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Page 1 of 1

## NEVADA STATE HEALTH DIVISION NEWS RELEASE

### Nevada Governor Brian Sandoval and Nevada State Health Officer Dr. Tracey Green, unite to bring awareness to health issues that impact all Nevadans

*Carson City* – The Nevada State Health Division announces the release of two thirty-second television spots for the “One and Only Campaign,” a national public health education and awareness initiative developed by the Safe Injection Practices Coalition (SIPC) together with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The SIPC is comprised of patient advocacy organizations, foundations, provider associations and industry partners. The two organizations are working together to halt disease transmission caused by unsafe injection practices in United States healthcare facilities. The campaign slogan emphasizes the importance of healthcare personnel using “one needle, one syringe, only one time” to protect patients from bloodborne viruses and other pathogens.

Governor Sandoval and Dr. Green collaborated to film two thirty-second television messages aimed at all Nevadans. “I want to thank the Governor and his staff for making the time so these messages could become a reality. He had only been in office about ten days when we taped the pieces. Governor Sandoval’s commitment to the health and welfare of all Nevadans is clearly evident,” said Dr. Green.

“The vast majority of healthcare professionals are doing the right thing. This is very basic, just like washing your hands. Now is the time for all of Nevada’s healthcare professionals to unite and put an end to unsafe injection practices in the Silver State. Also, now is time for patients to become active partners in their healthcare. It is okay to ask your doctor, nurse, technician, etc. questions about your health and well-being,” said Joseph Theile, Director of the Nevada One and Only Safe Injections Campaign.

Since 1999, more than 125,000 patients in the United States have been notified of potential exposure to hepatitis B virus (HBV), hepatitis C virus (HCV), and HIV due to lapses in basic infection control practices. Many of these lapses involved healthcare providers reusing syringes, resulting in contamination of medication vials or containers which were then used on subsequent patients.

To learn more about the One and Only Campaign visit: [www.OneandOnlycampaign.org](http://www.OneandOnlycampaign.org) or contact the Nevada Safe Injection Practices Campaign Director at (775) 684-1043.

For more information about the Nevada State Health Division, go to: <http://health.nv.gov>.

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A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Richard Whitley".

Richard Whitley, Administrator

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