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	STEVEN B. WOLFSON	M22 War -	
2	District Attorney	2023 MAR 28 AM 10: 52	
-	State Bar No. 001565	WILLIAM STOTE INC.	
3	By: AMITY C. LATHAM	BY R PETERSON DEPUTY	
	Chief Deputy District Attorney	PETERSON	
4	State Bar No. 009316	ULPUTY	
5	Amity.Latham@ClarkCountyDA.com		
	Juvenile Division		
	601 North Pecos Rd., #470		
6	Las Vegas, NV 89101		
٦	(702) 455-5320		
7	(702) 384-4859 fax		
	Attorneys for Clark County		
8	Department of Family Services		
9			
DISTRICT COURT			
10	G.17.G.17.G.		
	CARSON CITY, NEVADA		
11	G. F. I.	`	
	Steven Eggleston,)	
12	Dotitionon) Case No: 20 OC 00164 1B	
	Petitioner,) Case No. 20 OC 00104 1B	
13	NG.)	
	VS.) Dept.: II	
4	Clark County Department of Family) Dept 11	
	Services,)	
15	Scrvices,)	
_	Respondent.	j	
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17	OPPOSITION TO SECOND MOTION TO UNSEAL		
18	COMES NOW Clark County Department of Family Services, by STEVEN		
	B. WOLFSON, District Attorney, through his chief deputy, AMITY C. LATHAM,		
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	and submits this OPPOSITION TO SECOND MOTION TO UNSEAL.		
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Based upon the attached Points and Authorities Clark County Department of Family Services respectfully prays this Court deny the SECOND MOTION TO UNSEAL.

Dated this 27th day of March, 2023.

STEVEN B. WOLFSON DISTRICT ATTORNEY

By: MITY C I ATHAM

Chief Deputy District Attorney Nevada State Bar No. 9316

MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES IN SUPPORT OF OPPOSITION TO MOTION TO UNSEAL

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

On December 17, 2020, Petitioner filed a motion to seal this case. As cited by this Court in it's order of December 22, 2022, Petitioner sought to seal "a copy of the orders for which he seeks judicial review, 'and all prior and subsequent records filed in this matter,' on grounds 'every child and family has a right to personal privacy." On February 12, 2021, an Ex Parte Motion and Order to Seal Court Records was filed by Respondent. This was granted by this Court, and both parties to the litigation have filed documents confidential by statute in reliance on this Court's order. This case has been sealed for over two years.

On or about July 6, 2022, "Our Nevada Judges" filed a Motion to Unseal the Case. Clark County filed an opposition on July 20, 2022. On or about July 29, 2022, "Our Nevada Judges" filed a reply. As a result of this, this Court unsealed records in accordance with Part VII of the Nevada Supreme Court Rules Governing Sealing and Redacting of Court Records ("SRCR"). However, "Our Nevada Judges" continues to request this Court revisit orders that have been in place and relied on by both parties to this litigation.

ARGUMENT

"Our Nevada Judges" complains about this Court's findings, stating that "this Court has made, no particularized findings justifying the extent of sealing applied to this matter." (Second Motion to Unseal, page 3, lines 9-11). Of course, this Court did make particularized findings. On December 22, 2022, this Court issued an Order, specifically stating "The grounds for sealing the records, as set forth in the order, are that the records contain confidential information under NRS 432B.280, the interest in privacy outweighs the public interest in open court records because the records are confidential by law, and sealing of the records is required by state law." This order was filed unsealed, and therefore, would be easily accessible by "Our Nevada Judges." It appears "Our Nevada Judges" is upset the clerk will not release pending hearing dates (as clearly evidenced by the

attached exhibit 1), so is demanding that all papers and pleadings be unsealed, in violation of this Court ruling on this issue, now twice.

Rules of Practice for the First Judicial District Court of the State of Nevada, 3.5(b) specifically states "In all non-criminal cases, sealing records will be handled as provided in the Nevada Supreme Court Rules." SRCR, Rule 1 (3), states "All court records in civil actions are available to the public, except as otherwise provided in these rules or by statute." (Emphasis added). Rule 3(4)(a) states "The court may order the court files and records, or any part thereof, in a civil action to be sealed or redacted, provided the court makes and enters written findings that the specific sealing or redaction is justified by identified compelling privacy or safety interests that outweigh the public interest in access to the court record. The parties' agreement alone does not constitute a sufficient basis for the court to seal or redact court records. The public interest in privacy or safety interests that outweigh the public interest in open court records include findings that: (a) The sealing or redaction is permitted or required by federal or state law... "(Emphasis added).

NRS 432B.280 states:

1. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 239.0115, 432B.165, 432B.175 and 439.538 and except as otherwise authorized or required pursuant to NRS 432B.290, information maintained by an agency which provides child welfare services, including, without limitation, reports and investigations made pursuant to this chapter, is confidential.

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- 2. Any person, law enforcement agency or public agency, institution or facility who willfully releases or disseminates such information, except:
- (a) Pursuant to a criminal prosecution relating to the abuse or neglect of a child;
- (b) As otherwise authorized pursuant to <u>NRS 432B.165</u> and 432B.175;
- (c) As otherwise authorized or required pursuant to <u>NRS</u> 432B.290;
- (d) As otherwise authorized or required pursuant to <u>NRS</u> 439.538; or
- (e) As otherwise required pursuant to <u>NRS 432B.513</u>, is guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

State law is largely based on Federal Law. The Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act, Reauthorization Act of 2010, requires that a State which receives federal funds establish:

"methods to preserve the confidentiality of all records in order to protect the rights of the child and of the child's parents or guardians, including requirements ensuring that reports and records made and maintained pursuant to the purposes of this title shall only be made available to a grand jury or court, upon a finding that information in the record is necessary for the determination of an issue before the court or grand jury..."

Section 106(b)(2)(B)(viii)(V), 42 U.S.C. 5106a.

To maintain Federal funding for the Child Welfare system in the State of Nevada, all child welfare agencies MUST conform with CAPTA. Violations of CAPTA could result in the State losing Federal funding. In this case, both parties have requested the Court seal this case given the confidential information at the center of the controversy in this case.

The movant provides information regarding a related Eighth Judicial District Case to support the notion that this case should be unsealed. However, that case, Eggleston v. Clark County, D-19-600496-C, is unlike this case. In that case, the Petitioner alleges civil rights, and two tort claims against Clark County and an employee of the County. Here, in contrast, Petitioner seeks judicial review of administrative findings. The parties have relied on the sealed status of this case, to include the record of proceedings and pleadings, so the record on appeal has already been filed into this case. The record on appeal consists almost entirely of confidential information. Therefore, the prior order to seal the case should remain in place.

Further, this Court can, and should, deny this motion for basic failure to comply with this Court's rules. Rule 3, Pleadings and Papers, 3.1(j), specifically states all pages, including exhibits, must be printed on only one side of the paper. "Our Nevada Judges" has failed to comply with this rule. Additionally, Rule 3.7 (b) confers a duty to confer and exchange information, and then requires a moving party to certify in their motion this rule was complied with. While it may be true this would have been futile, it does not obviate the requirement clearly stated in the rules. At no time has "Our Nevada Judges" or counsel for the same, made any attempt to communicate with the County.

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CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing, Clark County Department of Family Services respectfully requests this Court deny the Motion to Unseal and related relief filed by the movant.

DATED this 27th day of March, 2023

STEVEN B. WOLFSON **DISTRICT ATTORNEY**

Chief Deputy District Attorney Nevada State Bar No. 9316

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that service of the above and foregoing was made this 27th day of March, 2023, by mail, addressed to the following:

PAOLA M. ARMENI CLARK HILL PLLC 1700 S. Pavilion Center Drive, Ste 500 Las Vegas, NV 89135 Attorney for Petitioner

> Secretary for the District Attorney's Office, Juvenile Division