



February 18, 2021

Paul Shubert
Bureau of Health Care Quality and Compliance
4126 Technology Way
Carson City, Nevada 89706

Dear Mr. Shubert,

The Commission on Aging (COA) is encouraging the Bureau of Health Care Quality and Compliance to create a website that provides families with current information regarding visitation within the skilled nursing facilities that are regulated by the Bureau. This is currently left to each individual facility to provide visitation information and families are only able to get information by calling each facility. We strongly feel there is an absence of information on a central website that should be provided to families and the public. The Commission would like to request that visitation information such as visitation guidelines, facility visitation status, facility compliance, testing requirements, and personal protective equipment information be made available on the division's website.

Family visitation is a vital component during the pandemic to help prevent social isolation which can lead to an increased risk for depression, anxiety, and other distresses. The pandemic has been detrimental to residents by causing physical separation from family and loved ones contributing to further emotional anguish. We feel this recommendation would provide families access to visitation information in one central area.

The Commission would also like to thank you and the Bureau for working diligently to address the needs for family visitation for our most vulnerable population.

Respectfully,

Jeff Klein, FACHE President and CEO
Nevada Senior Services
Member, COA

Mary Liveratti, Volunteer and
Advocate
Member, COA

Dena Schmidt, Administrator
Aging and Disability Services Division
Chairperson, COA

Niki Rubarth, Regional Director
Alzheimer's Association, Northern
Nevada
Member, COA

Daniel Corona, Mayor
West Wendover
Member, COA

Natalie Mazzullo, M.Ed.
Assistant Director, Nevada Geriatric
Education Center
Member, COA

Barry Gold, Director of Government
Relations
AARP Nevada
Member, COA

Leilani Kimmel-Dagostino
Law Enforcement Volunteer
Southern Nevada Sex Trafficking
Task Force
Member, COA

Lisa Erquiaga, Executive Director
William Pennington Life Center
Member, COA

Stan Lau
Fernley City Councilman
Member, COA

Esther Gregurek, Social Worker
Aging and Disability Services Division
Member, COA