Northeast Nevada Citizen Corps/CERT Program Coordinator provided an overview of the CERT program and the benefits the program provides for Nevada. Highlights of the overview included:

- The concept of the Community Emergency Response Team was developed by the Los Angeles Fire Department in 1985 during a period of staffing shortage and high demand to provide citizens the training to assist first responders, to take care of themselves, their families, and neighbors during the first few days of an incident. First responders are often a small percentage of the overall population, and many are volunteers themselves. Those that can respond are responding to critical need first.
- CERT was adopted in other regions nationally to address incidents caused by other emergencies such as tornados and hurricanes.
- FEMA adaptations to include an all-hazards approach after 9/11 as a result of President Bush's request to include Citizen Corps under FEMA, calling upon state and local governments to offer citizens opportunities to become an integral part of homeland security and to assist first responders in an emergency.
- CERT is a program that helps with bridging the gap of the citizen, first responders, and local and government officials as well a community and business entities.
- Nevada's introduction to CERT as a statewide approach occurred in February 2009 with the creation of the State Citizen Corps Council to assist Citizen Corps efforts. Both the CCP/CERT programs offer training and volunteer opportunities to all citizens who are interested to make themselves and communities safer, more prepared and resilient, and to provide boots on the ground force multiplication in times of need as critical support to first responders, offer immediate assistance to victims, organizing spontaneous volunteers, and help in non-emergency projects.
- CERTs learn, train, plan, and interact with professionals through many disciplines and partnerships. Program offerings do vary with an array of opportunities.
- Program offerings can and do vary, many offering an array of opportunities with training to include emergency preparedness, basic fire safety, basic medical first aid, and light search and rescue.
- The CERT organizational structure including ICS and NIMS, disaster psychology, and Terrorism. Volunteers are tested on material and hands on skills with not less than 21 hours of training. Most CERT teams are vetted, fingerprinted, background checked based on jurisdictional requirements and become sharable or deployable assets.
- CERT representative are part of many emergency response plans, sit on committees or advisory boards, and attend emergency manager meetings, as well as participation on National Youth Preparedness and the VOAD organizations. There are multiple CERT Teams in Nevada, and in future reports, Ms. Laffoon will highlight many of the teams and their respective work throughout the state.
- CERT also works in partnership with other agencies and organizations with a whole community approach and is one of the state's building blocks to achieving resilience. Volunteers come from all walks of life, ages, and past experiences
- The volunteers in the combined CERT programs provide thousands of hours each year to the state of Nevada. Over 15,000 hours have been provided to the state through November this year alone.

- “Be the help until help arrives” is a program that is new and was in response to the 1-October incident as a way to push out information and the 1 Oct., and as a way to push out information and use as a platform.
- The CERT goal is, “Do the Greatest Good for the greatest number”.

Deputy Chief Steinbeck inquired on the challenges of CERT, with Ms. Laffoon speaking to obtaining the buy in from agencies to accept the help provided, and for incorporating CERT into the community. Agencies that have worked with CERT volunteers contribute to the trick down effect to accept CERT as a resource. CERT volunteer stay in the lane they are directed to follow. Deputy Chief Steinbeck asked if CERT resources were underutilized throughout the state, with Ms. Laffoon indicating while she cannot speak for other regions, her region has fully integrated CERT as a resource. Ms. Laffoon will be available, as will Stephanie Parker, DEM, to act as resources for the Commission with regard to citizen corps or CERT initiatives in Nevada.

## **10. PRESENTATION ON THE INTRASTATE MUTUAL AID COMMITTEE (IMAC)**

Kelli Baratti, DEM Operations Chief, provided the Commission with an overview of the IMAC including the historical implementation in 2015, through Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 414A, of the Nevada Intrastate Mutual Aid System. As a culmination of local government effort combining local and regional agreements, a comprehensive, whole community, and all-hazards system was created encompassing all political subdivisions, public agencies, and if the choice was made to participate, tribal nations. NRS 414A.110 created the 19 member, Intrastate Mutual Aid Committee (IMAC). Members of the IMAC serve two-year terms, and must be selected from participating public agencies or tribal governments, and members must have responsibility for public safety activities or programs within the public agency or tribal nation. The IMAC advises the Chief of the Division of Emergency Management on issues related to emergency management and intrastate mutual aid in this State. The current membership of the IMAC represents Emergency Communications, Emergency Management, Emergency Medical Services, State & Local Fire, Hazardous Materials, State & Local Law Enforcement, Public Health, Search & Rescue, Schools, Tribes, and Water/Waste Water Authority. The IMAC is required to meet at least annually.

The IMAC has developed, and put through to the Legislative Commission, NAC 414A that is aimed at imposing annual duties and reporting requirements related to system and procedures surrounding deployment of Nevada resources out of state on Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) missions. In July 2017, the IMAC adopted policies and procedures which implemented this system. Of significance was the first utilization of these new procedures in support of the 1-October event where personnel from Carson City, Washoe County, and DEM were deployed to assist Clark County in their response and recovery efforts. The new procedures were also used in support of the Duck Valley Sho-Pai Tribe this year due to the Owyhee Fire and EMAC deployments of Clark County resources to support the Camp Fire in Paradise, California.

DEM is required by NAC 414A to provide a report to the IMAC no later than June 30<sup>th</sup> annually including information relating to declared emergencies and disasters, undeclared emergencies and disasters in Nevada that were monitored by DEM, and any fulfilled resource requests by the State that came through the system during the fiscal year to include resource requests by other states through the EMAC process. The IMAC uses this information to plan for the following year. A recommendation stemming from this year’s review is aimed at financial reimbursement and the cost of mutual aid. In 2019, a table top exercise (TTX) will be held for emergency managers and their respective fiscal managers to provide education on this system and provide feedback. Additional recommendations included adding costs to the mutual aid inventory, as it’s collected, and developing a strategic plan for the IMAC. Ms. Baratti indicated that one of the benefits of the diverse makeup within the IMAC is the ability to discuss and identify those resources that are not typically thought of unless the need arises. There has been significant discussion this year surrounding private sector health care

mutual aid, public health care providers, medical volunteers, the development of effective behavioral health response and deployment, and the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA). Such discussion has led to five recommendations from the IMAC to Chief Cage for presentation to the Nevada Commission on Homeland Security (NCHS). All five recommendations were approved to move to the next phase of legislative consideration in the NCHS meeting earlier this year.

Ms. Baratti emphasized that mutual aid occurs every day in Nevada, and is not limited to just large incidents or events. Ms. Baratti indicated her gratitude for the level of commitment and dedication shown by the members of the IMAC, as their input and assistance has been invaluable in the development, and implementation, of the current system.

Dr. Kenneston inquired on current events, and if there is any active state or intrastate requests, with Ms. Baratti indicating that currently Alaska has tabled responses for mental health requests, Camp Fire resources have been deployed through EMAC from Clark County for anthropologists and canines to help with the victim search. Additionally, there were a significant number of local fire resources supporting California fires. Currently, there are no outstanding requests.

## **11. PRESENTATION ON THE 2018 NEVADA HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT PROGRAM (HMGP) POST FIRE FUNDING OPPORTUNITY**

Kelli Anderson, DEM, and Janell Woodward, DEM, presented the Commission with an overview of the 2018 Hazard Mitigation Post-fire funding opportunity with the following highlights:

- An overview of the HMGP Post Fire grant cycle, with current funding availability in the amount of \$3,400,062.00, and the 2-year period performance period applied from October 1, 2016, to September 30, 2018; and
- An overview of the draft list of projects submitted that have not yet been fully vetted, reviewed, or ranked including submissions from Douglas County, Elko County, Lyon County, Washoe County, and a submission from NDF on behalf of the National Weather Service.

Dr. Kenneston inquired on the process moving forward. Annette Kerr presented concern that it's crucial that any rewrite of such plans is shared. Kelli Anderson will share the process in a transparent fashion emphasizing leveraging grants appropriately uses the expertise of stakeholders. Chief Cage spoke to additional contracting assistance used to vet the projects, and the importance of not missing this opportunity.

## **12. OVERVIEW OF NEVADA RECOVERY EFFORTS**

Suz Coyote, State Recovery Officer, provided the Commission with an overview of state recovery efforts, and highlights of the overview included:

- An overview of the 2017 federally declared disasters including the January 2017 Severe Winter Storms, flooding, and Mudslides event (DR 4303) affecting 5 counties, 5 tribal entities, and 41 jurisdictions, the February 2017 Severe Winter Storms, Flooding, and Mudslides event (DR 4307) affecting 7 counties, 4 tribal entities, and 46 jurisdictions;
- January 2017 infrastructure impacts;
- Recovery efforts for DR 4303 denoting Preliminary Damage Assessment (PDA) cost estimates and funding awarded;
- February 2017 infrastructure and individual/household impacts, disaster recovery assistance, FEMA Public Assistance (PA) grants, 406 Mitigation, FHWA, Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Post Disaster assistance, and Small Business Administration (SBA) loans. For the February 2017 event, individuals/household impacts affected 72 residences, half of which were insured;



- A financial summary for the 2017 SBA declaration noting the following:
  - For January Storms, 47 applications issued, 36 applications received, and 22 loans approved totaling \$419,100.
  - For February Storms, 15 applications issued, 15 applications received, and 12 loans approved totaling \$1,255,600.
  - For February Storms in Washoe County only, 8 applications were issues, 3 applications were received, and 5 loans were approved totaling \$282,900.
- Interface with the Resilience Commission in support of the Statewide Resilience Strategy to include additional resources in recovery support function; and
- An overview of quarterly financial reports received, paid, and closed.

### **13. OVERVIEW OF NEVADA PREPAREDNESS EFFORTS**

Jim Walker, Emergency Management Program Manager, DEM provided an overview of current Nevada preparedness efforts to include the following highlights:

- Information on the annual Training Needs Assessment and focus this year on emergency management professional skills development and increased hazard-specific courses;
- Overview of the 50 different training events held to address incident command, homeland security exercise evaluation, public information, sports and special events, search and rescue, radiological events, procurement, contracting, WebEOC, communications, and many more;
- Training participation to include 1,700 in-person class participants and nearly 19,000 online class participants;
- Training and Exercise Planning Workshop (TEPW) held annually to coordinate multi-year training and exercise schedules. To date, there have been 28 total exercises this year, 16 of which were discussion based, and another 12 exercises that were operations-based. DEM participated as a major partner in 15 of the annual training events contributing to the design and production of the events as well;
- DEM has held 5 HSEEP courses in 2018, monthly training/exercises in the State Emergency Operations Center and a 3-day Complex Coordinated Terrorist Attack full scale exercise will be held in November 2019 as the capstone for the year;
- An overview of operations activities to include county, tribal, and out of state incidents; and
- An overview of public information activities to include nearly 2,000 radio spots in both English and Spanish between August-October 2018 yielding a value return of nearly 5-times that of investment. Additional public information activities include a television spot in development, social media campaigns, increase in Twitter followers, and themed messaging and event information.

Dr. Freeman commended DEM on the trainings offered this year, and gave special thanks to the efforts placed on social media training and the recommendation for additional collaboration with county public information officers. Jim Walker indicated that the intention is to leverage statewide stakeholders in future 2019 training events to ensure ongoing collaboration.

### **14. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Chief Cage called for public comment in all venues. Misty Robinson provided a SLTTGCC update and that they are looking at performing regional webinars. Mike Wilson inquired if there is a way to drop the meeting information into a single site for reference as the process moves forward. Chief Cage indicated he will address that request. Mike Heidemann spoke to the level of preparedness dictated by the grant process, and the limitations on grant resources. Emphasis was placed on letting legislators know more funding is required to address public safety and emergency management efforts.

## **15. ADJOURN**

Chief Cage called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. A motion was presented by Dr. dePolo, and a second was provided by Mary Ann Laffoon. All were in favor with no opposition. Meeting adjourned.

# **The Resilience Commission**

## **Bylaws**

### **I. Authority**

The Nevada Resilience Commission ("Commission") is established under Executive Order 2018-4, entitled, "Implementation of Nevada's Statewide Resilience Strategy," signed by Governor Sandoval on March 12, 2018, and under the authority of the Chief of the Division of Emergency Management ("DEM") as permitted by Chapter 414 of the Nevada Revised Statutes.

### **II. Purpose and Mission**

The Commission was established to streamline Nevada's existing emergency management and homeland security public body structure, grant allocation processes, as well as, mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery efforts. The Commission will ensure statewide collaboration in the development and implementation of all homeland security and emergency management preparedness initiatives and propose balanced allocation of grant funding to address statewide needs.

The Commission serves in an advisory role to the Chief of the Division of Emergency Management. Therefore, the mission of the Commission will be to provide recommendations, and as a result, will not usurp the power of the State Administrative Agent ("SAA") to manage the multiple grant funding streams that enter the State of Nevada.

The Commission will serve in the capacity of, and complete the functions of, the State Senior Advisory Council, the Homeland Security Working Group, the State Interoperability Executive Board, the State Interoperability Governance Board, Emergency Management Coordinating Council, Nevada Hazards Mitigation Planning Committee and Subcommittee, Nevada Earthquake Safety Council, and the Citizens Corps Council.

### **III. Membership**

The Chief of DEM shall appoint no more than forty (40) voting members to the Commission that are determined to be an appropriate cross section of emergency management and homeland security professionals within Nevada, while representing the rural, urban, and tribal communities throughout the state. The membership will serve at the pleasure of the Chief.

### **IV. Officers and Duties**

The Officers of the Commission shall consist of Co-Chairs; the SAA and the SAA's designee. The SAA will designate a Co-Chair annually.

The Co-Chairs will provide a report to the Governor on or before January 1<sup>st</sup> of each year detailing the activities of the Commission.



**V. Meetings**

Commission meetings will be called at the discretion of the Co-Chairs on a monthly basis.

Commission meetings are subject to the Nevada Open Meeting Law contained in Chapter 241 of the Nevada Revised Statutes.

**VI. Committees**

The Commission may appoint no more than two (2) committees under the Commission at any given time. Each committee established under the Commission will have six (6) months to complete its assigned task. If the committee is unable to complete its assigned task within six (6) months, the committee will be terminated unless extended by vote of the Commission for an additional three (3) months.

Committee membership will be established by the Co-Chairs.

Committee meetings are subject to the Nevada Open Meeting Law contained in Chapter 241 of the Nevada Revised Statutes.

**VII. Voting**

A majority of voting members of the Commission constitutes a quorum for the transaction of business and a majority of those voting members present at any meeting is sufficient for any official action taken by the Commission.

**VIII. Attendance**

Attendance is critical to achieving quorum, having balanced input, and conducting business of the Commission. Any member who misses more than two (2) consecutive meetings may be removed from the Commission at the discretion of the Co-Chairs.

**IX. Administrative Support**

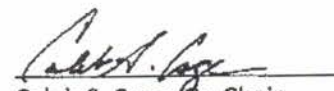
DEM shall provide administrative support to the Commission.

**X. Amendments**

The Bylaws will be reviewed quarterly and may be amended when necessary by a vote of the Commission and subsequent approval by the Co-Chairs.

*These Bylaws were adopted by the Nevada Resilience Commission on October 25, 2018.*

  
John C. Steinbeck, Co-Chair

  
Caleb S. Cage, Co-Chair

| FY16 DEOBLIGATION INFORMATION |                         |                                            |                       |                     |                                                                                                                           |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| GRANT                         | SUBGRANTEE              | PROJECT NAME                               | ORIGINAL GRANT AMOUNT | DEOBLIGATION AMOUNT | INFORMATION ON DEOBLIGATION                                                                                               |
| SHSP                          | Henderson               | Cyber Incident Response Planning           | \$52,000.00           | \$3,815.93          | Project complete, cost savings in travel category.                                                                        |
| SHSP                          | City of Las Vegas       | CERT                                       | \$47,700.00           | \$4,226.49          | Project complete, cost savings identified across all categories.                                                          |
| SHSP                          | Douglas County          | CERT                                       | \$18,000.00           | \$1,893.44          | Project complete, cost savings identified across all categories.                                                          |
| SHSP                          | Elko County             | CCP/CERT                                   | \$56,800.00           | \$407.20            | Project complete, cost savings identified across all categories.                                                          |
| SHSP                          | Ely Shoshone Tribe      | Cybersecurity                              | \$3,000.00            | \$3,000.00          | Tribal Chair requested deobligation of the grant based on the tribe's inability to use the funds.                         |
| SHSP                          | ITCN                    | NIMS                                       | \$49,000.00           | \$3,053.10          | Project complete, cost savings in training, exercise, and planning.                                                       |
| SHSP                          | LVMPD                   | CBRNE                                      | \$395,640.00          | \$22,033.79         | Project complete, cost savings in equipment                                                                               |
| SHSP                          | LVMPD                   | Fusion                                     | \$645,000.00          | \$125,093.67        | Grant reconciled and deobligation PCR submitted to deobligate \$125,093.67 in cost savings in equipment and planning.     |
| SHSP                          | N Lyon County           | CCP/CERT                                   | \$18,000.00           | \$9,437.37          | Staffing issues for the CERT Program resulted in deobligation of personnel and equipment .                                |
| SHSP                          | Washoe County EM        | Statewide Recovery Initiative              | \$150,000.00          | \$32,101.27         | Balance of funds transferred to DEM Statewide Recovery to continue managing the project.                                  |
| SHSP                          | Washoe SO               | Cybersecurity                              | \$25,375.00           | \$295.00            | Project complete, minor cost savings.                                                                                     |
| SHSP                          | DOA                     | Cyber Protection                           | \$572,306.00          | \$230,256.61        | Inability to use funds prior to expiration of grant.                                                                      |
| SHSP                          | DPS/NDI                 | Fusion Center                              | \$598,075.00          | \$44,896.18         | Project complete, cost savings identified across all categories.                                                          |
| SHSP                          | UNR                     | NV Statewide Capacity/Need Assessment Plan | \$100,000.00          | \$99,694.14         | Award terminated due to non-compliance.                                                                                   |
| SHSP                          | DPS/DEM                 | Resource Management & Credentialing        | \$138,618.00          | \$18,466.00         | Project complete, cost savings identified across all categories.                                                          |
| SHSP                          | DPS/DEM                 | Planning                                   | \$23,900.00           | \$21,034.40         | Project complete, cost savings identified across all categories.                                                          |
| UASI                          | City o Henderson        | Cyber Incident Response Planning           | \$84,000.00           | \$1,390.05          | Project complete, cost savings identified in travel.                                                                      |
| UASI                          | City of Las Vegas       | CERT                                       | \$189,091.00          | \$1,757.50          | Project complete, cost savings identified across all categories.                                                          |
| UASI                          | City of Las Vegas       | MMRS                                       | \$161,250.00          | \$58,967.56         | Project complete, cost savings identified in salaries.                                                                    |
| UASI                          | City of North Las Vegas | P-25 Phase II Radio Upgrade                | \$53,026.00           | \$0.01              |                                                                                                                           |
| UASI                          | Clark County            | Emergency Communication                    | \$45,268.00           | \$264.24            | Project complete, cost savings identified in equipment.                                                                   |
| UASI                          | LVMPD                   | SNCTC/Fusion                               | \$912,227.00          | \$164,317.11        | Grant reconciled and deobligation PCR submitted to deobligate \$164,317.11 in cost savings in equipment and organization. |
| TOTALS                        |                         |                                            | \$4,338,276.00        | \$ 846,401.06       |                                                                                                                           |

## **Reobligation Guidelines**

### **Purpose**

The purpose of these guidelines is to ensure that the Nevada Commission on Homeland Security (NCHS), State Administrative Authority (SAA) and subgrantees of Homeland Security Grant Programs (HSGP) provide for the best utilization of grant resources when cost savings or cost shortfalls are realized during a grant performance period.

#### **1. Performance Period**

Effective with the FFY10 HSGP grant cycle, the performance period for each subgrant will be 24 months to allow for adequate time to obligate HSGP funds as necessary. The SAA may modify performance periods based on the requirements of future grant guidance.

Extensions to the subgrant performance period will be approved by the SAA. The subgrantee must provide a written request for extension to the SAA at least one (1) month prior to the end of the subgrantee performance period. If the grant extension is denied, the grant funds will be deobligated.

#### **2. Project Change Requests**

All Project Change Requests must be submitted to the SAA using the approved Project Change Request form. The completed Project Change Request forms must be submitted to the SAA at [dhsgrants@dps.state.nv.us](mailto:dhsgrants@dps.state.nv.us).

All Project Change Requests will be reviewed by the SAA to ensure that the change(s) requested is compliant with federal grant guidance. Once the SAA makes its determination that the Project Change Request complies with federal grant guidance, the request will be handled as follows:

##### **A. Project Change Requests Approved by SAA:**

- i. Any request for reobligation of funding within an existing approved budget that does not exceed \$100,000, may be approved by the SAA, if the Project Change Request is clearly within federal grant guidance.

##### **B. Project Change Requests Approved by NCHS:**

- i. Any request for reobligation of funds that exceeds \$100,000 will be reviewed by the NCHS. The NCHS will provide a recommendation to the Governor for



reobligation of funding and notify DEM of the recommendation.

- ii. Any request for the redirect of funds that is inconsistent with the approved Investment Justification or which is considered a change in scope will be submitted to the NCHS and/or Finance Committee for review. The NCHS and/or Finance Committee will provide a recommendation to the Governor for reobligation of funding and notify DEM of the recommendation.
- iii. Any deobligated funding that exceeds \$100,000 will be submitted to the NCHS for review. The NCHS will provide a recommendation to the Governor for reobligation of funding and notify DEM of the recommendation.

DEM, at their own discretion, may defer to the NCHS and/or the Finance Committee on any Project Change Request subject to DEM approval.

### 3. Request for Additional Grant Funding

A sub-grantee seeking additional funding (de-obligated funds) must submit the request to the SAA on the approved forms at [dhsgrants@dps.state.nv.us](mailto:dhsgrants@dps.state.nv.us).

A request for additional funding must include:

- A. A written justification explaining, at a minimum, the following:
  - i. Impact of non-completion the project in the originally approved budget;
  - ii. Explanation as to why the redirect of funds was not addressed in the original investment or another related investment, if applicable;
  - iii. Benefit to the state's overall capabilities by approving the requested redirect of funds;
  - iv. Anticipated timeline to complete proposed project, inclusive of milestones and anticipated deliverables; and
  - v. Impact of not approving the request to redirect of funds;
- B. A copy of the original budget; and
- C. A copy of a detailed line-item budget demonstrating the subgrantee's intended use of the funds if the redirect of funds is approved.

The SAA will review the request to ensure compliance with federal grant guidance. The SAA will forward a report of compliance to the NCHS.

#### 4. Restrictions

Reobligation of funds will not be approved by the SAA or the NCHS if the request includes, but is not limited to, any of the following restrictions:

1. Non-compliance with federal guidance;
2. Supplanting;
3. Misappropriation of funds;
4. Commingling of funds;
5. Denial by the Department of Homeland Security;
6. Inability for projects to be completed within the remaining performance period; or
7. Non-conformance with the goals and priorities of the NCHS.

#### 5. Time Sensitive

Federal law mandates that unspent federal funds be returned to the federal government at the end of the grant performance period. In the event that unspent funds exist and there is insufficient time in the grant performance period to reconvene the NCHS and Finance Committee, the SAA in its sole discretion, may reobligate grant funding within the scope of the approved Investment Justification.

In the event that the SAA reobligates time sensitive funding, the reobligation of funds will be placed as an informational item on the agenda of the next regularly scheduled meeting of the NCHS.

# HMGP List of Applications for HMGP - Post Fire

\$ 3,400,062.00 Total Grant

| County    | Agency               | Project                                                 | Project Type                                               | Federal Cost  | NON_FED MATCH | Total Project Cost | BCA            | Rank Final |
|-----------|----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|--------------------|----------------|------------|
| Elko      | NDF                  | Mountain City                                           | Fire resistant building around water tower                 | \$ 8,193.75   | \$ 2,731.25   | \$ 10,925.00       | 5%             | 1          |
| Statewide | NDF                  | Mobile Weather Stations                                 | Weather Stations for burn scar areas                       | \$ 45,100.40  | \$ 15,033.47  | \$ 60,133.87       | 5%             | 2          |
| Elko      | Elko Co              | Lamoille Canyon - Boy Scout Camp                        | Fire retardant Siding and roofing on cabins that survived  | \$ 115,521.75 | \$ 38,507.25  | \$ 154,029.00      | 5%             | 3          |
| Elko      | NDF                  | Spring Creek Association                                | Fuels Reduction/Dspace                                     | \$ 617,243.80 | \$ 229,499.13 | \$ 846,742.93      | 5.49           | 4          |
| Washoe    | North Lake Tahoe FPD | Fire Adapted Communities Assistance Project             | Fuel reduction/Defensible Space/ignition-resistant roofing | \$ 535,643.92 | \$ 178,547.97 | \$ 714,191.89      | 12.08          | 5          |
| Douglas   | Tahoe Douglas FPD    | Tahoe Township                                          | Fuels reduction/Reseeding                                  | \$ 525,000.00 | \$ 175,000.00 | \$ 700,000.00      | 10.60          | 6          |
| Lyon      | NDF                  | Lyon County CWPP Update                                 | Community Wildfire Protection Plan Update                  | \$ 329,233.74 | \$ 126,622.18 | \$ 455,845.91      | Not required   | 7          |
| Elko      | NDF                  | West Elko                                               | Fuels Reduction/Defensible space                           | \$ 295,922.90 | \$ 104,225.90 | \$ 400,148.60      | 2.18           | 8          |
| Douglas   | NDF                  | South Douglas - Holbrook/Topaz Ranch Estates/Topaz Lake | Fuels reduction/Defensible space                           | \$ 364,146.33 | \$ 146,932.64 | \$ 511,078.98      | 1.88           | 9          |
| Lyon      | Central Lyon FPD     | CLC Fuels reduction Program                             | Fuels reduction/Defensible space                           | \$ 174,552.00 | \$ 58,184.00  | \$ 232,736.00      | 3.79           | 10         |
| Washoe    | NDF                  | Washoe CWPP Update                                      | Community Wildfire Protection Plan Update                  | \$ 519,604.69 | \$ 173,201.56 | \$ 692,806.25      | Not required   | 11         |
| Washoe    | NDF                  | Belsera HOA                                             | Fuels reduction/Defensible Space                           | \$ 85,413.45  | \$ 36,260.58  | \$ 121,674.03      | 5.62           | 12         |
| Elko      | NDOW                 | Hunter                                                  | Reseeding                                                  | \$ 80,114.00  | \$ 26,705.00  | \$ 106,819.00      | Pre-determined | 13         |
| Washoe    | TRFMA                | SE Washoe Co Home Elevation                             | Home Elevation                                             | \$ 461,028.00 | \$ 153,677.00 | \$ 614,705.00      | Pre-determined | 14         |

Totals \$ 4,156,718.73 \$ 1,465,127.93 \$ 5,621,836.46



# NEVADA HIDTA

High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas



## 2018 Threat Assessment

**Nevada HIDTA Board Chairman**

**Joseph Lombardo – Sheriff**

**Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department, Las Vegas, Nevada**

**Keith Carter**

**Director Nevada HIDTA**

**This document was prepared for the ONDCP High Intensity Drug Trafficking Program**

**June 15, 2018**

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

|                                           |    |
|-------------------------------------------|----|
| I. Scope.....                             | 1  |
| II. Executive Summary.....                | 1  |
| III. Nevada HIDTA Region.....             | 2  |
| IV. Drug Threats .....                    | 3  |
| a. Overview .....                         | 3  |
| b. Methamphetamine.....                   | 4  |
| c. Heroin .....                           | 7  |
| d. Controlled Prescription Drugs .....    | 11 |
| e. Cocaine .....                          | 15 |
| f. Marijuana.....                         | 18 |
| g. MDMA.....                              | 22 |
| h. Other Drugs .....                      | 25 |
| VII. Drug-Trafficking Organizations.....  | 30 |
| VIII. Money-Laundering Organizations..... | 35 |
| IX. Outlook .....                         | 39 |
| X. Methodology.....                       | 40 |
| XI. Appendix .....                        | 41 |
| XII. Endnotes.....                        | 41 |

## **I. Scope**

The purpose of the 2018 Nevada High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area Threat Assessment is to assess current and emerging drug-related trends within the designated area, and deliver accurate and timely strategic intelligence to assist law enforcement agencies in the development of drug enforcement strategies. This document provides narcotic threat activity assessments depicting the regional extent of illicit narcotic abuse and activities, actors and organizations, smuggling methods and routes of transportation, and evolutions in trends, tactics, and procedures. This document also fulfills statutory and grant requirements issued by the Office of National Drug Control Policy, and has been approved by the Nevada HIDTA Executive Board.

## **II. Executive Summary**

The Nevada HIDTA's drug trafficking threats are heavily influenced by the Drug Trafficking Organizations (DTOs) and trafficking patterns that impact the Southwest border region.

- Criminal activity in Mexico leading to Nevada is the primary source for most of Nevada's top drug threats including methamphetamine, heroin and cocaine. These drugs illegally enter Nevada by way of Southwest border states, most often from California and Arizona.
- Mexican DTOs use vehicles and the interstate system to move large quantities of methamphetamine, heroin, cocaine and illegal marijuana into and through the state north/south via I-15 and US-95 and east/west via I-80.
- Methamphetamine continues to be Nevada's number one drug threat. Mexican DTOs continue to supply large quantities of methamphetamine to the region for local distribution as well as trafficking to other cities and states nationwide. Methamphetamine, particularly ice, continues to provide very high purity levels while pricing remains low.
- Heroin is also a significant and steady threat to both HIDTA counties. Heroin produced in Mexico is the only heroin available within the Nevada HIDTA. Heroin is characterized as Mexican black tar followed by brown. Some reporting of China White heroin has also occurred although in very limited levels.
- The illicit market for controlled prescription drugs (CPDs) continues to be problematic within the Nevada HIDTA. Nevada's CPD illicit market features both a local and tourist component that attracts not only the opioid abuser, but also distributors who establish drug trafficking organizations associated with cells in other parts of the country.



- Over the past 3 years, the Nevada HIDTA reporting has assessed a moderate to low level threat from cocaine and even a declining market in last year's report. To be guarded, because of increased production and seizures in South America, Nevada HIDTA task force personnel consider cocaine to be a secondary emerging threat.
- In Nevada, the demand for marijuana exceeds all other drug types. Assessments indicate California is the primary source of the illegal marijuana supply to Nevada followed by illegal local cultivation operations and those who purchase legal marijuana and illegally resale or ship the marijuana out of state.
- Assessing the fentanyl threat confirms awareness is up in the law enforcement and medical communities and the overall illicit market for fentanyl in the Nevada HIDTA appears to be still emerging. During 2017, the Nevada HIDTA reported several seizures of fentanyl confirmed by laboratory testing. Some of the seizures include multi-kilogram quantities of fentanyl hydrochloride. Research indicates fentanyl related overdoses increased from the previous year, and several deaths included fentanyl mixed with other drug types.
- Assessment of a money laundering threat appears to indicate some criminals attempt to use the legalized gaming industry for illicit purposes by probing perceived areas of vulnerability within various gaming operations. In specific reference to money laundering, casinos often encounter suspects who use methods that may be somewhat unique to the gaming industry. The cash intensive environment makes it a natural target for criminals to attempt to legitimize their illicit proceeds.

### **III. Nevada HIDTA Region**

The Nevada HIDTA covers the following two counties: Washoe in the north and Clark in the south. Washoe County is home to Nevada's second most populous metropolitan city – Reno. Clark County encompasses Las Vegas as well as Henderson and North Las Vegas, all of which include a significant level of the state's total population. Both counties have the majority of the state's population calling either Washoe or Clark counties home with other counties remaining rural.<sup>1</sup>

The top industries in Nevada include: tourism, gaming and logistics, manufacturing, construction, mining and aerospace. Within the tourism and gaming industries lies several other sub-industry categories that include leisure and hospitality to name just a few. The tourism numbers are staggering in Las Vegas and significant in Reno as well. During 2017, Las Vegas recorded over 42 million visitors, while the Reno/Tahoe airport logged over 4 million for the first time.<sup>2</sup> According to the 2018 United States Census Bureau estimates, the total

---

<sup>1</sup> Governor Certified Population Estimates of Nevada's Counties, Cities and Towns 2017

<sup>2</sup> Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority and Carson Now.org February 26, 2018: Estimates from NV State Demographer, NV Department of Taxation

population of Nevada has risen to roughly 3.06 million, which ranks 32<sup>nd</sup> highest in the country. Additionally, the Census Bureau ranked Nevada as the second state with the largest population percentage increase during the 2016-2017 period.<sup>3</sup>

## **IV. Drug Threats**

### **a. Overview**

Nevada HIDTA uses a survey assessment that is sent out to a number of law enforcement agencies, management, agents, detectives and patrol officers as a part of an assessment of drug threats. The 2018 Nevada HIDTA Drug Threat Assessment Survey (NHDTA) and Nevada HIDTA criminal investigations reveal critical information about Nevada's drug threat.

- Mexico is the primary source country for methamphetamine, heroin and cocaine that enter Nevada by way of Southwest border states, most often from California and Arizona.
- Methamphetamine is the most significant drug threat facing the Nevada HIDTA, and the threat is influenced by high availability, low price and higher purities of 'ICE'.
- The demand for marijuana exceeds all other drug types, and California is the primary source of supply to Nevada of illegal amounts of marijuana. Illegal marijuana in bulk and other forms is often transported into or through Nevada HIDTA counties for local distribution or transported to other cities and states. In Southern Nevada, local illegal marijuana cultivation, primarily through indoor grow operations, is an ongoing concern.
- Prescription drug trafficking and abuse continue to afflict the citizens of Nevada, particularly in Clark County. The supply and demand for these types of drugs is very robust creating a market dynamic that makes it profitable creating the black market. Overdose deaths from prescription drug abuse continue to outpace all other drug types.<sup>4</sup>
- Individual criminals and DTOs use a wide variety of transportation methods to import/export drugs into or from the Nevada HIDTA including automobiles, tractor-trailers, and mail services. The mail services are used to transport smaller quantities of multiple drug types, while the larger volumes of illicit drugs move into and through the area specifically by automobiles and to a lesser extent from tractor-trailers.

A majority of Nevada HIDTA task force members responding to the 2018 NHDTA believe that violent crime associated with drug activity is increasing. The drug trade is inherently violent and drug traffickers at all levels have consistently shown a willingness to use firearms and

---

<sup>3</sup> United States Census Release Number: CB17-210 December 20, 2017

<sup>4</sup> Clark County Coroner's Office

other weapons against competitors as well as law enforcement. Mexico continues to battle high levels of violence directed by the cartels. The government of Mexico reported over 29,000 murders for 2017, a record total that Mexico largely attributes to drug related violence.<sup>5</sup>

## b. Methamphetamine

Methamphetamine continued to be Nevada's number one drug threat in 2017 and all indicators show the same may be true for 2018. Several of the primary indicators used by the Nevada HIDTA Investigative Service Center (ISC) to determine drug threat levels continue to show methamphetamine at or near the top. Mexican DTOs supply large quantities of methamphetamine to the region for local distribution as well as trafficking to other cities and states nationwide. The local product continues to maintain purities levels 90% or above, while pricing remains very low.

### Availability

The majority of law enforcement respondents to the 2018 NHDTS report that methamphetamine ranks at or near the top for availability. This is backed up by increasing year end seizure totals and declining year end price. Nevada HIDTA pricing reflects the average per pound price for methamphetamine in Clark County is approximately \$3,275 - a three year low. By comparison, the average price for a pound of methamphetamine ICE in Los Angeles stands at \$2,750.<sup>6</sup>

| Meth-ICE | 2015        | 2016        | 2017        |
|----------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Pound    | \$3-\$5,000 | \$3-\$4,000 | \$3-\$4,000 |

Methamphetamine seizures along the southwest border have risen over 150% from CY 2012 to CY 2016.<sup>7</sup> In Nevada, methamphetamine seizures have also risen but to a lesser degree. Over the last 3 years, Performance Management Program (PMP) data shows methamphetamine seizure totals have risen approximately 40% and seizures of methamphetamine are second only to marijuana.

| Methamphetamine Seizures for Nevada HIDTA |                      |                               |
|-------------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|
| Year                                      | Quantity Seized (kg) | % increase over previous year |
| 2014                                      | 237                  | --                            |
| 2015                                      | 275                  | 16%                           |
| 2016                                      | 286                  | 4%                            |
| 2017                                      | 384                  | 34%                           |

<sup>5</sup> "Drug violence blamed for..." The Guardian January 21, 2018

<sup>6</sup> LA HIDTA Drug Price List December 2017

<sup>7</sup> DEA National Drug Threat Assessment 2017



Similar to most of the major drug types imported into Nevada from Mexico, Mexican DTOs that import methamphetamine may also traffic other drugs as well such as heroin, fentanyl, cocaine and marijuana. During 2017, Nevada HIDTA sponsored investigations identified at least one Mexican methamphetamine DTO that also imported large quantities of fentanyl.

### Use

At the retail level, methamphetamine is sold primarily by Hispanic and white dealers and to a lesser extent black street gang members to a customer base that is predominately white. According to the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department (LVMPD) (Clark County Detention Center) arrest data, white females account for over 60% of methamphetamine possession arrests involving females, while white males comprise almost 50% of male arrests for methamphetamine.<sup>8</sup>

In Washoe County, methamphetamine arrests fell between 2011 and 2013, then remained low in 2014 before sharply increasing between 2015 and 2017. During 2017, methamphetamine arrest totals reflect record highs and surpassed both heroin and opiate arrests.<sup>9</sup>

| <b>Meth Arrests</b> | <b>2015</b> | <b>2016</b> | <b>2017</b> |
|---------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| <b>LVMPD</b>        | 2,092       | 2,897       | 2,721       |
| <b>WSO</b>          | 80          | 129         | 193         |

The number of methamphetamine-related treatment admissions for Nevada continue to rise, up 30% from 2,182 in 2014 to 2,843 in 2017. According to the Treatment Episode Data Set (TEDS), for primary methamphetamine/amphetamine admissions, the age range with the highest admission rate was persons aged 26-30 year old. The largest percentage of methamphetamine admissions are male, increasing from 50% of the methamphetamine admission population in 2014 to 66% in 2017. The majority of persons admitted for methamphetamine are white; however, this percentage has decreased from 72% in 2014 to 54% in 2017.

| <b>TEDS DATA - NV METH</b> |                       |                       |                       |                       |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
|                            | 2014                  | 2015                  | 2016                  | 2017                  |
| Total                      | 2182                  | 2053                  | 1197                  | 2843                  |
| % of All Treatments        | 27.2 - 2nd to Alcohol | 22.5 - 2nd to Alcohol | 11.2 - 2nd to Alcohol | 20.6 - 2nd to Alcohol |
| GENDER                     |                       |                       |                       |                       |
| Male %                     | 50.1                  | 54                    | 63.7                  | 66                    |
| Female %                   | 49.9                  | 46                    | 36.3                  | 33                    |
| AGE                        |                       |                       |                       |                       |
| Highest %                  | 26-30                 | 26-30                 | 26-30                 | 26-30                 |
| RACE                       |                       |                       |                       |                       |
| Highest % - White          | 72                    | 70                    | 57.1                  | 54.1                  |

\*Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration Treatment Episode Date Set (TEDS)

<sup>8</sup> LVMPD Clark County Detention Records

<sup>9</sup> Washoe County SO March 2018

Local treatment admission statistics provided directly from a West Care Treatment facility in Las Vegas further corroborate a substantial increase in methamphetamine admissions in the area as depicted in the chart below. (West Care is one of the largest treatment facilities in the Las Vegas area.)

| CATEGORY               | FY 2013–<br>14<br>(n = 3,068) | FY 2014-15<br>(n=4,056) | FY 2015-16<br>(n=4,874) |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Methamphetamine</b> | 13%                           | 16%                     | 21%                     |

**\*WestCare Treatment Admissions.**

Methamphetamine continues to be one of the deadliest street drugs abused in the Nevada HIDTA. Clark County Coroner's Office statistics collected for the time period of 2012 through 2017 indicate that methamphetamine is the most prevalent illicit drug encountered in overdose deaths. Furthermore, based on the information depicted in the chart below, the percentage of overdose deaths attributed at least partially to methamphetamine has increased twofold over the last five years (20% in 2012 vs. 45% in 2017)

| <b>Source: CCCO</b>    | <b>2012</b> | <b>2013</b> | <b>2014</b> | <b>2015</b> | <b>2016</b> | <b>2017</b> |
|------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| <b>ALL DRUGS</b>       | 539         | 533         | 519         | 629         | 647         | 616         |
| <b>METHAMPHETAMINE</b> | 111         | 131         | 165         | 221         | 262         | 277         |
| <b>%</b>               | 20%         | 24%         | 32%         | 35%         | 40%         | 45%         |

\*Clark County Coroner's Office Statistics provided by LVMPD

A significant 2018 report from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention indicates Nevada's amphetamine death rate is highest in the nation and soon will eclipse the state's prescription opioid death rate if current trends continue. In April of 2018, the Las Vegas Review-Journal cited this report from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention that says the death rate in Nevada attributed to "psychostimulants" - a class of drugs that includes methamphetamine, ecstasy and ADHD prescription drugs like Adderall and Ritalin - hit 7.5 per 100,000 in 2016. That was up nearly 32 percent from 2015. The report studied data from 31 states and Washington, D.C.<sup>10</sup>

### **Transportation**

Federal agency reporting combined with other HIDTA reporting assesses that primary methamphetamine trafficking routes link the southern border with western states via interstates leading to major cities in Nevada. Nevada HIDTA assessments indicate these DTOs predominantly use the interstate system to move larger quantities of methamphetamine into and through the state. According to the 2018 NHDTs, over 90% of responders report that DTOs utilize passenger vehicles to transport methamphetamine into and through the Nevada HIDTA. The concealment method most frequently observed is the use of concealed traps or compartments in vehicles traveling from California or Arizona. Some specific examples

<sup>10</sup> "Report: Nevada's death rate from meth, stimulants lead the U.S." Associated Press April 2018



include: methamphetamine concealed in after-market compartments located underneath the driver and front passenger seats of a passenger vehicle, and after-market compartments located in the dash of passenger vehicles behind the glove compartment and gas tanks.

Drug traffickers also transport smaller quantities of methamphetamine from Nevada to other cities and states nationwide via the postal services. Several seizures of

methamphetamine, ranging from multi-ounce to multi-pound quantities, were seized from parcel shipping services such as Fed-Ex, DHL and UPS. Destinations of these shipments include: Columbus, OH; Tulsa, OK; Alexandria, LA; East Point, GA; Mount Vernon, IL; Chicago, IL; Peoria, IL; Kalamazoo, MI; Philadelphia, PA; Mount Solon, VA; New York, NY; Tampa, FL; Riverview, FL; Pinellas Park, FL; Clearwater, FL. A separate investigation also shows pound quantities destined for Australia. Some of the parcel concealment methods included methamphetamine concealed in baby powder bottles, jars of peanut butter, and within sealed cans of Venison.

### **Production**

The clandestine manufacturing of methamphetamine in Nevada is almost nonexistent, because the regional market is saturated with high grade methamphetamine manufactured in and imported from Mexico. Mexican DTO's are known to transport methamphetamine in solution into the Nevada HIDTA, and at least one recent investigation reported on the discovery of a methamphetamine conversion lab site along with several pounds of methamphetamine in solution. In addition to the methamphetamine in solution, the location included drying pans and other paraphernalia consistent with a large scale operation.

- ***Intelligence Gap***

- 1.) *What is the impact in situations where Mexican DTOs are comingling fentanyl with methamphetamine?*
- 2.) *To what extent is methamphetamine in solution transiting through or destined for the Nevada HIDTA designated area?*

### **c. Heroin**

Next to methamphetamine, heroin is widely considered as a primary drug threat to the Nevada HIDTA. Last year, the Nevada HIDTA reported the threat from heroin trafficking and abuse continued to rise, but a year-end review in 2017 suggests a stable market without further increase. Nevada HIDTA task forces continue to encounter heroin there are some indicators suggesting the previous 2 year upward trend may be slowing down. More time, information and assessments are needed to clearly demonstrate if this is a trend.

### **Availability**

Heroin produced in Mexico is the only heroin available within the Nevada HIDTA, with the two types characterized as Mexican black tar followed by brown. Some reporting of 'China



White' heroin has also occurred, but after laboratory analysis two examples from both Northern and Southern Nevada in 2017, alleged 'China White' seizures turned out to be fentanyl or fentanyl analogues.

Early in 2017, the Northern Nevada Drug Task Force (NNDTF) began to investigate a recent rise in overdose deaths in Washoe County, NV. The increase was believed to be due to heroin mixed with fentanyl, street named "China White". During an investigation a significant quantity of the suspected "China White" was seized. Preliminary laboratory results from the testing of a small portion of the seizure identified the drugs as fentanyl mixed with the synthetic opioid U-47700.

In November of 2016, the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) placed the synthetic opioid U-47700 onto Schedule I of the Controlled Substances Act. DEA received reports indicating at least 46 confirmed fatalities nationwide associated with U-47700 during fiscal year 2016. Over the same period, DEA received over 85 reports from state and local forensic laboratories of U-47700 submissions.<sup>11</sup>

During a traffic stop during April of 2017, the Southern Nevada Interdiction Task Force (SNITF) seized approximately 8 kilograms of suspected 'China White' heroin from a vehicle on Interstate 15. The drugs were originally thought to be heroin; however, laboratory analysis results later confirmed the drugs were fentanyl.

Fentanyl mixed with U47700



Fentanyl hcl from gas tank



According to the DEA's National Drug Threat Assessment for 2017, 5 of 9 southwest border corridors reported a decrease in heroin seizures during CY 2016 vs. CY 2015. Additionally, the San Diego, California and Tucson, Arizona corridors reported the highest amount of heroin seizures during CY 2016.<sup>12</sup> Both sets of data are relevant to Nevada for the following reasons:

- Heroin seizures dropped in Nevada during 2017
- California and Arizona are the main domestic sources for heroin in Nevada

Heroin investigations continue to report kilogram quantities of heroin transiting the area in conjunction with other drug types, but as mentioned, actual seizure numbers declined by

---

<sup>11</sup> DEA National Drug Threat Assessment

<sup>12</sup> DEA National Drug Threat Assessment

nearly 50% during 2017.<sup>13</sup> Availability is highlighted by a drop in seizures, slight increase in price but a significant threat level as reported by law enforcement.

| Heroin Seizures for Nevada HIDTA |                      |                               |
|----------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|
| Year                             | Quantity Seized (kg) | % increase over previous year |
| 2014                             | 28                   | --                            |
| 2015                             | 77                   | 175%                          |
| 2016                             | 82                   | 6%                            |
| 2017                             | 37                   | -55%                          |

Clark County

| Heroin     | 2015          | 2016          | 2017          |
|------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Tar (kg)   | \$20-\$26,000 | \$24-\$30,000 | \$26-\$31,000 |
| Brown (kg) | \$18-\$25,000 | \$22-\$31,000 | \$21-\$33,000 |

## Use

Heroin abuse remains a major health and safety concern for Nevada and the nation. Heroin abuse can often be deadly or lead to addiction, other criminal activity, broken families, homelessness and disease. From the law enforcement perspective, heroin availability and use remain prevalent as reported in the NHDTS for 2017 as well as from arrest data for both Clark and Washoe Counties. Over the last two years, the LVMPD has reported an increase in heroin related arrests and a 3 year high in 2017, while Washoe County reports an increase in each of the past 3 years. Beginning in 2014, Washoe County heroin arrests began to increase sharply and more than doubled from 2014 by the end of 2016.<sup>14</sup>

| <i>Heroin Arrests</i> | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 |
|-----------------------|------|------|------|
| <i>LVMPD</i>          | 508  | 637  | 729  |
| <i>WSO</i>            | 148  | 191  | 185  |

For years, available treatment data in Nevada has not reflected widespread abuse in Nevada HIDTA counties; however, last year the Nevada HIDTA reported that future reporting years were likely to show increases in treatment admissions and overdose deaths as this data caught up to the increasing market for heroin within the Nevada HIDTA. Statewide treatment admissions for heroin range from 11-14% from 2013 through 2015; however, TEDS has revised its percentage for 2015 down to 10%, and this percentage total remains close to the same through 2017.<sup>15</sup> Contrast this statewide information with some local reporting from a

<sup>13</sup> Nevada HIDTA PMP

<sup>14</sup> LVMPD and Washoe County SO

<sup>15</sup> TEDS

West Care treatment facility in Clark County, and the perspective changes. From 2013-2016, one local WestCare facility reflects treatment admissions for heroin ranging from 23% to 26% during the same time through 2016. For this particular WestCare facility alone, heroin treatment admissions outpace methamphetamine and are second only to alcohol.<sup>16</sup>

Heroin related overdose deaths in Clark County have fluctuated around 70-79 over the last 3 years. The data reflects a steady increase beginning in 2011 and continuing through 2015, the last and most dramatic year for the increase. For 2017, the total numbers match 2015 and reflect the highest total over the last 10 years.<sup>17</sup>

In Northern Nevada, the Washoe County Coroner's Office reports 32 heroin related overdose deaths for 2017, and 5 of these deaths include heroin with fentanyl and/or fentanyl analogues. For heroin related deaths unaccompanied by other drug types, the numbers are far less but have shown a slight and steady increase from 2014 through 2016.<sup>18</sup>

### **Transportation**

Like most of the major drug threats to the Nevada HIDTA, heroin is primarily transported from the southwest border into Nevada within automobiles. Concealment methods may vary, but several heroin seizures during 2017 reflect the use of after-market hidden compartments used to hide multi-pound or kilogram quantities of heroin. Several responses to the 2017 NHDTS also report that semi-truck/ tractor trailers are used to transport heroin into the Nevada HIDTA; however, investigative reporting is limited to heroin trans-shipment outside of the HIDTA region. Additionally, there are no known heroin seizures from semi-truck/ tractor trailers linked to investigations in Nevada.

Since April of 2016, the Nevada HIDTA has reported on larger drug seizures at the McCarran International Airport in Las Vegas, Nevada. The reporting has involved couriers, who travel to Las Vegas from outside the area, attempting to smuggle kilogram quantities of either heroin or cocaine to destinations on the east coast. This pattern continued in 2017, though to a lesser known extent.

During one example, the Southern Nevada Interdiction Task Force (SNITF) seized multi-kilogram quantities of heroin from checked luggage. SNITF personnel observed one suitcase that contained two flat panels wrapped in black tape and hot glued into the suitcase under the nylon liner. A cut in one of the packages exposed brown powder appearing to be heroin, which also field tested positive for heroin.



---

<sup>16</sup> West Care Treatment Center

<sup>17</sup> Clark County Coroner's Office

<sup>18</sup> Washoe County Coroner's Office



- **Intelligence Gap**

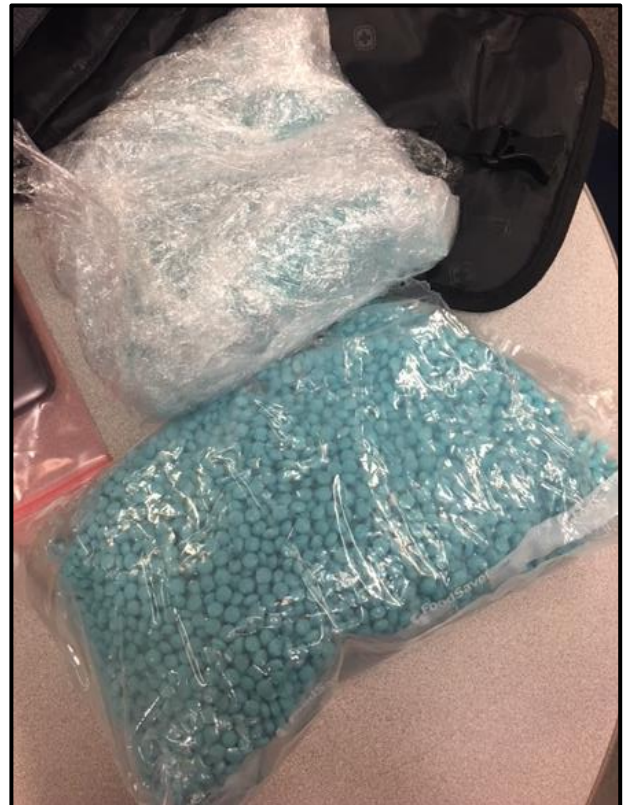
- 1.) *What will the impact on the heroin market in Nevada be resulting from the implementation of new strategies and new Nevada laws targeting CPDs.*
- 2.) *The scope of local, regional and international DTO engagement in transportation and distribution from the Nevada HIDTA to other designated areas.*
- 3.) *The illicit drug market impact of fentanyl marketed as 'China White'.*

#### **d. Controlled Prescription Drugs**

The black market for prescription opioids continues to be a significant threat to the Nevada HIDTA. Several respondents to the NHDTs believe that controlled prescription drugs (CPD's) are one of the primary threats, and several Nevada HIDTA sponsored investigations continue to show a significant supply and demand for CPDs both locally and regionally.

##### **Availability**

Over the course of several years, Nevada HIDTA investigations have shown that prescription opioids are obtainable through several methods including: overprescribing physicians, pharmacy thefts, and more recently fake prescription medications. The market remains stable and significant based on illicit pricing, reported black market availability and investigations continue to show an unwavering supply. The low end street price for an individual 30mg oxycodone pill has hovered around \$13 in Las Vegas for the last several years, but the same pill can be sold for 3 to 10 times that amount in other parts of the country.



The Nevada opioid prescription rate has steadily increased from 2013, 78.1 per 100 residents, to 2016, 87.5 per 100 residents, which exceeded the nationwide rate of 66.5. In Nevada, Nye County had the highest rate of 155.6 per 100 residents, which equated to more than one prescription per person, while Clark County had a rate of 84.3 per 100 residents.<sup>19</sup> Statistical data for prescription painkillers sold, units prescribed per 100,000 patients, show the following for Nevada:

- 2<sup>nd</sup> highest state in the nation for hydrocodone and oxycodone
- 4<sup>th</sup> highest for methadone, and 7<sup>th</sup> highest for codeine.<sup>20</sup>

<sup>19</sup> Las Vegas Review Journal: Opioid deaths in Nevada decline, but hospitalizations rise, data show, September 25, 2017

<sup>20</sup> State of Nevada Plan to Reduce Prescription Drug Abuse

As a way to combat the opioid epidemic through the comprehensive collection of related data, the Nevada Legislature passed Assembly Bill 474 effective January 1, 2018. The bill allows for Nevada to create a statewide opioid database and to sanction practitioners who inappropriately prescribe opioids with disciplinary actions.<sup>21</sup>

Investigations continue to show that some Nevada area physicians have a tendency to overprescribe medication to patients or maintain a willingness to prescribe medications without a legitimate medical necessity. A recent investigation found that a Las Vegas area doctor was prescribing codeine cough syrup to patients without a medical need and many were tied to area street gangs. In this instance, the doctor was not authorized to prescribe any Schedule I-IV narcotics and was on probation with the Nevada state medical board.



In Las Vegas, codeine cough syrup on the black market goes for \$350 to \$650 per 16 oz. bottle; however, in the southern region of the United States the price can skyrocket to \$1,000 per bottle. Therefore, it is believed that codeine cough syrup is diverted from the West Coast and Las Vegas to the South, particularly Houston, Texas, and Atlanta, Georgia. In 2014, over 2.85 million pints of Actavis, a brand of promethazine with codeine syrup, was sold over the social media site Instagram prior to its production being discontinued due to abuse.<sup>22</sup>

From another case example in the north, a multi-agency investigation in Northern Nevada found that an Elko County area cardiologist had been prescribing medication to patients without medical justification or conducting necessary medical examinations. According to a 39-count indictment that was unsealed in December of 2017, this cardiologist was accused of routinely prescribing fentanyl, hydrocodone, and oxycodone for his patients without a legitimate medical purpose from May 2014 to September 2017.<sup>23</sup> Not only did several of the cardiologist's patients die of an overdose, but the cardiologist also fraudulently billed Medicare and Medicaid for services not rendered to patients.

Assessing the threat revealed there are unscrupulous doctors routinely work in conjunction with rogue pharmacies. Oftentimes, physicians will recommend patients to a particular pharmacy that knowingly fill prescriptions by overprescribing doctors. On other occasions, distribution groups engage in pharmacy shopping to fill prescriptions. Both methods illustrate that pharmacies play a vital role in the black market of pharmaceutical diversion.

---

<sup>21</sup> Las Vegas Review Journal: Opioid deaths in Nevada decline, but hospitalizations rise, data show, September 25, 2017

<sup>22</sup> Instagram Provides an Illegal Market for "Lean", January 16, 2014

<sup>23</sup> KOLO 8 News Now December 12, 2017

DEA data shows the top five controlled substances Nevada pharmacies ordered from distributors in 2015 and 2016 were oxycodone, hydrocodone, morphine, codeine, and amphetamine. Data for fiscal year 2017 shows the top five controlled substances ordered were oxycodone, hydrocodone, morphine, amphetamine, and codeine<sup>24</sup>.

|                                 | 2015                   |                  | 2016                   |                  | 2017*                  |                  |
|---------------------------------|------------------------|------------------|------------------------|------------------|------------------------|------------------|
| <b>CONTROLLED<br/>SUBSTANCE</b> | <b>TOTAL<br/>GRAMS</b> | <b>RANK**</b>    | <b>TOTAL<br/>GRAMS</b> | <b>RANK**</b>    | <b>TOTAL<br/>GRAMS</b> | <b>RANK**</b>    |
| <i>Oxycodone</i>                | 739,775.13             | 4 <sup>th</sup>  | 726,683.62             | 4 <sup>th</sup>  | 507,689.97             | 5 <sup>th</sup>  |
| <i>Hydrocodone</i>              | 414,640.02             | 10 <sup>th</sup> | 387,446.64             | 11 <sup>th</sup> | 265,151.85             | 11 <sup>th</sup> |
| <i>Morphine</i>                 | 267,045.76             | 4 <sup>th</sup>  | 247,865.42             | 4 <sup>th</sup>  | 159,456.39             | 5 <sup>th</sup>  |
| <i>Codeine</i>                  | 129,581.37             | 18 <sup>th</sup> | 112,925.72             | 19 <sup>th</sup> | 86,639.47              | 22 <sup>nd</sup> |
| <i>Amphetamine</i>              | 83,340.78              | 49 <sup>th</sup> | 93,146.95              | 49 <sup>th</sup> | 77,027.70              | 49 <sup>th</sup> |

\* Data consists of January 1, 2017 through September 30, 2017

\*\*Depicts the cumulative consumption ranking for the entire United States and its territories in grams per 100,000 population information from 2010, and includes controlled substances ordered from pharmacies, hospitals, practitioners, teaching institutions, mid-level practitioners, and narcotic treatment programs.

Prescription drugs diverted illegally through pharmacy break-ins continues to be a major concern for law enforcement. In 2016, 62% of reported prescription drug thefts occurred at pharmacies, while 28% occurred at hospitals, whereas 2017 saw a slight decrease with 60% of thefts occurring at pharmacies, and 32% of thefts occurring at hospitals. The remainder of thefts occurred at practitioner offices and at the pharmaceutical distributor level<sup>25</sup>. Additionally, armed robberies have increased since 2013, although the number of armed robberies slightly decreased in 2017. Night break-ins, on the other hand, have dramatically increased nine fold from 2015 to 2017. In 2017, there were 19 reported pharmacy break-ins in the Las Vegas area, in which the majority of these break-ins occurred in the last half of 2017.<sup>26</sup>

From 2013 through 2016, hydrocodone was the top drug reported stolen, followed by oxycodone, morphine, alprazolam, and hydromorphone. However, 2017 saw a shift in drugs reported stolen with oxycodone being the top drug stolen, followed by hydrocodone, codeine, morphine, and hydromorphone.<sup>27</sup> Due to the wide variety of drugs taken, it is believed that individuals breaking into pharmacies target oxycodone and hydrocodone, but also take whatever medication they may encounter.

<sup>24</sup> Drug Enforcement Administration's Automated Reports and Consolidated Ordering System (ARCOS)

<sup>25</sup> Drug Enforcement Administration's Drug Theft Loss Database

<sup>26</sup> Drug Enforcement Administration's Drug Theft Loss Database

<sup>27</sup> Drug Enforcement Administration's Drug Theft Loss Database



Recent investigations have shown the presence of counterfeit prescription medications in the Las Vegas area. Some local drug traffickers have purchased pill presses, along with binding materials and parts, to make their own pills. Other counterfeit pills, particularly counterfeit oxycodone tablets, are trafficked through other states to Nevada from Mexico. Information derived from neighboring state seizures suggests that the counterfeit pills produced in Mexico also contain fentanyl.

## Use

Hospitalization data, although dependent upon the way physicians code a visit, also increased throughout the years. From 2010 to 2016, emergency department encounters for heroin and prescription drugs increased significantly by 136%, from 2,963 emergency room encounters in 2010 to 7,495 encounters in 2016.<sup>28</sup> Additionally, Naloxone was administered at the hospital on 20.7% of emergency department encounters seen with opioid poisoning in 2016<sup>29</sup>. In reference to ethnicity and age range among the ER visits, assessments reveal almost three quarters of ER encounters were white/Caucasians, followed by African Americans and Hispanics, while the majority ranged in age from 25 to 64.<sup>30</sup>

Treatment facilities have reported that, although they provide treatment for prescription drug abusers, the majority of patients seek treatment for heroin. However, counseling sessions have determined that many of the heroin patients began abusing prescription drugs first before switching to heroin for a lower cost and stronger effects.

According to TEDS data for the state of Nevada in 2016, 199 patients out of 9,381 patients sought treatment for non-heroin opioid addiction. Of these 199 patients, just over half were males, while the majority of admissions ranged from 21 to 35 years of age.<sup>31</sup>

A startling 2010 statistic found that Nevada had the fourth highest drug overdose mortality rate in the United States, and the majority of overdose deaths stemmed from prescription drugs. This 2010 overdose rate, 20.7 per 100,000 residents, increased by 80 percent from the 1999 rate of 11.5 per 100,000.<sup>32</sup> Opioid related overdose deaths in Nevada have decreased by 12% from 2010 to 2016 but still average 7 deaths per week. The vast majority, 59%, of opioid related deaths were caused by natural and semi-synthetic opioids in 2016.<sup>33</sup> Assessments indicate eighty-three percent of 2016 overdose victims were Caucasians, followed by 8% African-American, and 7% Hispanics. Over 200 victims were male, while 175

---

<sup>28</sup> Nevada Opioid Surveillance Report

<sup>29</sup> The Scope of Opioid Use in Nevada, 2016

<sup>30</sup> Nevada Opioid Surveillance Report

<sup>31</sup> TEDS

<sup>32</sup> Prescription Drug Abuse 2013: Strategies to Stop the Epidemic from the Trust of America's Health, October 2013

<sup>33</sup> The Scope of Opioid Use in Nevada, 2016

victims were female.<sup>34</sup> Most of the deaths occurred in victims ranging between 45 and 54 years of age.<sup>35</sup>

### **Transportation**

Current investigative information and NHDTS survey respondents report that DTOs and individual criminals primarily use automobiles and the parcel services to transport CPDs to other destinations. According to PMP data from the Southern Nevada Interdiction Task Force (SNITF), there were 47 CPD related seizures during 2017 and 46 of them were parcel seizures. Other regional investigative data show CPD pills, particularly oxycodone tablets, are shipped via U.S. Postal Service, Federal Express, and UPS, sometimes disguised as candy, aspirin, or concealed inside other items. Additionally, local traffickers have traveled outside of the state to deliver pills via personal and rental vehicles, and multiple out-of-state organizations have sent couriers via commercial air to Las Vegas to pick up CPDs. In this example, couriers most often return to their destination right after delivery or spend less than 24 hours in Las Vegas.

The illicit CPD environment in Nevada HIDTA counties includes a multi-level threat in which tourism attracts not only abusers but also traffickers to the area who can establish drug trafficking operations associated with pre-existing distribution cells in other parts of the country. Several recent investigations have also shown that some Medicaid patients legally obtained prescriptions, but then sell their medications to local drug traffickers who can then resell the medication.

- ***Intelligence Gap***

- 1.) *The illicit drug market impact in the Nevada HIDTA designated area resulting from prescription and synthetic opioid trafficking on the dark web.*
- 2.) *The illicit drug market impact in the Nevada HIDTA designated area resulting from counterfeit CPD's arriving from Mexico.*
- 3.) *What locations or social media platforms are used by illicit CPD buyers from outside of the Nevada HIDTA designated area who wish to develop sources of supply?*

## **e. Cocaine**

### **Availability**

Mexican DTOs supply the majority of available cocaine to the Nevada HIDTA from Mexico through the Southwest Border, primarily into Southern California and Arizona. The Southwest Border (SWB) remains the key entry point for cocaine smuggled into the United States and Nevada. Unlike Nevada's methamphetamine and heroin markets, the regional market for cocaine has been moving opposite of at least one nearby domestic source area. For the last 3 years, the Nevada HIDTA has reported a comparative low level threat from cocaine and most recently a market in a state of decline. Contrast that with a domestic source area for

---

<sup>34</sup> National Drug Threat Assessment 2017-DEA

<sup>35</sup> National Drug Threat Assessment 2017-DEA

cocaine in Los Angeles, where the DEA reports cocaine availability during the first half of 2016 was considered 'high'.<sup>36</sup> In years past, cocaine trafficking and abuse has significantly impacted the Nevada HIDTA, but the regional market has not rebounded since the major declines in cocaine cultivation.

DEA reports that out of all the drugs surveyed in the National Drug Threat Assessment during 2017, cocaine received the second lowest percentage (3.2%) of nationwide responses identifying it as the greatest drug threat.<sup>37</sup> Likewise, a majority of respondents to the NHDTs report that cocaine demand and availability continue to be moderate during 2017. A slight drop in price coupled with a significant increase in cocaine seizures last year suggest that a resurgence may be forthcoming; however, moderate to no change in treatment admissions and cocaine related overdose deaths counterbalance the other threat indicators.

| Cocaine   | 2015          | 2016          | 2017          |
|-----------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Kilograms | \$22-\$26,000 | \$27-\$32,000 | \$25-\$29,000 |

Mexican DTOs supply the majority of available cocaine to the Nevada HIDTA from Mexico through the SWB, primarily into Southern California and Arizona. Mexican DTOs are known to supply cocaine to local African-American and Hispanic DTO members, who may also belong to street gangs. This interaction occurs in Northern and Southern Nevada, where African-Americans remain as the primary distributors of crack cocaine. In Northern Nevada, African-American street gang members have historically traveled to the Reno area from Central and Northern California to distribute cocaine out of low end motel/hotels.

The Southwest Border (SWB) remains the key entry point for cocaine smuggled into the United States and Nevada. Customs and Border Protection's (CBP) cocaine seizures along the SWB increased 20 percent between 2015 and 2016, from 9,018 kilograms (kg) to 10,839 kg, the most cocaine seized along the SWB since at least 2011. The seizures from 2016 marks the second consecutive year there was an increase in seizures along the SWB, following a period of decline between 2013 and 2014.<sup>38</sup>

The Nevada HIDTA reports a significant increase in cocaine seizures during 2017, but a closer examination of factors contributing to the total indicates minimal change to the overall pattern. Last year, the Nevada HIDTA reported cocaine seizure totals at a record low, but the previous year's total was inflated by one significant seizure that occurred outside of the area. A similar situation has taken place in 2017. The seizure total of 176 kilograms was significantly bolstered by an approximate 90 kilogram interdiction seizure destined for another city and state. During 2017, the Nevada HIDTA interdiction teams accounted for approximately 65%

---

<sup>36</sup> National Drug Threat Assessment 2017 - DEA

<sup>37</sup> National Drug Threat Assessment 2017 - DEA

<sup>38</sup> "Columbian Cocaine Production Expansion..." DEA Intelligence Brief August 2017



of the cocaine seizure total, which suggests the majority of seizures were destined for areas outside of the Nevada HIDTA market.

### **Use**

Statewide treatment admissions for cocaine have remained at low levels for the past several years in comparison to other drug types such as methamphetamine, heroin, marijuana and other opiates; however, cocaine related overdose deaths began to increase in 2015 and remained higher in 2016 than the previous 3 year totals from 2012-2014.<sup>39</sup> Statewide treatment admissions for cocaine varies little from some local data. According to TEDS, treatment admissions for cocaine remained at 3% or lower over the last 3 years, and West Care data from one Clark County location ranges from .7 to 1% during the same time period.

Last year, the Nevada HIDTA reported that a Mexican DTO operating in the Las Vegas area was responsible for supplying cocaine and fentanyl to the Southeastern United States. The DTO was known to use various mail services to send pound and kilogram quantities of methamphetamine and cocaine, and some of these same shipments included large amounts of fentanyl. No further reporting on cocaine trafficking in conjunction with fentanyl occurred during the current year; however, overdose fatalities where both drugs were present increased to 10 in Clark County during 2017.<sup>40</sup>

Statewide treatment admissions for cocaine varies little from some local data. According to TEDS, treatment admissions for cocaine remained at 3% or lower over the last 3 years, and West Care data from one Clark County location ranges from .7 to 1% during the same time period.<sup>41</sup>

### **Transportation**

Cocaine transportation methods have remained fairly consistent, ranging from tractor-trailers for large loads to parcels for smaller amounts. NHDTs respondents report the following cocaine transportation methods: passenger vehicle, tractor-trailer, U.S. mail services and buses. Investigative reporting reflects some of these same methods, including one seizure involving a tractor-trailer.

Several kilogram quantity seizures were made at the Las Vegas airport over the last 2 years, while another came from the postal services and involved a multi-kilogram shipment to Florida that also contained quantities of fentanyl. Some of the seizures involving commercial air travel included couriers, who traveled from California by Greyhound bus before departing Las Vegas via commercial air to east coast destinations. The cocaine was concealed in checked luggage.

---

<sup>39</sup> TEDS & Clark County Coroner

<sup>40</sup> Clark County Coroner's Office

<sup>41</sup> TEDS & Clark County Coroner

- ***Intelligence Gap***

- 1.) *The illicit drug market impact in the Nevada HIDTA resulting from increasing transit of cocaine from Mexico and domestic source cities.*
- 2.) *What is the impact of the regional preference for methamphetamine on the cocaine market in the Nevada HIDTA designated area?*
- 3.) *Will Mexican DTOs traffic cocaine comingled with fentanyl on an increasing basis during the next reporting period?*

**f. Marijuana**

Nevada has been a part of the national movement toward marijuana legalization for well over a decade. During 2001, Nevada became the ninth state to enact a medical marijuana law in the United States. The law allowed patients suffering from AIDS, cancer, glaucoma and other illnesses to use marijuana as long as they receive written permission from a doctor. The patients were permitted to grow as many as seven marijuana plants if they met state requirements. As of April 1, 2014, Nevada began issuing a limited amount of licenses to open dispensaries for the purpose of selling medical marijuana to registered medical marijuana cardholders. By the end of 2016, Northern Nevada had 9 certified medical marijuana dispensaries, while Southern Nevada had a total of 40.

During November of 2016, Nevada voters legalized the use of recreational marijuana. Nevada is now one of 8 states with legalized marijuana for recreational use. Some of the major points of the new Nevada law are as follows for persons 21 and over:

- It is lawful to possess 1 ounce or less of marijuana
- Or 1/8 ounce concentrated marijuana, such as oils, edibles or drinks
- It is lawful to possess marijuana paraphernalia
- It is illegal to smoke or consume marijuana in a public place or moving vehicle

Currently, Nevada has a total of 62 legal marijuana dispensaries, with all but 1 authorized for both recreational and medical sales of marijuana products.

Illegal Marijuana trafficking, distribution and abuse is a considerable concern in Nevada, yet the drug is not categorized as a top level threat. This is also consistent with national reporting where only about 6% of respondents to the DEA National Drug Threat Survey reported marijuana as their greatest drug threat.<sup>i</sup> Despite legalization for recreational use beginning in Nevada during 2016, the illicit market is significant and appears to be expanding in some areas. Additionally, in Southern Nevada there may be a nexus between drug related violent crime and marijuana. According to the Southern Nevada Counter-Terrorism Center (SNCTC), 58% of the drug related murders in Clark County involved marijuana in 2017. This is a slight increase from 2016, when 54% of the drug related murders involved marijuana.<sup>42</sup>

---

<sup>42</sup> "2017 Homicide Annual Report" SNCTC

## **Availability**

The Nevada HIDTA illicit marijuana market is comprised of the following: importation from California and Mexico; local production from indoor grow operations and THC extraction labs; and some outdoor cultivation to an unknown extent. Historically, Mexico and California have supplied Nevada with illicit marijuana primarily cultivated in illegal outdoor grows. For more than a decade, the Mexican drug cartels have been illegally growing marijuana in the forests of the United States, and law enforcement agencies have had mixed success destroying these illicit crops. Assessments point to California as the epicenter of black-market marijuana in the U.S., with estimates of over 90% of the country's illegal marijuana farms. The authorities say they're finding cartel-affiliated marijuana on government-owned lands in states including Oregon, Utah, Washington, Nevada and Arizona, all of which permit some form of medical marijuana.

The demand for marijuana with higher levels of THC has led to the rise of THC illegal extraction labs, especially in California. These labs produce THC levels that are typically much higher than the average marijuana plant, or even in plants produced from better quality indoor grow operations. The final product can be used during vaping or in e-cigarettes. Cannabis oil concentrates have become popular due to their potency and efficient delivery of medical effects, or a high. Concentrates, which come in the form of waxes, liquids, and what the marijuana industry calls shatter or butter, can be vaporized or dabbed.<sup>43</sup>

DEA reports that for CY 2016, 75% of the THC extraction labs reported nationwide came from California.<sup>44</sup> According to the Western States Information Network (WSIN), law enforcement agencies encountered 296 THC labs in Northern California from 2014-2016. Fifty of these labs led to explosions and fires.<sup>45</sup>

After Colorado implemented the law allowing recreational sales in 2014, law enforcement reported increasing levels of illegal marijuana transiting through Northern Nevada from California to Colorado by auto or parcel, and even some export from Southern Nevada to Colorado. Over 40% of NHDTs respondents report the illegal sale of marijuana/marijuana products increased during 2017 from 2016.

In Southern Nevada, one example of illicit marijuana traffickers attempting to exploit legalization and public perception is through the illegal sale of marijuana at "Pop Up" parties. These parties are underground events where multiple vendors set up in a venue to sell marijuana products and other illicit drugs on the black market.

---

<sup>43</sup> "The marijuana business that's becoming a brand name" Inc.com

<sup>44</sup> National Drug Threat Assessment DEA 2017

<sup>45</sup> "Hash Oil Labs – When Will It End?" Central Valley HIDTA May 2017



Over the last 3 years, the Nevada HIDTA has also reported on numerous investigations into illegal marijuana delivery services. These businesses include some of the following similarities:

- Suspects with current or previous ties to California
- Internet advertising
- Ties to illegal marijuana indoor grow operations or THC extraction labs

While availability for illegal marijuana may rising, some law enforcement data used to determine the market, including arrests and indoor grow seizures, has steadily decreased over the past 5 years. Normally, this type of downward trend would suggest a positive impact on the illicit market; however, assessing illegal marijuana as a drug threat becomes an anomaly due to state legalization and public perception followed by law enforcement and prosecutorial response.

The price for illegal marijuana over 50% produced from illegal indoor grows in Clark County is at an all-time low. Over the last 5 years, the low end of the price range for a pound of locally produced illegal marijuana has decreased from \$3,200 in 2013 to \$1,500 in 2017. Yet during this same time period, indoor grow seizures have tumbled by over 80% from over 100 in 2013 to just 15 in 2017. Additionally, marijuana related arrests have plunged more than 50% from over 1,600 in 2013 to less than 750 in 2017 in Clark County.<sup>46</sup>

Clark County

| Indoor MJ | 2015        | 2016        | 2017        |
|-----------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Pound     | \$2-\$5,000 | \$3-\$5,000 | \$2-\$5,000 |

## Use

As referenced earlier, marijuana is the drug of choice in Nevada and is available in many different forms including leaf, oil and edibles, both legal and illegal amounts. Recent reporting reflects some marijuana users are concealing and smoking the ‘hash oil’ extracted from the marijuana plant within E-cigarettes, and the liquid marijuana or oil is one of the more popular forms available on the black market.

## Transportation

Almost 70% of NHDTS respondents report passenger vehicles as the primary method used to transport illegal marijuana through the Nevada HIDTA followed by mail delivery services and tractor trailers. Many of these same transportation methods are reported by DEA nationally along with car haulers, trains and buses.<sup>47</sup>

In Washoe County, the Northern Nevada Interdiction Task Force reports large quantities of illicit marijuana transiting the area in vehicles, heading east from Northern and Central California. Additionally, many of these marijuana shipments are believed to originate from indoor grow operations. Vehicles transporting marijuana and marijuana edibles are also

<sup>46</sup> LVMPD

<sup>47</sup> “National Drug Threat Assessment” DEA 2017

encountered in Southern Nevada. One recent highway interdiction stop tied to Nevada revealed the driver was attempting to transport over 170 pounds of marijuana products, including in excess of 10 packages of THC ‘vape’ cartridges.

Assessments indicate an increase in marijuana parcel seizures containing illegal/legal marijuana was reported during 2017. After a steady decline in marijuana parcel seizures in Clark County from 2013 through 2015, a significant drop occurred in 2016 followed by a record high in 2017. Additionally, over 85% of all parcel seizures in Southern Nevada contained marijuana during 2017, and an increasing amount appeared to contain marijuana legally purchased from local dispensaries.<sup>48</sup> This situation is difficult to assess as many factors can change seizure numbers such as increased enforcement or shippers earmarking the package as suspicious.



*Marijuana ‘Vape’ Cartridges*

### **Production/Cultivation**

Illicit marijuana production in the Nevada HIDTA is driven by indoor grow operations, THC extraction labs and outdoor cultivation. A threat remains in Southern Nevada from illegal indoor marijuana operations despite declining seizure numbers. These criminal operations are often located in residential areas and pose serious threats to neighborhoods due to a possibility of increased potential for crime and violence, property damage and environmental impact.

The second component to production is the unlawful THC extraction process, commonly referred to as BHO labs or ‘hash/honey oil’ labs. One of the most popular methods used to extract high levels of THC concentrates involves the use of Butane gas. The process is extremely dangerous and can lead to explosions and/or fires. From one example during December of 2017, Nevada HIDTA task force personnel responded to a residential apartment in Clark County that was the location of a BHO lab explosion. The lab had one large canister that led to the explosion, causing damage to the apartment and windows, and the suspected lab operator suffered severe burns.<sup>49</sup> Nevada HIDTA agents and officers have encountered THC labs through investigations of illegal marijuana indoor grow operations, delivery services and after reported explosions. From 2015-2017, Nevada HIDTA task forces have seized 26 THC extraction laboratories.

Outdoor marijuana cultivation is the third component to Nevada HIDTA illegal marijuana production. In years past, illegal outdoor marijuana grow operations are also encountered by Nevada law enforcement and are sometimes located in very secluded, mountainous areas of the state that are only accessible by foot. Aerial surveillance has been successful in locating

---

<sup>48</sup> Nevada HIDTA PMP and LVMPD

<sup>49</sup> LVMPD

some of these remote grow sites; however, grow site laborers become aware of the law enforcement presence as a result. Consequently, most grow sites net few arrests, because the element of surprise has since been removed.

Over the past 3 years, law enforcement in Nevada has identified multiple grow sites totaling over 100,000 plants. The majority of these operations are found on Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) land and pose a risk to the public as well as the environment. Many of these grow operations have been found by citizens using the lands for recreation and accidentally stumble across the site. Investigations have shown growers are typically armed posing a risk for those who encroach the site.

Investigations often reveal Mexican DTO members frequently use illegal pesticides such as Carbofuran and Zinc Phosphide to keep insects and animals away from the outdoor marijuana grow site. Both of these pesticides have been banned in the United States and pose a risk to the environment as well as law enforcement personnel investigating the grow sites.

- ***Intelligence Gap***

- 1.) *Multi-State/Regional DTO engagement in the transportation of illegal marijuana cultivated in Nevada which has been identified in the Nevada HIDTA designated area.*
- 2.) *Destination areas for illegal marijuana cultivated in Nevada.*
- 3.) *THC purity levels of marijuana plants from Nevada HIDTA outdoor grow operations.*
- 4.) *The actual impact of parcels shipped by criminals containing legal or illegal amounts of marijuana from Nevada marijuana dispensaries.*

## **g. MDMA**

### **Availability**

MDMA is available at both the wholesale and street level, in ‘boat’ quantities (1,000 pills) and by the pill depending on the nature of the drug transaction. Over the past 3 years, law enforcement in Clark County has encountered moderate to prevalent amounts of “Molly”, a form of MDMA, available in both pill and powder form. Assessments indicate that purchasing Molly in powder form is cheaper than pill form. Some distributors will encapsulate the Molly themselves prior to selling it. During 2016, Pink Molly was in demand in the Las Vegas area. Pink Molly is packaged in smaller capsules and is considered to be very strong by MDMA and Molly users.

In 2015, the Nevada HIDTA reported that Molly was being marketed as “Moonrock”. DEA laboratory testing of some of the seizures





revealed the chemical component to be Methylone, which was imported from China for further distribution in Nevada, California and New York. The Methylone obtained from China was ordered on the internet and shipped to the Las Vegas area using various postal avenues.

The demand for MDMA and Molly is largely confined to the Las Vegas area within the Nevada HIDTA. Some Las Vegas night clubs and adult entertainment clubs are popular locations for MDMA and other drug distributors to meet and 'network'. MDMA and Molly are considered to be readily available in this environment. Some local suppliers are believed to bring in MDMA and Molly from other cities such as Los Angeles. Limited reporting suggests that Las Vegas suppliers travel to Southern California to obtain Molly, and very few actually produce Molly in Southern Nevada.

PMP records show total seizures for MDMA/Ecstasy have fluctuated from 2016 to 2017 according to weight measurement. In 2016, Nevada HIDTA task forces seized approximately 124.86 kg of MDMA/Ecstasy versus 4 kg in 2017. In contrast, 1,918 dosage units were seized in 2016 versus 13,772 dosage units of MDMA in 2017.

| <i>NV HIDTA Seizures</i> | <b>2015</b> | <b>2016</b> | <b>2017</b> |
|--------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| <b>Kilograms</b>         | 53          | 125         | 4           |
| <b>Dosage Units</b>      | 9,051       | 1,918       | 13,772      |

The average wholesale price of the pill form of Molly falls between \$1,000 - \$1,400, and the retail price ranges from \$13-\$24 per pill. Powdered Molly ranges in price from \$800-\$1,700 per ounce. Additionally, reporting has revealed that MDMA is being sold for approximately \$13-\$30 per pill or \$5,750-\$7,750 per 1,000 pills (boat). In comparison to the 2016 prices of Molly and MDMA, the 2017 prices are relatively lower in some areas as displayed in the chart below.

|                                   |            |             |            |             |
|-----------------------------------|------------|-------------|------------|-------------|
| <b>MDMA</b>                       |            |             |            |             |
|                                   | <b>Low</b> | <b>High</b> | <b>Low</b> | <b>High</b> |
| <i>Boat (Canadian)</i>            | \$5,000    | \$7,000     | \$3,500    | \$5,500     |
| <i>Boat (Domestic)</i>            | \$5,750    | \$9,750     | \$5,750    | \$7,750     |
| <i>Retail (single quantities)</i> | \$15       | \$27        | \$13       | \$30        |
|                                   |            |             |            |             |
| <b>Molly (powder)</b>             |            |             |            |             |
|                                   | <b>Low</b> | <b>High</b> | <b>Low</b> | <b>High</b> |
| <i>Ounce</i>                      | \$1,275    | \$1,950     | \$800      | \$1,700     |
|                                   |            |             |            |             |
| <b>Molly (pill form)</b>          |            |             |            |             |
|                                   | <b>Low</b> | <b>High</b> | <b>Low</b> | <b>High</b> |
| <i>Wholesale</i>                  | \$1,000    | \$1,350     | \$1,000    | \$1,400     |
| <i>Retail (per dose)</i>          | \$15       | \$30        | \$13       | \$24        |

Assessments determined within the western region of the U.S., Asian DTO's remain one of the primary sources of MDMA. These DTO's are sometimes linked with Canada and sell wholesale amounts of MDMA to local traffickers. Once in Nevada, many traffickers and users are mostly white. Periodically through the years and specifically in 2017, the Nevada HIDTA has encountered local DTOs run by African Americans, who may also be street gang members, as sources of supply for MDMA in the Las Vegas area. Anecdotal reporting suggests there has been an increase in African American street gang members distributing MDMA and fentanyl pills during 2017.

From one investigation during 2017, a Nevada HIDTA task force seized over 10,000 pills of alleged MDMA packaged for sale. The drugs later tested positive for methamphetamine mixed with caffeine. The drug traffickers were also documented 76 East Coast Crip gang members out of California.

Nevada is the host state for two annual events that draw hundreds of thousands of people to limited areas where an increase in MDMA sales and abuse has been found. The Las Vegas Motor Speedway is home to the annual musical festival known as the Electric Daisy Carnival (EDC). In 2018, the EDC was a 3 day event and typically attracted well over 130,000 people per day. MDMA dealers also view the EDC as a business opportunity, and MDMA is a popular drug for some EDC attendees. Law enforcement reported 90 felony narcotics arrests for the three-day event many for possession or sales of MDMA.

The Black Rock Desert, located approximately 90 miles northeast of Reno, Nevada, in Pershing County, is the home for the annual Burning Man Festival. Estimates show in 2017, Burning Man was a weeklong event that drew in excess of 68,000 people from across the country and beyond. Burning Man appeals to some cross segments of society that also include a counter-culture element who may consider psychedelic drug use a part of the intrigue. As a result, law enforcement in Northern Nevada typically see an increase in MDMA trafficking into the area preceding the event. Outside of the Burning Man Festival, which is held in late August, MDMA is not prevalent in Northern Nevada.



## **Use**

According to open source reporting, the Clark County Coroner's Office declared that one male attendee died as a result of Ecstasy and heat during the 2017 EDC festival. The toxicology report revealed that the descendant had MDMA and TFMPP (promoted as a legal alternative to MDMA) in his system. MDMA related overdose deaths also occurred at the EDC events in Las Vegas in each of the previous two years.

## **Transportation**

MDMA and Molly are readily available within the night club scene in Las Vegas. In a majority of cases, individuals purchase user quantities after arriving in Las Vegas, however, in some instances, MDMA and Molly are brought in from other cities such as Los Angeles for use in

Las Vegas. Reporting indicates most MDMA labs are located in California, and the final product is transported into the Las Vegas area in personal or rental vehicles on Interstates 15, 95 and 80 or within parcels via the mail services.

- ***Intelligence Gap***

- 1.) *The illicit drug market impact in the Nevada HIDTA designated area resulting from increasing levels of MDMA distribution from street gang members or associates.*
- 2.) *Identification of sources of supply and source areas for MDMA importation during the EDC and Burning Man events.*
- 3.) *The level of MDMA increase to the illicit drug market in the Nevada HIDTA designated area resulting from the EDC and Burning Man events.*

## **h. Other Drugs**

Over the last several years, drug threats from synthetic drugs such as bath salts and synthetic marijuana, commonly known at ‘Spice’, have made national headlines for their lethality and alarming side effects that sometimes lead abusers to commit acts of violence or engage in other extreme behaviors. While legislation and coordination among law enforcement, medical community and the public have had a positive impact on the demand for and availability of these synthetic drugs, a synthetic opioid that has been around for decades has now led to an epidemic in many states across the country.

### **Fentanyl**

Fentanyl is a powerful synthetic opioid analgesic that is similar to morphine but is 50 to 100 times more potent. It is a schedule II prescription drug, and it is typically used to treat patients with severe pain or to manage pain after surgery. It is also sometimes used to treat patients with chronic pain who are physically tolerant to other opioids. In its prescription form, fentanyl is known by such names as Actiq, Duragesic, and Sublimaze. Street names for fentanyl or for fentanyl-laced heroin include Apache, China Girl, China White, Dance Fever, Friend, Goodfella, Jackpot, Murder 8, TNT, and Tango and Cash.<sup>50</sup>

During the 1990’s and mid 2000’s, certain areas of the country encountered spikes in drug overdose deaths that were attributed to illicit drugs such as heroin being cut with fentanyl. In most cases, abusers were reportedly unaware their drug of choice also contained fentanyl.

Fast forward to the last 5 years, and the country is once again experiencing the deadly effects of fentanyl and fentanyl analogues, but this time on a much wider scale. The initial spread can be traced to manufacturing in China but more recently has surged with the addition of clandestine manufacturing in Mexico. Once Mexican DTOs entered the fentanyl market, distribution has spread, availability has risen, and drug overdoses have spiked in several states that also experience significant prescription opioid and heroin abuse.

---

<sup>50</sup> National Institute on Drug Abuse



Assessments about fentanyl trafficking include:

- Pure fentanyl can be purchased for about \$5,000 per kilo from China
- Nevada investigations reflect a fentanyl price of \$30-\$40k per kilogram
- Fentanyl can also enter into the United States from Canada.
- Fentanyl can be shipped into the country via UPS and FedEx.<sup>51</sup>

While Nevada has encountered a significant, long-term threat from the diversion of pharmaceutical opioids, heroin's rise has been more recent and may still be emerging. This has possibly counteracted against the regional, illicit market for fentanyl in a positive way. Reporting and awareness is up within the law enforcement and medical communities, but the overall illicit market for fentanyl in the Nevada HIDTA is still evolving.

### Availability

Assessments determine Mexican DTOs have expanded fentanyl trafficking by comingling the synthetic opioid with illicit drug types other than heroin. The DEA says the powder form of fentanyl is popular, because it is potent and can be easily mixed with other drugs, including cocaine. It comes from clandestine labs in Asia and from Mexican drug cartels, said Bruce McColley, assistant special agent in charge of the DEA office in Detroit.<sup>52</sup>



*Fentanyl thought to be methamphetamine*

The expansion may be in part because the white form of heroin, known as 'china white', has not been able to overtake heroin markets that are almost exclusively dominated by Mexican black tar heroin. It may also be due to fentanyl hydrochloride or powder, blending in easier with other drugs such as cocaine and methamphetamine. Nevada HIDTA sponsored investigations have encountered both examples over the last two years.

During 2016, one investigation involving a Mexican DTO trafficking methamphetamine and cocaine reflected one seizure of alleged multi-kilogram quantities of cocaine that tested positive for fentanyl. The seizure was distinguished by this sizeable shipment of drugs traveling by mail to a destination on the southeast coast. Last year, one investigation reflected at least one seizure of alleged methamphetamine that later tested positive for

---

<sup>51</sup> "THMG086 – Fentanyl, Part III: Interview with Dr. Christina Baxter" The Hazmat Guys July 2017

<sup>52</sup> "Overdose deaths surge as highly-potent synthetic fentanyl grows in popularity" ABC 13 March 2018

fentanyl. This multi-kilogram shipment crossed the border and continued to travel in an automobile, but the final destination for all or part of the drug shipment was unknown.

Two separate fentanyl related investigations during 2017 were highlighted by initial reporting identifying the drugs as 'china white'. The first example occurred in Northern Nevada, where investigators believed they were dealing with a combination of heroin and fentanyl. The drug mixture was suspected to be linked to a recent rise in drug overdose deaths in Washoe County, Nevada; however, laboratory analysis from a sample of the 'china white' tested positive for fentanyl/U-47700, a deadly fentanyl analogue. In November of the previous year, DEA placed U-47700 onto Schedule I of the Controlled Substances Act.<sup>53</sup>

The second example involved a highway interdiction stop in Southern Nevada. During April of 2017, the Southern Nevada Interdiction Task Force (SNITF) seized a multi-kilogram quantity of suspected 'china white' heroin from a vehicle traveling northbound on I-15. The drugs later tested positive for fentanyl.

During 2017, the Nevada HIDTA reported a total of 6 seizures of fentanyl confirmed by laboratory testing. (Although it is important to note many seized drugs are not routinely tested by the state labs-LVMPD and Washoe Co.) These seizures occurred during investigations targeting other drug types or through other law enforcement activity. Three of the seizures included multi-kilogram quantities of fentanyl hydrochloride transported by automobile and thought to be either methamphetamine or heroin, and Mexican DTOs were the source for each of these seizures. One of the 3 seizures occurred in Nevada during transit to another state, while the other 2 occurred outside of Nevada. Fentanyl was identified in pill form in two other seizures taken from individuals arrested in Clark County. Commonalities from these two seizures include: green colored pills cut with Acetaminophen.

In previous years, the Nevada HIDTA has encountered fentanyl in conjunction with the fraudulent manufacture of Xanax pills. Intelligence shows that at least one DTO was involved with the local manufacture of Xanax pills via the use of a pill press shipped from China. Some of the finished product contained fentanyl. A separate investigation produced a seizure of fentanyl in excess of 2 pounds at the Greyhound Bus Station. Post seizure information showed the fentanyl originated in Mexico and was destined for New York City.

While there has been more law enforcement attention to fentanyl including seizures and reporting, the state of the overall market is unstable and still emerging. The indiscriminate, consistent testing of drug seizures is needed to determine just how much fentanyl is available in the region, otherwise, seizures of some of the previously referenced drugs may be incorrectly classified.

---

<sup>53</sup> DEA Bulletin January 2017

## Exhibits

The National Forensic Laboratory Information System (NFLIS) is a comprehensive information system that includes data from forensic laboratories that handle the nation's drug analysis cases. The NFLIS participation rate, defined as the percentage of the national drug caseload represented by laboratories that have joined NFLIS, is currently over 98%. NFLIS includes 50 state systems and 101 local or municipal laboratories/laboratory systems, representing a total of 277 individual laboratories. The NFLIS database also includes federal data from DEA and U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) laboratories.<sup>54</sup> In Nevada, local laboratories from Washoe and Clark County report to the NFLIS. The following table is a breakdown of NFLIS fentanyl submissions over the last 4 years in Nevada:

| Source: NFLIS           | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 |
|-------------------------|------|------|------|
| <b>acetyl fentanyl</b>  | 2    | -    | -    |
| <b>furanyl fentanyl</b> | -    | -    | 2    |
| <b>fentanyl</b>         | 10   | 6    | 6    |

## Use

Over the last 5 years, the Clark County Coroner's Office has reported over 90 fentanyl related overdose deaths with the highest total recorded in 2017, and the highest recorded totals have occurred over the last 3 years from 2015-2017.<sup>55</sup>

The use of fentanyl is often done so unknowingly by drug abusers, who believe they are using their preferred drug of choice to include heroin, cocaine, methamphetamine or pharmaceuticals such as Xanax or oxycodone. But other times, anecdotal reporting suggests that some drug addicts may seek out the dealer who supplies the drugs that lead to overdose. This is done so under the apparent, troubling belief that those drugs are the most potent or the 'best'.

Assessments indicate traffickers have experienced with secreting fentanyl in counterfeit opioid medications and will likely result in the emergence of fentanyl in a variety of other counterfeit prescription drugs.

In addition to the illegally produced forms of fentanyl and the counterfeit opioid medications containing fentanyl, there are the legal, medical forms of fentanyl used primarily in the treatment of pain. Some of the brand names include: Sublimaze, Actiq, Durogesic, Duragesic, Fentora, Matrifen, Haldid, Onsolis, Instanyl, Abstral, Lazanda, Subsys and others. Subsys is a sublingual spray of fentanyl manufactured by Insys Therapeutics.<sup>56</sup>

---

<sup>54</sup> NFLIS 2016 Annual Report

<sup>55</sup> Clark County Coroner's Office

<sup>56</sup> Wikipedia

## **Coroner Rules Death of Henderson Judge an Accident**

CBS Las Vegas April 25, 2016

The coroner in Las Vegas says a 50-year-old Henderson municipal court judge had the powerful painkiller fentanyl in her system when she died of a severe arm infection. Clark County Coroner John Fudenberg said Monday that Diana Dawn Hampton's death March 13 has been ruled an accident. Fudenberg says Hampton died of severe sepsis due to necrotizing cellulitis of the lower right arm. She also had a lung disease called granulomatous. The coroner says the fentanyl in Hampton's system contributed to her death, but he says the amount isn't public record. He didn't call it an overdose. Hampton was Henderson's city's first elected female judge.

Insys, which is based in Arizona, has come under intense scrutiny over its aggressive marketing of Subsys, a form of fentanyl approved in 2012. Subsys is sprayed under the tongue and approved for use only in patients who have cancer and who experience pain even though they are already on round-the-clock painkillers.

Fentanyl can be deadly if it is prescribed in large doses to someone who has not already become tolerant to opioids, yet the drug has been widely sold to a variety of patients. An analysis in 2014 for The New York Times by the research firm Symphony Health, for example, found that just 1 percent of prescriptions for Subsys were from oncologists.<sup>57</sup> There has been at least one recent investigation in Nevada involving the overprescribing and/or diversion of Subsys.

### **Transportation**

NHDTs respondents report that fentanyl is imported in to the Nevada HIDTA primarily in vehicles but also by way of the postal services from China and Mexico. DEA also reports that fentanyl and fentanyl related compounds are sold and distributed through illicit drug markets on the dark web. Purchasers can use anonymizing internet web browsers to make the order and have it shipped directly to a residence.<sup>58</sup> The Nevada HIDTA encountered at least one example of this type of fentanyl operation during 2017.

As reported over the past two years, Nevada HIDTA sponsored investigations have encountered fentanyl transported to other cities and states through the mail services, including kilogram quantities in one instance. More recently, investigations have shown large quantities of fentanyl transported in automobiles under the guise of being a different, illicit drug type. Presumably, as Mexican DTOs continue to import fentanyl, many of the same methods used to transport methamphetamine, heroin and cocaine will also be used to transport fentanyl.

---

<sup>57</sup> "5 doctors are charged with taking kickbacks for fentanyl prescriptions" The New York Times March 2018

<sup>58</sup> "National Drug Threat Assessment" DEA 2017



### **Synthetic Marijuana**

Synthetic marijuana or 'Spice' has been prevalent in Southern Nevada in past years, but Nevada HIDTA sponsored investigations and seizures have dramatically declined. The LVMPD reports that Spice seizures dropped by over 70% from 2016 to 2017.<sup>59</sup>

Previous 'Spice' investigations over the past 5 years identified the Las Vegas area as a regional source of supply to other states including: Utah, Florida and Virginia. Reporting from at least one of these investigations showed a DTO was shipping hundreds of pounds of Spice on a weekly basis at least in part through the use of parcel services.

### **Production**

Spice production has been well documented in years past, but clandestine laboratory seizures dropped to zero last year after a steady decline over the past 5 years. In 2016, a Southern Nevada investigation led to the discovery of a Spice laboratory. Upon the execution of search warrants, officers discovered a Spice laboratory, several pounds of finished product and approximately 200 pounds of leaf. The lab operator was supplying Spice to local smoke shops as well as locations across the country by way of the internet.

- ***Intelligence Gap***

- 1.) *Availability within the drug market in the Nevada HIDTA designated area resulting from comprehensive drug testing of seizures, undercover purchases and overdose deaths.*
- 2.) *The illicit drug market impact on Spice in the Nevada HIDTA designated area resulting from the legalization of recreational marijuana use.*

## **VII. Drug-Trafficking Organizations**

### **a. Overview**

Mexican DTOs supply the majority of available methamphetamine, heroin and cocaine to the Nevada HIDTA by way of the southwest border. Over the past two years, some of the most prominent Nevada HIDTA task force investigations have had links to Mexican cartels, whose command and control are located south of the U.S. border in Mexico. Furthermore, U.S. based DTO leadership maintains operational communications with other DTO members in Mexico, who are either members of or affiliated with well-established cartels or splinter groups.

---

<sup>59</sup> LVMPD

**b. International & Regional DTOs**

Mexican DTOs have been the predominant source of supply for some of the major drug types available within the Nevada HIDTA for many years. These organizations are active in both Nevada HIDTA counties and appear to maintain a steady supply of drugs to the region even after specific organizations have been either disrupted or dismantled at the local level. Moreover, the methamphetamine market is as threatening to Nevada as ever, and the prevalence of the heroin market over the past two years reflects the resiliency of the Mexican drug trade despite significant disruption to DTOs in Nevada and cartels in Mexico.

In Clark County, Mexican DTOs supplying methamphetamine to the area sometimes import the product directly from Mexico for distribution locally as well as transshipment to

other cities and states across the country. Most of these DTOs are also capable of supplying other drug types such as heroin, cocaine, marijuana, and some fentanyl as well. According to federal authorities, 70 percent of the fentanyl coming into the country is being smuggled through the San Ysidro Port of Entry just south of San Diego, CA. They expect the numbers to continue to jump as the cartels increase production.<sup>60</sup>

Mexican DTOs operate in a similar fashion in Northern Nevada; however, most DTOs are local followed by regional with links to Mexico. Most Mexican DTOs in the north have ties to Northern, Central and Southern California, while Mexican DTOs in the south are most often associated with Southern California followed by Arizona. Mexican DTO cells that are linked in Northern and Southern Nevada are encountered on a limited basis and most often distribute heroin.

***International DTOs Identified by the NV  
HIDTA***

| <i>Characteristics</i>             |             |
|------------------------------------|-------------|
| <i>Total International DTOs</i>    | 7           |
| <i>-Mexican</i>                    | 4           |
| <i>-Hispanic (non-Mexican)</i>     | 1           |
| <i>-Asian</i>                      | 2           |
| <i>Total Members (Leaders)</i>     | 103<br>(15) |
| <i>Average DTO Size</i>            | 14.7        |
| <i>Multi-Ethnic</i>                | 0           |
| <i>Gang Related</i>                | 0           |
| <i>Violent</i>                     | 0           |
| <i>Polydrug</i>                    | 3           |
| <i>Money Laundering Activities</i> | 0           |
| <i>Federal Case Designations</i>   |             |
| <i>OCDETF</i>                      | 2           |
| <i>CPOT</i>                        | 1           |
| <i>RPOT</i>                        | 0           |
| <i>PTO</i>                         | 3           |

<sup>60</sup> “Mexican drug cartels taking over fentanyl market, fueling a rise in overdose deaths” Fox News August 2017

## Affiliations and Membership

Methamphetamine, heroin and cocaine DTO leadership is often composed of Mexican nationals who have the ability to communicate with DTO command and control in Mexico. Many of these DTO leaders and members are regional to certain states in Mexico and may also rely upon family members and extended family. The ascent of Mexican DTO members into leadership often occurs through attrition of other members either by death or incarceration.

Other types of regional DTOs responsible for trafficking drug types not exclusive to Mexican DTOs, such as CPDs and marijuana, often make affiliations through networks of drug abusers, family members and social media. Many regional CPD DTO members and leaders have either established local networks of abusers, who also distribute drugs or have lived in other areas and maintain some type of distribution network in place before establishing operations in Nevada.

In reference to regional marijuana DTOs, investigations show many dealers have access to illegal indoor grow operations or illegal THC laboratories and have previous experience with marijuana trafficking in California. Their distribution network is often enhanced through known marijuana associates, family members and social media and/or internet advertising.

## Activities and Methods

Assessments show most DTOs must use some form of communications to facilitate their drug trafficking activities. Some of the most common devices and software applications identified by Nevada HIDTA law enforcement officers include: cellular phones, “Burner” phones, BBM, WhatsApp or similar encryption, and social media. Some task forces are still encountering organizations that maintain dispatch type operations that are typically characterized by a very high call volume to the “dispatch” phone. Black Berry Mobiles, encryption and social media appear to be favored by certain DTOs that believe these types of communications provide more protection against law enforcement exploitation.

Mexican DTOs often use the interstate system to move large quantities of methamphetamine, heroin, cocaine and marijuana into and through the state north/south via I-15 and US-95 and east/west via I-80. The drug shipments originate in Mexico and enter

### ***Multi-State DTOs Identified by the NV HIDTA***

| <i>Characteristics</i>             |             |
|------------------------------------|-------------|
| <i>Total Multi-State DTOs</i>      | 17          |
| <i>-Mexican</i>                    | 14          |
| <i>-Caucasian</i>                  | 2           |
| <i>-African-American</i>           | 1           |
| <i>Total Members (Leaders)</i>     | 179<br>(29) |
| <i>Average DTO Size</i>            | 10.5        |
| <i>Multi-Ethnic</i>                | 0           |
| <i>Gang Related</i>                | 2           |
| <i>Violent</i>                     | 2           |
| <i>Polydrug</i>                    | 6           |
| <i>Money Laundering Activities</i> | 0           |
| <i>Federal Case Designations</i>   |             |
| <i>OCDETF</i>                      | 3           |
| <i>CPOT</i>                        | 0           |
| <i>RPOT</i>                        | 0           |
| <i>PTO</i>                         | 4           |

the Nevada HIDTA primarily through Southern California and Arizona into Clark County and Central/Northern California into Washoe County. Many types of vehicles are used, and sometimes the drug shipments arrive directly from Mexico. Frequently, the drug shipments are moved to secondary vehicles including some rental vehicles. The Northern Nevada Interdiction Task Force (NNITF) reported on an instance during 2017 of a courier who was instructed by a DTO to utilize the phone application Turo 2 to arrange a private party rental vehicle for the transportation of illicit currency.

Private party rental vehicle and car sharing services, such as Turo, may offer an opportunity for criminals to transport contraband nationwide.

### **c. Local DTOs**

#### **Overview**

Assessments demonstrate street gang members are often involved at the retail level of distribution, and there has been some nexus between street gang members and Mexican drug traffickers at the wholesale level. The Nevada HIDTA reported on one example last year where a known member of a local Hispanic street gang in Las Vegas was identified as the driver of a vehicle used to transport multiple pounds of methamphetamine. African-Americans and some Asian street gangs are also active in the distribution of drugs in the Nevada HIDTA.



Meth sold as MDMA

Over half of the respondents to the NHDTs in 2017 report that street gang related crime is increasing, while over 60% believe drug distribution comprises a significant portion of street gang related criminal activity. Additionally, some respondents reported Outlaw Motorcycle Gang (OMG) involvement in the distribution of drugs, particularly methamphetamine.

#### **Affiliations and Membership**

For several years, Mexican traffickers have utilized street gang members to distribute methamphetamine, heroin, cocaine and marijuana on a wider scale. Separate and apart from their connection with Mexican DTOs, some street gang members also engage in pharmaceutical and MDMA distribution. As previously stated, during 2017, a Nevada HIDTA task force seized over 10,000 pills of alleged MDMA packaged for sale at the EDC, but the drugs later tested positive for methamphetamine mixed with caffeine. The drug traffickers were also documented 76 East Coast Crip gang members out of California.

According to the LVMPD, there are more than 12,000 street gang members plus over 2,000 affiliates in Clark County, with the majority composed of Blacks and Hispanics, followed by White and Asian members and affiliates. In reference to street gangs and violent crime, a



gang member was involved in 30% of all murders and 31% of drug related murders in Clark County during 2017.<sup>61 62</sup>

Based on associated events in 2017, the LVMPD considers the following street gangs to be among the most violent in the area: Gerson Park Kingsmen, Sureno, Bounty Hunter Bloods, Peckerwood, Kingsgate Mafia, Southside, Bounty Hunter Bloods and West Coast Bloods.

Additionally, the Nevada HIDTA Fugitive Strike Team investigated over 100 fugitive street gang members during 2017, including some who re-located to the Las Vegas area after being designated as a fugitive in some other city and/or state.

#### **Local DTOs Identified by the NV HIDTA**

| <i>Characteristics</i>             |             |
|------------------------------------|-------------|
| <i>Total Local DTOs</i>            | 21          |
| -Mexican                           | 14          |
| -Caucasian                         | 1           |
| -Asian                             | 1           |
| -African-American                  | 2           |
| -Street Gang                       | 3           |
| <i>Total Members (Leaders)</i>     | 149<br>(24) |
| <i>Average DTO Size</i>            | 7.1         |
| <i>Multi-Ethnic</i>                | 3           |
| <i>Gang Related</i>                | 3           |
| <i>Violent</i>                     | 4           |
| <i>Polydrug</i>                    | 7           |
| <i>Money Laundering Activities</i> | 0           |
| <i>Federal Case Designations</i>   |             |
| <i>OCDETF</i>                      | 1           |
| <i>CPOT</i>                        | 0           |
| <i>RPOT</i>                        | 0           |
| <i>PTO</i>                         | 3           |

Local DTOs can also be led by individuals who are not affiliated with other types of criminal groups already described. One example includes the illicit market for controlled prescription drugs (CPDs), which may be led by a rogue physician or someone who also distributes other illicit drug types. These types of DTOs can be very difficult to quantify, because of the number of individual distributors who may be loosely affiliated and far removed from the DTO leadership.

A second example of an unconventional, local DTO is often related to illegal marijuana trafficking. Assessments indicate the product is very prevalent and with legalization, diverted marijuana has created more opportunities for new DTOs to enter the illicit market. While outdoor grow cultivation operations are typically owned and operated by Mexican DTOs, local production is not and is often characterized by quasi-individual traffickers, who may be a part of a loosely defined DTO.

#### **Activities and Methods**

While not all violent crime is associated with drug trafficking and/or DTOs, drug trafficking and distribution have historically had a major impact on violent crime including violent crime through the use of a firearm. In Clark County, there is a strong nexus between violent crime and firearms. A firearm was identified as the murder weapon in 67% of all murders in Clark

<sup>61</sup> LVMPD

<sup>62</sup> 2017 Homicide Annual Report SNCTC Crime Analysis

County during 2017 and in 100% of all drug related homicides.<sup>63</sup> Last year, Nevada HIDTA firearms seizures reached another 3 year high, an increase of over 30% against last year's record number.

Several NHDTS respondents believe that a majority of firearms seized during 2017 investigations were purchased illegally. According to reporting from the Nevada HIDTA Firearms and Narcotics Group, the majority of firearms seized in Nevada HIDTA sponsored investigations were likely first purchased legally. Many of the guns later made their way to convicted felons, who unlawfully purchased them from private party sales and unlicensed dealers. Two additional examples of illegal gun purchases in Nevada include:

- A convicted felon who uses a 'straw purchaser' to buy several guns from a gun store
- A convicted felon who purchases a gun with the aid of a stolen identity.

One of the most common techniques used to facilitate the transfer of firearms to criminal organizations is through the use of unlicensed gun dealers - someone who typically purchases from gun stores directly and later resells the firearms to anyone. Additional reporting shows that Nevada is also a source area for weapons trafficking to the cartels in Mexico; however, the volume of firearms is not as high in comparison to other states such as California, Arizona or Texas.

- ***Intelligence Gap***

- 1.) *The extent of interaction between Mexican DTO members and gang members in the Nevada HIDTA designated area.*
- 2.) *Why do Mexican DTOs who traffic methamphetamine use Las Vegas as a staging area for other cities and states across the country?*

## **VIII. Money-Laundering Organizations**

### **Overview**

Many of the DTO's identified in Nevada HIDTA sponsored investigations engage in some type of money facilitation or basic laundering of illicit proceeds, but the identification of organizations whose primary function is money laundering remains infrequent. One example of such an MLO resulted in the identification of an international operation responsible for laundering millions of dollars on behalf of several Mexican cartels.

Historically, Nevada HIDTA task forces have been a part of several investigations of money laundering organizations (MLOs) that have yielded millions of dollars in currency and assets. These investigations have often centered on organizations exploiting Nevada gaming by co-mingling legitimate funds with illicit proceeds or using the gaming system and financial sector

---

<sup>63</sup> 2017 Homicide Annual Report SNCTC Crime Analysis

together to facilitate large quantities of illicit proceeds to both domestic and foreign destinations.

Assessments consistently show Mexican DTOs transport illicit proceeds in bulk south of the border often in the same vehicles used to import drugs. Businesses such as auto shops, restaurants and store fronts have also been linked to Mexican DTOs, and money remitters are also used by some Mexican drug traffickers to send proceeds back to Mexico. Additionally, large amounts of U.S. currency continue to make their way through the McCarran Airport in Las Vegas, Nevada. According to airport authorities, last year's currency totals traveling with passengers surpassed totals from 2016. While most of the currency is likely associated with gaming, some passengers may be inclined to move large amounts of drug related proceeds through the Las Vegas and Reno airports.

| Money Laundering Organizations Identified by the NV HIDTA |               |                      |       |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|---------------|----------------------|-------|
| Total Identified                                          | International | Multi-State/Regional | Local |
| 3                                                         | 2             | 1                    | 0     |

#### **Affiliations and Membership**

The most effective MLO's encountered by law enforcement within the Nevada HIDTA maintain a certain level of compartmentalization away from overt cartel or DTO activity. A member of an MLO may not be distinct by nationality or origin and will often maintain some type of legitimate business enterprise that makes it more difficult for law enforcement to determine the potential for illegal activity. Store fronts that launder money on behalf of DTOs may not function like typical business members within a local community, and normal customer activity may not always be apparent. Additionally, some DTO investigations have also shown a nexus with Asian money couriers, who are active in both Southern California and Nevada.

#### **Activities and Methods**

With the exception of money laundering schemes developed to exploit the gaming industry, methods used by DTOs and MLOs may not be unique to Nevada, but some current techniques may illustrate those favored by cartels in Mexico and other DTO/MLOs operating within the Nevada HIDTA.

Current investigations of Nevada DTOs with a money laundering component show funnel account activity, where deposits are made from other locations into bank accounts in Las Vegas. Additionally, Mexican DTOs are known to collect large amounts of drug proceeds for delivery to Los Angeles and money laundering through trade based businesses. Over the past 3 years, the Nevada HIDTA has reported that some small businesses, such as restaurants, may 'hire' employees to launder drug proceeds. The employees, who exist on paper only, bring drug proceeds into the business and then receive a 'pay check' that goes back to the DTO.

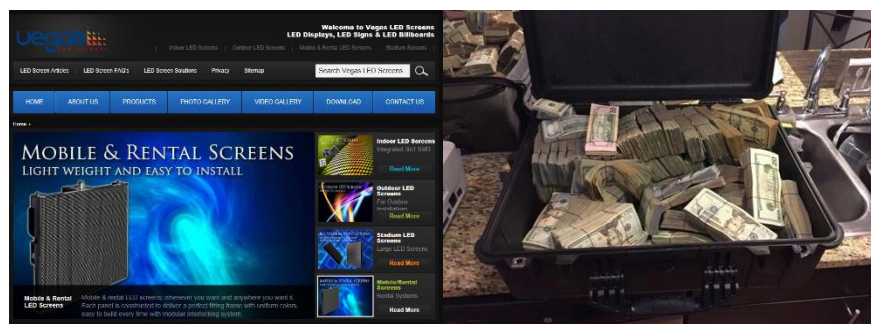
As reported by the Nevada HIDTA last year, another specific example of an MLO method illustrates a money laundering scheme used on behalf of Mexican cartels that also impacted

the Nevada HIDTA. This international MLO, which was also active in Europe, established a front business in Las Vegas, Nevada, that advertised the sale of high-cost LED screens as a cover to funnel illicit drug proceeds through the business. In order to communicate with each other and their customers, members of the MLO utilized two primary methods of communications:

- an encrypted messaging service called Telegram
- an email tactic known as “drafting”

Telegram is a free, cloud-based text messaging application offering end to end encryption for its users. The company estimates it currently has 100 million active users, sending 15 billion messages daily.

The MLO also utilized drafting, a tactic where several people share the same password to an email account. Users of the account store emails in the draft folder, so the next person can log in and view the message without sending email and creating a trail. The MLO members would arrange money pick-ups and relay bank account information to associates in the conspiracy utilizing these communication techniques.



Some criminals attempt to use the gaming industry for illicit purposes by probing perceived areas of vulnerability within various gaming operations. Casinos can encounter money laundering suspects who use methods that may be somewhat unique to the gaming industry.

According to assessments by the Nevada Gaming and Control Board, the following methods are some of the most frequently encountered schemes used to launder or move illicit proceeds through the gaming industry potentially by DTO members or other criminal operatives.

Occasionally, the introduction of counterfeit money at the dealer tables has been prevalent in recent years. The gambler has the ability to go directly to the gaming table and provide cash to the dealer, who converts the cash to chips. The gambler then plays at his or her discretion, and then cashes the chips out at the money cage. To a lesser degree, counterfeit money is also introduced at the slot machines. However, this requires a higher quality of counterfeit bill in order for the machine to accept the fake cash. Investigative information indicates that at least some of the counterfeit money has been produced locally, but the level



of organization and scope of criminal activity are mostly undefined.

The use of wire transfers to legitimize illicit proceeds is another money laundering method encountered at Nevada casinos. This method may be used by both domestic and foreign-based patrons. For example, an individual may wire money to the casino, gamble a portion of this transfer, 'cash out' the remaining amount and convert it to United States Currency (U.S.C.).

Nevada Gaming also reports some foreign nationals, often from China, may use 'hosts' to establish credit at the casinos for potentially anonymous players, who often bring large sums of money into the casinos. The money can be wired into the casinos from foreign accounts, and the players have the ability to cash out and leave with the money.

Various betting schemes are also established by individuals and groups within casino sports books, because they create the potential for suspects to launder significant amounts of money while incurring relatively small losses in the process. This operation often involves some type of loss, but the loss is marginalized by the prospect of a second winning bet and the recovery of the majority of illegitimate funds – a potentially small loss for criminals and groups to conceal illicit proceeds.

Other potential money laundering schemes encountered over the last 3 years include:

- Bookmakers using online gaming accounts
- Cash to chips and then back to cash
- Credit card fraud

The Nevada HIDTA has previously reported that bookmakers use online gaming accounts to move money from offshore bank accounts to other bookmakers in order to pay off a 'gambling' debt. The origin of the funds is unknown, and the transaction has little to no oversight.

The use of funneling money through gaming by purchasing chips and then cashing out continues. Gamblers who are considered to be 'known' gamblers can even purchase chips at one casino and cash them at another. The purchaser of the chips and the 'known' player may not be one and the same.

Lastly, there have been some instances of credit card fraud, where an individual will use a stolen credit card at a global ATM machine to purchase a ticket, then exchange the ticket for cash at the cash cage.

The gaming industry's cash intensive environment makes it appealing for many criminals but specifically for those intent on providing cover for illicit proceeds. While misperceptions exist about the magnitude and ease for criminals to establish and maintain money laundering operations through gaming, it is also clearly evident that criminals can and do exploit the industry for money laundering purposes. The scope and frequency are difficult to determine

primarily due to the vastness of the industry in comparison with available law enforcement personnel to investigate potential crimes. Consequently, effective regulations, laws and cooperation from within the casino industry are critical components toward managing potential threats from domestic and international criminal exploitation.

- ***Intelligence Gap***

- 1.) *The scope in the Nevada HIDTA designated area from members or associates of Mexican DTOs who exploit the gaming industry for money laundering purposes.*
- 2.) *The impact within the Nevada HIDTA designated area of DTOs and MLOs that can use crypto-currencies to facilitate money laundering.*

## **IX. Outlook**

Methamphetamine will remain as the primary drug threat in the Nevada HIDTA into the near future. Availability, price, purity levels, seizures and abuse continue to reflect a drug that is in high demand, widely available and abused by many. The majority of all the methamphetamine sold in the Nevada HIDTA region will continue to be supplied by Mexican DTOs, who routinely import multi-pound quantities of the drug into Clark and Washoe counties.

Though the heroin market may not have been on the rise during 2017, heroin's availability, lethality and tendency to be sold in conjunction with synthetic opioids makes it a top level threat. Additionally, the user market for heroin that is largely made up of transitioning pharmaceutical opioid abusers may be somewhat self-sustaining unless new strategies impact illicit pharmaceuticals as well. Heroin's profitability for Mexican DTOs will mean that a steady supply of heroin from Mexico via California and Arizona into the Nevada HIDTA will continue.

New federal and state strategies to combat the persistent threat from prescription opioids will likely be implemented during 2018, but the impact may not begin to take effect during the reporting period. Nevada continues to be among the top prescribers for the most widely abused prescription drugs such as oxycodone and hydrocodone, and Clark County in particular is a source area for other cities and states. Northern Nevada is affected as well, and the extent should become clearer with more available data and reporting throughout the year.

With Nevada's drug users' current preference for methamphetamine, the market for cocaine will likely remain moderate into the near future. This is despite increasing cultivation in South America, importation from Mexico, and one of Nevada's major domestic source areas, Los Angeles, reporting that cocaine availability is at a high level. Cocaine seizures will likely remain stable or possibly increase as large amounts of the product transit the region destined for other cities and states across the country. Cocaine related overdose deaths are likely to remain high in Clark County or even increase if traffickers and distributors continue to sell the drug mixed with fentanyl.

Marijuana most likely will remain as the drug of choice in Nevada. Marijuana for recreational use became legal in California too, potentially adding to the flow of illegal marijuana already exported from California into Nevada in the coming year.

With more reporting of Mexican DTOs producing and trafficking fentanyl, the synthetic opioid's availability will likely increase over the short term. The presence of fentanyl in Nevada has not been as widespread as many other states, and this could be due to some limitations within the existing heroin market. However, Mexican DTOs are also mixing fentanyl in counterfeit prescription pills along with shipments of cocaine and methamphetamine which together spreads into several of Nevada's major drug threats.

Regional and local DTOs, including street gangs, other gangs and semi-independent traffickers, will continue to have a significant impact on the Nevada HIDTA drug threat. Some of these DTOs have links to Mexican DTOs, and all of these DTOs distribute one or more drug types identified as threats to the region. Additionally, local DTOs may also become more involved in the distribution of synthetic opioids during the next reporting period.

Mexican DTOs will continue to use a variety of transportation methods in Nevada to facilitate drug proceeds to cartels in Mexico. Nevada's proximity to the Southwest border makes it a prime state for bulk cash in vehicles destined for the U.S./Mexico border. As reported over the last two years, large amounts of currency also move through the airports. All methods detailed in this report will continue to be used, and potential areas to watch in the future include virtual currencies and the dark web.

## **X. Methodology**

The Nevada HIDTA 2017 Drug Threat Assessment consisted of an annual Drug Threat survey conducted by the Nevada HIDTA Investigative Support Center to solicit information from a significant number of law enforcement representatives from federal, state, and local agencies. The ISC uses this information along with PMP data to produce estimates of various aspects of drug trafficking activities to aid in the development of the Drug Threat Assessment.

In reference to other Source Considerations, the ISC uses several available law enforcement tools and open source data. The ISC collects data from investigations, Nevada HIDTA task force personnel and other federal, state and local partners, the 2017 DEA National Drug Threat Assessment and various open source news articles. All of this information is then comingled with results from the Nevada HIDTA Drug Threat Survey to produce a comprehensive report that reflects the drug threats from both Nevada HIDTA counties. This documented research and analysis combined with the National HIDTA Performance Management Program (PMP) data provide the Nevada HIDTA Executive Board and the Management Initiative a guide to explain the existing and emerging drug threats in Nevada.

## XI. Appendix

Agencies participating in the Nevada HIDTA:

| <u>Local, State, and Regional</u>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | <u>Federal</u>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Boulder City Police Department<br>Clark County District Attorney's Office<br>Henderson Police Department<br>Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department<br>Mesquite Police Department<br>Nevada Department of Public Safety/Nevada Highway Patrol<br>Nevada National Guard/Counter Drug Task Force<br>North Las Vegas Police Department<br>Reno Police Department<br>Reno-Tahoe Airport Authority Police<br>Sparks Police Department<br>Washoe County Sheriff's Office | Amtrak<br>Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives<br>Drug Enforcement Administration-Las Vegas District Office<br>Federal Bureau of Investigation<br>Homeland Security Investigations-Las Vegas Division<br>U.S. Attorneys Offices-District of Nevada<br>U.S. Department of the Treasury-Internal Revenue Service<br>United States Forest Service<br>United States Marshals Service |

## XII. Endnotes

Associated Press  
California HIDTA (Central Valley, Northern & San Diego)  
Carson.org  
CDC  
Channel 8 Las Vegas  
Channel 13 Las Vegas  
Clark County Coroner's Office  
CNN  
CNS News  
DEA – National Drug Threat Assessment 2017  
DEA Las Vegas  
DEA Reno  
El Paso Intelligence Center  
Fox News  
Guardian  
HIDTA Performance Management Process (PMP)  
Inc.com  
LA CLEAR  
Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department  
Las Vegas Review Journal  
Las Vegas Sun  
Las Vegas Visitors Authority  
National Emerging Threats Initiative (NETI)  
National Institute on Drug Abuse



National Jewish Health  
Nevada BLM  
Nevada Gaming Control Board  
Nevada HIDTA Drug Price List  
Nevada HIDTA Threat Survey  
Nevada MAT-PDOA  
News Max  
Newsweek  
NPR  
Pew Research Center  
Quest Diagnostics  
Reuters  
Rocky Mountain HIDTA  
Southern Nevada Counter Terrorism Center  
State of Nevada  
The Hazmat Guys  
Time Magazine  
Treatment Episode Data Set  
U.S. Census Bureau  
U.S. Forest Service  
Wall Street Journal  
Washoe County Sheriff's Office  
West Care  
Western States Information Network (WSIN)  
Wikipedia

---

<sup>i</sup> "Nation Drug Threat Assessment" DEA