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Phone Number: 775.684.4014 Release Date: Page 1 of 1

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## **NEVADA STATE HEALTH DIVISION NEWS RELEASE**

## State Health Division Announces Release of a New Educational Brochure for Patients and Activation of an Online Ordering System for Safe Injection Practices Public Awareness Campaign

Carson City - The Nevada State Health Division, as part of their continuing commitment to increase public safety and to address the ongoing problem of unsafe injection practices across the United States, announced today the release of a new educational brochure for patients as part of the One and Only Campaign in Nevada. In addition, they also announced the activation of an online ordering system for all of the materials related to the Campaign.

Joseph Theile, Director of the Nevada One and Only Safe Injections Campaign said, "All of these educational materials can be ordered for FREE or downloaded by the viewer directly from the One and Only Campaign Website. There is absolutely no reason for any healthcare facility in our state not to make these materials available to their patients and staff. It is time for all healthcare professionals in our state to join together and demand an end to unsafe injection practices. Unfortunately, it has happened here and from coast to coast across the United States. Some states, such as New York, Florida and California, have experienced outbreaks resulting from unsafe injection practices more than once. No one wants that to happen in Nevada. In light of recent events, healthcare providers need to step back, take a hard look at what is happening around our country and review and implement the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Guidelines on Safe Injection Practices and basic infection control. This will help to give their patients the confidence and reassurance they need and deserve."

The One & Only Campaign is a national public health education and awareness initiative developed by the Safe Injection Practices Coalition (SIPC). SIPC is comprised of patient advocacy organizations, foundations, provider associations and industry partners, together with Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and has united to halt disease transmission caused by unsafe injection practices in United States healthcare facilities. The campaign name refers to the importance of healthcare personnel using "one needle, one syringe, only one time" to protect patients from bloodborne viruses and other pathogens.

For more information on the materials and to learn more about the Nevada One and Only Safe Injection Campaign visit their web site at www.oneandonlycampaign.org or call the Campaign's Director at (775) 684-1043.

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

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