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January 29, 2003

PRESENTATION TO IFC JOINT COMMITTEE

INTRODUCTION:

FOR THE RECORD MY NAME IS RICHARD KIRKLAND, DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY.

GOOD MORNING MEMBERS OF THE JOINT LEGISLATIVE COMMISSIONS BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE.

THIS MORNING WE WILL BE COVERING 11 OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY DIVISIONS. YOU HAVE SCHEDULED PAROLE AND PROBATION AND THE PAROLE BOARD TO PRESENT THIS AFTERNOON AFTER THE DEPARTMENT OF PRISONS.

THE DIVISIONS BUDGETS THAT WE WILL COVER THIS MORNING CAN BE FOUND IN THE HANDOUT WE PROVIDED WHICH IS PAGINATED TO CORRESPOND WITH YOUR BUDGET DOCUMENTS.

ALL THE DIVISION CHIEFS ARE PRESENT TODAY AND I WILL INTRODUCE THEM AS THEY COME TO THE TABLE TO MAKE THEIR PRESENTATION.

THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY IS MADE UP OF 13 SEPARATE DIVISIONS EMPLOYING 1390 EMPLOYEES.

THE DEPARTMENTAL BUDGET REQUESTS AS SUBMITTED REPRESENT A REDUCTION OF 30 EMPLOYEES OVERALL. THE REDUCTION OF 30 AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES REPRESENTS THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY'S EFFORTS AT DOING OUR SHARE OF CUTTING GOVERNMENT COSTS RELATIVE TO THE REDUCTION OF INCOMES WE ARE EXPERIENCING.

IN ADDITION WE HAVE PURPOSEFULLY HELD OPEN AN AVERAGE OF 150

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EXHIBIT F Senate Committee on Finance
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Capitol Police • Criminal Justice Assistance • Division of Emergency Management • Emergency Response Commission
State Fire Marshal • Nevada Division of Investigation • Nevada Highway Patrol • Office of Traffic Safety
Parole and Probation • Public Safety Technology • State Board of Parole Commissioners • Training Division

(O) 1083

AUTHORIZED POSITIONS IN CONSIDERATION OF EXPECTED BUDGET SHORTFALLS.

PUBLIC SAFETY DIVISIONS:

1. NEVADA HIGHWAY PATROL/CRIMINAL HISTORY REPOSITORY
2. NEVADA DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
3. CAPITAL POLICE
4. STATE FIRE MARSHALS OFFICE
5. PUBLIC SAFETY TECHNOLOGY
6. DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
7. OFFICE OF TRAFFIC SAFETY
8. OFFICE OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE ASSISTANCE
9. EMERGENCY RESPONSE COMMISSION
10. PUBLIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE
11. TRAINING DIVISION
12. NEVADA PAROLE BOARD-TO BE HEARD AT 330PM
13. PAROLE AND PROBATION-TO BE HEARD AT 330PM

AS WE ARE ALL PAINFULLY AWARE WE ARE EXPERIENCING THE EFFECTS OF SUBSTANTIAL REDUCTIONS IN OUR VARIOUS INCOMES-INCLUDING GENERAL FUNDS, FEE BASED FUNDS AND THE HIGHWAY FUND.

THESE INCOME REDUCTIONS TRANSLATE INTO REDUCTIONS IN OUR ABILITY TO PROVIDE OUR PUBLIC SAFETY SERVICE TO A STATE THAT JUST TOPPED 2.2 MILLION PEOPLE

I WILL PRESENT A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY FOLLOWED BY A DIVISION BY DIVISION PRESENTATION OF OUR BUDGET.

PRESENTATION: DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES/PUBLIC SAFETY UPDATE

THE DEPARTMENTS OF DMV AND PS WERE SEPARATED LAST SESSION AND WE HAVE BEEN REPORTING ON THE STATUS OF THAT ACTION TO YOU QUARTERLY AS REQUIRED.

WE BELIEVE THAT THE SEPARATION HAS WORKED AS INTENDED AND THAT THE SEPARATION HAS BEEN SMOOTH WITH RELATIVELY FEW PROBLEMS.

WE BELIEVE THAT THE SEPARATION HAS BENEFITTED BOTH DEPARTMENTS ALLOWING BOTH DIRECTORS AND STAFFS TO FOCUS THEIR MANAGEMENT

EFFORTS ON THEIR RESPECTIVE DEPARTMENTS.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY:

BACKGROUND:

MY MANAGEMENT TEAM OBSERVED PRIOR TO THE LAST LEGISLATIVE SESSION THAT MANY OF OUR AGENCIES WERE NOT MEETING THEIR PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVES. WE OBSERVED THAT THERE WERE NUMEROUS MANAGERIAL AND LABOR BASED PROBLEMS WHICH HAVE TAKEN THE BETTER PART OF THE PAST TWO YEARS TO RESOLVE.

THEREFORE WE DID NOT ASK FOR ADDITIONAL EMPLOYEES. WE WERE TOLD THAT THIS WAS THE FIRST TIME THAT PUBLIC SAFETY HAD NOT REQUESTED ANY NEW EMPLOYEE STAFFING IN RECENT MEMORY.

WE WANTED TO MAKE CERTAIN THAT WE HAD CORRECTED THE ABOVE PROBLEMS. WE ALSO OBSERVED THE THEN SHRINKING BUDGET AS WE WERE REQUESTED TO SUBMIT A COMPLETELY FLAT OR NO GROWTH BUDGET AND WE WANTED TO INSURE THAT WE HAD PERFORMANCE DATA THAT COULD JUSTIFY OUR INDIVIDUAL AND AGENCY PERFORMANCE.

CORRECTING THE MANY PUBLIC SAFETY DEPARTMENT PROBLEMS HAS BEEN AND CONTINUES TO BE DIFFICULT AND CHALLENGING AND REMAINS A WORK IN PROGRESS.

ADDITIONALLY WE HAVE BEEN CHALLENGED RECENTLY WITH A REQUIREMENT TO REDUCE OUR BUDGETS BY 3% DUE TO REVENUE SHORTFALLS. WE HAVE ALSO CONSISTENTLY OPERATED WITH EMPLOYEE VACANCIES OF BETWEEN 100 AND 200 EMPLOYEES, DUE TO VERY HIGH TURNOVER RATES.

THE TURNOVER RATES ARE DUE TO A VARIETY OF REASONS, FROM REGULAR RETIREMENTS TO EMPLOYEES SEEKING BETTER PAY AND BENEFITS.

IN SUPPORT OF THE CHANGES WE HAVE MADE WE WILL PROVIDE YOU WITH SOME PERFORMANCE STATISTICS THAT WILL DEMONSTRATE OUR AREAS OF IMPROVEMENT. WE WILL ALSO PRESENT SOME OF OUR PROBLEM AREAS.

CLEARLY THE CHALLENGE FOR ALL OF US IS TO BALANCE AN ACCEPTABLE LEVEL OF STATE PUBLIC SAFETY SERVICES AGAINST THE AVAILABLE LEVEL OF FUNDING.

I CAN ASSURE YOU THAT THE MAJORITY OF PUBLIC SAFETY EMPLOYEES,

MANAGEMENT AND LABOR, ARE WORKING VERY HARD TO DO EXACTLY THAT.

BEFORE WE DISCUSS THE SPECIFIC BUDGETS I WOULD LIKE TO GIVE YOU A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF SOME OF OUR SUCCESS TO DEMONSTRATE THE EXCELLENT WORK OUR VARIOUS AGENCIES AND EMPLOYEES HAVE PRODUCED:

HIGH LIGHTS:

IN PAROLE AND PROBATION WE CIVILIANIZED 27 SWORN POSITIONS TO PERFORM REQUIRED ADMINISTRATIVE FUNCTIONS AT LESS COST WHILE RELEASING EXPENSIVE AND SKILLED SWORN OFFICERS TO DO THEIR FIELD WORK

WE WORKED WITH STATE JUDGES STREAMLINING AND SPEEDING UP THE PRE-SENTENCE REPORTING PROCESS WHICH HAS BEEN PRAISED BY THOSE JUDGES AS IMPROVING THE PROCESS

IN FY 02 THE P & P RESTITUTION AMOUNTS COLLECTED EXCEEDED THE PLANNED AMOUNTS BY 47% AND FROM JULY 02 TO DATE WE HAVE INCREASED SAME BY 48% AND HAVE DONE SO DESPITE HAVING 61 VACANCIES

THE NEVADA HIGHWAY PATROL HAS IMPROVED THEIR PERFORMANCE INDICATORS SUBSTANTIALLY DESPITE HAVING 58 STATEWIDE VACANCIES AS FOLLOWS:

COMMERCIAL TRUCK ACCIDENTS HAVE BEEN REDUCED FROM 507 IN 2000-2001 TO 309 IN 2001-2002. FATAL TRUCK ACCIDENTS WERE REDUCED FROM 32 TO 25 AND INJURY CRASHES FROM 234 TO 143.

FATAL CAR ACCIDENTS WERE REDUCED AS WELL AND DUI FATAL'S WERE ALSO REDUCED.

THE NHP RADIO SYSTEM WAS INSTALLED AND IS OPERATIONAL, ALTHOUGH THERE ARE CONTINUING CHALLENGES

THE NHP HAS FINALLY BEGUN TO REDUCE THE NUMBER OF COMPLAINTS, LAW SUITS, TORT CLAIM SETTLEMENTS AFTER A SERIES OF SERIOUS CLAIMS AND LAW SUITS SUCH AS THE 2.4 MILLION DOLLAR SETTLEMENT INVOLVING A HIGH SPEED PURSUIT

THE OTHER IMPROVEMENTS WILL BE OUTLINED BY THE DIVISION CHIEFS.

PROBLEMS:

WITH THE CLEAR SHORTFALL OF FUNDING THAT WAS APPARENT FROM THE BEGINNING OF FISCAL 02-03 WE HIRED ONLY THOSE POSITIONS THAT WERE CLEARLY ESSENTIAL.

WE ANTICIPATED THE EXISTING SHORTFALL AND DID NOT WANT TO HIRE PEOPLE AND THEN HAVE TO LAY THEM OFF DUE TO REVENUE SHORTFALLS, ESPECIALLY AFTER VERY EXPENSIVE HIRING AND TRAINING PROGRAMS.

OUR TRAINING ACADEMY EXPERIENCED SERIOUS PROBLEMS BASED UPON HIGH TURNOVER OF TRAINING COMMANDERS AND A SYSTEM THAT DID NOT PRODUCE THE CANDIDATES DESIRED BY THE DIVISION CHIEFS.

OUR DATA PROCESSING SYSTEM IS NOT INTEROPERABLE AND DOES NOT PRODUCE THE DATA NEEDED TO MANAGE EMPLOYEES PERFORMANCES RELATIVE TO OBTAINING BUDGETED PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

STAFFING IS CONSISTENTLY BELOW AUTHORIZED STRENGTHS IN THE SWORN CATEGORIES DUE TO UNCOMPETITIVE SALARY/BENEFIT COMPETITION WITH CITY/COUNTY AGENCIES

TRAINING IS INADEQUATE: EXAMPLE: WE HAVE NO ACCESS TO OR FUNDING TO PAY FOR HIGH SPEED VEHICLE TRAINING FOR NHP TROOPERS--THESE KINDS OF ACCIDENTS ARE A MAJOR SOURCE OF OUR TORT CLAIM PROBLEMS

CRIMINAL REPOSITORY IS CURRENTLY DOWN BY 9 POSITIONS AND CONSEQUENTLY WE ARE BEHIND IN FINGERPRINT AND CRIMINAL HISTORY ENTRIES BY TENS OF THOUSANDS

WE ARE DOWN THE 9 FEE BASED EMPLOYEES BECAUSE COURT ASSESSMENTS CAME IN 800,000 SHORT

IF THE COURT ASSESSMENTS CONTINUES TO DECLINE WE WILL CONTINUE TO FAIL TO MEET OUR LEGAL REQUIREMENTS AND OUR LAW ENFORCEMENT STATEWIDE SYSTEM INCLUDING LOCAL AGENCIES WILL BEGIN TO FAIL IN THEIR EFFORTS AT CATCHING AND TRACKING CRIMINALS

THE FIRE MARSHALS OFFICE IS REQUIRED BY LAW TO PROVIDE A NUMBER OF LIFE AND HEALTH SAFETY SERVICES SUCH AS INSPECTING PUBLIC ACCESSED BUILDINGS TO INSURE FIRE/EXPLOSIVE RELATED SAFETY REQUIREMENTS ARE IN EFFECT

WE HAVE 4 INSPECTORS TO INSPECT BETWEEN 25,000 AND 30,000 BUILDINGS.
THE BEST THEY CAN DO IS TO INSPECT BETWEEN 800 AND 1000.

PAROLE AND PROBATION SUFFERS FROM REDUCED ACTUAL STAFFING AND
THEREFORE HAS AN INCREASINGLY LARGER OFFENDER CASE LOAD WHICH IS A
PRESCRIPTION FOR PROBLEMS

PAROLE AND PROBATION HAD TO CLOSE A FACILITY WHICH FORCED DOUBLING
UP OF OFFICERS-TWO OFFICERS USING ONE DESK

PAROLE AND PROBATION HAD TO REDUCE THEIR FUNDING TO RETURN CERTAIN
OFFENDERS TO THE STATE WHO HAVE ABSCONDED

CONCLUSION TO OPENING:

I WILL NOW PRESENT EACH DIVISIONS BUDGET AS OUTLINED IN YOUR HANDOUT
LEAVING THE PAROLE BOARD AND PAROLE AND PROBATION FOR THIS
AFTERNOON.

WE WILL START WITH THE NHP AND I WILL HAVE COLONEL HOSMER MAKE THE
PRESENTATION.