

Nevada State Board of

NURSING NEWS

September 2011

NEVADA AND THE CONSENSUS APRN Model

*What is the Role
of the Advanced
Practice Nurse ?*

A MESSAGE from
Your Consumer
ADVOCATE





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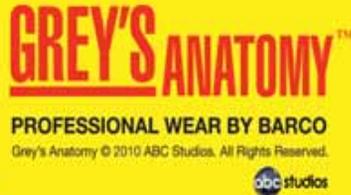
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The mission of the Nevada State Board of Nursing is to protect the public's health, safety and welfare through effective regulation of nursing.

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The **Nevada State Board of Nursing News** publishes news and information quarterly about Board actions, regulations, and activities. Articles may be reprinted without permission; attribution is appreciated.

Circulation includes more than 35,000 nurses, nursing assistants and student nurses.

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A message from the executive director

Debra Scott, MSN, RN, FRE

First, I would like to express my appreciation for our past editor, Dean Estes, our Director of Finance and Technology. He has been an exceptional support in his oversight of the publishing of the NSBN News. Thank you, Dean. In addition, I want to introduce Roseann Colosimo, PhD, MSN, RN, Education Consultant for the Board, who has graciously offered to become our new editor. Thank you, Roseann. We know that the NSBN News will continue to provide important information and updates for nurses, CNAs, and others about nursing regulation in Nevada.

Every time I prepare to write “Words . . .” for the NSBN News, it amazes me how quickly we go from one quarter to the next. It’s September already. The 2011 Legislative came to an end on June 6th. The Board and staff are working to follow up on legislative changes which occurred during the session. Several bills were passed which will affect nursing regulation in Nevada.

The Board worked closely with Nevada Nurses Association to pass SB205, a bill which will require national certification for advanced practitioners of nursing (APNs) in Nevada. Prior to passage of this law, Nevada was one of only four states which did not require national certification for advanced practice nurses. Passage of this bill is part of the Board’s initiative to implement the components of the Consensus Model for APRN Regulation: Licensure, Accreditation, Certification and Education, which formulates national standards for uniform regulation of APRNs. The theme for this issue of NSBN News is to educate our readers, nurses, and the public about the role and future for advanced practice registered nurses.

Another bill, SB467, underscores the importance of making sure that everyone is aware of the activities and work of the Board. We continue to strive to be transparent in all we do.

The Board worked with the Nevada Healthcare Association to pass SB 411, a bill which gives the Board the authority to regulate Medication Aides-Certified, healthcare providers who administer medication in long term care settings through delegation by the registered nurse. Research has shown that when this type of provider is used in the appropriate settings under the appropriate supervision, there has not been an increase in medication errors nor patient harm. The important role of the Board in regulating Medication Aides-Certified is to ensure that they complete Board approved programs, successfully pass a Board-approved national examination, practice within their specific scope, and are closely supervised through delegation by an RN.

The Board worked closely with the Health Division on SB419, a bill that requires health care providers to be informed about safe injection practices. The bill provides that nurses will be required to attest on renewal of their licenses that they are knowledgeable and are in compliance with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines for safe injection practices.

In the near future, the Board will be proposing regulations to guide implementation of the new bills. Make sure to watch our website for public notice of Regulation Workshops so that you can make your opinions known to the Board during this important regulatory season. Enjoy your summer and watch for upcoming events and meetings on our newly designed website, www.nursingboard.state.nv.us.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Debra Scott". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.



Words from the president

Doreen Begley, MS, RN

I don't know about you, but for me it seems like the passage of time is picking up speed; particularly when there is a tangible "biomarker." I was appointed to the Nevada State Board of Nursing in 2004 by then Governor Kenny Guinn. I served my first four year term ending on a high note of being able to serve on the National Council State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) as a Director at Large. I was then reappointed to my second four year term in 2008 by then Governor Jim Gibbons. I have been serving as the president of the NSBN for the past three years, and this October, my term as president will end. I will still have one year remaining to serve as a Board member.

As I look back over the past seven years, I am amazed at the changes in nursing regulation that I have been able to witness. Much of it has been related to information technology. Applications and renewals for nursing licenses can now be done online. We have joined the national data bank Nursys, and our public records are more easily accessible. We have begun the process to obtain fingerprinting on all Nevada nurses, not just those who are new to the state. Our web site has been redesigned, and it is much more user friendly. The Nursing News (what you are reading now) has been designed as an educational tool to share necessary and sometimes mandatory regulatory expectations with Nevada nurses.

As president, I begin each meeting with the reading of our mission. I know that board staff and the board members understand who we are and what we do, but every NSBN meeting is an open meeting. We welcome any and all to attend. The mission of the NSBN is to protect the public's health, safety and welfare through effective regulation of nursing. The three biggest words in that sentence are "protect the public." As cases come before the board, the core of every decision is, "Has the public been protected?" I rest easier at night knowing the answer to that question is Yes.

As I transition from president to board member, I am confident that leadership succession has been effectively in place and the transition will be seamless. Elections will be held at our September meeting and there are wonderful candidates for Board officers. During my last year as a board member, I will be concentrating on completing my NCSBN Institute of Regulatory Excellence Fellowship and I will become a Fellow of Regulatory Excellence in 2013.

There will always be work to do. In the next few years the role of the Advanced Practice Registered Nurse will become more defined. The Doctor of Nursing Practice degree will become more available. In my last article to you, I wrote to "embrace change". There is still very much of it to come.

If you have any desires to accomplish anything, for example returning to school, obtaining another degree, I say do it now. Don't wait for "the right time". The right time is now. Because time keeps on ticking no matter what you do. Four years will pass and you will say, "I could have been done, if only I had started!"

As I look back on my years on the Nevada State Board of Nursing, I am confident that I have used the time well. I have grown, I have contributed, and I am a better nurse for having been NSBN president for the past three years. As the biomarkers of my term as president of the NSBN comes to a close, it remains an honor to continue to serve the citizens of Nevada, and I am thankful for being given the opportunity.

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A MESSAGE from Your Consumer ADVOCATE

By Sandra Halley, *Consumer Board Member*
Nevada State Board of Nursing

As your consumer advocate member, I want you to know that Nevada law protects the public from unsafe nursing practices. To the State Board of Nursing, the public is any Nevadan who receives nursing care for any reason. Providing safe nursing care is a team effort and the Board, as it is currently composed, consists of four RNs, one LPN, one CNA and one consumer member. All of you are aware of what the professionals do, but some of you may be uncertain about what I do and why I belong in this special group. I am not a nurse. I have no medical training, experience or knowledge. My single purpose on this Board is to ensure that each person in Nevada receives safe, effective and respectful treatment from every licensed practitioner. If this is not the case, you have a right to register a formal complaint. Patient safety is my primary mission.

As each case is presented to us, I simply ask myself if I would want this individual caring for me or anyone I know or love. That puts everything in perspective very quickly and easily. We are seeing an increase in discipline. Do not be afraid to ask your nurse or CNA questions regarding his or her expertise or scope of practice. You have the right to see your nurse's license or CNA's certificate. Nursing can profoundly influence healthcare and I have enormous respect for the nursing profession and the individuals who work in hospitals, clinics, patient homes, schools and education facilities. By supporting nurses in safe practice and being a patient advocate, I am fulfilling my position on the Board. Thank you for this amazing opportunity.

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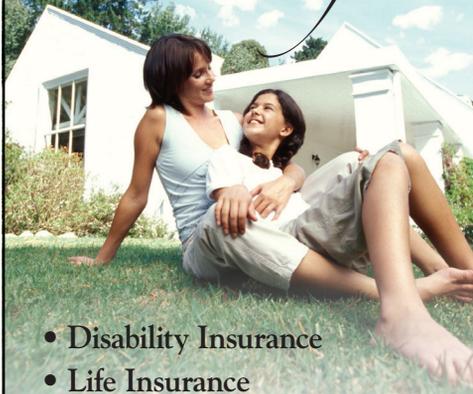
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NEVADA AND THE CONSENSUS APRN MODEL by Roseann Colosimo, PhD, MSN, RN

The implementation of healthcare reform for the United States is largely dependent on the nursing profession practicing to the full scope of abilities and education. What a fabulous time to be a nurse!!! Nurses need to be fully educating all consumers about the value of educated nurses to improved outcomes in healthcare.

The nursing profession has had difficulty with agreement on many issues throughout history. I could digress ad nausea about conflicts in the nursing profession but instead let's join a huge movement to create a new future for our profession with consensus and action.

An incredible group of 28 nursing and stakeholder organizations came together to adopt the Consensus APRN Model with a goal for adoption of its recommendations by 2015. Currently states have different regulations, titles and preparation for advanced preparation in nursing. The

adoption of this model will help immensely with everyone in America understanding the role of the APRN in healthcare delivery. Consumers will be helped by adoption of the consensus model. The insurers and consumers will have a clear understanding of the credential and the scope of practice of the advanced practice nurse. The website, ncsbn.org, is the place to get all the information you need to be fully informed and keep your peers, colleagues and consumers informed. Here are the major talking points from the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) on the APRN Consensus Model.

1. Four defined roles:
 - Certified nurse anesthetist (CRNA)
 - Certified Nurse midwife (CNM)
 - Certified nurse specialist (CNS)
 - Clinical nurse practitioner (CNP)
2. Entry level education for all is a graduate degree or postgraduate certificate

(post masters or doctorate) from an accredited program. The program provides the advanced skills in a specific area or concentration and with a population foci, eg adult oncology, pediatrics, primary care, emergency department, adult care.

3. The title for all jurisdictions would be the title "advanced practice registered nurses" or APRN. The current plethora of different titles creates confusion. A universally recognized title will improve recognition and understanding of the APRN role in healthcare.
4. The Consensus Model enhances mobility and utilization of patient services. Autonomous practice will decrease barriers to provision of care and increase access to care for patients which is so important in Nevada with a large diverse frontier, rural and city delivery systems.
5. Independent prescriptive authority is essential to independent practice and is appropriate based on the APRN's education and professional experience.
6. Certification in specialty is required, ensuring every APRN has taken a statistically valid and reliable exam over the specialized area they possess to determine they are functioning at the nationally acceptable level of care.

How does Nevada stack up with the consensus model? This year Nevada APNs joined with key legislators to pass a bill that will require national certification for APNs by 2014. Regulation will allow for limited grandfathering of current APNs. The next item for Nevada to work on is a change to the APRN title.

So, congratulations are in order to the Nevada Nurses Association for spearheading these changes. The Board and Board staff are actively supporting these changes to meet the recommendations of the APRN Consensus Model. Nevada needs all nurses to articulate the importance of the APRN to the delivery of safe competent healthcare for our citizens.

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THANK YOU!

A great many of you are probably not familiar with Dean Estes who is our Director of Finance/Technology. He is our beloved technology geek! He has also been editor of this magazine but with the reconstruction of our website and the increasing demands of new technologies to give our Nevada licensees and certificate holders the best service possible, he is stepping down as editor. All of us want to thank him for his generous support of Nevada nurses and certificate holders giving us all tons of information to understand requirements of regulation for safe nursing practice in Nevada.

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practicing without restrictions, have made us all aware of the importance of ongoing screening of nurses' criminal histories. We receive many calls with questions about our process for completing background checks (CBC) and what nurses can expect throughout the process.

SOME TIPS THAT MIGHT BE HELPFUL ARE:

1. If you are selected to do fingerprints, **PRINT IMMEDIATELY OR SOONER.**
 - You will only receive a 6 month renewal of license while awaiting your fingerprint results.
 - Print immediately to prevent interruption in your licensure.
2. If you have criminal convictions which you have not told the Board about, **FOLLOW THE PROCESS.**
 - Get court documents
 - Write and submit a letter of explanation
 - Secure and submit a letter of reference
3. Tell the truth on your application screening questions. **DO NOT LIE!** Fraudulent renewal plus conviction creates tons of unnecessary anxiety while the Board investigates your case, not to mention the possibility of your license being disciplined.
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BOARD TALK

COME TALK TO THE BOARD

During each regularly scheduled meeting of the Nevada State Board of Nursing, Board members hold a Public Comment period for people to talk to them on nursing-related issues.

If you want to speak during the Public Comment period, just check the meeting agenda for the date and time it will be held. Usually, the Board president opens the first day of each meeting by inviting Public Comment. Time is divided equally among those who wish to speak.

For more detailed information regarding the Public Comment period, please call the Board.

WE'LL COME TALK TO YOU

Board staff will come speak to your organization on a range of nursing-related topics, including delegation, the impaired nurse, licensure and discipline processes, and the Nurse Practice Act.

BOARD MEETINGS

A seven-member board appointed by the governor, the Nevada State Board of Nursing consists of four registered nurses, one practical nurse, one certified nursing assistant and one consumer member. Its meetings are open to the public; agendas are posted on the Board's web site and at community sites.

BOARD MEETING DATES

September 14-16, 2011 - Las Vegas

November 16-18, 2011 - Reno

ADVISORY COMMITTEES

The Nevada State Board of Nursing is advised by and appoints members to five standing advisory committees. Committee meetings are open to the public; agendas are posted on the Board's website and at community sites. If you are interested in applying for an appointment to fill an upcoming opening, please visit the Board's website or call the Reno office for an application.

MEETINGS AND OPENINGS

The openings (listed in parentheses) will occur in the next six months. All meetings will be held via video-conference in Reno and Las Vegas.

Advanced Practice Advisory Committee (none)

November 8, 2011

Disability Advisory Committee (none)

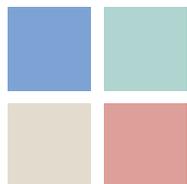
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Education Advisory Committee (two)

October 14, 2011

Nursing Practice Advisory Committee (none)

November 8, 2011



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Nurses: the Board is also auditing for compliance with the one-time renewal requirement for a four-hour bioterrorism course. You must keep a copy of your bioterrorism certificate of completion indefinitely.

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What is the Role of the *Advanced Practice Nurse*?

• By Susan S. VanBeuge, DNP, APN, FNP-BC,
Assistant Professor, UNLV School of Nursing,
NSBN APN Advisory Committee Member

Nursing is a proud profession with many opportunities to grow as an individual. As a student in my BSN program, I was quite proud to be part of this profession for the academic rigor, science and human touch it provided to people, our patients. When I graduated and started work in the emergency department, I recall having my first annual review and telling the nurse manager how happy I was to be doing this job and getting a paycheck, too. After 10 years of emergency, GI, oncology, and pre-operative nursing, I made my way back to graduate school to fulfill a dream of being an advanced practice nurse.

The role of the advanced practice nurse (APN) is defined by the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners (2010): “according to their practice specialty, NPs provide nursing and medical services to individuals, families and groups.” Nurse practitioners diagnose, manage acute episodic and chronic illness, emphasizing health promotion and disease prevention. Additionally, “nurse practitioners may work autonomously and in collaboration with other health care professionals to assess, diagnose, treat and manage health care problems and needs” (AANP, 2010).

The Nevada State Board of Nursing (Nevada Revised Statute, 632.012) defines the “Advanced practitioner of nursing meaning a registered nurse who: 1) has specialized skills, knowledge and experience; and 2) is authorized by the Board to provide services in addition to those that other registered nurses are authorized to provide.”

The consistent message from both the National Nurse Practitioner Organization and the Nevada State Board of Nursing is that APNs are nurses first. Advanced practice is built upon a solid foundation of nursing ethics, values and skills.

During graduate school and as my practice evolved, my most basic nursing skills and values were the solid foundation



of this next step in my professional career. The assessment, planning, implementation and evaluation skills I had developed as a nurse were the core to taking the next step in advanced practice. Nurses have skills of connecting with people, assessing more than just laboratory results and radiology readings; nurses see people as whole with a physiological self, spiritual self, community, and family.

Advanced practice nurses, regardless of the state where licensure occurs, are nurses first. APNs come from a variety of nursing backgrounds with experience brought to patient care. Education for the APN is developed and administered by organizations to assure quality and competency. During their graduate education, APN students must take courses in advanced physical assessment, pathophysiology, pharmacology, theory, research and health and public policy. In addition, students must complete many hundreds of clinical hours in their area of study. Programs available to students include emphasis in practice areas such as family, adult, acute, psychiatry/mental health, in-patient, women’s health, mid-wifery, oncology, neonatal, gerontology and pediatrics. Upon graduation, the majority of students will be required to take certification examinations in their specialty area to assess and demonstrate their specialty knowledge. Nevada* is one of the 47 states to require this certification for practice.

Advanced practice nurses serve in a variety of roles from primary care to in-

patient care of patients. Practice is not just about seeing patients in a clinic or at the bedside. APNs have many roles which they can fill such as an educator, clinician in a variety of roles, administrator, researcher, mentor, and consultant. APNs can model good practice to other disciplines by disseminating and incorporating research findings into practice.

Registered nurses and advanced practice nurses (APNs) have a unique and wonderful relationship in practice as they both have the same foundation of training. Working together, RNs and APNs can collaborate to provide care to improve the health and well-being of their patient population. Additionally, our education emphasizes health promotion and disease prevention to minimize health impacts and improve well-being. As one profession with varied levels of mastery and education, nursing makes the largest impact on patient care and outcomes.

*Nevada will require certification for all new APNs after June 1, 2014.

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- American Academy of Nurse Practitioners (2010). Scope of Practice for Nurse Practitioners. Accessed August 14, 2011 at <http://www.aanp.org/NR/rdon-lyres/FCA07860-3DA1-46F9-80E6-E93A0972FB0D/0/2010ScopeOfPractice.pdf>
- Nevada State Board of Nursing (2011). Nevada Revised Statute. Accessed August 14, 2011 at <http://www.leg.state.nv.us/NRS/NRS-632.html>

Nurse Practitioner **FACTS**

There are over 140,000 nurse practitioners (NPs) practicing in U.S.

- Approximately 9300 new NPs completed their academic programs in 2009-2010
- 93% of NPs have graduate degrees
- 97% of NPs maintain national certification
- 18% of NPs practice in rural or frontier settings
- 88% of NPs are prepared in primary care; 68% of NPs practice in at least one primary care site
- 87% of NPs see patients covered by Medicare and 84% by Medicaid
- 43% of NPs hold hospital privileges; 15% have long term care privileges
- 96.5% of NPs prescribe medications, averaging 20 prescriptions/day
- NPs hold prescriptive privilege in all 50 states, with controlled substances in 48
- The 2009 mean full-time NP base salary was \$89,450, with average full-time NP total income \$97,340
- 60% of NPs see three to four patients per hour; 7% see over five patients per hour
- Malpractice rates remain low; only 2% have been named as primary defendant in a malpractice case
- Average NP is female (96%) and 48 years old; she has been in practice for 12.8 years as a family NP (49%)

Population	Percent of NPs	Years of Practice	Age
Acute Care	5.6	7.0	45
Adult*	19.3	10.9	50
Family*	48.3	9.5	48
Gerontological*	3.2	11.6	52
Neonatal	2.0	12.3	47
Oncology	1.0	8.3	47
Pediatric*	8.5	13.3	49
Psych/Mental Health	3.0	8.5	52
Women's Health*	9.0	14.7	49

* Primary care focus



Sources:

- AANP National NP Database, 2009, 2010
- AANP National 2008 NP Practice Site Survey
- 2009 AANP Membership Survey
- 2009-2010 AANP NP Sample Survey

Additional information is available at the AANP website www.aanp.org.



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HONORING NEVADA NURSES

The 2011 Northern Nevada Nurses of Achievement Award Ceremony was held on May 11th at the Atlantis Casino Resort, Reno. The NSBN was honored to have our board president, Doreen Begley, honored as Community Health Nurse for her great work as the EHS Health Coordinator with Head Start. The NSBN sends its congratulations to all the nominees and winners! The leaders listed below keep Nevada moving forward. The dinner itself has raised \$50,000 for nursing scholarships. As with all projects, a very small number of people make these events happen. Thanks to all of you.

Teena Thomas - *Nursing Education*
(Renown Regional Medical Center)

Megan Pratt - *Patient Advocacy*
(Renown Regional Medical Center)

Bobbi Gillis - *Office/Outpatient*
(Renown Regional Medical Center)

Dawn Dollarhide - *Critical Care*
(Renown Regional Medical Center)

Bridget Tuma - *Medical/Surgical/
Maternal Child* (Renown Regional
Medical Center)

Elizabeth Cogan - *Nursing Innovation*
(Renown Regional Medical Center)

Doreen Begley - *Community Health*
(UNR - Early Head Start)

Gayle Wickman - *Lifetime Achievement*
(UNR - Orvis School of Nursing)

Jean Lyon - *Leadership* (Sierra Surgery
Hospital)

Sandra Ryan - *Licensed Practical Nurse*
(GI Consultants)

Lisa Dunkelberg - *Rural Health* (Carson
Valley Medical Center)

Erika Clizer - *Long Term/Rehabilitation*
(VA Sierra Nevada Health Care System)

Teri Kozik - *Advanced Practice* (Saint
Mary's Regional Medical Center)

In the South, a Professional Awards Dinner/Dance was held at the Sun Coast Hotel and Casino to honor nurses who had advanced their careers within the last year through additional education or through attainment of national certification. The Nevada Nurses Association, in collaboration with the Nevada Association of Nurse Leaders, the Nevada Nursing Education and Practice Alliance, the Zeta Kappa Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International, and the Nevada Student Nurses Association, offered the event.

Award presentations included the following doctoral degree recipients:

Dr. Alona Alegre, Dr. Judith Carrion, Dr. Laura Fillmore, Dr. Wallace Henkelman, Dr. Jene Hurlbut, Dr. Jodie Lane, Dr. Nerie Jamison, Dr. Ludy Llasus, Dr. Carrie O'Reilly, Dr. Lisa Sprue, Dr. Rhigel Tan, and Dr. Annie Matthews.

Dr. Mable Smith was recognized for completing the Robert Wood Johnson Executive Nurse Fellowship, as were Sue Witt, PhD and Kevin Gulliver, MSN, who completed national certification.

It is so important that as nurses we honor our own for moving the profession forward in face of many difficulties in healthcare today. Congratulations!!!

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The State of Nevada, Mental Health and Developmental Services Division has an immediate opening for a full time Psychiatric Nurse II position in Yerington, Carson City and a part time position in Fallon. This position provides professional outpatient nursing care to mentally ill individuals to include assessments and therapeutic interventions. Organizes and oversees the medication clinic. Please apply at: <https://nvapps.state.nv.us/NEATS/Recruiting/ViewJobsHome.aep> recruitment # 14896 (Yerington), 14824 (Carson City), and 14895 (Fallon) or call Jamie Pruneau at (775) 687-7511 for more information.

Have a question?
Give us a call.

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NURSING NEWS

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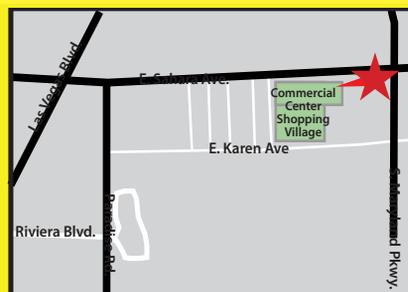
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