

IN THE COURT OF APPEALS OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

GLORIA KOPEC CAMPE, THE
PETITIONER AND CO-
ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ESTATE
OF SEAN CAMPE, DECEASED,
Appellant,
vs.
CLARK COUNTY,
Respondent.

No. 69025

FILED

DEC 28 2016

ELIZABETH A. BROWN
CLERK OF SUPREME COURT
BY *[Signature]*
DEPUTY CLERK

ORDER OF AFFIRMANCE

This is an appeal from a district court order denying a petition for a writ of mandamus. Eighth Judicial District Court, Clark County; J. Charles Thompson, Senior Judge.

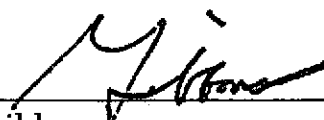
After appellant's son's death, appellant filed a petition for a writ of mandamus in the district court seeking an order directing respondent Clark County to change the manner of death listed on her son's death certificate. The district court denied the writ because it found that appellant failed to prove standing to bring the petition. Specifically, the district court concluded that appellant had failed to show that she had any beneficial interest in obtaining writ relief. *See Heller v. Legislature of Nev.*, 120 Nev. 456, 460-61, 93 P.3d 746, 749 (2004) ("To establish standing in a mandamus proceeding, the petitioner must demonstrate a 'beneficial interest' in obtaining writ relief."). We agree with the district court and respondent that appellant failed to demonstrate a beneficial interest in obtaining writ relief.


In order "[t]o demonstrate a beneficial interest sufficient to pursue a mandamus action, a party must show a direct and substantial interest that falls within the zone of interests to be protected by the legal

16-901550

duty asserted.” *Id.* at 461, 93 P.3d at 749 (quoting *Lindelli v. Town of San Anselmo*, 4 Cal. Rptr. 3d 453, 461 (Ct. App. 2003)). Below and on appeal, appellant failed to identify what beneficial interest was at stake and our review of the record did not uncover any such interest. *See Arguello v. Sunset Station, Inc.*, 127 Nev. 365, 368, 252 P.3d 206, 208 (2011) (“Standing is a question of law reviewed de novo.”). And, while appellant did assert that the manner of death identified on the death certificate was disapproved of by the decedent’s religion, she failed to provide any legal authority or cogent argument demonstrating that changing the identified manner of death to coincide with the decedent’s religious beliefs created a beneficial interest in appellant obtaining writ relief. *See Edwards v. Emperor’s Garden Rest.*, 122 Nev. 317, 330 n.38, 130 P.3d 1280, 1288 n.38 (2006) (providing that appellate courts need not consider claims that are not cogently argued or supported by relevant authority). Indeed, appellant failed to present any such argument or authority despite respondent having noted the absence of a beneficial interest in opposing the petition below and in its answering brief on appeal. Accordingly, for the reasons sets forth above, we affirm the district court’s determination that appellant lacked standing to bring her writ petition.

It is so ORDERED.¹


_____, C.J.
Gibbons


_____, J.
Tao


_____, J.
Silver

¹Based on our decision that appellant lacked standing, we need not address the district court’s alternative conclusion that writ relief was not warranted.

cc: Chief Judge, Eighth Judicial District Court
Hon. J. Charles Thompson, Senior Judge
Ara H. Shirinian, Settlement Judge
Potter Law Offices
Clark County District Attorney/Civil Division
Eighth District Court Clerk