

March 2026

Lunchtime Learning CLE Webcasts  
Free for CCBA members on March 12, April 2, 9, 15  
See pages 12, 16, 18



# COMMUNIQUE

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE CLARK COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

SPECIAL OFFER  
AREAS OF  
PRACTICE  
LISTINGS  
See page 10

Law Practice Management

## Stepping Up for the Profession

*Bar leaders provide insight on:*

**Civil Practice Cheat Sheets (State and Federal)**

**Recognizing Your Support Staff**

**Balancing Leadership and Lawyering**

**Intersection of Technology and Firm Management**

See pages 23, 28, 33, 34, 36

On the cover: Chelsey Gonzalez, Craig Friedel, and Osibinaeyi (Binaey) Soje-Diyan

# COMMUNIQUE

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE CLARK COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

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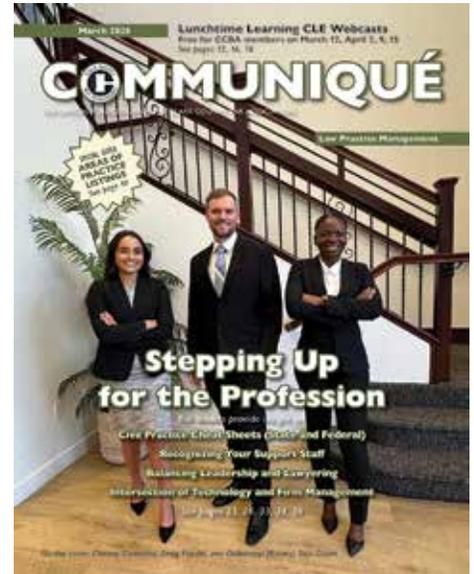
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### Communiqué Editorial Calendar

Cover Date	Issue Theme	Closing Date
January 2026	Five Things	12/1/2025
February 2026	Bankruptcy Law	1/2/2026
March 2026	Law Practice Management	2/1/2026
April 2026	Family Law	3/1/2026
May 2026	Labor & Employment Law	4/1/2026
June/July 2026	Ethics	5/1/2026
August 2026	Land Use Law	7/1/2026
September 2026	Discovery	8/1/2026
October 2026	Pro Bono	9/1/2026
November 2026	Appellate Law	10/1/2026
December 2026	Immigration Law	11/1/2026

\*The combined June/July issue will be released in June. The editorial calendars, schedules, editorial policies, and writer's guidelines for the *Communiqué* are subject to change without notice.



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**Bar Services**

**Advertising Opportunities**

Space in the *Communiqué* is available for select businesses to showcase their professional goods, services, and events for Nevada’s legal community.

**Request a quote now!**

Ask about available discounts and added value opportunities!

**Contact:**

Stephanie at the CCBA office at 702-387-6011 and StephanieAbbott@clarkcountybar.org,

**Bar Activities**

**Event Calendar**

*Bar members are invited to attend bar activities*

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- Mar. 5 New Lawyers Committee Meeting – Page 9
- Mar. 6 Community Service Committee Meeting – Page 9
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- Mar. 12 Lunchtime Learning CLE Webcast – Page 12
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- May 1 Areas of Practice Listings Sign-up Deadline – Page 10

Learn more at <https://clarkcountybar.org/events/> or call 702-387-6011.

**Bar Services**

**Contact the CCBA**

Reach out for information and updates about CCBA activities:

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# New Bar Committee

By James T. Leavitt

**F**or this month's issue of the *Communique*, I'd like to spotlight a new committee that we here at the CCBA are in the process of putting together. In December, I attended a holiday party for one of our amazing sponsors, First Legal. At that party, I had a conversation with a paralegal regarding the CCBA. She asked me why the CCBA doesn't have networking events oriented toward paralegals and other legal professionals. I thought about it, and I didn't have a good answer.

In response to that conversation, I proposed to the board that we create a new standing committee dedicated to creating networking opportunities for our paralegal and legal professional members. Many of you may not know this but the CCBA has long had a membership tier for legal professionals. As such, we would like to increase this tier of our membership and help create contacts between the legal professionals in our community.

Some may ask why? Isn't the CCBA primarily an organization for and by practicing attorneys? The fact of the matter is that most practicing attorneys and judges rely on legal professionals and paralegals to assist us in helping our clients. On a practical basis, it is useful and beneficial for our staff to know the staff members



**Legal Support Professionals Committee (Left to right):** Dorie Williams, Kayla Jewkes, Josh Dresslove, Nancy Arceneaux, Cindy Morales Kerben, Kylee Milroy, Missy Milroy, Melissa Martinez, and James T. Leavitt. Not pictured: Tera Carlstrom, CluAynne Corwin, Whytnee Ana Maldonado, Whytnee Poe, and Samm Earnest.

in other firms and those who work for the court. This committee and the events they create will provide an environment where legal professionals can network with each other and other CCBA members.

I'm very excited about this new committee, which will have had its first meeting by the time this president's message goes to print. Our legal community is not just limited to practicing attorneys. Administrative staff, in many cases, are essential to what we accomplish for our clients. They have an important place in our legal community and the CCBA. This new standing committee is a sign we recognize this fact and embrace those legal professionals that do so much to help us help our clients.

Once the committee gets going, I have no doubt they will put together some amazing events we will all remember in the years to come. I encourage all of you to invite your staff and other legal professionals to join the CCBA and become active in this new committee. I envision these events as a step in bringing our legal community closer in the years to come. **G**

---

**James T. Leavitt** operates *Leavitt Legal Services, P.C.* in Las Vegas, Nevada. His practice focuses primarily on bankruptcy law and criminal law. James earned his Bachelors in U.S. History from UNLV and his Juris Doctorate at the John Marshall Law School in Chicago. James serves as CCBA President through December 2026.

## Bar Activities

### Bar Committees

CCBA members are invited to help our non-profit organization in its efforts to enrich the lives and careers of our members and our community.

#### CLE Committee

**Chair:** Trisha Conlon

Creates high quality, low-cost CLE programming for the benefit of CCBA bar members. This committee is for attorney and JD members Meets: 2nd Wednesdays, 12:00–1:00 p.m., via Zoom. *Exception: March 3, 2026.*

#### Community Service Committee

**Co-Chairs:** Angela Dows and Alicia May

Plans activities that provide outreach services to the community at large in southern Nevada. Meets: 1st Fridays, 12:00–1:00 p.m., via Zoom.

#### Diversity and Inclusion Committee for Equity (DICE)

**Chair:** Michael J. Nuñez

Plans activities to facilitate constructive discussion and enhance understanding of diversity issues. The committee promotes diversity, equity, inclusion, and the removal of barriers to success within the CCBA and the communities we serve. Meets: 3rd Friday, 12:00–1:00 p.m., via Zoom.

#### Legal Support Professionals Committee

**Chair(s):** Dorie Williams and Cindy Morales Kerben

Plans activities designed to empower and elevate legal assistants, paralegals, legal administrators, and JD members through targeted professional development, strategic networking, and collaborative community outreach. Meets: 1st Wednesday, 12:00–1:00 p.m., in person at the CCBA office with a Zoom option. *Exception: March 11, 2026.*

#### New Lawyers Committee

**Co-Chairs:** Pranava Moody and Danielle Jimenez

Coordinates the William S. Boyd School of Law to produce student competitions, pub crawls, and the Meet Your Judges Mixer. This committee is for attorneys admitted to practice in Nevada within the last seven years, regardless of age. Meets: 2nd Thursdays, 12:00–1:00 p.m., in person at the CCBA with a Zoom option. *Exception: April 16, 2026.*

#### Publications Committee

**Co-Chairs, Editor-In-Chiefs:** Pooja Kumar and Nick Michaud

Plans content for upcoming issues of the bar journal *Communiqué*. This committee is for attorney and JD members to plan the editorial calendar, write, recruit authors, and copy edit each publication Meets: 2nd Fridays, 12:00–1:00 p.m., via Zoom.

For more information, reach out to the committee chairs, or contact the CCBA office at 702-387-6011.

## Bar Activity

### CCBA Committee Challenge

**What it is:** A membership drive competition among CCBA's committees.

**How it works:** CCBA committee members recruit colleagues to join the CCBA. New members must list the recruiting member's name and/or a committee name on their application.

**To apply:** <https://clarkcountybar.org/marketplace/join-renew/>

**Deadline:** April 1, 2026

**Prize:** The winning committee (most new members recruited) gets featured on the cover of the *Communiqué* "Membership Matters" issue (June/July 2026). Restrictions apply. For more information, contact Stephanie at (702) 387-6011.

## Special Event

### Walk with the Heart of a Child

**When:** Saturday, March 28, 2026, 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

**Where:** Craig Ranch Regional Park

**About:** This charity walk supports the Children's Heart Foundation a Nevada non-profit that helps in a new diagnosis or crisis by assisting families with living expenses such as rent, utilities, food, travel expenses, and medical costs such as prescriptions.

**Learn more & sign up:** <https://chfn.org/news-events/walk.html>

# Areas of Practice Form

**AREAS OF PRACTICE OFFER\*:** CCBA members—who are licensed attorneys—can get listed via area of practice in the COMMUNIQUÉ (June/July 2026). Listings will be limited to the member's first name, last name, NV Bar #, phone #, up to 3 area of practice (selected from the list below) and language spoken/used in practice (other than English). **Included with the 2026 CCBA membership!**

**Scan QR to complete form online!**

**CCBA Member's Name (first and last):** \_\_\_\_\_

**NV Bar number:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone number:** \_\_\_\_\_



**Areas of Practice – Select UP TO THREE (3) areas of practice from the list below:**

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Administrative & Agency Matters                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Elder Abuse/Neglect                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Nursing Home Neglect                        |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Collection Law                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> International & Foreign Law          | <input type="checkbox"/> Taxation Law                                |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Corporation & Business Law                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Legislative Matters                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Wills, Estates, Estate Planning & Probate   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Creditor & Debtor Law                              | <input type="checkbox"/> Medical Malpractice                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Workers' Compensation                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Criminal & Traffic Law                             | <input type="checkbox"/> Medical Marijuana                    | <input type="checkbox"/> _____                                       |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Elder Law  | <input type="checkbox"/> Natural Resources                    |  |

**Language(s) -other than English-** spoken/used by person in practice:

- |                                    |                                     |                                    |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
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**Complete and return to the CCBA no later than 5/1/2026.**

Clark County Bar Association, 717 S. Eighth Street, Las Vegas, NV 89101, StephanieAbbott@clarkcountybar.org

**\*Restrictions apply.** This offer is available to current CCBA members who are licensed attorneys with paid membership types of Attorney Member, New Attorney Member, or Senior Attorney Member for the 2025 membership year. Due to space constraints in the *Communiqué*, any listings submitted for Public Service Members may be omitted from the publication. Listings are available only to current CCBA members who are licensed to practice law in Nevada or in another U.S. jurisdiction. Listings in the *Communiqué* will be limited to the member's first name, last name, NV Bar number, language spoken in practice (other than English), and phone number (if provided), and up to three (3) areas of practice from the list above. Updates to selections submitted previously for the listing in the *Communiqué* can be made by completing the form again prior to the published deadline. Listings in the *Communiqué* are only available to members of the Clark County Bar Association who are licensed attorneys and have paid their 2026 CCBA Membership fee prior to May 1, 2026.



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# Special Education CLE Program

Live webcast free for CCBA members on March 12, 2026

On Thursday, March 12, 2026, special education lawyers Jean Murrell Adams and Marina Dalia-Hunt will make a special presentation for the continuing legal education of Nevada lawyers in a lunchtime learning program produced by the CCBA's Diversity and Inclusion Committee for Equity (DICE).



Jean and Marina will present "Are Special Education Issues Hiding in Your Cases? What Every Nevada Attorney Should Know." Special education law is rarely offered in law school, yet it frequently surfaces in estate planning, personal injury, disability, juvenile justice, child welfare, family law, immigration, and other practice areas. This primer will equip Nevada attorneys with the essential knowledge to recognize special ed issues. Learn IEP/504 red flags, Nevada's eligibility framework, and practical enforcement options so you can advise clients, preserve issues, and avoid costly missteps. The program offers 2.0 ethics CLE credit for Nevada lawyers.

The CLE program will be held via Zoom from 12:00 to 1:15 p.m. on March 12, 2026. Attendance to this live webcast is free for CCBA members. To participate, CCBA members will need to RSVP to the CCBA by Monday, March 10, 2026.

Pricing of the live webcast event is included with the 2026 CCBA membership. CCBA membership will be verified upon RSVP. During the event, attendance will be taken, and only those Nevada lawyers in attendance will have their attendance reported to Nevada's Board of Continuing Legal Education. The event will be recorded for use in the CCBA's audio/visual library. The recorded versions of the program will be offered for rental use at a small fee (to cover administrative costs).

For more information and to RSVP, complete the RSVP form at [clarkcountybar.org](http://clarkcountybar.org) or contact Donna at (702) 387-6011. 



### DICE CLE Programming Sponsors



### Bar Services

## Nevada Ballet Ticket Offers

The CCBA will get a limited number of VIP level seats for select performances of the Nevada Ballet Theatre.

### Legends & Luminaries:

- Sat. 3/14/2026 (7:30pm)

### Hansel & Gretel:

- Sat. 5/16/2026 (7:30pm)
- Sat. 5/23/2026 (7:30pm)

**CCBA members are invited to request the use of the CCBA's tickets!**

Send requests via email to CCBA Executive Director Donna Wiessner at [Donnaw@clarkcountybar.org](mailto:Donnaw@clarkcountybar.org).

If there are no more tickets available from CCBA, please

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\*Restrictions apply. For more information, see <https://clarkcountybar.org/about/member-benefits/ccba-ballet-tickets-special-offer/> or call (702) 387-6011.

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OBT's Leigh Goldberger and Ben Youngstone. Photo by Christopher Peddecord. Photos courtesy of Oregon Ballet Theatre.

## Bar Activity

# Professional Portrait Session

All members of the Nevada bar, bench, law students, and supporting legal staff are invited to sit for a professional portrait at the Clark County Bar Association office.

Drop-ins are welcome; appointments preferred.

### When & where:

- Tuesday, March 24, 2026
- 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. only
- Clark County Bar Association, 717 S. 8th Street, Las Vegas

### Special offers:

- 20% off purchases of professional portraits for CCBA members!
- No sitting fees (\$49 value) for this and graduation/family portrait session

### Pricing is per person:

- 1 image at \$79/CCBA member, \$99/Non-member
- 2 images at \$129/CCBA member, \$149/Non-member

### Contact:

Stephanie at the CCBA office, 702-387-6011, StephanieAbbott@clarkcountybar.org, 702-387-6011

Bar Service Sponsor:



# 40 Year Club Luncheon

The 40 Year Club Luncheon is a celebration of CCBA members admitted to practice law in Nevada for 40, 45, 50, and 55 years. This year, we will induct members who were admitted in 1986 and honor members admitted in 1981, 1976, and 1971.

- **Master of Ceremonies:** Dan Polsenberg of Womble Bond Dickinson LLP
- **When:** Thursday, March 26, 2026
  - 11:00 a.m. – Check-in & networking
  - 12:00 to 1:30 p.m. – Luncheon & festivities
- **Where:** Panevino Italian Grille
- **Entrée options:**
  - Chicken Marsala
  - Grilled Scottish Salmon
  - Penne Vodka
- **Pricing:**
  - FREE/40-Year Club Inductee (2026)
  - \$99/CCBA Member, Honoree, Guest of Inductee or Honoree
  - \$130/Non-member
- **RSVP to the CCBA:** Space will be limited. RSVP to the CCBA no later than March 18, 2026. RSVP at [clarkcountybar.org](http://clarkcountybar.org) or 702-387-6011. Sponsorship opportunities available.

For more information, contact Donna at the CCBA office 702-387-6011, DonnaW@ClarkCountyBar.org.

## 40 Year Club (2026)

### Inductees – 40 Years (Admitted 1986)

- **Hon. Rodney T. Burr**, Henderson Municipal Court
- **Candace C. Carlyon**, Carlyon Cica Chtd.
- **Brian E. Holthus**, ER Injury Attorneys
- **Rebecca Hopkins Miller**, Cooper Coons, Ltd.
- **Donna M. Mendoza-Mitchell**
- **Hon. Ronald D. Parraguirre**, Supreme Court of Nevada
- **Richard J. Pyatt**, Pyatt Silvestri
- **David J. Roger**, Las Vegas Police Protective Association
- **Marc H. Rubinstein**, Reid Rubinstein & Bogatz
- **Kevin R. Stolworthy**, Dentons Durham Jones Pinegar PC
- **Hon. Timothy C. Williams**, Eighth Judicial District Court
- **Michael B. Wixom**, Harper | Selim
- **Wesley F. Yamashita**, Escobar & Associates Law Firm, Ltd.

Amicus Sponsors:



Patron sponsor:



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## Honorees – 45 Years (Admitted 1981)

- David L. Barron, Barron & Pruitt, LLP
- Michael J. Bonner, Greenberg Traurig, LLP
- James W. Bradshaw, McDonald Carano LLP
- David Z. Chesnoff, Chesnoff & Schonfeld
- Timothy S. Cory, Cory Reade Dows & Shafer
- Mark E. Ferrario, Greenberg Traurig, LLP
- Evangelina Garcia Mendoza, Law Offices of Eva Garcia Mendoza
- Greg Giordano, McDonald Carano LLP
- J. Randall Jones, Kemp Jones, LLP
- Michael E. Kearney, Kearney, Puzey & Damonte, Ltd.
- George P. Kelesis, Cook & Kelesis, Ltd.
- Hon. Victor L. Miller, Boulder City Municipal Court
- Dana J. Nitz
- Hon. Nancy C. Oesterle, Nevada Senior Judge Program
- Hon. Gene T. Porter, PrivateTrials
- Dan R. Reaser, Fennemore
- Steven B. Wolfson, Clark County District Attorney's Office

## Honorees – 50 Years (Admitted 1976)

- Hon. Mark R. Denton, 8th Judicial District Court
- Richard E. Desruisseaux
- Robert P. Dickerson, The Dickerson Karacsonyi Law Group
- James J. Jimmerson, Jimmerson Law Firm PC
- Gerald F. Neal
- Christopher L. Kaempfer, Kaempfer Crowell, Ltd.
- John H. Mowbray, Spencer Fane LLP
- William E. Peterson, Snell & Wilmer LLP
- William H. Stoddard, Sr., Albright Stoddard Warnick & Albright

## Honorees – 55 Years (Admitted 1971)

- Kenneth C. Cory
- Jeffrey P. Zucker, Fennemore

If you were admitted to Nevada during the year listed and don't see your name listed above, contact the CCBA office at 702-387-6011.

\*CCBA membership is required to be recognized as an Inductee or Honoree of the CCBA 40 Year Club. 

## Bar Activity

# Meet Your Law Students Mixer

Private event for law students to meet members of the bench and bar before interviews are held for summer intern and extern positions. Sponsorships available.

### When & where:

- Thursday, April 2, 2026, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.
- Claggett & Sykes Law Firm, 4101 Meadows Ln #100, Las Vegas

### Who & why:

- Managing and hiring partners from Nevada law firms, Nevada judges, law students
- Featuring complimentary food and drink tickets while supplies last
- Free admission to UNLV Law Students and CCBA members

**RSVP deadline: 3/26/26**

### Contact:

Donna at the CCBA office, donnaw@clarkcountybar.org, 702-387-6011

### Sponsors:

  
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# Trauma-Informed Lawyering CLE Program

*Live webcast free for CCBA members on April 2, 2026*



On April 2, 2026, commercial litigator Pranava Moody will make a special presentation for the continuing legal education of Nevada lawyers during a lunchtime learning program.

Pranava will present “Trauma-Informed Lawyering.” The program will evaluate the ethical and professional duties of an attorney during the client-lawyer relationship. There will be a discussion to understand trauma: what it is, adaptive behaviors people can exhibit, post-traumatic stress, and vicarious trauma. She will discuss techniques and considerations to improve communication with clients by trauma-informed care, avoiding re-traumatization, and being aware of triggers. She will discuss scenarios ranging from interviews, trust-building, planning for court, and best practices to consider in each of those. The program will end with an overview of how these interactions can affect the attorney personally and how to effectively manage stress at home and at work. The program offers 2.0 ethics CLE credit for Nevada lawyers.

The CLE program will be held via Zoom from 11:00 to 1:15 p.m. on April 2, 2026. The live webcast is free

for CCBA members. To participate, CCBA members will need to RSVP to the CCBA by March 31, 2026.

Pricing of the live webcast event is included with the 2026 CCBA membership. CCBA membership will be verified upon RSVP. During the event, attendance will be taken, and only those Nevada lawyers in attendance will have their attendance reported to Nevada’s Board of Continuing Legal Education. The event will be recorded for use in the CCBA’s audio/visual library. The recorded versions of the program will be offered for rental use at a small fee (to cover administrative costs).

For more information, contact Donna at [donnaw@clarkcountybar.org](mailto:donnaw@clarkcountybar.org) or (702) 387-6011 or scan the QR code to open the web page with RSVP form at [clarkcountybar.org](http://clarkcountybar.org). 

## CCBA CLE Programming Sponsors



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Dept. 6, Eighth Judicial District Court  
Clark County

  
**Judge Riggs**  
Dept. 3, Second Judicial District Court  
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# GREAT NEWS!

## NEVADA LEGISLATURE FIXES NRS 616C.215 - BREEN/VASQUEZ

The Legislature resolved the complicated lien problems that existed for years in personal injury/workers' compensation crossover cases.

Learn the new law to get your cases resolved with less friction.

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### Generous referral fees under NRPC 1.5 (e)

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2770 S. Maryland Pkwy  
Suite 100  
Las Vegas, Nevada 89109  
702-384-1616

**LAS VEGAS, NV**  
2200 S Rancho Dr  
Suite 140  
Las Vegas, NV 89102  
702-384-1616

**HENDERSON, NV**  
2475 Village View Dr  
Suite 190  
Henderson, NV 89074  
702-384-1616

**RENO, NV**  
5375 Kietzke Lane  
Reno, NV 89511  
775-553-0000

**SPARKS, NV**  
420 USA Pkwy  
Suite 106  
Sparks, NV 89434  
775-593-8933

## Bar Activity

### Pub Crawl

CCBA members are invited to join CCBA President James T. Leavitt on our annual pub crawl. Sponsorships available.

#### When & Where:

Hop on/off at any point along the crawl in the Las Vegas Arts District. Locations:

- **1st Stop (5-5:45 p.m.):**  
The Stadium (food)  
1508 S. Main St.
- **2nd Stop (6-6:30 p.m.):**  
The Dustland Bar  
1433 S. Commerce St.
- **3rd Stop (6:45-7:15 p.m.):**  
Voodoo Brewing Company  
1415 S. Commerce St. #130
- **4th Stop (7:30 to 8 p.m.):**  
Johnny CoCo's  
32 W. Imperial Ave.
- **5th Stop (8:15-9 p.m.):**  
ReBar (food)  
1225 S Main St

Featuring complimentary drink ticket (1 per person) available at each venue and snacks at The Stadium and ReBar for members of the Clark County Bar Association (CCBA) while supplies last.

**RSVP deadline:**  
**4/14/2026**

#### Contact:

Donna at the CCBA office,  
donnaw@clarkcountybar.org, 702-387-6011

Sponsor:



# Court-Annexed Arbitration CLE Program

*Live webcast free for CCBA members on April 15, 2026*

On Wednesday, April 15, 2026, Hon. Erin Truman and Hon. Adam Ganz, Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR)/Discovery Commissioners, Eighth Judicial District Court, will make a special presentation for the continuing legal education of CCBA members.

The commissioners will present "Court-Annexed Arbitration: The Limit's Increased, NOW WHAT?" They will discuss how the passage of AB3 affects the future of the Court-Annexed Arbitration Program in the EJDC. The changes to the rules, including the recent ADKT 0630, will be presented and practice pointers will be given regarding how to present your case at the Request for Exemption stage. The Commissioners look forward to questions and discussion regarding evaluation of cases that exceed the new \$100,000.00 limit.

The CLE program will be held via Zoom from 12:00 to 1:15 p.m. on April 15, 2026. Attendance to this live webcast is free for CCBA members. To participate, CCBA members will need to RSVP to the CCBA by Monday, April 13, 2026.

Pricing of the live webcast event is included with the 2026 CCBA membership. CCBA membership will be verified upon RSVP. During the event, attendance will be taken, and only those Nevada lawyers in attendance will have their attendance reported to Nevada's Board of Continuing Legal Education. The event will be recorded for use in the CCBA's audio/visual library. The recorded versions of the program will be offered for rental use at a small fee (to cover administrative costs).

For more information, contact Donna at [donnaw@clarkcountybar.org](mailto:donnaw@clarkcountybar.org) or (702) 387-6011 or scan the QR code to open the web page with RSVP form at [clarkcountybar.org](http://clarkcountybar.org). 



CCBA CLE Programming Sponsors



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## Clark County Court Orders Case Reassignments

On February 5, 2026, Eighth Judicial District Court Chief Judge Jerry Wiese signed an order in the administrative matter of general, civil, probate, and family case reassignments. See Administrative Order 26-01 (PDF file to download from [clarkcountycourts.us](http://clarkcountycourts.us)).

Most notably, Administrative Order 26-01 cites NRS 3.025 and ECR 1.30(b) and orders that:

- 200 open civil cases currently assigned to Department 5 aged 24 months or less shall be randomly selected and reassigned to Department 26.
- 50 open civil cases currently assigned to Department 8 aged 24 months or less shall be randomly selected and reassigned to Department 26.
- 250 open civil cases currently assigned to Department 29 aged 24 months or less shall be randomly selected and reassigned to Department 26.
- 2,290 open probate cases currently assigned to Department 26 shall be randomly selected and reassigned to Department 5.
- 2,290 open probate cases currently assigned to Department 26 shall be randomly selected and reassigned to Department 8.
- All remaining open probate cases currently assigned to Department 26 shall be reassigned to Department 29.
- All closed probate cases shall be equitably distributed among Departments 5, 8 and 29.
- All future probate cases shall be randomly assigned and equitably distributed among Departments 5, 8 and 29.
- Department 26 shall be designated an All-Civil department for future case assignments.
- All eviction appeals currently assigned to Department 29 shall be reassigned to Department 17.
- All eviction appeals currently assigned to Department 11 shall be reassigned to Department 14.
- All future eviction appeals cases shall be randomly assigned and equitably distributed between Departments 14 and 17.
- The aforementioned general civil, probate and eviction appeal case reassignments shall take effect on February 9, 2026.
- Court administration shall publish the general civil, probate and eviction appeal case reassignments affected by this order on this court's website no later than February 8, 2026.
- The following Family Division case reassignments described below shall take effect on March 9, 2026.
- All cases currently assigned to Department X shall be reassigned to Department D, and Department D shall be designated as a department receiving future Civil-Domestic case assignments.

- All cases currently assigned to Department D, excepting Juvenile Protection-Sex Abuse cases, shall be reassigned to Department X, and Department X shall be designated as a department receiving future Dependency case assignments.
- All Juvenile Protection-Sex Abuse cases currently assigned to Department D shall be reassigned to Department L, and Department L shall be designated as a department receiving future Juvenile Protection-Sex Abuse case assignments.
- All Juvenile Mental Health cases currently assigned to Department L shall be reassigned to Department X, and Department X shall also be designated as a department receiving future Juvenile Mental Health case assignments.
- Court administration shall publish the Family Division case reassignments affected by this order.

### Bar Services

## Nevada Appellate Summaries

Readers may find installments of the recurring feature, "Nevada Appellate Court Summaries" by Joe Tommasino, Esq., to be posted on the Clark County Bar's website at [www.clarkcountybar.org](http://www.clarkcountybar.org).

Scan QR code  
to read Nevada  
Appellate Court  
Summaries



## 2026 Lawyer Representative Opportunities

The United States District Court for the District of Nevada is accepting applications for three lawyer representatives: two positions in Las Vegas and one position in Reno. The lawyer representative program plays an important role in fostering communication between the court and the legal community, supporting the administration of justice, and promoting professionalism within the district. The court welcomes qualified attorneys who are interested in serving in this representative capacity. Interested applicants may obtain additional information regarding eligibility requirements, application materials, and submission deadlines directly at [www.nvd.uscourts.gov](http://www.nvd.uscourts.gov). For more information, read the court's full announcement at [www.nvd.uscourts.gov](http://www.nvd.uscourts.gov).

## Nevada District Conference Set for April 28-29, 2026

The United States District Court for the District of Nevada will hold the 2026 Nevada District Conference at the Durango Resort & Casino in Las Vegas, Nevada, from April 28-29, 2026.

For more information, see the conference schedule and registration page at <https://nevadadistrictconference.azurewebsites.net/>. 



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### Special offer for CCBA Members

RedPanda Systems can offer a 50% discount on the price of the first month or a 10% discount on monthly pricing for the first 6 months with a signed 1 year or longer contract for managed IT support services to current CCBA members.



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# Implementing a Dedicated Traffic Calendar at Las Vegas Justice Court

By Hon. Melisa De La Garza

**E**ffective April 1, 2026, the Las Vegas Justice Court will implement a dedicated Traffic Calendar designed to improve the management of criminal traffic matters and promote greater consistency and efficiency in court operations.

The Traffic Calendar will be heard Monday through Thursday at 1:30 p.m. in Courtroom 8A and will be presided over by the Justices of the Peace, who will rotate as part of the Court's regular judicial assignments. The calendar will consist of criminal traffic citations issued by law enforcement agencies involving traffic-related offenses.

All hearing types, with the exception of bench trials, will be heard on the Traffic Calendar, including in-custody warrant return hearings. In addition, any unresolved civil infraction violations arising from the same incident or event will be addressed alongside the related criminal citation. Bench trials will continue to be scheduled within the Court's general criminal departments.

Where a matter is resolved and involves only a financial obligation, the Court will provide a payment due date in lieu of an in-person status check hearing. The District Attorney's Office will participate in Traffic Calendar proceedings, and the Public Defender's Office will appear when representation is appropriate.

The decision to establish a dedicated Traffic Calendar reflects the unique nature of criminal traffic cases. These matters tend to be high-volume, making them well-suited for consolidation into a single forum. By centralizing

traffic cases, the Court is able to apply more uniform procedures, reduce time spent transitioning between traffic and non-traffic matters, and improve overall caseload.

From a broader operational perspective, the Traffic Calendar allows for more effective caseload distribution and resource allocation, while reducing congestion on general criminal calendars. This, in turn, enables judicial officers and staff in those departments to devote greater attention to more complex and time-intensive matters.

Ultimately, the dedicated Traffic Calendar supports the Las Vegas Justice Court's ongoing efforts to enhance efficiency, consistency, and the effective administration of justice,

while fostering greater uniformity in the handling of traffic matters for attorneys, litigants, and justice partners. The Court looks forward to continuing collaboration as this calendar is implemented. **G**

***The Traffic Calendar will be heard Monday through Thursday at 1:30 p.m. in Courtroom 8A and will be presided over by the Justices of the Peace, who will rotate as part of the Court's regular judicial assignments.***

---

**Judge Melisa De La Garza** was raised in Las Vegas and graduated from Eldorado High School. She received her undergraduate degree from UNLV and her J.D. from Creighton University. Her legal career has included being a Deputy District Attorney, Deputy Public Defender, private practitioner and Hearing Master. In 2018, Judge De La Garza was elected as a Justice of the Peace for Las Vegas Justice Court. In 2024, she was elected to be Chief Judge.



# Eighth Judicial District Court Civil Practice “Cheat Sheet” – 2026 Update

By Craig D. Friedel and Osibinaeyi (Binaey) Soje-Diyan

*Disclaimer: The use of this rule summary is not intended to supersede your independent judgment and review of applicable Nevada law and presumes the absence of any binding party stipulations or court orders providing otherwise.*

Action	Time Limit	Statute/Rule
<b>Lawsuit Initiation</b>		
Serve Defendant with Summons and Complaint after filing Complaint	Not later than 120 days, unless granted an extension	NRCP 4(e)
Serve Answer to Complaint	Within 21 days after being served the Summons and Complaint, unless a Rule 12 motion is served, then within 14 days after notice of the court’s denial or postponement until trial of such motion; or, if the Defendant has timely waived service under NRCP 4.1, within 60 days after the request for waiver was sent, or within 90 days for Defendants outside of the United States	NRCP 4.1(c) NRCP 12(a)(1)(A) NRCP 12(a)(3)
File Proof of Service of Summons and Complaint	No later than the time permitted for the Defendant to respond to the Summons	NRCP 4(d)
Serve Answer to Counterclaim or Crossclaim	Within 21 days after being served with the pleading that states the counterclaim or crossclaim, unless a Rule 12 motion is served, then within 14 days after notice of the court’s denial or postponement until trial of such motion	NRCP 12(a)(1)(B) NRCP 12(a)(3)
Reply to Answer	Unless ordered otherwise, 21 days after being served with an order to reply, unless a Rule 12 motion is served, then within 14 days after notice of the court’s denial or postponement until trial of such motion	NRCP 12(a)(1)(C) NRCP 12(a)(3)
Bring in Third Party Defendant or Counter-Defendant	No later than 14 days after serving original answer without leave of court; at any time after commencement of the action with leave of court	NRCP 14(a)(1) and (b)
Put on Dismissal Calendar	If Complaint not served or answered within 180 or no action for 6 months in a civil proceeding open for 1 year	EDCR 1.90(b)(2)

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\* Updated 1/31/2026

**EJDC** continued on page 24

<b>Amend/Supplement/Substitute Pleadings or Party</b>		
Amend pleading as matter of course	Within 21 days after service; or, if the pleading is one to which a responsive pleading is required, 21 days after service of the responsive pleading or 21 days after service of a 12(b), (e) or (f) motion, whichever is earlier	NRCP 15(a)(1)
Amend Pleading with leave of court or written consent of opposing party	Not later than 90 days before close of discovery; leave granted when “justice so requires”	NRCP 15(a)(2); NRCP 16.1(c)(2)(M)
Respond to Amended Pleading	Unless ordered otherwise, within the time remaining to respond to the original pleading or within 14 days after service of the amended pleading, whichever is later	NRCP 15(a)(3)
Amend during and after trial to conform to evidence	At any time, even after judgment, under certain circumstances	NRCP 15(b)
Supplement Pleading	On motion and reasonable notice, setting out any transaction, occurrence, or event that happened after the date of original pleading	NRCP 15(d)
Substitute Party due to death where claim not extinguished	Within 180 days after service of statement noting the death; otherwise, the claims must be dismissed	NRCP 25(a)-(c)
Substitute DOE/ROE defendants	“Promptly” upon discovery of true name	NRCP 10(d)
<b>Discovery</b>		
Attend Early Case Conference	Within 30 days after service of an answer by the first answering defendant; additional period of not more than 90 days by SAO of all parties; must occur within 180 days after service of answer absent compelling and extraordinary circumstances; if a new party serves its initial pleading after the first case conference, a supplemental case conference must be held within 30 days after service by any party of a written request for a supplemental conference	NRCP 16.1(b)(2)
Serve NRCP 16.1 Initial Disclosures	At or within 14 days after the Rule 16.1(b) early case conference unless otherwise set by stipulation or court order; if party is first served or joined after the NRCP 16.1(b) conference is held, then within 30 days after filing an answer or a Rule 12 motion, unless otherwise set by stipulation or court order	NRCP 16.1(a)(1) (C)-(D)
File Case Conference Report	Within 30 days after the Rule 16.1(b) early case conference; must supplement after any supplemental early case conference	NRCP 16.1(c)(1) (A)-(B)
May Serve Written Discovery	At any time after (1) the filing of a joint case conference report, OR not sooner than 14 days after a party has filed a separate case conference report, OR upon order of the court or discovery commissioner, AND (2) making NRCP 16.1(a)(1) initial disclosures	NRCP 26(a)

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Depositions—oral examination	14 days' written notice before time set for deposition; prior notice required to designate another method to record the deponent's testimony; 30 days for deponent to review and modify transcript once noticed it is available if requested review at deposition	NRCP 30(b)(1) & 3(B)) & (e)(1)
ROGs/RFPs/RFAs	Respond within 30 days after service of ROGs/RFPs/RFAs, unless otherwise set by stipulation or court order	NRCP 33(b)(2)/ NRCP 34(b)(2)(A)/ NRCP 36(a)(3)
Subpoenas	A notice and copy of the intended subpoena must be served on all parties at least 7 days before service on the person to whom it is directed; a party then must file any written objection within 7 days; the person to whom it is directed must respond within any reasonable time for compliance designated in the subpoena or may object within the earlier of the time specified for compliance or 14 days after the subpoena is served	NRCP 45(a)(4)(A) NRCP 45(c)(2)(B)
Court Enters Scheduling Order	Unless the court finds good cause for delay, as soon as practicable but at least within 60 days after a Rule 16.1 case conference report has been filed or the court waives the requirement of a case conference report under Rule 16.1(f)	NRCP 16(b)(2) EDCR 1.90(b)(3)
Set Trial Date	Cases shall be set for trial no later than 6 months after discovery cut-off date	EDCR 1.90(b)(4)
File motions to amend pleadings or add parties	Not later than 90 days before the close of discovery unless by court order	NRCP 16.1(c)(2)(M)
Initial Expert Disclosures	No later than 90 days before discovery cut-off date unless otherwise set by stipulation or court order	NRCP 16.1(a)(2)(E) (i)(a); NRCP 16.1(c) (2)(N)
Rebuttal Expert Disclosures	No later than 30 days after opposing party's expert disclosure unless otherwise set by stipulation or court order	NRCP 16.1(a)(2)(E) (i)(b); NRCP 16.1(c) (2)(N)
Close of Discovery	As set in Scheduling Order pursuant to NRCP 16(b)	EDCR 1.90(b)(3)
File Dispositive Motions	No later than 30 days after discovery cut-off date	NRCP 16.1(c)(2)(O)
File Motions <i>In Limine</i>	Filed not less than 45 days prior to the date set for trial and must be heard not less than 14 days prior to trial	EDCR 2.47
File Motion/SAO to Extend Discovery Deadline set forth in discovery order	No later than 21 days before the earliest discovery deadline for which an extension is sought, unless excusable neglect demonstrated	EDCR 2.35(a)
<b>Discovery Disputes</b>		
Preparation of R&R	Upon direction by the discovery commissioner, within 14 days after being notified of the decision, unless additional time is allowed by the court	EDCR 2.34(f) EDCR 7.21
Objection to R&R	Within 14 days after being served with the report	EDCR 2.34(f)(1)
Response to Objection to R&R	Within 7 days after being served with the objection	EDCR 2.34(f)(1)

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**EJDC** continued on page 26

Pre-Trial		
Request Jury Trial	Any time after the commencement of the action and not later than the time of the entry of the order first setting the case for trial	NRCP 38(b)
Make/Accept Offer of Judgment	Any time more than 21 days before trial; written acceptance of an offer of must be made within 14 days after service or the offer shall be deemed rejected	NRCP 68(a) & (d)
File Motion for Summary Judgment	Absent a court order otherwise, at any time until 30 days after the close of all discovery	NRCP 56(b)
Pretrial Motions	Should be heard and decided no later than 14 days before the date scheduled for trial	EDCR 1.90(a)(3)
Serve Pre-Trial Disclosures	At least 30 days before trial	NRCP 16.1(a)(3)(B)(i)
Object to Evidence in Pre-Trial Disclosure	Within 14 days after pre-trial disclosures made	NRCP 16.1(a)(3)(B)(ii)
Conduct Meeting of Counsel to exchange exhibits/witness list	Prior to any calendar call or final pretrial conference	EDCR 2.67(a)
File Joint Pre-Trial Memorandum	Not less than 15 days before the trial date	EDCR 2.67(a)
Post-Trial		
File Notice of Entry Of Judgment	Within 14 days after entry of a judgment or an order	NRCP 58(e)
File Renewed Motion for Judgements as Matter of Law/ Motion for New Trial/ Motion to Amend Findings and Judgment Accordingly/ Motion to Alter or Amend Judgment	No later than 28 days after service of written notice of entry of judgment (time for filing cannot be extended pursuant to NRCP 6(b))	NRCP 50(b)/ NRCP 59(b)/ NRCP 52(b)/ NRCP 59(e)
File Motion for Attorney's Fees	No later than 21 days after notice of entry of judgment is served (time for filing cannot be extended by the court after the foregoing time expires)	NRCP 54(d)(2)(B)-(C)
File Notice of Appeal	No later than 30 days after service of written notice of the order/judgment; if one party timely files a notice of appeal, any other party may file and serve a notice of appeal within 14 days after the date when the first notice was served or within 30 days after service of written notice of the order/ judgment, whichever is later	NRAP 4(a)(1)-(2)
Relief from Judgment (Mistake, Inadvertence, Excusable Neglect, Newly Discovered Evidence, Fraud, etc.)	Within a reasonable time, and for reasons (1), (2), and (3) no more than 6 months after the date of the proceeding or the date of service of written notice of entry of the judgment or order, whichever date is later (time for filing cannot be extended pursuant to NRCP 6(b))	NRCP 60(c)(1)

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\* Updated 1/31/2026

Motions		
Ex Parte Motion for Order Shortening Time	If granted, must be served upon all parties promptly; if order shortens the notice of a hearing to less than 14 days, it may not be served by mail; notice of hearing may not be shortened to less than 1 day	EDCR 2.26
File Joinder to Motion	Within 7 days after service of motion	EDCR 2.20(d)
File Opposition or Notice of Non-Opposition	Within 14 days after service of motion and 5 days after service of any joinder to the motion	EDCR 2.20(e)
File Reply to Opposition	If a hearing was requested or set by the court, no later than 7 days before the hearing on Motion unless court approval first obtained; if no hearing was requested, no later than 7 days after service of the opposition	EDCR 2.20(g)
File Motion for Reconsideration	Within 14 days after service of written notice of the order/judgment (other than any order/judgment that may be addressed by motion pursuant to NRCP 50(b), 52(b), 59 or 60) unless the time is shortened or enlarged by order; the filing of such a motion does not toll the period for filing a notice of appeal from a final order or judgment	EDCR 2.24(b)
Preparation of Order	Within 14 days after being notified of the ruling/decision, unless additional time is allowed by the court	EDCR 7.21; EDCR 1.90(a)(4)
*Please consult NRCP 6(a) and EDCR 1.14 for the correct computation of the above time limits.		

= Compulsory in every case  
 \* Updated 1/31/2026

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**Special Feature**

# Looking for the Federal Civil Practice “Cheat Sheet”?

See page 28



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# Federal Civil Practice “Cheat Sheet” – 2026 Update

By Osibinaeyi (Binaey) Soje-Diyan and Chelsey Gonzalez

*Disclaimer: The use of this rule summary is not intended to supersede your independent judgment and review of applicable federal law and presumes the absence of any binding party stipulations or court orders providing otherwise.*

Action	Time Limit	Statute/Rule
<b>Lawsuit Initiation</b>		
Serve Defendant with Summons and Complaint after filing Complaint	Not later than 90 days, unless granted an extension	FRCP 4(m)
Serve Answer to Complaint	Within 21 days after being served with the Summons and Complaint, unless a Rule 12 motion is served, then see FRCP 12(a)(4); or, if the Defendant has timely waived service under FRCP 4(d), within 60 days after the request for waiver was sent, or within 90 days for Defendants outside of the United States	FRCP 12(a)(1)(A) FRCP 4(d)
File Proof of Service of Summons and Complaint	No later than the time permitted for the Defendant to respond to the Summons	FRCP 4(l)
Serve Answer to Counterclaim or Crossclaim	Within 21 days after being served with the pleading that states the counterclaim or crossclaim, unless a Rule 12 motion is served, then see FRCP 12(a)(4)	FRCP 12(a)(1)(B)
Reply to Answer	Unless ordered otherwise, 21 days after being served with an order to reply, unless a Rule 12 motion is served, then see FRCP 12(a)(4)	FRCP 12(a)(1)(C)
Bring in Third Party Defendant or Counter-Defendant	No later than 14 days after serving original answer without leave of court; at any time after commencement of the action with leave of court	FRCP 14(a)(1)
Dismissal for Want of Prosecution	All civil actions that have been pending in this court for more than 270 days without any proceeding of record having been taken may, after notice, be dismissed for want of prosecution by the court <i>sua sponte</i> or on the motion of an attorney or <i>pro se</i> party.	LR 41-1 <sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The Local Rules of Practice for the United States District Court of the District of Nevada, published April 17, 2020, were utilized in this Cheat Sheet. The use of this rule summary is not intended to supersede your independent judgment and review of the applicable U.S. Local Rules, for both the District of Nevada and other districts relevant to your practice, and presumes the absence of any binding party stipulations or court orders providing otherwise.

<b>Amend/Supplement/Substitute Pleadings or Party</b>		
Amend pleading as matter of course	Within 21 days after service; or, if the pleading is one to which a responsive pleading is required, 21 days after service of the responsive pleading or 21 days after service of a 12(b), (e), or (f) motion, whichever is earlier	FRCP 15(a)(1)
Amend pleading with leave of court or written consent of opposing party	In all other cases, a party may amend its pleading only with the opposing party's written consent or the court's leave. The court should freely give leave when justice so requires. However, unless the discovery plan otherwise provides and the court so orders, the deadline for filing motions to amend the pleadings or to add parties is 90 days before the close of discovery.	FRCP 15(a)(2); LR 26-1(b)(2)
Respond to Amended Pleading	Unless ordered otherwise, within the time remaining to respond to the original pleading or within 14 days after service of the amended pleading, whichever is later	FRCP 15(a)(3)
Amend during and after trial	At any time, even after judgment, under certain circumstances (e.g., consent)	FRCP 15(b)
Supplement Pleading	On motion and reasonable notice, setting out any transaction, occurrence, or event that happened after the date of original pleading	FRCP 15(d)
Substitute Party due to death where claim not extinguished	Within 90 days after service of statement noting the death; otherwise, the claims must be dismissed	FRCP 25(a)
Change Party or Name of Party against whom claim is asserted	If Rule 15(c)(1)(B) is satisfied and if, within the period provided by Rule 4(m) for serving the summons and complaint, the party to be brought in by amendment: (i) received such notice of the action that it will not be prejudiced in defending on the merits; and (ii) knew or should have known that the action would have been brought against it, but for a mistake concerning the proper party's identity	FRCP 15(c)(1)(C)
<b>Discovery</b>		
Attend Rule 26(f) Conference	Except in a proceeding exempted from initial disclosure under Rule 26(a)(1)(B) or when the court orders otherwise, the parties must confer as soon as practicable—and in any event at least 21 days before a scheduling conference is to be held or a scheduling order is due under Rule 16(b)	FRCP 26(f)
Serve Initial Disclosures	Within 14 days after the parties' Rule 26(f) conference unless a different time is set by stipulation or court order, or unless a party objects during the conference that initial disclosures are not appropriate in this action and states the objection in the proposed discovery plan  A party that is first served or otherwise joined after the Rule 26(f) conference must make the initial disclosures within 30 days after being served or joined, unless a different time is set by stipulation or court order.	FRCP 26(a)(1)(C)-(D)
File Case Conference Report	14 days after the Rule 26(f) conference	FRCP 26(f)(2)

**Federal** continued on page 30

May Serve Written Discovery	A party may not seek discovery from any source before the parties have conferred as required by Rule 26(f), except in a proceeding exempted from initial disclosure under Rule 26(a)(1)(B), or when authorized by these rules, by stipulation, or by court order.	FRCP 26(d)(1)
Depositions—oral examination	A party who wants to depose a person by oral question must give reasonable written notice to every other party. The notice must state the time and place of the deposition and, if known, the deponent's name and address. If the name is unknown, the notice must provide a general description sufficient to identify the person or the particular class or group to which the person belongs.	FRCP 30(b)(1)
ROGs/RFPs/RFAs	Respond within 30 days after service of ROGs/RFPs/RFAs, unless otherwise set by stipulation or court order	FRCP 33(b)(2)/ FRCP 34(b)(2)(A)/ FRCP 36(a)(3)
Subpoenas	A notice and copy of the intended subpoena must be served on all parties before service on the person to whom it is directed.  A person commanded to produce documents or tangible things or to permit inspection may serve a written objection. The objection must be served before the earlier of the time specified for compliance or 14 days after the subpoena is served.	FRCP 45(a)(1)(D)(4) FRCP 45(d)(2)(B)
Court Enters Scheduling Order	The judge must issue the scheduling order as soon as practicable, but unless the judge finds good cause for delay, the judge must issue it within the earlier of 90 days after any defendant has been served with the complaint or 60 days after any defendant has appeared. In cases where a discovery plan is required, the court must approve, disapprove, or modify the discovery plan and enter the scheduling order within 30 days from the date the discovery plan is submitted.	FRCP 16(b)(2); LR 16-1(a)
File motions to amend pleadings or add parties	90 days before close of discovery unless the discovery plan otherwise provides and the court so orders	LR 26-1(b)(2) FRCP 16(b)(3)
Initial Expert Disclosures	At least 90 days before the date set for trial or for the case to be ready for trial, and 60 days before the discovery cut-off date.	FRCP 26(a)(2)(D)(i); LR 26-1(3)
Rebuttal Expert Disclosures	Within 30 days after the other party's disclosure	FRCP 26(a)(2)(D)(ii); LR 26-1(3)
Close of Discovery	As set in Scheduling Order; however, unless the court orders otherwise, discovery periods longer than 180 days from the date the first defendant answers or appears will require special scheduling review	LR 26-1(b)(1)
File Dispositive Motions	Unless the discovery plan provides otherwise, no later than 30 days after discovery cut-off date	LR 26-1(b)(4)
File Motions <i>In Limine</i>	Filed not less than 30 days prior to the date set for trial, and responses must be filed and served no later than 14 days after service of the motion.	LR 16-3(a)
File Motion/SAO to Extend Discovery Deadline set forth in discovery order	No later than 21 days before the subject deadline. A request made within 21 days of the subject deadline must be supported by a showing of good cause.	LR 26-3

<b>Discovery Disputes</b>		
Preparation of Order by Magistrate Judge	When a pretrial matter not dispositive of a party's claim or defense is referred to a magistrate judge to hear and decide, the magistrate judge must promptly conduct the required proceedings and, when appropriate, issue a written order stating the decision.	FRCP 72(a)
Objection to Magistrate Judge's Order	Within 14 days after being served with the report	FRCP 72(a); LR IB 3-1(a)
Response to Objection to Magistrate Judge's Order	Within 14 days after being served with the objection	LR IB 3-1(a)
<b>Pre-Trial</b>		
Right to a Jury Trial; Demand	No later than 14 days after the last pleading directed to the issue is served	FRCP 38(b)
Make/Accept Offer of Judgment	Any time more than 14 days before trial; written acceptance of an offer of judgment must be made within 14 days after service or the offer shall be deemed withdrawn	FRCP 68(a) and (b)
File Motion for Summary Judgment	Absent a local rule or court order otherwise, at any time until 30 days after the close of all discovery	FRCP 56(b)
Serve Pre-Trial Disclosures	At least 30 days before trial	FRCP 26(a)(3)(B)
Object to Evidence in Pre-Trial Disclosure	Within 14 days after pre-trial disclosures made unless the court sets a different time.	FRCP 26(a)(3)(B)
<b>Post-Trial</b>		
Judgment as a Matter of Law in a Jury Trial/ Motion for New Trial/ Motion to Amend Findings and Judgment Accordingly/ Motion to Alter or Amend Judgment	No later than 28 days after the entry of judgment or if the motion addresses a jury issue not decided by a verdict, no later than 28 days after the jury was discharged	FRCP 50(b)/ FRCP 59(b)/ FRCP 52(b)/ FRCP 59(e)
File Motion for Attorney's Fees	No later than 14 days after the entry of judgment	FRCP 54(d)(2)(A)-(B)
Relief from Judgment (Mistake, Inadvertence, Excusable Neglect, Newly Discovered Evidence, Fraud, etc.)	Within a reasonable time, and for reasons (1), (2), and (3) no more than 1 year after the entry of the judgment or order or the date of the proceeding	FRCP 60(c)(1)

**Federal** continued on page 32

Motions		
File Response to Motion for Summary Judgment	Within 21 days after service of the motion	LR 7-2(b)
File Response to Any Other Motion	Within 14 days after service of the motion	LR 7-2(b)
File Reply in Support of Motion for Summary Judgment	Within 14 days after service of the response	LR 7-2(b)
File Reply in Support of Any Other Motion	Within 7 days after service of the response	LR 7-2(b)
Disapproval of a Proposed Order	Within 3 days after service of the proposed order by the prevailing party, otherwise deemed an approval	LR 7-2(f)

**Osibinaeyi (Binaey) Soje-Diyan** is an associate attorney at Bolick & Hansen where she primarily focuses her practice on estate and business planning, trust administration, and probate.

**Chelsey Gonzalez** is an associate with Solomon Dwiggin Freer & Steadman, Ltd. and brings a strong background in research and writing to her practice, where she focuses on litigation and guardianship matters.

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# Recognize Your Support

By Pooja Kumar

**M**any attorneys are familiar with the feeling of impending doom when they believe they missed a deadline. The elevated heart rate, the empty pit of a dropped stomach, the mental anguish that comes with the possibility of opening themselves up to malpractice—these feelings of despair are all too real at times. What makes the situation worse is that those apprehensions are quite often preventable. While all attorneys aim for proper practice management, the task is difficult to handle alone. For that, attorneys frequently rely on support staff. A helping hand can offer security in meeting deadlines, confidence in covering all aspects of a case, and reminders to keep tabs on moving parts of litigation, to name a few benefits.

Unfortunately, the support personnel that work in the background often go unnoticed. They are recurrently the individuals who calendar the dates in the email that are skimmed but not studied, who draft the shell of a discovery response that was not on the attorney's internal deadline radar, who physically submit important papers to the proper tribunal or department, or who speak with clients that are upset, frustrated, anxious, or otherwise in need of comfort regarding their legal rights. These auxiliary individuals are the frontline for legal practice. Certainly, then, they deserve recognition beyond one day per year. (For the record, Administrative Professionals' Day is on Wednesday of the last full week of April. This year, it falls on April 22.)

Recognition of individuals who allow attorneys to run a successful practice does not have to be elaborate, over the top, expensive, or burdensome. Rather, acknowledgment of efforts, awareness of contribution, and appreciation of the hard work that these individuals provide can come in many forms. For instance, and at the very

least, a mere "thank you" at the end of a long day can make a difference. A showing of gratitude for the work of another is a small way to let an assistant know that their efforts make a difference.

Ultimately, the attorney is liable for their practice of law. Support staff are a courtesy, and they deserve to be appreciated for their contributions and conveyance of benefits that allow attorneys to become successful. Such regard

starts with recognition. After all, a law firm cannot operate without the proper individuals helping to manage the practice. **●**

***Support staff are a courtesy, and they deserve to be appreciated for their contributions and conveyance of benefits that allow attorneys to become successful.***

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**Pooja Kumar** is a partner at the law firm of Cooper Levenson. She earned her law degree from Albany Law School, and her practice focuses on defending premise liability cases. Prior to joining Cooper Levenson, Pooja gained experience in civil litigation for both plaintiffs and defendants. She is presently a Co-Editor of *Communique*.



# The Intersection of Technology and Firm Management

By Elizabeth M. Sorokac

I fondly recall receiving my first intranet email address when I was in undergrad at Michigan State University. We've come a long way since then. Several generations of technological advances and new waves have passed us by. These advances have caused the demise of the typewriter, the physical fax machine, floppy disks, the Dictaphone, and my personal favorite—the Blackberry.

As a law firm managing attorney, I am continuously bombarded with the “latest and greatest” advances in technology, which include software and hardware touting things like efficiency, organization, automation, client-friendly interfaces, and billing capabilities. For clients and employees alike, the technology used in a law firm is important to the service we provide clients and the environment for employees.

Clients want a friendly interface when interacting with their attorney. Employees want technological tools that help them do their jobs. Law firms want to provide great service to their clients and a great work environment for their employees. New technology may be the answer.

When considering the implementation of new technology within my firm, the considerations outlined below have helped guide my decision making:

1. What does the firm want to do better through technology? Is it necessary or would it just be nice to have?
2. What is the cost? Whether per month, per year, per user, or other cost method, budgetary constraints are always a consideration for new technology.
3. Is there a technology solution that works for your business and practice? Even within the law, there is not a one-size fits all solution. Technology may

be geared toward a specific size or type of firm or certain practice areas. Practice-management software and billing and time-keeping programs are a few examples of solutions serving varying needs.

4. Does the firm already pay for technology that could be used to fill a specific need? Before investigating new technology, review current licenses and technology that is already paid for. With the bundling of multiple programs under a single license, your firm may already have a solution available.
5. Will there be internal resistance to the adoption of new technology? While I believe that an old dog can learn new tricks, consult with your team to assess whether the proposed technology will be used. No matter how great a solution may be, if no one will use it, the associated time and money can be better spent elsewhere.
6. What will be considered a success? This is a case-by-case analysis for technology depending on the objective that it is intended to meet. Does the technology improve the client-facing side of the firm, speed, efficiency, organization, automation or billing capabilities of the firm? Does the successful outcome the firm has defined justify the cost of the technology?
7. Is the proposed technology compatible with the firm's existing systems? As a general rule, technology that is not compatible with a firm's existing systems should not be considered, unless a firm intends to make wholesale changes to hardware and software. For example, consider whether time-keeping software synchronizes with accounting software and whether prac-

tice-management software synchronizes with a cloud-based email and calendaring platform.

8. Does the technology comply with the Nevada Rules of Professional Conduct? Nevada Rule of Professional Conduct Rule 1.6 establishes the confidentiality of the attorney/client relationship. All technology used must meet the standards for network security in order to fulfill attorney ethical obligations under this rule and maintain the confidentiality of the attorney/client relationship and its communications.
9. Does the technology meet other applicable regulations and requirements? If your firm handles information covered by the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (“HIPAA”), the technology used must be HIPAA compliant. This includes both hardware and software security requirements. Further, clients may have specific technology requirements related to network security and cybersecurity insurance. These are generally found in a client’s outside counsel policies and procedures, which may be updated on an annual basis during your attorney/client relationship.

Management of firm technology requires reliance on technology experts. Your firm’s Director of Operations can assist with the people-based aspects of technology implementation, including coordination with your IT provider and technology adoptions within your firm. Consult with your IT provider regarding implementation and the compatibility with your existing technology systems with new technology. Your IT provider can also assist your firm with HIPAA compliance and any client specific requirements. These experts are your best resource for securing your firm’s network and meeting your ethical obligations, client needs, and business objectives.

Harnessing technology’s full benefits for your firm demands active engagement and deliberate choice. Embrace technology in the law. It’s here to stay. **C**

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**Elizabeth M. Sorokac** has been the managing attorney of Reisman Sorokac for 16 years through several generations of technological advances and changes—all while practicing law and raising a family. She can be reached at 702-727-6258 (office), 702-245-5075 (cell) or [esorokac@rsnlaw.com](mailto:esorokac@rsnlaw.com).

The advertisement features a dark blue background with a futuristic, digital aesthetic. At the top, the text "Las Vegas Legal Video" is written in a white, sans-serif font. Below this, the acronym "LVLV" is prominently displayed in large, white, outlined letters. To the right of the acronym is a circular icon containing a white scale of justice. Below the icon, the word "TRIAL" is written in a green, blocky font. In the center of the advertisement is a large, detailed image of a human eye, overlaid with various digital interface elements like lines, dots, and semi-circles. Below the eye, the word "VIDEO" is written in a green, blocky font. To the left of "VIDEO" is a circular icon containing a white video camera. To the right of the camera icon is a list of services: "Depositions", "Editing", "Inspections", "Enhancement", "Surveillance", and "Documentaries", each preceded by a small white circle. At the bottom of the advertisement, the phone number "702.655.5858" is written in a large, white, sans-serif font. Below the phone number is the website "www.lasvegaslegalvideo.com" and the address "729 South Seventh Street, Las Vegas, Nevada 89101".



# Balancing Leadership and Lawyering: Managing a Local Office Within a Regional Firm

By Chelsie Adams

I did not plan to become the Managing Partner of my firm's Las Vegas office when I did, or under the circumstances that led me there. A colleague's sudden passing required immediate action: client notification, file assessment, and rapid workload redistribution, all while I maintained a full litigation docket. There was no runway, no transition period, and no manual. Leadership arrived overnight.

That experience reshaped how I view both management and the practice of law. Managing a local office within a regional firm is not an extra role layered on top of billable work. It is an important professional responsibility rooted in protecting client trust, developing people, and sustaining the practice.

What follows are practical lessons from that transition, offered for lawyers who find themselves leading from the middle—accountable to firm leadership, responsible for local culture, and still fully engaged in client service.

## Build trust through authentic, accountable leadership

Authority does not come from title alone. It is earned through transparency, decisiveness, and follow-through. Authentic leadership does not require perfection or performative confidence. It requires the discipline to acknowledge uncertainty while still providing direction and space for others to contribute.

No managing partner succeeds alone. Effective leadership means recognizing one's own limits, identifying gaps in experience or capacity, and empowering others to step into those roles. When people are trusted with responsibility and supported through accountability, engagement deepens and trust follows.

Leaders who model this approach encourage candor. When people feel safe acknowledging strain or uncertainty, issues surface earlier and can be addressed before they escalate.

## Align actions with values

Leading a thriving law office requires more than setting goals; it requires aligning daily actions with shared values. Teams perform best when expectations are clear and when lawyers and staff understand how their work advances the broader strategy. Involving the team in shaping that strategy creates buy-in. Buy-in fosters ownership.

A managing partner's role includes translating firm-wide initiatives into office-specific action. This is where local leadership adds unique value, aligning strengths with needs, pairing experience with opportunity, and structuring work so each person's contribution matters. When individuals see how their work fits into the greater effort, motivation increases, and uncertainty diminishes.

Creating space for open dialogue is essential. Encouraging collaboration over competition, promoting mentorship, and reinforcing that the office succeeds or fails together strengthens culture and performance.

## Bridge generational dynamics with intention

Today's law offices span multiple generations with different expectations around feedback, flexibility, and career development. Ignoring those differences creates friction. Addressing them intentionally creates alignment.

Senior attorneys winding down their practices often bring deep client relationships and institutional knowledge. Younger attorneys often bring stamina, fluency with emerging technologies, and execution capacity. Effective leadership pairs those strengths, preserving continuity for clients while creating meaningful opportunities for developing lawyers. Done well, this approach advances succession planning and reinforces that diverse career stages are assets.

## Balance profitability and people through disciplined execution

Local office leadership sits at the intersection of finance and morale. Billing, collections, staffing, and workload allocation shape retention, performance, and client outcomes.

Transparency matters. Explaining the why behind expectations, whether tied to realization, staffing, or workflow, builds trust and reduces friction. But transparency alone is insufficient. Profitability goals must translate into measurable outcomes so accountability is shared rather than imposed.

Profitability must also be sustainable. Burnout erodes both people and profits. Strong offices monitor workloads, cross-train staff, and address strain early. Leadership is not about absorbing every problem personally; it is about creating clarity, assigning responsibility, and following up before issues compound.

## Build systems that enhance—not interrupt—practice

The greatest risk for lawyer-leaders is allowing management to crowd out lawyering. The solution is not longer hours, but better systems.

Documented processes, deliberate delegation, and standardized reporting reduce friction and free leader-

ship to focus on strategy. Calendar discipline protects time for client work. Short, focused meetings replace reactive interruptions and keep priorities visible.

When systems function well, leadership supports practice rather than competing with it, allowing lawyers to spend less time managing chaos and more time practicing at a high level.

## Leading from the middle

Managing a local office within a regional firm requires judgment. It demands translating strategy into execution, balancing profitability with people, and maintaining momentum through consistent follow-through.

Leadership is not separate from practice. It is practice. And when approached with intention, accountability, and structure, it strengthens not only the office we manage but the profession we serve. **G**

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*Chelsie Adams is a Director in Fennemore's business litigation practice group and serves as Managing Partner of the firm's Las Vegas office. Her practice focuses on complex commercial disputes and construction litigation, including claims involving defects and delays, differing site conditions, insurance and indemnity, prompt payment statutes, and lien enforcement. She can be reached at [cadams@fennemorelaw.com](mailto:cadams@fennemorelaw.com).*

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