



WALTHER LAW OFFICES<sub>PLLC</sub>

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November 29, 2021

City of Fernley  
City Manager's Office  
Attn: Ms. Daphne Hooper, City Manager  
595 Silver Lace Blvd.  
Fernley, NV 89408

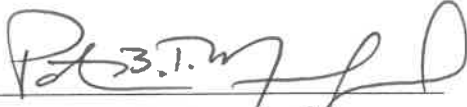
**Re: Proposal for City of Fernley Public Defender Services**

Dear Ms. Hooper,

Please accept this letter and following pages as our office's formal proposal to provide public defender services to the City of Fernley. In accordance with the Request's wishes, we attempted to keep the proposal as succinct and in line with the questions as possible. Of course, if you seek further information, please do not hesitate to ask.

Thank you for the consideration and we look forward to hearing from the City.

Sincerely,

  
Patrick B. T. Mansfield, Esq.

**G(1) and (2)****Patrick B. T. Mansfield**, Nevada Bar #14398

Patrick has been practicing law for nearly five years. For three of those years, Patrick was employed with Wayne A. Pederson, PC and practiced in a general fashion, including criminal defense for both private and indigent clients while servicing a portion of the Lyon County public defender contract. Aside from civil litigation and representation, Patrick was the sole attorney on 99% of the cases that Wayne A. Pederson, P.C. was appointed to, hundreds of new cases per year.

This public defender role included representation of indigent clients at every stage of the criminal process- initial pretrial/arraignment through appeal- and for all categories of felonies, gross misdemeanors, and misdemeanors. Patrick has been lead counsel on more than fifty category A and high category B felonies, a felony jury trial and more than forty bench trials. Of course, with the trials and preliminary hearings, came the motions that Patrick researched, drafted and argued, negotiations, investigations, communication with the client and often the client's loved-ones, and everything else in between.

From February through early July of 2021, Patrick was a deputy district attorney at the Washoe County District Attorney's Office, where he prosecuted four misdemeanor trials (three DUI's and a battery case), roughly five citation trials, and engaged in countless negotiations.

In Mid July, Patrick accepted an associate position with Walther Law Offices, PLLC, where he continues to practice in the like position as he did at Wayne A. Pederson, P.C., including representing indigent criminal defense clients at every aspect of the criminal process and for all categories of crimes<sup>1</sup>.

**Mario R. Walther**, Nevada Bar #13780

Mario has been representing indigent clients since 2016. Mario initially took on indigent defense representation while working at Johnston Law Offices, who took on the Fernley County Contract in 2016. As of 2019, Mario has held the Public Defender Contract in Lyon County through Walther Law Offices. Mario is fully qualified by the Department of Indigent Defense to handle all levels of criminal matters, except for capital cases.

**Olga Walther**, Nevada Bar #13367

Olga previously worked on civil matters prior to coming on with Walther Law Offices in 2019. Since then, she has handled a variety of levels of criminal cases throughout the entirety of the matter. Olga is currently qualified by the Department of Indigent Defense to handle juvenile, misdemeanor, gross misdemeanor, and felonies less than Category B felonies punishable by more than 10 years.

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<sup>1</sup> Patrick and Mario are both "qualified" by the Department of Indigent Defense to handle all criminal matters except for capital cases.

**G(3)**

We have three offices in Lyon County and specifically an office in Fernley, which is staffed nearly every Monday – Friday 8-5 and the attorneys accept in-person or phone appointments on a weekly basis, as the schedules allow. Further, we have staff available by phone during all normal business hours, and our attorneys are always accessible by “work” cell phones, which the numbers are provided to clients. We do have staff that is Spanish-speaking which could aid in communication where need be.

**G(4)**

Kale Brock (775) 312-3555

**G(5)**

Jesse Kalter: 775-331-3888

Steve Rye: 775-463-6511

Ken Ward

**G(6)**

Walther Law Offices has policy coverage through ALPS with a \$1,000,000 policy limit.

**H. Services:**

(1) Walther Law Offices, PLLC has been in existence for 3 years, and has practiced criminal defense from that time. Notably, Walther Law Offices was created after it absorbed Merrill Law, which was borne by absorbing Ken Ward Law.

(2) Yes, it handles indigent clients on a daily basis, and has from inception. Our firm currently has the Lyon County Public Defender Contract. Patrick Mansfield has provided criminal defense for indigent clients for over four years, Mario Walther has for over five years, and Olga Walther for over two years. This representation has included the most egregious felonies such as lewdness with a minor and murder to citations for driving violations, and everything in between.

(3) Three attorneys and one contract attorney.

(4) Four

(5) No conflict of interest with the City of Fernley.

**H. Contract Performance:**

(1) From 2019 to 2021, our office has had a portion of the Lyon County Public Defender contract. Beginning in August of 2021, our office services the entire Lyon County Public Defender Contract. Further, our office provides contract services with the Yerington Municipal Court, and has for eight months. For all contracts, our office has remained in outstanding compliance.

(2) None.

(3) No.

(4) No.

(5) No.

(6) No.

**H. Proposed Delivery of Services**

(1). Our firm provides competent and diligent representation to each client despite any indigency. We do not classify clients as “indigent” or “nonindigent;” they are our clients, period. Our office policy when providing representation to whomever the client is, is to investigate and review each and every case with the client, Constitution, and rule of law in mind.

(2). The attorneys in our firm are a tight-knit group that can lean on each other when need be. We are professionals that can self-monitor and when need be, ask for assistance from anyone in the firm. Our attorneys acknowledge when a case load is getting heavy, so they address, asses and find an in-office resolution.

(3) Our attorneys have years of “on-the-ground” training in criminal defense, including numerous trials, preliminary hearings, settlements, negotiations, motion hearings, bail hearings, legal research, and the like. Effective 2021, attorneys in our firm each shall allocate over 50% of their CLE’s to criminal defense.

(4) Our firm employs staff that is Spanish speaking and has strong experience translating and assisting in communication with Spanish speaking clients.