

NDOJ

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL Nevada Department of Justice



George J. Chanos, *Attorney General*
Randal R. Munn, *Assistant Attorney General (Northern Nevada)*
Gerald Gardner, *Chief Deputy Attorney General (Southern Nevada)*

100 N. Carson Street
Carson City, Nevada 89701-4717
Telephone - (775) 684-1100
Fax - (775) 684-1108
Web - <http://ag.state.nv.us>

CONTACT: Nicole Moon (775) 684-1114
cell (775) 230-3360
njmoon@ag.state.nv.us

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
DATE: Friday October 6, 2006

ATTORNEY GENERAL CHANOS RELEASES REPORT ON ROYAL LINKS INQUIRY

Las Vegas, NV – Attorney General George Chanos waived the attorney-client privilege and publicly released the report generated from the City of Las Vegas / Royal Links Golf Course inquiry.

"The public paid for this report and they have a right to know its contents," Attorney General Chanos said.

The 157-page investigative report, entitled "Legal Analysis and Opinion Relating to Inquiry Into Matters Concerning the Leasing, Development, and Sale of Wastewater 'Buffer Land' Property, Known as Royal Links Golf Course, and Request For Lift of Deed Restriction," walks through thousands of pages of relevant documents, letters, memos and emails regarding the City of Las Vegas's purchase, lease and sale of this critical sewer plant buffer land over the past decade.

Attorney General Chanos stated, "This report, in painstaking detail, demonstrates years of irregularities and failures by certain City employees in negotiating the lease of land, the transfer of water rights and the eventual sale of the land to Mr. Walters. The report also reveals that the November 2, 2005 lifting of the deed restriction, to allow residential development, was a clear violation of Nevada's Public Purpose Doctrine. We conclude that the City Council acted prudently in rescinding its November 2, 2005 decision to lift the restriction. We hope and trust that the report will inspire the City Council to take appropriate corrective action so that failures like those described in the report will not be repeated."

The Attorney General applauded the courage of a number of dedicated public servants who, during several changes in City administrations, continued to speak out against the improper transactions. Attorney General Chanos stated, "These public servants never lost sight of who they truly represent - the people and taxpayers of the City of Las Vegas."

Attorney General Chanos added, "We also acknowledge the excellent work of the Senn Meulemans law firm. Integrity in government represents a critical State interest and they have provided a great service to the people of State of Nevada with their thorough investigation and objective analysis, which reveals serious failures in government at the City of Las Vegas over the past decade."

The legal analysis and conclusions in the report cite the relevant law regarding the past actions of the City Council.

"This is a fair and reasonable analysis of the past decisions," Attorney General Chanos stated. "It shows that even poor economic decisions by our elected officials enjoy some degree of protection under the law. However, where actions taken by our elected officials are detrimental to the physical and/or economic well-being of the citizens of this State, it constitutes a violation of the Public Purpose Doctrine. This office represents all of the people of the State of Nevada, including, but not limited to, the taxpayers of the City of Las Vegas. To the extent that their legal rights are or have been violated, this office has the authority and the duty to take corrective action. This includes, but is not limited to, whatever legal action may be required to enjoin and/or void any attempt to lift the deed restriction which violates the Public Purpose Doctrine."

CDs of the Report and Exhibit are available at the Attorney General's Las Vegas Office at 555 E. Washington Blvd, Suite 3900, Las Vegas, NV 89101.

#####