

Competitor To Stop Chaney PSC Rejects Bid By Bus

A transportation company, owned by Las Vegas Assemblyman Lonie Chaney, Monday survived its first challenge to recover charter and special service routes in Clark County it had lost in a decision by the Nevada Supreme Court.

The state Public Service Commission rejected a motion by opponents of Westside Charter Service to dismiss the application to reinstate the routes.

The Las Vegas Transit System and the Gray Line Tours of Southern Nevada said the law requires Westside Charter must wait six months after the Supreme Court decision in June before it could reapply for the routes.

The commission, however, rejected that theory of the law by the two firms.

Westside Charter gained its state permits in 1979. But Gray Lines filed suit and finally won a Supreme Court victory last month that the state

permits had not been properly issued.

Westside has now reapplied and the next step apparently will be a public hearing for the firm to show the commission why it should be granted the franchises.

PSC attorney Bill Kockenmeister recommended the Grayline request be rejected because it was not based on legal precedent. Grayline asked the PSC to throw out Chaney's application to operate his charter firm because state law requires an applicant to wait at least four months before filing an application if a previous application has been turned down by the PSC.

Last month, the Nevada Supreme Court ruled that the original 1979 certificate granted to Westside Charter Service was invalid except for a few bus routes that are not profitable. The ruling resulted from a civil suite brought against Chaney's firm by Grayline.

Two weeks ago, Chaney filed a new application for Westside Charter seeking to regain charter authority for commuter routes of Nevada Test Site workers and other tourist routes to and from McCarran International Airport. Grayline Tours contended Chaney could not file his reapplication so soon after the Supreme Court threw out his former certificate of operation.

Kockenmeister, however, told the new five-member PSC that state law only prohibits a reapplication if the PSC rejects the original application. The fact that the high court rejected the original application means Chaney could reapply any time he wants.

The vote to dismiss Grayline's request has no bearing on the fate of Chaney's application. A separate hearing on the merits of the charter application is expected in several weeks.

GAINES, JOHNSON ON CORRECTION CENTER LEAVE

According to yesterday's Las Vegas Sun, Southern Desert Correctional Center Lt. Lovell Gaines and corrections officers Clyde Johnson and Donna Smith will remain on administrative leave despite Monday's Metro Police disclosure that a tape implicating the trio in the murder of corrections Sgt. Vincent Tatum is phony.

State Prisons Director Vernon Housewright said Tuesday he will keep in effect his order placing the three guards on paid leave while Metro homicide investigators continue to probe the possibility that the trio took part in the murder.

"The investigation is continuing", he said. "I'm not going to change my order now."

Police reported no new developments in the case Tuesday.

Housewright said he may file charges against SDCC prisoner Jackie Keese, who admitted to police Monday he scripted and produced with other prisoners a cassette tape that he claimed was a recording of Gaines talking on his office phone to Johnson about Tatum's murder.

Keese, serving 10-years-to-life for armed robbery, has been in protective custody at the prison since Friday because some prisoners were irritated at the attention he has brought to the prison, Housewright said. He is

found buried in a shallow grave on Sunrise Mountain last Sept. 25. He had disappeared shortly after his work shift at the Indian Springs prison 25 days earlier.

Keese's script made it sound as if Gaines, Johnson and Smith participated in the murder to keep Tatum from blackmailing one of them.



LOVELL GAINES

a transfer from Arizona and is due for another transfer to Wyoming soon.

He gave police the tape July 17, and it led homicide detectives to suspect the three guards in the slaying. Police questioned the trio, and Housewright placed them on leave for their protection and the protection of the prison. Johnson had recently been transferred from SDCC to the Southern Nevada Correctional Center in Jean.

Tatum's body was

REPORT: Chaney Seeks Aid From NAACP

The Las Vegas NAACP executive board has agreed to seek legal aid for Assemblyman Lonie Chaney's troubled Westside Charter Service in its bid to regain an operating certificate, according to the Las Vegas Review Journal.

In a closed meeting Tuesday, the board heard allegations by Chaney that his bus company is being forced out of business for racial reasons, according to sources who did not want to be named.

Board members voted to seek advice from attorneys for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in New York City and San Francisco.

Local NAACP President the Rev. James Allen, refused

comment.

"When I get ready to comment I'll give you a call," Allen said.

Former Las Vegas City Commissioner William Pearson, an executive board member who, according to persons present at the meeting, made the motion for the vote, said, "I will not confirm or deny anything."

Chaney, however, confirmed the vote, saying he decided to seek NAACP support because, "We've been paying a lot of legal expenses and we wanted to ask for legal support if we need it."

The vote of support marks a significant shift in the turbulent administration of Allen, who has been a consistent vocal opponent

of Chaney.

Last month, disgruntled chapter members, many of them longtime associates of the assemblyman, levied charges of malfeasance against Allen, who nearly resigned but later changed his mind.

Las Vegas Sentinel-Voice has moved its offices to a new location at 1201 South Eastern Avenue, Las Vegas,

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Man Guns Down Patron In Liquor Store

A gunman opened fire in a bar on Bonanza Road Monday night, killing a man as he stood by a pool table, Metropolitan Police said.

The shooting occurred about 6:45 p.m. in Gilbert Brothers Liquor, a small tavern on the corner of Bonanza Road and "D" Street.

Detective Sgt. Ted Rosen said police have not established a motive.

"We really don't know," Rosen said. "He just walked into the bar and shot numerous times."

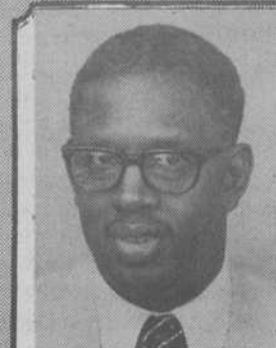
Rosen said the weapon was a small-caliber pistol.

The victim, who was in the bar by himself, was struck several times and fell dead near a pool

table, Rosen said. Authorities identified the slain man through fingerprints. The name of the victim, who was in his late 20's, was being withheld until relatives are notified.

Rosen also said police had targeted a suspect in the slaying by talking to witnesses, and a search was initiated. A description of the suspect was broadcast to police units late Monday night.

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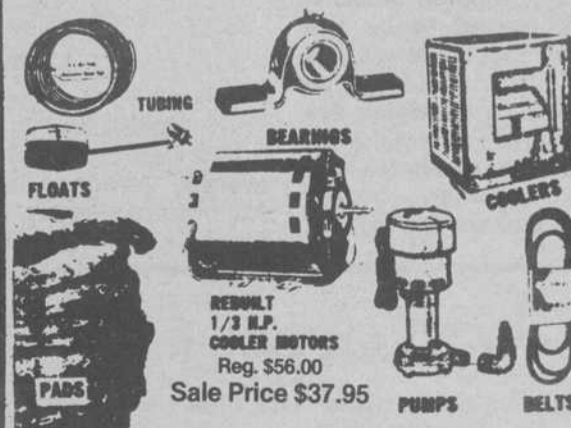
Residential Income
&
Land Commercial

John
Pitts

John brings to the real estate industry, a background of mathematics, having been a mathematics teacher for over 20 years. At present, John is a teacher with Clark County School District. He doubles as a residential sales person with Toler Realty. John, his wife and daughter arrived in Las Vegas from Gary, Indiana.

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