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NEVADA'S
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MARJORIE ELLIOTT

Elliott Appointed To Cop Civil Board

Ms. Marjorie Elliott, an unsuccessful candidate for the Las Vegas City Commission seat from Ward three in the recent election, has been named to the Metro Police Civil Service Commission, according to Clark County Commissioner Aaron Williams.

Ms. Elliott was nominated for the position by Commissioner Williams and confirmed at the Aug 6 meeting of the board.

Not only is Ms. Elliott the first Black to be appointed to this commission, but she is also the first woman to serve on it. She also was

the first black real estate broker in this area.

She is an active member of the Rebel Boosters, the Gamma Phi Delta Sorority.

Ms. Elliott's son, Dr. Lonnie Sisson is an optometrist in Las Vegas.

Ms. Elliott is a strong advocate for helping youth and senior citizens. She said she is very happy to be on the board because the Black community needs a representative on it.

Ms. Elliott has lived in Las Vegas for the past 20 years and worked as a real estate broker for 16 of those years.



AARON WILLIAMS

Commissioner Williams Works In Cold Climate

Clark County Commissioner Aaron Williams conducts his fight for the Black Community in a cold, heartless climate.

He said his fellow commissioners for both the county and city do not care anything about this community.

He added, however, that the residents of this community are partially to blame because they do not get out and fight for their welfare and improvements of their community like whites do.

"The Black community did not support me in my fight with the Nevada Power Company. They didn't even show any interest or ask me what was happening," Williams said.

"Somehow the Black community has to be provoked into getting off of its duff. People are always asking why nothing is ever built in our community. The answer is simple--Blacks don't fight for new construction or anything else," Williams said.

At times during his interview with the VOICE, Williams showed strain of a man who has fought long and hard without the comfort of at least a well-done pat on the back.

His accomplishments are many. But most of them have gone unrecognized or the credit given to someone else.

Very few people know that Williams was instrumental in getting Dr. Lonnie Sisson appointed to the Clark County Planning Board three years ago. Scission became the chairman of that board this year.

The commissioner was also instrumental in getting the Doolittle Recreation Center renovated two years ago. "The Las Vegas City Commission threatened to throw me out of its revenue sharing meeting when I asked for \$75,000 to repair the center. It finally allocated \$50,000 for that job," Williams said.

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NEVADA'S
 BLACK COMMUNITY WEEKLY

VOICE 15¢

Nevada Family Seeks New Drug Program

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Nevada Family, a residential therapeutic community for hardcore drug addicts, has submitted a proposal to state prison officials for a two-year pilot "pre-release" program for inmates serving time because of drug related crimes.

Burke Whitfield, Executive Director of Nevada Family and George Maldonado, Clinical Director, recently spent two days in the state's capitol meeting with Warden Ed Pougue, other officials, and visiting inmates at the medium, maximum and women's prison as well as attending group therapy sessions held for the inmates.

Some \$50,000 of federal funds has been granted to the State of Nevada for pre-release of prisoners. Whitfield, whose specialty is the drug addict and his or hers criminal life patterns, wants the addict-prisoner pre-released to Nevada Family.

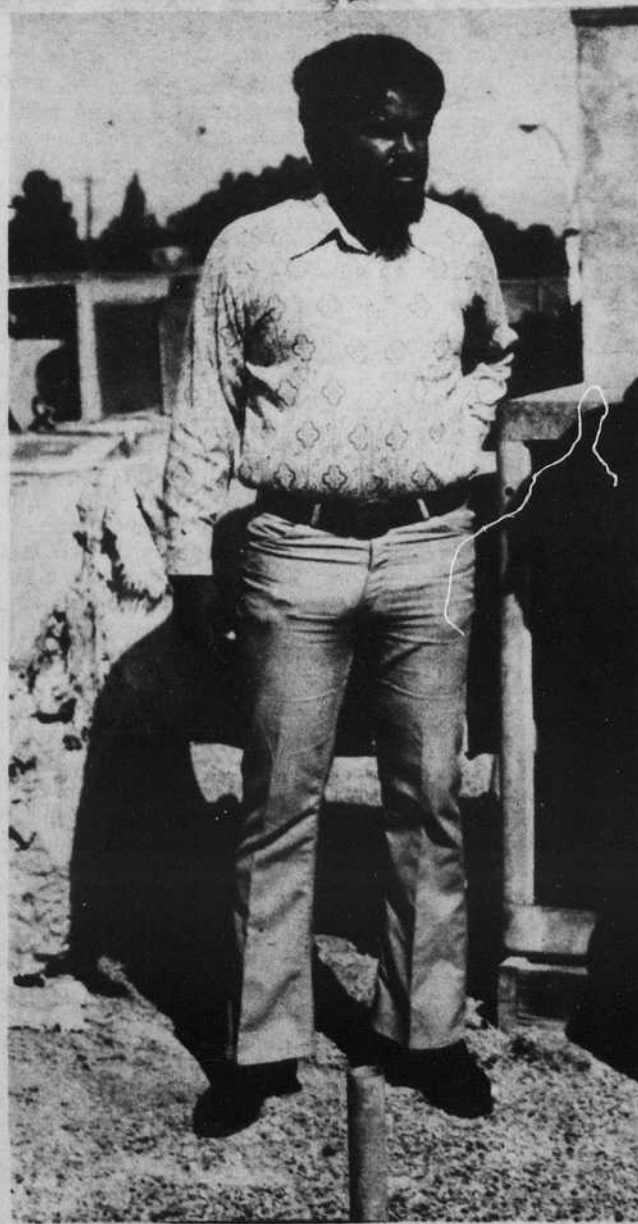
"This is our specialty," he says. "We're the only

program in the state effectively dealing with the joint problem of the addict and crime. And when 50 per cent of Nevada's prison population is drug-crime oriented, and the highest rate of returnees is from this group, it makes sense to put the problem where it can be dealt with.

"Incarceration alone will not solve the problem. These people must be re-socialized and taught to cope with life on a day-to-day basis. This is what we do at The Family."

You simply cannot, he emphasized, return these people to the streets, to the same peer pressure and environment they failed to survive in the first place and expect them to make it.

Whitfield's proposal calls for the prison addict to be pre-released to The Family prior to his parole date. "This is no 'short-term' therapy program. The addict's lifestyle didn't develop overnight, it won't be changed overnight."



BURKE WHITFIELD