

News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Clark County District Board of Health appoints members to trauma system assessment taskforce

(Las Vegas, Nev., - November 20, 2003) – The Clark County District Board of Health appointed an 11-member taskforce to participate in a trauma system needs assessment process.

Taskforce members are Richard Bunker, JaNell Cook, S. Max Doubrava, MD, Bob Forbuss, Merlinda Gallegos, Veronica Arechederra-Hall, Steve Hill, Rose Mckinney James, William McBeath, Otto Ravenholt, MD and Danny Thomas.

The Clark County Health District was asked to make recommendations to the Nevada State Health Division regarding the future trauma needs of Southern Nevada. The state health division is the governmental entity with the authority to approve an application to operate a trauma center in the state of Nevada.

In order to make its recommendation the health district will work with the Abaris Group, an independent contractor with experience in trauma system development, and the American College of Surgeons to complete the needs assessment. The assessment will include a comprehensive public participation process designed to gather input from all stakeholders, including the general public.

“A trauma system is an integral part of any community’s infrastructure and therefore it is important to conduct this assessment in order to craft a comprehensive strategic plan that will meet the short- and long-term trauma needs of our growing population,” said Dr. Donald Kwalick, chief health officer for the Clark County Health District.

The needs assessment and public participation process will take an estimated six months to complete. The taskforce will then present its findings and recommendations to the District Board of Health for its review. Final recommendations will be submitted to the Nevada State Health Division.

The Clark County District Board of Health is the public health policy board representing the entities of Boulder City, Clark County, Henderson, Las Vegas, North Las Vegas and Mesquite.

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