

October 14, 2014

Honorable Charles J. Hoskin
8th Judicial District Court Judge, Dept E
Clark County Family Court
601 N Pecos
Las Vegas, NV 89101

Dear Honorable Judge Hoskin,

This letter is to bring to your attention rulings in Clark County Family Court and specifically your hearing master and adult guardianship Commissioner Jon Norheim. My study of Clark County Family Court records revealed evidence of wrongdoing that I believe should be investigated and addressed.

Over the last 18 months I have witnessed and researched Commissioner Norheim's rulings and have serious concerns with his judgment and protection of the ward's civil rights in many guardianship cases. Commissioner Norheim's decisions are highly suspect given the evidence of perjury and false testimony by those pursuing guardianships and the obvious wasting of the estates. Many of Commissioner Norheim's rulings were not in the best interest of the wards.

Court records reveal a consistent pattern by Commissioner Norheim of violating the following Nevada Resident Statutes(NRS):

- Violation of NRS159.083 to protect, preserve, manage and dispose of the estate of the ward according to law and for the best interests of the ward.
 - Norheim consistently endorses extreme inflation of estate expenses by petitioning counsel and the potential guardians they represent, without direct benefit to the ward, to insure the private guardian controls the estate.
- Extreme bias to award non family private guardians with estate guardianship when single, wealthy(net worth above \$200,000) wards are brought before him.
- Violation of NRS159.061 to honor the defined order of priority to consider qualified family members as guardians of the estates.
- Violation of NRS159.085 by not enforcing or requiring an accurate inventory by private guardians. An inventory and appraisal of property of the ward is due in 60 days after the date of the appointment but in the cases investigated an accurate initial inventory was not enforced by Norheim.
- Violation of NRS159.177 requiring the guardian to file an annual accounting with receipts with the court. Annual reports are not enforced or policed by Norheim.
- Convenient use of NRS159.059, requiring guardians be residents. Norheim consistently chooses private guardians versus allowing non-resident family to choose a resident guardian or potentially transition the ward near family.
- Inconsistent authorization on moving incapacitated wards. Flexibility on movement coincides with his ability to maintain control of the estate and minimize

direct benefits enjoyed by the ward, including requiring wards return to Nevada if they are living elsewhere.

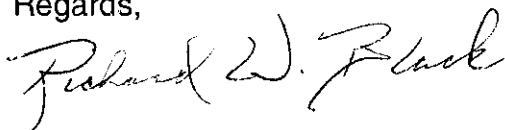
My limited research has revealed **8 families who have lost over \$5,500,000** in the past 4 years in their efforts to protect adult family members in Clark County. There are many more. The individuals highlighted found themselves alone and in need due to the death of a spouse, injury, or illness. Family members, or previously defined ward appointees, were qualified, begging to help, legitimately filed for guardianship to counter opposing private petitions and yet the commissioner consistently ruled against family and appointed a private guardian. In each case the **ward's monthly costs escalated exponentially with little to no additional services provided the ward** and family members were officially removed from any ability to protect their loved one or their estates. The cases researched thus far are listed below:

<u>CASE Number</u>	<u>Ward</u>	<u>Judge</u>	<u>CASE Number</u>	<u>Ward</u>	<u>Judge</u>
G13-38863	Delford Mencarelli	Hoskin	G06-29656	Alvin L. Passer	Hoskin
G13-38316	Adolfo Gonzalez	Hoskin	G06-29530	Marcy Dudeck	Ritchie
G11-35590	Helen Schoepe	Ritchie	G05-28163	Guadalupe Olvera	Hoskin
G06-30168	John Donovan	Ritchie	G01-22364	Kristina Berger	Hoskin

Commissioner Norheim appears to disregard evidence of theft, perjury, and defamation by the guardians and their lawyers as they petition to gain or maintain control of the wards and their estates. The consistency of his rulings the last few years appears to be emboldening suspect guardians and attorneys to be more aggressive in their approach. Court records support these claims. Commissioner Norheim's consistency of keeping estate funds and the wards in Clark County is overwhelming.

I fear for future generations of retirees who will inevitably find themselves before Commissioner Norheim. As an elected official who oversees Commissioner Norheim in this important position I would hope you might take steps to investigate his actions. I look forward to your response.

Regards,



Richard W. Black
20416 Southshore Drive
Cornelius, NC 28031
804-564-5330