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MERRITT K. (IKE) YOCHUM

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February 13, 2003

STATEMENT of MERRITT K. YOCHUM

Stacy M. Jennings, MPA
Executive Director for the Commission on Ethics
3476 Executive Point Way, Suite 16
Carson City, Nevada 89706-7946

Stacy M. Jennings, Members of the Commission,

I (we) are appearing here today as a "special appearance".

By attending and speaking at your hearing I am not waiving any of my rights nor am I in anyway granting the Commission jurisdiction over me nor do I acknowledge such jurisdiction.

It is a well, established maxim of the law that jurisdiction can be challenged at any time during a proceeding.

It is a well, established maxim of the law that when jurisdiction has been challenged, that all proceedings must cease until the issue of jurisdiction has been established.

NRS 281 is found in TITLE 23- PUBLIC OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES.

A definition of jurisdiction is found at NRS 281-465:

1. The commission has jurisdiction to investigate and take appropriate action Regarding, an alleged violation of:
 - (a) This chapter by a public officer or employee or former public officer or Employee, in any proceeding commenced by:
 - (1) The filing of a request for an opinion with the commission; or
 - (2) The commission on its own motion.
 - (b) NRS 294A. 345 or 294A.346 in any proceeding commenced by the filing of a request for an opinion pursuant thereto.
2. The provisions of paragraph (a) of subsection 1 apply to a public officer or employee who:
 - (a) Currently holds public office employed at the commencement of proceedings against him.

- (b) Resigns or otherwise leaves his public office or employment:
(1) After the commencement of proceedings against him; or
(2) Within 1 year after the alleged violation or reasonable discovery of the alleged violation.

Nowhere in this section concerning jurisdiction am I a private Sovereign Citizen of Nevada, listed.

I am not a public officer or employee or former public officer or employee.

The fact that the filing for office required the signing of certain papers can in no way be assumed as a granting of jurisdiction to this commission, for to be required to give up a right in order to exercise another right is an absurdity.

All other objections and legal points that have been submitted previously by Christopher Hansen and others to this commission and to the Secretary of State are incorporated herein by reference as if fully set forth herein.

Dated this 13th day of February in the year of our Lord 2003.

M.K. Graham