**PRESP**

ATTORNEY, ESQ.

Nevada Bar No.

**LEGAL AID CENTER**

**of SOUTHERN NEVADA, INC.**

**CHILDREN’S ATTORNEYS PROJECT**

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EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

FAMILY DIVISION – JUVENILE

CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

In the Matter of: ) Case No.:

) Dept. No.:

**CLIENT,** )

DOB: )

AGE: )

)

A Minor. )

)

**MINOR’S RESPONSE TO REPORT FOR PERMANENCY AND PLACEMENT REVIEW FILED MARCH 16, 2020**

Minor, *CLIENT*, age 17, hereby submits her response to the Report for Permanency and Placement Review filed by the Clark County Department of Family Services (DFS) on March 16, 2020.

The Minor agrees that the Permanency Goal is and should be Other Planned Permanent Living Arrangement (OPPLA) with a projected date of achievement of June 2022. While *CLIENT* is turning 18 this summer, she will not receive her High School Diploma until the end of the 2021-2022 school year. *CLIENT*’s DFS Case Worker and her DFS Independent Living Worker, along with the undersigned, have discussed with *CLIENT* her rights and options as a soon-to-be 18 year old in foster care. *CLIENT* is bonded with her current care provider and likes the stability, both personally and educationally. *CLIENT* is electing to stay in formal care past her 18th birthday, until she obtains her diploma.

Further, the Minor reports all of her needs are being met.

The Minor has two concerns with the report. First, on page three, lines 26-28, there is a sentence which reads “*CLIENT* has emotional and mental health needs that have exceeded *Mother*’s abilities and adult functioning which impairs her parental ability to properly care for *CLIENT*.” *CLIENT* was discharged from therapy over one year ago; before that, her therapy goals included understanding feelings, improving her self-esteem, and improving her communication skills. *CLIENT* has not had any disruptive behaviors since coming into care. To the extent that the report indicates *CLIENT*’s needs are in any way exceptional or atypical, the Minor objects to this characterization. Second, under “Reasonable Efforts”, on page 6, the Department’s only effort on behalf of the parent is mailing court notices. Certainly, the efforts should include diligent search efforts conducted on a regular basis. *CLIENT* is not necessarily seeking contact with her mother, but she does occasionally think about her sister. During the creation and revision of her Independent Living Transition Plan, *CLIENT* and her IL Worker talk about *CLIENT*’s lasting connections. *CLIENT* identifies her current placement as her main connection, but that may change. *CLIENT* may want to establish contact with her biological family in the future, or may need to obtain family medical history. The Minor is not seeking a lack of reasonable efforts finding, but asks that the Court instruct the Department to make regular searches for *CLIENT*’s mother, as well as other family with whom she can connect as an adult.

The Minor joins the Department’s request to maintain jurisdiction and bring this matter back for review in six months.

Respectfully submitted this \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ day of March, 2020.

**LEGAL AID CENTER**

**of SOUTHERN NEVADA, INC.**

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By:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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***CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE***

I hereby certify that on the \_\_\_\_\_\_ day of March, 2020, I served the foregoing, ***MINOR’S RESPONSE TO REPORT FOR PERMANENCY AND PLACEMENT REVIEW FILED MARCH 16, 2020***, by the Court’s electronic system (EFS E-File & Serve) and/or depositing in the U.S. Mail in a sealed envelope with first-class postage fully prepaid thereon, to the following:

*District Attorney*, Esq.

Deputy District Attorney Juvenile

Family Court

*Email Address*

*Case Manager*, Case Manager

Department of Family Services

*Email Address*

*/s/*

An Employee of

Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada, Inc.