

RESOLUTION

A Resolution Requesting the Assistance of the Attorney General in the Prosecution of Joshua B. Morton Due to a Potential Appearance of Impropriety and Other Matters Properly Related Thereto

WHEREAS, the Office of the Washoe County District Attorney is responsible for the prosecution of certain criminal offenses which have occurred within the County of Washoe;

WHEREAS, it is essential in our judicial system that the decisions and conduct of the prosecutor remain free of any appearance of conflict of interest or impropriety;

WHEREAS, the District Attorney's Office has received a case from law enforcement involving the arrest of Joshua B. Morton on or about February 1, 2018 for burglary and uttering a false note or bill;

WHEREAS, the Washoe County District Attorney employs a person who is within the second degree of consanguinity or affinity to Mr. Morton and the employee may also be related to a person who may be a victim of the crimes with which Mr. Morton may be charged; and

WHEREAS, if the Washoe County District Attorney's Office proceeds with the prosecution of Joshua B. Morton there may be a suggestion of impropriety or conflict of interest arising from Mr. Morton's relationship to a Washoe County District Attorney's office employee or from the employee's relationship with a potential victim.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Board of Commissioners of Washoe County as follows:

1. That in accordance with the provisions of NRS 228.130 the Nevada Attorney General is hereby requested to assume complete responsibility for the handling of the criminal

prosecution in the case of Joshua B. Morton arising from the events leading to his arrest on or about February 1, 2018 potentially involving charges of burglary and uttering a false note or bill.

2. That should the Attorney General agree to assume responsibility for the handling of the aforementioned case, the Comptroller of Washoe County will, upon submission of a duly verified claim, pay from the general fund of Washoe County all expenses that the Attorney General incurs in the prosecution of said case.

[Business Impact Note: The Board of County Commissioners hereby finds that this resolution does not impose a direct and significant economic burden upon a business, nor does it directly restrict the formation, operation or expansion of a business.]

ADOPTED this _____ day of _____, 2018 by the following vote:

AYES: _____
NAYS: _____
ABSENT: _____
ABSTAIN: _____

Marsha Berkbigler, Chair
Washoe County Commission

ATTEST:

Nancy Parent, County Clerk