

Office of the Governor

JIM GIBBONS GOVERNOR

December 11, 2009

Ms. Peggy Pierce, Assemblywoman 5304 Gipsy Avenue Las Vegas, Nevada

Dear Assemblywoman Pierce,

It is unfortunate that I need to write this letter but I want it to serve as a reminder that you work for and represent the citizens of Nevada. Let me assure you that the Governor's staff are not only citizens of Nevada, but your coworkers and would appreciate a little common courtesy.

This morning your call to our office yelling and ordering staff to "fix the Nevada Christmas tree which is an embarrassment to Nevada" was out of line. The acting front receptionist Anna Thornley and my assistant, Jodi Protopappas were assaulted by your demands and tone. You continued this tirade on speaker phone while my assistant and I were trying to understand what tree you were even yelling about. You finally explained it was the State mall tree located in Washington D.C., and "some catholic school" decorated it.

Due to your call I am now somewhat more educated on the tree of which you spoke. The Catholic school you referred to is Our Lady of the Snows School, located in Nevada. It is evidently tradition for schools to decorate the tree and we in the Governors office are delighted that this school chose to participate by decorating the tree for Nevada. While you may be embarrassed at the fact that "tourists are making fun of Nevada's tree" we truly believe that beauty is in the eye of the beholder.

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I hope the holidays find you and your family well. I also hope that the spirit of the season will help you find beauty in the efforts of these children and patience in the coming year with so many truly significant issues coming forward for our citizenry.

Sincerely, Robin V. Reedy Chief of Staff