

COMMUNIQUÉ THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE CLARK COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION OCTOBER 2020

Local Courts

Looking Forward to the Administration of Justice: A Variety of Views from the Bench and Bar



CCBA President Mariteresa Rivera-Rogers

LVMC Chief Judge Cynthia Leung LVJC Chief Judge Melissa J Saragosa

NSC Chief EJDC Homicide T Justice Kristina Case Managem Pickering Judge Tierra Joi

EJDC Homicide Team Bar Member Case Management Jennifer Braster Judge Tierra Jones Bar Member Alex LeVeque

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BOOKS FROM THE BAR

The State Bar of Nevada has several reference publications available to meet the needs of Nevada attorneys, from comprehensive guides to compilations of templates in a variety of practice areas.



Nevada Appellate Practice Manual – 2018 EDITION

The 2018 edition has been painstakingly edited by experts in appellate practice and reflects all recent changes in the law as well as the most up-to-date procedures for practicing in Nevada's appellate courts. Some topics covered include: initiating an appeal, jurisdiction, settlement, criminal appeals, fasttrack child custody, oral arguments and record preparation...in addition to many others.



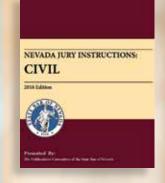
Nevada Gaming Law Practice and Procedure Manual

Written by attorneys with decades of experience in the practice of gaming law, this reference manual includes 18 chapters covering topics such as licensing, financing, gaming devices, race and sports books, compliance reporting requirements, interactive gaming and much more.



Contract Templates for Nevada Attorneys

This publication provides lawyers with a large selection of form contracts drafted for a wide variety of transactions, with specific regard to the laws of Nevada. The customizable forms are designed as a starting point for practitioners to craft custom agreements for use in commercial and residential purchases and leases, employment, intellectual property, deeds and cyber law...to name a few.



Nevada Jury Instructions: Civil - 2018 EDITION

Nevada Jury Instructions: Civil provides attorneys participating in civil jury trials in Nevada with downloadable sample jury instructions in an easy-to-use format. The language in each template has been adapted from documents actually used in trial with an eye to being as partyneutral as possible. The book includes subjects such as: contractual relationships, employment law, evidence, experts, intentional torts, fiduciary relationships, personal injury damages, eminent domain and more!

We've Got More!

The state bar's online store includes additional titles of interest to attorneys practicing in Nevada, such as Nevada Business Entities, Succession Planning in Nevada and the Guide to the Tribal Courts of the Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada.

To see all of the current titles available, visit: <u>www.nvbar.org</u> > Publications > State Bar Publications





COMMUNIQUÉ

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Photo of the new Las Vegas Municipal Courthouse construction courtesy of Stephanie Abbott.

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On a more serious note.

By Mariteresa Rivera-Rogers, Esq.

t is our seventh month since the official declaration of the Coronavirus pandemic, and the end remains elusive. We pivot, we create, we hope, and we remain optimistic of a positive end. But the death toll is staggering, there is no end in sight and, as fast as pharmaceutical companies are rushing to come up with a vaccine that can slow down the virus, more deaths happen on a daily basis. Added to the pandemic, our entire country is in a turmoil and citizens of all colors clamor for social justice. Our neighboring states and other distant states suffer with fires, hurricanes, flooding, and other disasters. Our city suffers with unemployment and the inability to operate our businesses based on gambling and entertainment because of restrictions due to the pandemic.

As for social justice, skin color should not be used to describe a person's accomplishments, their faults, or anything else. This has gone on for so long, with many similar situations occurring prior to this one, and yet we have made little progress. We need to make a concerted effort to open the lines of communication and explain and share with those who have never experienced these injustices why this is wrong. As the eternal optimist I think this time people may be listening and we may be able to have a more meaningful conversation moving forward. My faith in the younger generations remains strong. They will have to take over soon and most learn by example; let's give them a good example.

Where we are at this time brings me to the next issue. Voting. With elections around the corner it is so important that we vote. It does not matter your political persuasion, your status in society, or your gender,

County Bar Association through December of 2020.

spent decades advocating for the right to vote. In this 100th year anniversary of their accomplishment we must honor their hard work and vote. It is appalling to learn how low the percentages of eligible voters are who end up voting in each election. This year with a pandemic interfering in our daily lives, it may be more difficult than other years. All through the history of this country, lawyers have been at the core of resolving issues for people and society. Let's continue to be involved and please, please, please make sure you vote and encourage those around you to do the same. Whether you vote by mail or go to the polls in person, following pandemic protocols, do not let anything get in the way-DO VOTE!

In the meantime, at the CCBA, we keep on working to give our members as many benefits as we can. One of the main components of our membership is the networking and camaraderie we develop on a regular basis by having luncheons, CLE, and other social events that bring those in the legal profession together. We meet judges, we meet other attorneys who practice in other areas of the law, we meet mentors, we help students, we provide services, and we get together to give back to the community at large. All those things don't work as well on ZOOM, but be damned if this virus is going to stop us. We remain motivated to keep going strong. We will be proposing new committees to address some of the current issues and remain relevant in the conversation. If you are willing to volunteer for a committee in diversity and inclusion, a financial committee, or join any of the existing committees: Community Service, Publications (must be an attorney), or CLE, please let us know. We welcome new volunteers. C

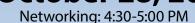


but voting is such an important expression of the power we still have to make a choice. Women

Mariteresa Rivera-Rogers, Esq. is an associate at the Las Vegas criminal defense firm Wright

HALLOWEEN PPE FASHION SHOW & COMPETITION

Wednesday, October 28, 2020



- Presentation & Judging: 5:00-5:45 PM
- Award Presentation: 5:55-6:00 PM

Featuring

 Prizes for unique design and creative use of Halloween costume with personal protective equipment (PPE) incorporated!

Competition Judges & Moderator

- EJDC Judge Nancy Allf
- LV City Attorney Bryan Scott
- CCBA President Mariteresa
 Rivera-Rogers
- EJDC Judge Jerry Wiese (moderator)

Online via Zoom

RSVP to Donnaw@clarkcountybar.org

Hosted by CCBA's New Lawyer Committee

CLARK COUNTY BAR OCTOBER LUNCHEON Thursday,

October 15, 2020 Networking: 12:00-12:15 PM

Presentation: 12:15-12:45 PM

Featuring

- Las Vegas Mayor Carolyn Goodman
- Las Vegas City Attorney Bryan Scott

Online via Zoom

RSVP to Donnaw@clarkcountybar.org

Sponsors





No fee to attend these events. Donations to CCBA gladly accepted.

Also, don't miss out on this special offer:

Bar Services

2021 CCBA Membership Early Bird Special Offer

Available for a limited time only!

CCBA members are invited to renew their CCBA membership for 2021 before 10/15/2020 to receive a link to download the video recording of a program offering 2 Ethics CLE credits for Nevada lawyers. For more information, see page 23.

2020 Association Health Plans for Clark County Bar Association

Don't Wait for Your Renewal to Get a Quote! Rolling enrollment effective now, plans renew October 2021

Clark County Bar Association members with 2 (unrelated) to 50 full-time employees can now offer insurance coverage for their employees and their families with a high-quality, affordable Association Health Plan medical plan from Prominence.

Not an Association member? Enroll at www.clarkcountybar.org

Large Group Benefits for Small Employer Groups

- A range of coinsurance options
- Copays for widely used benefits like PCP visits, specialists and lab services
- Statewide HMO open access
- National Cigna PPO network access

Employers Have Options... and Flexibility

- Choose from six health plan options, including HSA-qualified see reverse
- Affordable monthly premiums

PARTICIPATING AREAS INCLUDE:

Clark County Nye County

PROMINENCE ASSOCIATION HEALTH PLANS

Our Association Health Plans allow small employers to join as one entity to purchase the type of coverage that is traditionally available to large group employers. This results in less expensive and richer health plan options that can then be passed along to the employee.

PLAN HIGHLIGHTS YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS!

- **Cigna National Network** Prominence has partnered with Cigna to create a national network for use outside of Nevada for those members enrolled in either a POS or PPO health plan.
- **Teladoc** 24/7 member care via telephone or video from licensed physicians, psychiatrists, clinical social workers and counselors for a \$0 cost share. Note, High Deductible Health Plans are subject to deductible first and benefits will be rendered at the contractual rate based upon type of service.
- **Comprehensive Provider Network** Includes many notable and board certified physicians throughout the state, offering members excellent access to quality medical services.

Contact your broker or PHP-GroupQuotes@uhsinc.com for more information







Bar Services

Picture Day

Tuesday, October 27, 2020 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. only

Clark County Bar, 717 S. 8th Street, Las Vegas

Please:

- Set an appointment time (between 9:30 a.m. and 2 p.m.) in advance. Send your preferred appointment time with your RSVP.
- Wear a mask inside our of-• fice. Mask can be removed for your portrait session.
- Dress for success. •
- Stay 6 ft. apart from any • other people in the office.
- Update your professional image.

Special offer:

CCBA members to be offered a special price to purchase images directly from the photographer at this sitting.

RSVP to:

Steph at CCBA, (702) 387-6011, StephanieAbbott@clarkcountybar.org.

Certified Divorce Real Estate Expert Julia Feng

- Featured in "Top Agent Magazine" Featured Agent of "The American Dream" TV Show Ranked Top 1% Agent and Top 25 Women in Real Estate



Bar Activities

Bar Committee Meetings

Upcoming meetings of CCBA's planning committees:

- **Community Service:** Fri., Oct. 2 (12 to 1 p.m.)—RSVP to Steph
- Publications: Tues., Oct. 6 (12 to 1 p.m.)—RSVP to Steph
- New Lawyers: Thur., Oct. 8 (12 to 1 p.m.)—RSVP to Donna
- CLE: Fri., Oct. 9 (12 to 1 p.m.)-RSVP to Donna

Meetings are held at the CCBA office typically; however, meetings will be held via teleconference until further notice. To participate in an upcoming meeting, CCBA members will need to RSVP to Steph (StephanieAbbott@clarkcountybar.org) or Donna (Donnaw@clarkcountybar.org) in order to receive details for participation in the meeting via Zoom. For more information about each committee, see https://clarkcountybar.org/about/ committees/.

Continuing Legal Education

The CCBA offers programming for the continuing legal education (CLE) of Nevada lawyers. CCBA's CLE programming is produced by the CCBA's CLE committee and sponsored by Bank of Nevada and Las Vegas Legal Video. For more information, see pages 10, 12-13.

Halloween PPE Fashion Show & Competition

CCBA members are invited to participate in this fun networking event:

- When: October 28, 2020 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m.
 - Networking: 4:30 p.m.
 - Competition: 5 to 5:45 pm. •
- Where: Online via Zoom •
- Please: Dress up for Halloween and include interesting PPE •
- RSVP today! To participate, RSVP to Donnaw@clarkcountybar. • org for Zoom details.

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Advertising space available

For more information and to confirm space reservations, proposals of content, artwork specifications, rates, discounts, and deadlines, contact the Clark County Bar Association, (702) 387-6011, StephanieAbbott@clarkcountybar.org.



COMMUNIQUÉ

About Communiqué

Editorial Board

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Communiqué Production Stephanie Abbott

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Communiqué accepts advertisements from numerous sources and makes no independent investigation or verification of any claim or statement made in the advertisement. All articles, letters, and advertisements contained in this publication represent the views of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Clark County Bar Association. All legal and other issues discussed are not for the purpose of answering specific legal questions. Attorneys and others are strongly advised to independently research all issues.

Editorial Calendar

Cover date Issue topic **Five Things** January 2020 February 2020 March 2020 April 2020 . May 2020 June/July 2020* August 2020 Family Law September 2020 October 2020 November 2020 December 2020 Pro Bono

Five Things Labor & Employment Technology in Law Practice Cannabis Law Sports & Entertainment Law Mental Health Family Law O Appellate Practice Local Courts O Administrative Law Pro Bono

*The June/July issue is published in June. There is no publication released in July. The editorial calendar may change without notice at any time.

Space reservations are encouraged at least two months in advance. Space is limited with placement only guaranteed to paid advertisements. The deadline for submission of all content is 30 days prior the first day of the desired month of publication.

Communiqué will not publish self-serving articles promoting a specific named product or services of an individual or firm.

Article Opportunities

To write an article for publication, send a proposal to the Clark County Bar Association, Attn: Editor-in-Chief, via e-mail to StephanieAbbott@clarkcountybar.org. Proposals should include the following information:

- Author(s) name(s) and Nevada bar #(s)
- Summary paragraph providing the focus and scope for the article (include relevant rules/ statutes/procedures, etc.)
- Proposed issue for placement (see editorial calendar above)

All proposals and articles submitted will be considered for publication. However, *Communiqué* will not publish self-serving articles promoting a specific named product or services of an individual or firm. Articles must be on topic and original, unpublished works. Preference will be given to articles written by attorney members of the CCBA.

Advertising Opportunities

Space is available for paid announcements of professional achievements, goods, and services. Rates, policies, and specifications are available upon request. Contact the Clark County Bar Association to confirm availability of placement, graphic design services, and discounts.

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Picture Day

CCBA members are invited to sit for a portrait at the CCBA office on Tuesday, October 27, 2020 from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information, see page 7.

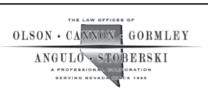
Judicial Candidate Profiles 2020

The CCBA is offering the paid placement of Judicial Candidate Profiles on the Clark County Bar's website to all judicial candidates (incumbents and challengers) who are running for a seat on the bench in Nevada's election this year. See profiles listed at https://clarkcountybar.org/marketplace/ judicial-candidate-profiles/.Note: Profiles are paid placements and do not constitute endorsements by the CCBA.

Walk to End Alzheimer's® - Las Vegas

On Saturday, November 7, 2020, the CCBA Community Service Committee will participate in the Alzheimer's Association Walk to End Alzheimer's[®], the world's largest event to raise awareness and funds for Alzheimer's care, support and research. All CCBA members are invited to walk and/or support the cause. For more information see our team page at https://act.alz.org/site/TR?fr_id=13268&pg=team&team_id=629482.

Contact: Community Service Committee member Stu Rich, (702) 878-0959, stuartr@richwightman.com.



PATERNO C. JURANI

Has joined Olson Cannon Gormley & Stoberski PC as an Associate Attorney. Paterno Jurani is a graduate of the University of San Diego School of Law. Prior to law school, Paterno attended the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, where he graduated with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Accountancy. A member of the State Bar of Nevada since 2000, he is admitted to practice in the U.S. District Court, District of Nevada, U.S. District Court, Southern District of California, and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. Paterno has specialized in the areas of insurance defense, construction defense litigation, mortgage-related and consumer finance

litigation, and foreclosures.

Telephone: 702-384-4012 pjurani@ocgas.com www.ocgas.com

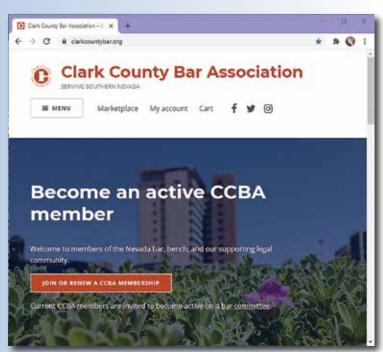
Bar Services Update

Revamp to Bar Website Changes CCBA Member Login Credentials

Recently, the CCBA revamped the association's website at www.clarkcountybar.org.

The CCBA staff upgraded the platform and developed a mobile-friendly responsive design. The updates affected the entire website with changes made to the platform, design, static pages, blog posts, navigational elements, and more. Due to the upgrades, the login credentials for CCBA members changed.

Current CCBA members may login using their email address or user name, but they will need to



reset their password. To reset a password, follow the prompt for "Lost your password?" at https://clarkcountybar.org/my-account/.

Contact: Stephanie at (702) 387-6011, StephanieAbbott@clarkcountybar.org.



Bar Services Continuing Legal Education Programs

The Clark County Bar Association (CCBA) is an Accredited Provider with the Nevada Board of Continuing Legal Education (CLE).

CCBA offers recorded CLE seminars for Nevada lawyers to stream from the Internet browser on their desktop or mobile device.

Orders for recorded CLE seminars can be made online at ClarkCountyBar.org (see "CCBA Shop") or via e-mail to CCBA Executive Director Donna Wiessner via Donnaw@ clarkcountybar.org.

Special thanks to the following businesses for their support of the CCBA's CLE programming services:





Continuing Legal Education

Now available to stream from your desktop or mobile device

CLE Program

Streamlined Bankruptcy Option for Small Business

Speakers: **Candace Carlyon, Esq. Dawn Cica, Esq.** *Carlyon Cica Chtd*.



This program addresses the recent changes in law and procedure for small business bankruptcies. Includes discussion of the SMALL BUSINESS REORGANIZATION ACT OF 2019, CARES Act, eligibility, filing requirements, and more.

Take this course to learn about:

- Small business challenges
- Eligibility
- Business debt
- Filing requirements
- Plan remedies

Offers:

1.0 General CLE Credit

CLE Program

Real Estate Development & Entitlements

Speaker:

Cody T. Winterton, Esq. Senior Vice President of Raintree Investment Corporation

Cody Winterton is responsible for the development of Lake Las Vegas and is also on the Colorado River Commission.

This program will highlight important factors related to real estate development and entitlements.

Take this course to learn about subjects from financing to city approval, and everything in between.

Offers:

1.0 General CLE Credit

CLE continued on page 12



Your business doesn't stop working at night.



At Bank of Nevada, we don't clock out until you do.

We do what it takes to give our clients peace of mind, and that includes making ourselves available when it's convenient for you.

Bank on Accountability®



Meet Your Local Banking Expert: Jeffrey Miracle Vice President, Commercial Banking jmiracle@bankofnevada.com (702) 252-6127 bankofnevada.com

WAA Top 10 - Forbes Best Banks



Bank of Nevada, a division of Western Alliance Bank, Member FDIC. Western Alliance ranks top ten on Forbes' Best Banks in America list, five years in a row, 2016-2020.

CLE Program

Ethics in Review: From the Desk of Bar Counsel

Speaker: Bar Counsel Dan Hooge

Attorneys assist others in legal matters, but how do they get themselves into legal trouble with the State Bar? Many know-



ingly—and some unknowingly—engage in professional misconduct or illegal actions relating to confidentiality, client property, and diligence. Bar Counsel Dan Hooge will present actual client complaints and the discipline imposed. He will discuss ways to plan for, prevent, and correct problems in your practice.

Take this course to learn about:

- Lack of Communication
- Client Privilege
- Malpractice
- Trust Accounts
- Conflicts of Interest
- Social Media

CLE Program

Fraud Prevention, Detection, and Investigation

Speakers: Mark Rich, CPA, CFF Joseph Garrett, CPA, CVA, CFE

Rich, Wightman & Company, CPAs, LLC





This presentation will discuss the tools and techniques that forensic accountants and fraud examiners utilize to recognize and investigate occupational fraud (while resisting a needlein-the haystack approach).

Take this course to learn about:

- Fraud Statistics
- Fraud Detection, Prevention and Investigation
- Court cases involving
 Fraud Investigation
- What Actions Employers May Take if They Suspect Fraud
- Tax Related Identity Theft (that may result in fraud)

CLE Program

Federal Faux Pas: The "Do's and "Don'ts" of Federal Practice

Speakers:

U.S. Magistrate Judge

Brenda Weksler, Judicial Term Clerk David Chavez, and Judicial Career Clerk Emily Gesmundo



This program highlights several important considerations for attorneys tasked with presenting matters before the court.

Take this course to learn about:

- Motions
- Accepting concessions
- Explaining objections
- Articulating rule statements
- Preparing Early Neutral Evaluation ("ENE")/settlement conference ("SC") briefs
- Video hearings

Offers: 2.0 Ethics CLE Credits

Offers:

1.0 General CLE Credit

Offers: 1.0 General CLE Credit

Now available to stream from your desktop or mobile device

For more information, see www.clarkcountybar.org or call CCBA at (702) 387-6011.

CLE Program

Practical Trial Tips From The Trenches

Speaker: Phillip S. Aurbach, Esq. Marguis Aurbach Coffing

Transitioning from law student to lawyer is no easy task. This presentation focuses on practical issues unique to



civil trial attorneys including when to stand up, when to sit down, when to shut up, how to argue without notes, putting pictures in pleadings, how to deal with opposing counsel and many more.

Take this course to learn about:

- Taking new client calls
- Effective ways to listen •
- What to do with the facts •
- Drafting the complaint/ • lawsuit
- Legal writing, e.g., motions • and briefs
- Courtroom trial tips

CLE Program

Preparing a **Better Deposition:** Don't Let a **Deposition Sink** Your Case

Speakers: Mike Carman, Esq. **Corinne Price, Esq.**

Fine Carman Price

Take this course to learn about:

- Preliminary considerations
- Planning to take a deposition
- Taking depositions •
- Preparing your client for • deposition
- **Defending depositions** •
- **Expert depositions**

CLE Program

Lost in the Desert: Addiction & **Recovery for Legal Professionals**

Speaker: **Douglas C. Crawford**,

Esq.

Douglas Crawford Law

Take this course to learn about:

Ethical

bling



- Vegas Flameout A First Person Account of Addiction & Reception By Douglas C. Crawford
- Gambling Addiction: Increasing the Effectiveness and Popularity of Problem Gambling Diversion in Nevada Courts
- **Civil Commitment of Prob**lem Gamblers Convicted of Crime
- Rule 1.15 Safekeeping Property

Offers: 1.0 General CLE Credit

Offers: **1.5 General CLE Credits**

Offers: 1.0 Substance Abuse/ Addiction/Mental Health (AAMH) CLE credit

Now available to stream from your desktop or mobile device

For more information, see www.clarkcountybar.org or call CCBA at (702) 387-6011.

Member Updates Requested

Moving or changing firms? Let CCBA know.

CCBA members are requested to submit any changes to their contact information ASAP. Updates may be submitted to the CCBA via letter, email, or web form:

- Letter: Clark County Bar Association, 717 S. 8th Street, Las Vegas, NV, 89101
- Email: Donnaw@
 clarkcountybar.org
- Web form: https://clarkcountybar.org/ about/ccba-member-infoupdate-form/

Member Moves

Thanks to the following members who submitted updated profile information with the Clark County Bar Association (CCBA). For the attorneys, we have included their listings for areas of practice (AOP) on record at CCBA.

Holly Fic, Pecos Law Group, 8925 S. Pecos Rd. #14A, Henderson, NV 89074. Phone: (702) 388-1851.

Steve Morris, 801 S. Rancho Dr., Unit B-4, Las Vegas, Nevada, 89106. Phone: (702) 474-9400.

Rosa Solis-Rainey, 801 S. Rancho Dr., Unit B-4, Las Vegas, Nevada, 89106. Phone: (702) 474-9400. Effective September 1, 2020, Laura E. Stubberud, Esq., and Ryan Cuen, Esq. are now associated with StubberudCuen, Ltd., 2831 St. Rose Parkway, Ste., 200, Henderson, NV 89052. Phone: (702) 625-9260.

Member updates requested. Please submit updates regarding member information to CCBA, 717 S. 8th Street, Las Vegas, Nevada, 89101 or DonnaW@clarkcountybar. org.

*Areas of Practice (AOP) listings do not reflect a certified legal specialization in the area listed and are subject to change at any time without notice.

PORTRAITS TO YOU

is happy to be partnering with CCBA to provide all of your photography needs. We offer special package pricing for professional portraits. We also have very affordable prices on a variety of family portraiture including newborns, children, and high school seniors.



Clark County Bar Association - COMMUNIQUÉ - October 2020

www.PORTRAITSTOYOU.net

702-499-9930

Workers' Comp is *not* Personal Injury.

Send me your workers' comp cases. It's a win-win.

The workers' compensation system is a patchwork of statutes, regulations, and case law that has nothing in common with a personal injury case. We've helped thousands of people obtain medical benefits and award payments associated with their workers' compensation injuries and illnesses. Let us help your client file a claim or appeal an adverse decision. We know how to maximize the best outcome for each situation. We don't interfere with your personal injury cases, you keep those. We are a workers' compensation firm, only. Your client receives excellent workers' compensation representation and you receive a generous referral fee under NRCP 1.5(e). Any questions?

Workers' Comp Benefits Include:

- Compensation Benefits
- Medical Benefits
- Vocational Rehabilitation Benefits
- Death Benefits
- Police/Firefighter Benefits



(702) 822-4444 2200 S Rancho Dr #140 Las Vegas, NV 89102



Court News

U.S. District Court Magistrate Judge Koppe Reappointed

On September 3, 2020, the U.S District Court for the District of Nevada announced that the District Judges of the United States District Court, District of Nevada have voted to reappoint Nancy J. Koppe as a United States Magistrate Judge, effective January 1, 2021. A copy of the Order Reappointing Magistrate Judge Koppe can be found on the Court's website at https://www.nvd. uscourts.gov/court-information/ public-notices/.

Eighth Judicial District Court

Civil Bench Bar Meeting

- When: September, Tuesday, October 13, 2020, Noon to 1:00 PM
- Where: Online via Bluejeans video conference
- What: Opportunity for members of the bar who practice before the EJDC to get latest information on what's happening at the court and to discuss issues.
- Who: All members of the State Bar of Nevada are invited to attend this meeting to comment and/or ask questions about some of the ongoing modifications of processes in the civil department.
- For more information, con-

tact Linda Denman in DepartmentXXVI of the Eighth Judicial District Court.

Court Order Modifies Homicide Team, Reassigns Civil Cases

On September 3, 2020, the Eighth Judicial District Court Chief Judge Linda Bell filed an order in the administrative matter of modifying the homicide team and reassigning civil cases. *See* Administrative Order #20-20.

Administrative Order #20-20 refers to Rule 1.30(b) of the Rules of Practice for the Eighth Judicial District Court and states:

[E]ffective September 8, 2020, Department 10 shall replace Department 3 on the Homicide Team. Department 10 shall serve as the Homicide Team Case Management Judge. The civil cases in Department 10 shall be reassigned to Department 3. Court Administration shall attach a list of the reassigned cases as an exhibit to this order.

With the above changes, beginning on September 8, 2020, the Homicide Team will consist of the following judges:

- Tierra D. Jones Homicide Team Case Management Judge
- Valerie Adair Homicide Team Judge
- Michelle Leavitt Homicide Team Judge
- Michael P. Villani Homicide Team Judge

For more information and to get a copy of the order, see Court

Rules and Administrative Orders at www.clarkcountycourts. us.

Las Vegas Justice Court

Court Order Amends Procedures for Processing Eviction Cases

On August 20, 2020, the Las Vegas Justice Court filed an order in the administrative matter regarding suspension of JCRLV 34(f)(3)(B), a rule that requires a tenant filing an affidavit in answer to a landlord' s notice of eviction to include a copy of the original eviction notice, unless the tenant signs an unsworn declaration to indicate that the notice has been lost or destroyed. *See* Administrative Order #20-17 in re Suspension of JCRLV 34(f)(3)(B).

The order cites the court's efforts to streamline a tenant's ability to electronically file during COVID-19 pandemic and the current capabilities of Odyssey's Guide & File program. The order amends current procedures for processing eviction cases to alleviate the need for the tenant to include a copy of the original eviction notice. The order became effective immediately.

Bar Services

Advertising Opportunities

The CCBA offers opportunities for the placement of display ads in *Communiqué*.

For more information, contact Stephanie at (702) 387-6011, StephanieAbbott@clarkcountybar.org.

New E-Filing Availability for Criminal Cases in Las Vegas Justice Court

Effective on September 14, 2020, the Las Vegas Justice Court's Criminal Division will allow a document to be electronically filed through File & Serve if the document meets the following criteria:

(1) The document is being e-filed subsequent to the initial filing of a charging document; and

(2) The document does not require the initial review and signature of a judicial officer.

Examples of documents that may be e-filed as described above include motions, notices, proof of completion of requirements, and setting slips. Please also note that documents may continue to be filed in open court under the traditional filing practices of the Criminal Division. Any questions about e-filing in Las Vegas Justice Court may be addressed to William Jimenez via e-mail at William.Jimenez@clarkcountynv.gov.

North Las Vegas Municipal Court Court Seeks Pro Tempore Judges

North Las Vegas Municipal Court is seeking attorneys to serve as Municipal Court Judge Pro Tempore on an as-needed basis to preside over criminal misdemeanor and traffic matters.

Pursuant to NRS 5.023, attorneys who wish to serve as a Municipal Court Judge Pro Tempore must:

> • Be a member in good standing of the State Bar of Nevada;

• Be an adult resident of the city.

Applicants must consent to a criminal background check and a status check with the State Bar of Nevada. Applicants will be approved by the Municipal Court Judge and the North Las Vegas City Council.

A Municipal Court Judge Pro Tempore may not appear as attorney of record in any case pending in North Las Vegas Municipal court. City Ordinance No. 2890 sets the compensation of judges pro tempore at \$150/ half-day and \$300/full day.

Attorneys who are interested in serving as Judge Pro Tempore should submit a letter of interest and resumé to: Gail L. Moreland, Judicial Executive Assistant 2332 Las Vegas Blvd, North, Suite 100, North Las Vegas, NV 89030.









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Event ticket notes

Register for event tickets and sponsor packages using this form or the online form via ClarkCountyBar.org.

RSVP Deadline: 4/23/2021.

Ticket orders received BEFORE April 23, 2021, will be filled and delivered to purchaser. The **Clark County Bar Association is** not responsible for lost or stolen tickets.

Ticket orders made AFTER April 23, 2021, will be held for pick up at the event's "will call" registration table. An additional \$15 fee will be charged upon check-in at the event for people who do not register by April 23, 2021. FINAL DATE TO RSVP WITH PAYMENT IS FRIDAY, APRIL 30, 2021.

Cancellation & refund policy.

Cancellations must be submitted in writing and include the return of event tickets to the CCBA by April 23, 2021; qualifying refunds of the event registration fee less a \$15 processing fee. No refunds will be issued after April 23, 2021.

MEET YOUR JUDGES MIXER Wednesday, May 12, 2021 • 5:30-8:30 p.m.

The Smith Center for the Performing Arts, 361 Symphony Park Avenue, Las Vegas Featuring Hors d'oeuvres • Drink ticket • Silent auction • Valet parking

Event registration form Order individual tickets or sponsor package

Individual tickets:

\$55/CCBA member; \$85/non-member; or FREE for Nevada's local, state, and federal judges with RSVP by deadline. (Judges: enter "\$0" in \$ field on ticket order form) and register their guest(s) at CCBA member rate.)

Names of guests to attend event:

Name:	Bar#	\$
Name:	Bar#	\$

Sponsorship packages:

"Law Firm" Sponsor Package @ \$600 each includes 4 tickets to event, 1/4 page, 4-color display ad in CCBA's magazine, COMMUNIQUÉ.

• "Patron" Sponsor Package @ \$1,300 each includes 1 display table* at event, 5 tickets to event, 1/2 page, 4-color display ad in CCBA's magazine, COMMUNIQUÉ. (*In lieu of a display table, law firms may receive 5 additional admission tickets.)

Note: More sponsor package options available. See clarkcountybar.org.

Sponsor Name: _____

Ticket delivery – Select for pick-up at will call table at event or provide a business address in Las Vegas for SIGNATURE RECEIPT between 4/23/2021 and 4/30/2021:

Pick up at will call table at event
Delivery to: Attn:
Firm/Co:
Address:
City, State, Zip:

Total amount enclosed S_

Type of payment enclosed: Check/Money Order Credit Card I authorize the CCBA to charge my: \Box MC \Box VISA \Box AMEX

Name of card holder: _____

Credit Card #: _____

Expiration date: ______ Phone #: _____

Authorized Signature: _____

E-mail receipt to: _____

Submit registration information and

payment to:

Clark County Bar Association 717 S. 8th Street Las Vegas, Nevada, 89101 Phone: (702) 387-6011 Fax: (702) 387-7867

2020 event canceled • Save the date for 2021 event

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PLEASE JOIN US **NEW DATE** Wednesday May 12, 2021

5:30-8:30 p.m. The Smith Center for the Performing Arts, Grand Lobby, 361 Symphony Park Avenue, Las Vegas

Featuring Silent auction Hors d'oeuvres Drink ticket

This annual event is open to attendance by Nevada's judges, attorneys, paralegals, legal secretaries, law students, merchants, and candidates.

This is a private cocktail reception; no minors allowed. Business casual attire acceptable. This is a ticketed event. No ticket, no entry, no exceptions. Order tickets from CCBA.

Sponsorship opportunities available.

For more information and to

ORDER TICKETS

Call 702-387-6011 Visit ClarkCountyBar.org.

View from the Bench

Stemming the Tide: LVJC's Mediation Program for Evictions

By Chief Judge Melissa Saragosa

n 2019, the Las Vegas Justice Court handled over 30,000 evictions, comprising 72% of evictions statewide. When the eviction moratorium comes to an end, the court anticipates a large increase in eviction filings. To assist landlords and tenants in reaching amicable resolutions outside of court proceedings, the court is encouraging parties to utilize our free mediation program through the Neighborhood Justice Center (NJC).

The Las Vegas Justice Court's specialized eviction mediation program is currently in full force. We have contracted with outside specialists who are experienced mediators. These trained mediators can assist in resolving any landlord/tenant dispute, including establishing payment plans for rental arrearages, assisting the parties' connection with rental assistance, or negotiating amicable resolutions for other disputes.

Mediation sessions are conducted virtually whenever possible. If virtual means are not available, mediations will be conducted telephonically or in-person following social distancing guidelines. The NJC will ensure all mediations are completed prior to any scheduled hearing date. In the event the parties are unable to resolve their dispute and a court hearing is necessary, the Las Vegas Justice Court follows all social-distancing guidelines and COVID-19 courtroom occupancy limitations set by Clark County Real Property Management. Additionally, all courtrooms are thoroughly sanitized throughout the day to provide a clean and safe environment for all litigants.

To encourage mediation, the court will automatically transmit an informational packet, in both English and Spanish, regarding the program to both the landlord and tenant in an eviction action. However, there is no need to wait for an eviction action to be initiated in

The Las Vegas Justice Court's specialized eviction mediation program is currently in full force.

the Court to take advantage of this free mediation. Parties can contact the NJC at any time at (702) 455-3898.

The court is mindful that litigants may want to avoid unnecessary trips to public buildings like the Regional Justice Center. As such, the Las Vegas Justice Court would like to remind everyone of our 24/7 e-filing system. The court has been electronically accepting documents for filing since 2011. The court has dedicated staff members to assist litigants telephonically with the e-filing system to facilitate the remote filing of documents. We are currently working to enhance our e-filing capabilities with a system that will guide a tenant through a series of questions to populate the appropriate forms and file them automatically.

Las Vegas Justice Court hopes that with participa-

tion in both the free eviction mediation program and the electronic filing that the public can rest assured that the court has implemented processes and procedures to ensure safe and efficient access to justice by all. **C**



Chief Judge Melissa Saragosa was appointed to Las Vegas Justice Court Department 4 in 2006.



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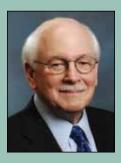
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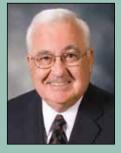
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Hon. Peggy A. Leen (Ret.)



Hon. Philip M. Pro (Ret.)



Hon. Robert E. Rose (Ret.)



Hon. David Wall (Ret.)



To schedule an in-person or virtual mediation or arbitration, please visit jamsadr.com/lasvegas or call 702.457.5267.

View from the Bench

Las Vegas Municipal Court – Update

By Chief Judge Cynthia Leung

as Vegas Municipal Court has been presented a number of unique opportunities to evaluate our business processes due to the current COVID-19 pandemic. Our primary concern in continuing to serve the public has been to ensure the safety of both our employees and all visitors to the Regional Justice Center where we are currently located. To that end, our marshals screen all visitors to the Las Vegas Municipal Court system by taking their temperature, asking COVID screening questions, and enforcing social distancing and face coverings (unless exempt by medical waiver). Proactively, and in an effort to control the number of physical appearances, the court has encouraged the resolution of many cases through written plea agreements, correspondence, email, telephone, and/or virtual court sessions. The court instituted a method of filing of motions and/or documents by e-mail and established a process to request appearing through a virtual court session for anyone unable to attend court due to COVID-related concerns.

In the midst of these unprecedented times, we are very excited by the construction of the new Las Vegas Municipal Courthouse. Construction began June 25, 2019, and remains on schedule for completion in the Spring of 2021. The new courthouse is approximately 140,000 square feet and is LEED-Silver certified. It will house the six municipal court departments, Traffic



Court, and the Office of the City Attorney Criminal Division. The overall design of the building promotes ease and convenience to the public in accessing courtrooms In the midst of these unprecedented times, we are very excited by the construction of the new Las Vegas Municipal Courthouse. Construction began June 25, 2019, and remains on schedule for completion in the Spring of 2021.

and the many services of municipal court. The new Las Vegas Municipal Courthouse provides the added benefit of creating much needed space within the Regional Justice Center for expansion of the Clark County court system.

Contact Information: Las Vegas Municipal Court 702-38-COURT (702-382-6878) **C**

Chief Judge Cynthia Leung has presided over Las Vegas Municipal Court, Department 1 and the Women in Need of Change (WIN) Specialty Court from 2008 to present; former President of Nevada Judges of Limited Jurisdiction and named Judge of the Year 2015.



Bar Services

2021 CCBA Membership Early Bird Special Offer

Available for a limited time only!

CCBA members are invited to renew their CCBA membership for 2021 before 10/15/2020 to receive a link to download the video recording of a program offering 2 Ethics CLE credits for Nevada lawyers compliments of the CCBA.

The CLE program provided as part of the early bird special offer is "Frightening Financial Transactions and How to Avoid Them" a program featuring a presentation by Nevada Bar Counsel Dan Hooge recorded in 2019.

Membership renewals may be made at www. clarkcountybar.org.

For more information, contact Donna at (702) 387-6011, DonnaW@clarkcountybar.org.



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View from the Bench

This Virtual World: Post-Pandemic Courts

By Chief Justice Kristina Pickering and Judge Tierra Jones

ecessity is the mother of invention. No truer example of this adage exists than the transformation Nevada's courts underwent in the second and third week of March. On March 12, 2020, Governor Steve Sisolak issued a Declaration of Emergency in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The next day, March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared a nationwide emergency pursuant to Section 501(6) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 5121-5207. To mitigate the spread of the deadly virus, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention immediately recommended putting as much distance between people as possible, and Governor Sisolak directed Nevadans to stay home except to seek or provide essential services. This threat and these measures fundamentally conflicted with the normal operations of Nevada's courts, where jurors assemble, witnesses and parties appear, and lawyers come to court to plead their client's cause. Yet, virtually overnight, Nevada's courts shifted from in-person to virtual proceedings for all but the most essential of proceedings.

For the appellate courts, the shift from in-person to virtual was relatively straightforward. Lawyers and law firms were already e-filing and the court's website provided access through the public portal to publicly filed documents; a simple adjustment now affords access to appendices that used to mean a trip to the courthouse for a non-party to review. The appellate courts' main face-to-face encounters are oral arguments and public hearings, which they already were webcasting. Since the Governor's directive, the appellate courts have been conducting oral arguments and public hearings virtually, using Blue Jeans, rather than in-person. Apart from April's oral argument calendars, which were rescheduled, the appellate courts' oral argument schedule has remained steady. The buildings are open for essential court business but not for tours or other non-essential purposes.

In the Eighth Judicial District Court, significant changes have been made. First, the Court has launched a completely paper-less system for processing all court orders and documents. The Clerk's Office remains closed to in-person filing. All court documents can be emailed, for signature, to the individual district court department. Each individual department will electronically review the documents and process them, if they are accurate and ready for filing. After that, the documents are signed and filed in Odyssey, by the court. This process also allows for e-service of all registered



Chief Justice Kristina Pick-

ering has been a member of the Nevada Supreme Court since 2009. She is an elected member of the American Law Institute and currently co-chairs the Nevada Access to Justice Commission. Judge Tierra Jones serves in Department 10 of the Eighth Judicial District Court. In 2017, Governor Sandoval appointed Tierra to the District Court Bench. Tierra became the first African American woman to serve on the District Court in the State of Nevada. Judge Tierra Jones serves as the Homicide Team Case Management Judge.



individuals for each case.

Like the appellate courts, the Eighth Judicial District Court uses Blue Jeans. This option allows all parties to appear remotely via cell phone or computer. However, all parties are required to appear using video and audio technology. Remote appearances can be made for criminal and civil cases.

Also, the court has resumed settlement conferences for civil, criminal, and family court cases. The criminal settlement conferences are being conducted in the Lower Level Arraignment Court of the Regional Justice Center. Most of the civil and family court settlement conferences are being conducted remotely over Blue Jeans.

The district court has resumed hearing both essential and non-essential case types. In the criminal division, the court is hearing criminal, arraignment, and specialty court calendars. Absent extraordinary circumstances, in-custody criminal defendants appear via video from the detention facility. For witnesses and attorneys, remote appearances are encouraged, but most departments are also allowing in-person appearances for court hearings. The grand jury has also resumed.

The civil division of the court is conducting pre-trial hearings and Rule 16 conferences daily. Most appearances are encouraged via Blue Jeans, but some departments also allow in-person appearances. ADR matters are proceeding remotely when possible. The family division has begun having hearings in all types of cases in guardianship, dependency and delinquency. The family division is hearing bench trials in domestic cases as well. The Family Law Self-Help Center is open and providing in-person services. The court is strongly encouraging appearances via alternative means, whenever possible.

The criminal and civil divisions are attempting to begin hearing jury trials. To ensure that all safety precautions are taken, the court has partnered with University Medical Center, Southern Nevada Health District, and the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services to create a courtroom with COVID-19 safety protocols. This courtroom has adequate social distancing in place between the jury, the court staff, and counsel. There are plexi-glass coverings that separate all persons, including the court staff, judge, witnesses, and attorneys from their clients. The court's first priority is the in-custody criminal defendants who have invoked their right to a speedy trial. The court is also intending to begin conducting civil jury trials at the Las Vegas Convention Center, with COVID-19 safety protocols in place. The court has continued to hear bench trials in criminal and civil cases, under COVID-19 safety protocols, during the pandemic.

For any further information please contact each department directly or visit our website at http://www. clarkcountycourts.us/. **G**

Bar Services

CLE Programming Opportunities

The Clark County Bar's website, www.clarkcountybar.org features educational programming relevant to the practice of law in Nevada. See below and pages 10, 12, 13 for recently recorded programs.

"Federal Faux Pas: The "Do's and "Don'ts" of Federal Practice"

Speakers:



U.S. Magistrate Judge Brenda Weksler, Judicial Term Clerk David Chavez, and Judicial Career Clerk Emily Gesmundo

This program highlights several important considerations for attorneys tasked with presenting matters before the court. Topics discussed include:

- Motions
- Accepting concessions
- Explaining objections
- Articulating rule statements
- Preparing Early Neutral Evaluation ("ENE")/settlement conference ("SC") briefs
- Video hearings
- More

Pointers For Navigating Business Court

By Jennifer L. Braster, Esq.

he Eighth Judicial District's business court is one of the excellent programs that the Eighth Judicial District Court offers litigants involved in business and commercial disputes. Four departments, 11, 13, 16, and 27, are designated as business courts. While there are many similarities in the rules for a "regular" civil litigation matter and a business court matter, the rules do provide for enhanced case management and discovery tools in business court. This article highlights some of the nuances employed by the different departments handling business court matters. Every case is different, there will be deviations from these practices, and of course, we cannot ignore the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the court system. However, knowing a specific department's practices will always give you a step up.

Joint Case Conference Report Requirements

Each department will hold a Rule 16 conference with the parties to discuss the discovery deadlines and case management. There is a split in preference as to the filing of a joint case conference report ("JCCR") prior to the Rule 16 conference. Depts. 11 and 16 do not require the filing of a JCCR before the Rule 16 conference. While Dept. 13 does not require the filing of a JCCR before the Rule 16 conference, it does require the parties to file a limited JCCR afterwards. Dept. 27 requires the parties to file a JCCR beforehand because that will trigger the scheduling of the Rule 16 conference. While there are many similarities in the rules for a "regular" civil litigation matter and a business court matter, the rules do provide for enhanced case management and discovery tools in business court.

Attendance at the Rule 16 Conference

None of the departments require a party representative to appear at the Rule 16 conference, only counsel.

Stipulations or Motions to Extend Discovery

Each department treats stipulations and motions to extend discovery differently,

while acknowledging the need for cases to be handled expeditiously, counsel to diligently work



Jennifer L. Braster, Esq. is a founding partner at Naylor & Braster, a commercial litigation firm in Las Vegas, Nevada. Jennifer routinely practices in both the federal and state courts in Nevada and in the areas of commercial litigation, consumer finance, and appellate law. Contact her at 702-420-7000.

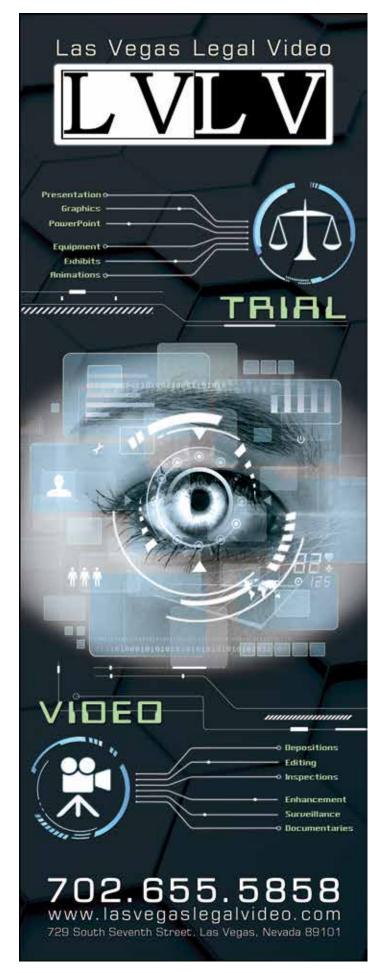
to complete discovery, and the current impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. For Dept. 11, stipulations to extend discovery often will be accepted if there is good reason for the continuance. Otherwise, a motion to extend will be necessary. For Dept. 13, the court will generally sign stipulations to extend discovery if the extension is warranted. Outside the COVID-19 pandemic, Dept. 13 generally will grant a stipulated continuance of the trial date due to discovery continuances up to two times without a motion. For Dept. 16, as a general matter, stipulations to extend discovery will be accepted within the first three years of litigation, if warranted. After that, the parties must file a motion. For Dept. 27, pre-COVID-19 pandemic, generally the court would allow one stipulation to extend discovery and continue the trial date. In light of the current challenges, Dept. 27 has relaxed that rule.

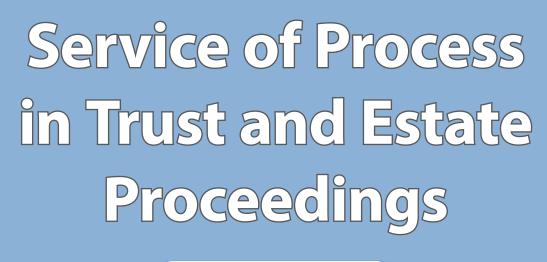
Practice Tips

Each department has provided some practice tips for business court litigators as well as pet peeves:

- At the motion calendar, be on time and be ready to address any questions the judge may have regarding the filed briefs.
- The introductory language of a motion and concluding paragraph should clearly state what is sought. The introductory paragraph should also cite any procedural rules pursuant to which it is made.
- Make sure the requirements of EDCR 2.34 are met before filing motions to resolve discovery disputes.
- Notify judges in advance if a hearing is being vacated or moved. Providing this advance notice will prevent judges from spending several hours preparing for a hearing and then learning the morning of the hearing that it is being moved.
- When moving to dismiss or for summary judgment, each cause of action for which relief is being sought should be identified and separately analyzed.

Last, do not be shy. Each department's judicial executive assistants have invaluable knowledge, and I have found that they are always willing to answer questions regarding the particular procedures of their departments.





By Alexander G. LeVeque, Esq.

hen representing a client in trust and estate proceedings in the Eighth Judicial District Court, it is important to be aware of and understand the statutory rules for serving process because they are substantially different than the Nevada Rules of Civil Procedure.

No plaintiffs or defendants – only "interested persons."

Unlike traditional civil actions where there are plaintiffs and defendants, trust and estate proceedings are initiated by an "interested person" filing a petition in the probate court for certain relief. Nevada defines an "interested person" very broadly as one "whose right or interest under an estate or trust may be materially affected by a decision of a fiduciary or a decision of the court." NRS 132.185. Because such proceedings are typically in rem or quasi in rem, there are usually no defendants in the classical sense. Accordingly, while Nevada law recognizes that "interested persons" are entitled to notice of a petition so that they can object to the relief sought or otherwise respond, personal service is almost never required. Further, "interested persons" can change from time to time depending on the particular proceeding. As such, practitioners are advised to check the statutory circumstances in which a person is an "interested person," under NRS 132.390, to determine to whom service is required.

Unlike traditional civil actions where there are plaintiffs and defendants, trust and estate proceedings are initiated by an "interested person" filing a petition in the probate court for certain relief.

Service of a probate petition on an "interested person."

NRS 155.010 governs how and when trust and estate petitions are served on those entitled to notice. In most cases, service by ordinary first-class mail is sufficient pro-



Alexander G. LeVeque, Esq. is a partner at Solomon Dwiggins & Freer, Ltd., where he primarily practices trust and estate litigation, and serves as an arbitrator for the State Bar of Nevada's Fee Dispute Committee.

vided that the notice of the petition is mailed at least ten days before the time set for hearing. It should be noted, however, that best practice is to use certified or registered mail to mitigate the risk of an objector later claiming that he or she never received notice.

There are certain circumstances where first-class mail and a standard notice of hearing are insufficient. For example, when a petitioner seeks declaratory relief concerning an estate's interest in real property, the petitioner is required to obtain a citation (the probate equivalent of a summons) for each person claiming an interest in the property and serving the same either by certified mail, return receipt requested, or personal service. NRS 148.410. Service of a citation is also required for a show cause hearing to revoke letters of administration. NRS 141.110. Because of these exceptions and others, it is advisable to make sure that the relief your client seeks in his or her petition is not subject to heightened service requirements.

While it is understandable that such relaxed service requirements could cause a Constitutional lawyer some heartburn, the Supreme Court of Nevada has rejected an argument that mailed notice under NRS 155.010 does not comport with due process. *See Matter of Beatrice B. Davis Family Heritage Trust*, 133 Nev. 190, 394 P.3d 1203, at n. 3 (2017).

When to publish notice.

It is also important to know when and how to serve interested persons by publication. Certain proceedings require publication while other proceedings permit publication under certain circumstances.

For example, if the address or identity of an inter-

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Court may waive service or order alternative means.

Consistent with the recent amendments to the Nevada Rules of Civil Procedure, judges sitting in probate have discretion to provide for a different method or time of giving notice for any hearing "for good cause shown." NRS 155.010(3). This includes decreasing the number of publications otherwise required and the standard minimum of ten days of notice before the hearing. **C**

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Pro Bono Corner

Find the Pro Bono Matters That Feed the Area of Law You Love

By Patrick J. Reilly, Esq.

ro bono is fun.

There, I said it. And I confess that, until a few years ago, pro bono work felt to me a little like taking castor oil. And I don't even know what castor oil tastes like, because I'm not *that* old.

But I finally found a way to making pro bono not feel like an obligation. Find the pro bono matters that feed the area of the law you love. For me, Angela Otto, and Travis Chance, that's real estate. Our recent pro bono matter involved a fact pattern that is so common it is almost a cliché. A residential tenant moved out under threat of eviction. She was told there would be no eviction if she paid through and moved out on a certain date. Our client paid and moved out on time. She cleaned thoroughly and left the premises in great condition. Despite that, the landlord did not return the security deposit and did not give her a statement itemizing deductions for damage to the premises (required by NRS 118A.242). He also proceeded with the summary eviction he promised to defer, and obtained an eviction (before the eviction moratorium took effect) without properly serving documents, without our client's presence in court, and without informing the court that the parties had reached a settlement of the eviction proceeding. When she complained, the landlord falsely claimed destruction to the premises, and threatened to sue her for damages and attorney's fees.

As a former landlord myself, this case was particularly galling. It was obvious the landlord was up to



no good. He was bluffing on the claimed damages, using the hammer of potentially being liable for attorney's fees, and hoping the tenant would simply give up without a fight. If you don't have time to take a full case from start to finish, think about signing up for the Landlord/ Tenant Ask-A-Lawyer program at the Self Help Center.

Luckily, our client was not only a pleasure to work with and very appreciative, she did everything right. She took photos before she moved out. She also saved the email where the landlord promised not to seek an eviction. Admittedly, the facts in most other cases are rarely this good. But after a few emails and a strongly worded demand letter from Angela, Travis, and I, our client had 100 percent of her deposit returned, and the summary eviction was vacated and sealed by stipulation pursuant to recent amendments to NRS 40.2545, with her credit cleared.

If you don't have time to take a full case from start to finish, think about signing up for the Landlord/ Tenant Ask-A-Lawyer program at the Self Help Center. It's a rewarding opportunity to give advice to landlords and tenants and steer them in the right direction. Legal Aid is also starting a Small Business Legal Advice Project for, among other things, independent contractor issues, commercial evictions, and compliance with emergency directives and other COVID-19 compliance.

To learn more about volunteer opportunities, contact Pro Bono Director Noah Malgeri at (702) 386-1429 or nmalgeri@lacsn.org. **G**

Patrick J. Reilly, Esq. is a shareholder at Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, LLP. Reilly is a commercial litigator who handles a wide range of complex and high-profile business cases, including real estate litigation, shareholder and corporate disputes, and class actions.



MASK DRIVE

We are seeking donations of new cloth face coverings for use by clients served by:

Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada Civil Law Self-Help Center Family Law Self-Help Center

Masks will help the Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada to assist vulnerable members of our community who are feeling the repercussions of the COVID-19 crisis. So many of their clients do not have masks or leave them behind as they race to court.

Your gift can protect them.

Please send new masks for delivery to: Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada, 725 E Charleston Blvd, Las Vegas, NV 89104

Thank you!



Learn more/Donate: https://www.lacsn.org/



Special thanks to Jennifer Braster of Naylor & Braster (middle) for her donation of masks to the Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada (LACSN). Pictured with Jennifer are CCBA Community Service Committee Liaison Stephanie Abbott (left) and LACSN Director of Development and Community Relations Venicia Considine (right). Photo by Sarah Thornton of Connected Communications.

The Marketplace

Employment

Barron & Pruitt in North Las Vegas seeks an associate attorney with 2-6 years of litigation experience, preferably in insurance defense. Barron & Pruitt offers a competitive salary and benefits package, has a reasonable billing requirement and encourages a healthy worklife balance. The interested applicant must demonstrate exceptional writing and communication skills and also possess strong interpersonal skills for communicating with attorneys and clients. Strong academic credentials are preferred. The interested applicant must also be diligent and detail oriented and demonstrate an ability to work independently and productively during all stages of litigation. Trial experience is preferred but not required. An active license to practice law within the State of Nevada is required. Please provide your resume and a writing sample to jmeservy@lvnvlaw.com. All inquiries will be kept strictly confidential.

Advertising Opportunity

Do you have an opportunity for employment, office space, or professional services? Place a classified ad in The Marketplace. Submit the text of your ad to StephanieAbbott@clarkcountybar.org for a quote. Clark County Bar Association 717 S Eighth St Las Vegas NV 89101

Check out this special offer:

2021 CCBA Membership Early Bird Special Offer

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Available for a limited time only!

CCBA members are invited to renew their CCBA membership for 2021 before 10/15/2020 to receive a link to download the video recording of a program offering 2 Ethics CLE credits for Nevada lawyers. For more information, see page 23.

Join us at these special events:

HALLOWEEN PPE FASHION SHOW & COMPETITION

Wednesday, October 28, 2020

Hosted by CCBA's New Lawyer Committee

Competition Judges & Moderator

- EJDC Judge Nancy Allf
- LV City Attorney Bryan Scott
- CCBA President Mariteresa Rivera-Rogers
- EJDC Judge Jerry Wiese





For more information about these events, see page 5.

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