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BY J. HIGGI

CHRISTOPHER J. HICKS

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IN THE FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA. IN AND FOR CARSON CITY

Petitioner.

Case No. 226W 00044 1B

Dept. No. 77

NEVADA BOARD OF PARDONS, STEVE SISOLAK, GOVERNOR,

THE STATE OF NEVADA,

v.

Respondent.

MOTION FOR EMERGENCY HEARING AND ORDER SHORTENING TIME

Comes now, the Washoe County District Attorney's Office (WCDA) by and through District Attorney CHRISTOPHER HICKS and JENNIFER NOBLE and files this motion for an emergency on its petition for an alternative writ of mandamus or prohibition to stop the Nevada Board of Pardons' (Board) consideration on December 20, 2022, of an item to possibly commute the death sentences of every inmate in Nevada. This motion is based on the following memorandum of points and authorities, First Judicial District Court Rule 9 and District Court Rule 17, the WCDA's Emergency Petition for Writ of Mandate or Prohibition, all documents on file herein, and any proceedings held in connection with this case.

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MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES

I. Background

The Board has a scheduled meeting on December 20, 2022. At that meeting, the Board's recently amended agenda contemplates an item to possibly commute the death sentences of every inmate on death row in Nevada. There are currently 57 inmates on death row. Though the original agenda for the Board's December 20 meeting, which did not include this commutation matter, was posted on November 17, 2022, at the end of the day on Wednesday of this week (December 14, 2022), the agenda was amended to include the item.

II. Argument

Today, the WCDA filed an emergency petition for mandate or prohibition seeking to stop consideration of the commutation item at the Board's December 20 meeting. The grounds for the petition are set forth in full in that document, which is incorporated herein by reference. More specifically, and not by way of limitation, the grounds include violations of NRS chapter 213 NAC chapter 213 (lack of applications for commutation and lack of notice to victims), Marsy's Law in the Nevada Constitution (Article 1, Sec. 8A) (lack of notice to victims), and Willmes v. Reno Municipal Court, 118 Nev. 831, 59 P.3d 1197 (2002) (impermissible effort to amend statutory law by imposing categorical policy commutation rather than individualized consideration of particular cases).

Given the last-minute addition of this cryptically worded item, which does not even name the inmates or provide any information about their particular cases, given the magnitude of the violations it entails, and given the lack of time to oppose it in any more meaningful and thorough way prior to the meeting, an order setting an emergency hearing is requested for Monday, December 19, 2022, as well as an order shortening time for the respondents to file any responsive pleadings or papers in this matter.

III. Conclusion

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In light of the foregoing, it is respectfully requested that this motion be granted.

AFFIRMATION PURSUANT TO NRS 239B.030

The undersigned does hereby affirm that the preceding document does not contain the social security number of any person.

DATED: December 16, 2022.

CHRISTOPHER J. HICKS District Attorney

IEMNIERR P NOBI

chief Deputy District Attorney

VERIFICATION

- 1. I, Jennifer P. Noble, declare:
- 2. I am one of the attorneys for the Petitioner herein;
- 3. I verify that I have read the foregoing Petition for Writ of Mandamus and/Prohibition that the same is true to my own knowledge, except for those matters therein stated on information and belief, and as to those matters, I believe them to be true.
- 4. I declare under penalty of perjury of the laws of Nevada, that the foregoing is true and correct.
- 5. That an order shortening time is critical to ensure that this matter is considered prior to the Board hearing scheduled for December 20, 2022.

Jennifer P. Noble Chief Deputy District Attorney

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Pursuant to NRCP 5(b), I served a true and correct copy of this Motion for Order Shortening Time by personally serving it upon:

Attorney General, Aaron Ford 100 North Carson Street Carson City, Nevada 89701

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Governor Steve Sisolak 101 North Carson Street Carson City, Nevada 89701

Denise Davis or Designated Agent Nevada Board of Pardons Commissioners 1677 Old Hot Springs Road, Ste. A Carson City, Nevada, 89706

Elizabeth Brown Clerk, Nevada Supreme Court 201 South Carson Street Suite 201 Carson City, Nevada 89701

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