



Richard Banis
Fred Scarpello
William N. Pennington Foundation
Post Office Box 7290, Reno, NV 89510

May 28, 2025

Dear Mr. Banis and Mr. Scarpello,

The Washoe County Sheriff's Office (WCSO) is responsible for maintaining public safety in Washoe County, Nevada. As part of its operations, the WCSO uses emergency vehicles, including specialized police cars, rescue vehicles, and helicopters, to respond to a wide range of critical incidents such as natural disasters, search-and-rescue operations, law enforcement activities, and medical emergencies. Currently, the WCSO lacks a dedicated facility to properly store and maintain these essential assets. As a result, vehicles and equipment are exposed to weather conditions, security risks, and reduced operational readiness.

Washoe County Sheriff's Office respectfully requests \$1.5 million dollars match funding from the William N. Pennington Foundation for the purchase and acquisition of Reno Air Race Association's Hangar 5 in Stead, Nevada. This state-of-the-art facility will serve as the central hub for critical emergency response assets to secure and protect these emergency vehicles and equipment, ensuring their availability for rapid deployment in times of need. It will also consolidate the WCSO Special Operations Division under one roof, creating a unified operations center that will enhance public safety, efficiency, and rapid deployment in Washoe County and Northern Nevada.

With increasing demands on emergency response capabilities, the need for a consolidated, well-equipped facility has never been more critical. The acquisition of Hangar 5 presents a rare and strategic opportunity to centralize and enhance operational effectiveness.

I have read and approved the William N. Pennington Foundation Grant Application Guidelines, and to the best of my knowledge this proposal applies. With the support of the William N. Pennington Foundation, we can protect lives, improve response times, and ensure that our law enforcement personnel have the resources they need to perform at the highest level.

Thank you for considering this important request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Darin Balaam".

Sheriff Darin Balaam
Washoe County Sheriff's Office
775.328.3010