



[Home](#) > [MyNevadaCounty](#) > [County Executive Office](#)

Find Services, Agencies, Information and more

Friday Memo for 7/21/2017

Published on: 7/21/2017 2:12 PM

Difficulty reading this in email? View the Friday Memo on www.MyNevadaCounty.com



[Contact Us](#) | [CEO Website](#)

Published 7/21/2017



Articles:

- **Better Together: Brendan Phillips Appointed as Nevada County's Housing Resource Manager**
- **Cannabis Conversation: Board of Supervisors Participate in County Cannabis Summit**
- **Cannabis Conversation: July 25th CAG Meeting Agenda**
- **Nevada County's Emergency Preparedness Exercise Provides Valuable Insight into an Active Shooter Situation**
- **Probation Officer Reappointed to Board of State and Community Corrections**
- **Nevada County Wins 2nd Place in National Digital County Survey**
- **Please Do Your Part to Keep Nevada County Safe and Clean**
- **Nevada County Labor Market and Employment Resources**

Better Together: Brendan Phillips Appointed as Nevada County's Housing Resource Manager

Nevada County's Health and Human Services Administration is pleased to announce the selection of Brendan Phillips as the new Housing Resource Manager. He will assume this role on July

31, 2017.

Mr. Phillips received his Bachelor's degree in Political Economy from Evergreen State College, and his Master's degree in Social Work from Portland State University.

He served as an Analyst for the Washington Office of the Governor for two years, where Brendan provided assistance to constituents in accessing agency services, responded to their concerns and inquiries, and worked closely with the Governor's policy and communications advisors and staff on communications and analyses.



Mr. Phillips then moved on to Sisters of the Road as their Community Leadership Coordinator. Sisters of the Road is a nonprofit Cafe in Portland's Old Town neighborhood working to create systemic change that will end poverty and homelessness forever by providing nourishing meals in a safe, dignified space. While there, Brendan developed and co-facilitated trainings and workshops which provided necessary skills and support to community leaders, facilitated the inclusion of community leaders with direct experience with homelessness into city and county planning and policy meetings regarding homelessness and poverty, and assisted with the grant for the Empowered Voices Media Program.

Mr. Phillips completed the first term of his graduate program with JOIN in Oregon, serving as a Mobile Housing Team Coordinator. JOIN's mission is to support the efforts of homeless individuals and families to transition out of homelessness into permanent housing. Brendan secured housing, mental health care and employment for clients, conducted assessments and provided counseling. He finished his graduate program with the Department of County Human Services working on Operation 424 (a plan to end Veteran's homelessness by 2018 and a Veteran's System of Care), assisted in the development

of the Assertive Engagement trainings and resources, and provided street outreach and advocacy to the homeless community.

Brendan returned to Nevada County two years ago and worked with a community partner, Turning Point Providence Center, as a Forensic Mental Health Specialist. In that capacity, he immersed himself within the community to outreach and engage individuals needing services, participated in local committees, met with community partners and leaders. Brendan provided direct client support, including facilitating access to housing, to seriously mentally ill individuals in jail, on probation, and homeless. He was the lead coordinator for both the crisis intervention team and the forensic mental health program providing services to inmates and individuals in crisis.

Please join us in welcoming Brendan Phillips to the position of Housing Resources Manager, effective July 31, 2017.

[\(Back to the Top\)](#)

Cannabis Conversation: Board of Supervisors Participate in County Cannabis Summit



CALIFORNIA STATE
ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES

Four of Nevada County's Board of Supervisors attended Wednesday's June 20th Cannabis Summit, co-sponsored by California State Association of Counties (CSAC), the Rural County Representative of California (RCRC), and Urban Counties of California (UCC). According to CSAC, "the summit brought together many of the state's leading experts to discuss the current status of the laws and regulations surrounding cannabis and the changes that are happening as we approach the full implementation of Proposition 64 in January."

Over 200 county supervisors and senior staff attended the Summit. District 5 Supervisor, Richard Anderson said, "a fascinating aspect was learning that a number of counties, particularly urban counties, have little knowledge of the negative impacts associated with cannabis cultivation and commercialization, and that's especially true for the six-plant residential grows allowed under Proposition 64. Much more could be done in transmitting the experience and wisdom of counties that have been on the front line of dealing with impacts and crafting regulations, like Nevada County, to those counties and cities only now getting a grip on the implications of Proposition 64 and potentially making huge mistakes."

In the midst of the State working on their regulatory and licensing processes, many counties are also working through the same issues at the local level. The Summit provided a platform for county leaders to connect and communicate on how other counties are approaching the issue.

"The workshop highlighted the uncertainty remaining with some issues such as banking and the need for resources to cover new County responsibilities," said District 1 Supervisor, Heidi Hall. "It also made clear that the Counties committed to making cannabis regulation work for their communities are finding success."

Attendees also heard from Colorado and Washington representatives, the first states to legalize recreational cannabis, on their experiences with how their states and counties have been dealing with the same issues.

"It seems to me that the combining of the Medicinal and Recreational elements of cannabis complicates and confuses the process of regulation," said District 2 Supervisor, Ed Scofield. "I appreciate the effort our Citizen's Advisory Group is putting into this issue; and, I encourage the public to follow the process and submit their comments."

CSAC has plans to provide video, presentations, and other materials from the Cannabis Summit on their [website](#) in the near future.

[\(Back to the Top\)](#)

Cannabis Conversation: July 25th CAG Meeting Agenda



The Cannabis Regulation Community Advisory Group (CAG) has met four times since early June with the fourth meeting scheduled for next **Tuesday, July 25th**, from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Foothill Events Center at 400 Idaho Maryland Road in Grass Valley. Discussion topics have covered potentially allowable activities at cultivation sites, land use and zoning considerations, and the permitting process. **Tuesday's meeting** will focus on the state's cannabis regulations and review how it relates to County regulation. Community members are welcome to attend the meetings in person where the CAG hears public comment from 4:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Alternatively, all meetings are available to watch online, both archived and live stream on the [Cannabis Conversation website](#) and written comments can be submitted via

email to cagmeetingcomments@migcom.com. All written comments submitted within 48 hours of each meeting are included in the meeting summary and distributed to the CAG members for review and consideration. Commenters are not required to identify themselves, per the Brown Act, and all published comments are redacted to remove personal identity. Meeting materials and related documents are available to the public on the [Cannabis Conversations website](#).

The Cannabis Regulation Community Advisory Group (CAG) was formed by the Board of Supervisors to advise the Board on the development of a permanent Cannabis Ordinance for Nevada County. This inclusive process will take into account the input of all community stakeholders. Nevada County has contracted [MIG](#) as a consultant during this process. MIG is providing facilitation services for the Cannabis Regulation Community Advisory Group to ensure a fair and equitable process while advising and drafting a new Cannabis Ordinance.

Please visit the [Cannabis Conversation webpage](#) for up-to-date information.

[\(Back to the Top\)](#)

Nevada County's Emergency Preparedness Exercise Provides Valuable Insight into an Active Shooter Situation



In an effort to promote the safety of the County and the public, Nevada County conducted its first Active Shooter Emergency Preparedness Exercise at the Eric Rood Administrative Center, the largest of all the Nevada County campuses, on Thursday, July 20th. The exercise was in response to the increase in active shooter events we have seen in schools and government agencies in recent years, and is a part of the County's Emergency Action Plan. During the

exercise, County staff implemented the Federal Emergency Management Agency's *Run, Hide, Fight* protocol which encourages staff and County customers to decide their best survival option based on their situation.

The exercise was successful, and only forty-five minutes of County services were interrupted. Emergency response and communication systems were tested in conjunction with the Sheriff's Office.

[\(Back to the Top\)](#)

Probation Officer Reappointed to Board of State and Community Corrections

Nevada County Chief Probation Officer Michael Ertola has been reappointed to the Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) where he has served since 2014. He represents the Chief Probation Officers of California on the Board as a designated small county chief. The board is made up of 13 members, 7 being from corrections and the remaining members are community advocates. The BSCC inspects and regulates adult and juvenile facilities around the State, develops selection and training standards for local corrections, and is the administrating agency for federal and state public safety grants.

Michael Ertola has been Chief Probation Officer of Nevada County since 2012 and has served in several positions at the Nevada County Probation Department since 2001, including probation program manager for adult services. He was a deputy probation officer at the San Mateo County Probation Department from 1988 to 2001. This position requires Senate confirmation and there is no compensation.

[\(Back to the Top\)](#)

Nevada County Wins 2nd Place in National Digital County Survey



The Center for Digital Government (CDG) and the National Association of Counties (NACo) announced the winners of the 15th annual Digital Counties Survey. The survey, conducted by CDG in partnership with NACo, identifies the best technology practices among U.S. counties, including initiatives that streamline delivery of government services, encourage collaboration and shared services, enhance cybersecurity and even reduce carbon

emissions.

“Digital counties are leveraging technology to improve the ways they conduct business and engage with citizens in increasingly innovative and exciting ways,” said Todd Sander, executive director, CDG. “The Center for Digital Government congratulates this year’s winners for their work to reduce costs, encourage citizen engagement, increase efficiencies and proactively address citizen expectations.”

“As technology continues to grow in all facets of our lives, county governments are adapting and innovating,” said NACo Executive Director Matthew Chase. “The Digital Counties Survey spotlights how counties deploy technology to enhance services and benefit residents while being responsible stewards of taxpayer resources.”

Up to 150,000 Population Category

- 1st Albemarle County, VA
- 2nd Nevada County, CA
- 3rd Allegan County, MI
- 4th Montgomery County, VA
- 5th Napa County, CA
- 5th Roanoke County, VA
- 6th York County, VA
- 7th Skagit County, WA
- 8th Summit County, UT
- 9th Rowan County, NC
- 10th Coconino County, AZ
- 10th Tompkins County, NY

[\(Back to the Top\)](#)

Please Do Your Part to Keep Nevada County Safe and Clean

Planning a trip to the McCourtney Road Transfer Station with a load of trash or recyclables? Nevada County wants to remind you to cover and secure your load. Litter blows out of truck beds creating unsightly eyesores that can end up in local waterways and harm wildlife. Items that fall out of vehicles can also create road hazards and lead to traffic accidents or vehicle damage.



The California Vehicle Code requires loads to be properly covered and secure and the CHP and the Nevada County Sheriff's Office are committed to providing increased enforcement. Fines for uncovered loads range from \$100 to \$500. Additionally, fines for littering can be up to \$1000.

Tips for securing your load:

Use Tarps, bungee cords, netting, straps or rope. Put lighter weight items at the bottom of the

- load.
- Tie down garbage can lids.
- Tie larger items directly to your vehicle.
- Don't overload your vehicle.

Please visit the [Solid Waste Homepage](#) for more information and resources, including our [recycling facilities map](#) and the [McCourtney Road Transfer Station traffic webcam](#).

[\(Back to the Top\)](#)

Nevada County Labor Market and Employment Resources

Unemployment rates are at an all-time low in Nevada County, as well as statewide and across the nation, according to the California Employment Development Department. Currently, Nevada County's unemployment rate is 3.8%, the lowest since May of 2001. This is great news for Nevada County and there are still jobs available!

At the Brighton Greens Resource Center in Grass Valley, the Alliance for Workforce Development operates the Business and Career Network office (BCN) which has many services available to both job seekers and businesses in Nevada County. Currently there are 67 positions posted with the BCN, and new Job Orders are coming in every day. Some of the occupations that are in high demand are Heavy and Tractor Trailer Truck Drivers, First Line Supervisors, Retail Workers, Registered Nurses, Salespersons and Accounting and Bookkeeping positions.

The BCN is also doing a special recruitment for laborers to assist with storm clean-up in Nevada County. This is a time limited project meant to help people get back to work temporarily and help Nevada County with clean-up efforts due to the 2017 storms and flooding that occurred. Job seekers can get assistance with their job search, attend workshops for job readiness and possibly even get assistance with training if needed.

The BCN also offers multiple services to employers including: posting job opportunities, developing job descriptions, recruiting, pre-screening of applicants, testing, job fairs, HR assistance, and even assistance to a business and employees in the case of a massive layoff or closure.

Last Fiscal Year (July 2016 through June 2017) the BCN offices recorded 11,577 visits, with an average in Grass Valley of 900-1000 visits per month, and in Truckee, an average of 200 visits per month. For more information, visit <http://afwd.org/index.php/nevada-county> or call (530) 265-7088.

[\(Back to the Top\)](#)

[Manage your Subscription](#) to the Nevada County CEO Friday Memo