

# Justice Court, Henderson Township

Clark County, Nevada

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The Henderson Justice Court respectfully opposes Senate Bill 450 for the following reasons. First, courtroom security, safety, and efficiency could be compromised by the passage of this bill. Judges must feel comfortable and have complete trust in the particular marshal(s) that are assigned to their respective courtrooms. That trust is built over time. Judges must have the authority to select the personnel that they feel will best protect the court, litigants, staff, and members of the public. To that end, the Henderson Justice Court has had recent threats of violence to its facility and employees therein. We therefore oppose a separate body from choosing or assigning the personnel responsible for the court's safety.

Second, in Section 2, the amended language would allow a marshal to be "assigned" to a particular court from a "pool" of marshals. This language fails to define "assignment" in terms of length and scope. Further, it does not take into account the working relationship of the judge and marshal over time. Additionally, marshals could be reassigned without notice or consultation with the judge.

Third, Senate Bill 450 will likely limit the duties that marshals are expected to perform, which will certainly impact on the administration of the court's day-to-day functions. Under Senate Bill 450, marshals are only required to perform some limited enumerated duties and those specifically required by law. Marshals would not be required to perform any duties at the direction of the judiciary, which are not listed in Section 2 (3). As such, this will interfere with the judiciary's ability to manage its internal and external affairs, which implicates a separation of powers issue.