

FOREWORD



By Sandra Douglass Morgan

Welcome to the 2019 edition of *Nevada Gaming Lawyer* magazine.

I count it a great honor to serve as Chair and Executive Director of the Nevada Gaming Control Board during what is a particularly dynamic and exciting time for the industry.

Technological innovation, state efforts to generate revenue, and a growing demand for gaming in the U.S. and throughout the world are transforming the industry in real time. Long gone are the days when Nevada was one of two states with commercial gaming. Currently, 25 states have legalized commercial gaming and approximately 15 states have sports betting legislation – an increase spurred last year by the U.S. Supreme Court’s PAPSA decision and a recent surge in enabling legislation in other states.

This shifting policy landscape requires new regulatory tools and practices. Members of the Nevada Gaming Control Board and the Nevada Gaming Commission will be responsible for steering the next incredibly important chapter of gaming regulation, and gaming lawyers are integral to that process. As Chair, I am focused on ensuring Nevada remains the leader in gaming regulation. Our regulations must reflect the issues and challenges the industry is facing today. We must modernize our licensing practices and enforcement mechanisms and ensure that cutting-edge gaming device technology is deployed in Nevada first.

As such, I am pleased to pen the Foreword to this year’s issue, featuring substantive articles and leading voices from the field. First, with more than a decade of gaming regulatory experience, Commission Chairman, Tony Alamo, M.D. shares his insight into the gaming pulse of Nevada. Next, Board Member Terry Johnson and Hearing Examiner Chan Lengsavath share their practice tips for representing gaming employees before the

Board. Representing the Board's Compliance Unit, Luke Rippee and Dave Staley offer tools to assist gaming licensees' preparedness for compliance reviews. Elijah Tredup, Esq. explores the issue of loot boxes and gambling, which has gained significant attention overseas and more recently in Congress.

Additionally, you will gain a glimpse into my background and goals, and those of Board Member Philip Katsaros, through our respective interviews with members of the Gaming Law Section and the reflective comments of former Nevada Gaming Commissioner and U.S. District Court Judge, Philip M. Pro (Ret.). There are also articles covering the DOJ's recent reversal of its 2011 Wire Act opinion and the New Hampshire court's opinion, how Nevada is addressing responsible gaming in the courtroom, sports betting royalty fees and use of official data, internet gaming on tribal lands, wagering excise tax, whether the extension of play constitutes a prize, Nevada's two agency approach to gaming regulation, employment matters, and 2019 Legislative updates. As you can see, this issue is rich with content, informed perspectives, and will serve as a resource for years to come.

I value the opportunity to author this year's *Foreword* and extend appreciation to everyone who contributed to this year's issue. I also wish to thank the Gaming Law Section for the invitation and its Executive Committee for its consistent efforts to ensure this magazine addresses a diversity of topics consisting of emerging issues and ongoing items of interest to gaming advisors, academics, policymakers, and regulators. A special thank you to The Mob Museum for their outreach and education efforts in the community, and for allowing me to use its Open City exhibit which focuses on the early gaming days in Las Vegas as a backdrop. On a personal note, I am especially grateful to the employees at the Gaming Control Board who kindly and graciously welcomed me into their family this year. I look forward to our next four years in service together.



Sandra Douglass Morgan serves as Chair and Executive Director of the Nevada Gaming Control Board where she is responsible for the Board's daily operations, including managing a \$44 million-dollar budget and approximately 400 employees in five cities throughout Nevada.

Sandra was appointed to this role by Governor Steve Sisolak for a 4-year term from January 28, 2019 to January 28, 2023. She was previously appointed to the Nevada Gaming Commission in 2018 and to the Nevada Athletic Commission in 2017 by former Governor Brian Sandoval. While serving as a Gaming Commissioner, she was also the Director of External Affairs for AT&T Services, Inc. She formerly served as the City Attorney for the City of North Las Vegas and was the first African-American City Attorney in the state of Nevada. Prior to her public service with the City, she served as a Litigation Attorney for one of the world's largest gaming companies.

Her awards and honors include the Corporate to Community Connector award from the National Urban League Young Professionals, "Women in Business and Politics" award from the Urban Chamber of Commerce, Ladies of Distinction Award from Olive Crest, a non-profit organization dedicated to assisting abused and neglected children, the National Bar Association's Nation's Best Advocates "40 under 40," and Attorney of the Year Award by the Las Vegas Chapter of the National Bar Association.

Sandra is a member of the State Bar of Nevada. She earned her B.A. in Political Science from the University of Nevada, Reno and her J.D. from the William S. Boyd School of Law at University of Nevada, Las Vegas. She resides in Southern Nevada with her husband, Don Morgan, where they raise their two children.