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**CONTACT: Richard H. Brown, 775-861-6480**

### Agreement Enables BLM and Clark County to Share Surveying Resources

A first-of-its-kind agreement between the Nevada Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and Clark County will enable the BLM and the county to share resources for completing "official federal surveys."

Under the new Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), county surveyors working collaboratively with BLM and under BLM authority will be able to complete official federal surveys on public land scheduled to be patented to the county. The MOU enables BLM to complete the survey near the beginning of the patenting process rather than at the end.

The official federal survey must be completed before a patent can be issued.

"This MOU means the county will be able to help the BLM cut a lot of time out of the process, and that's really important given the tremendous amount of growth we've seen in Southern Nevada," said Clark County Surveyor Brett Lane. "We can't get a patent issued until the official federal survey gets done and the results are identified in a plat." Plats are drawings that represent the boundary lines created or established through survey of a particular area of public lands.

The ultimate goal of the MOU is to leverage federal and local government survey resources, eliminate duplicated survey efforts whenever possible, and create a proactive approach to both the BLM's and the county's public land survey needs.

"Since the BLM and the county will also plan collaboratively, this creates the opportunity to save money, resources and efforts," said Dave Morlan, Chief of the BLM Nevada Branch of Geographic Services.

The BLM is the federal agency authorized by Congress and through the Secretary of the Interior to complete "official" federal surveys, according to Morlan.

The MOU applies to all public land disposal mechanisms, including the Recreation and Public Purposes (R&PP) Act, the Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act (SNPLMA), and the Lincoln County Land Act (LCLA).

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