



Nevada Supreme Court Access to Justice Commission

Meeting - Friday, November 4, 2022 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://nvbar.zoom.us/j/85055685133>

You may simply click the link to join with computer audio if your computer has speakers/microphone. If your computer does not have speakers/microphone or you are in a location where audio would disturb others you may use your phone for audio.

Meeting ID: 850 5568 5133

888 475 4499 US Toll-free

877 853 5257 US Toll-free

Meeting Agenda

- | | | |
|---|-------------------|--------------|
| I. Opening Statements from Co-Chairs & Commission Roll Call | 5 minutes | |
| II. Consent Agenda | 5 minutes | Tab 1 |
| • Approval of June 17, 2022 Commission Meeting Minutes | | |
| III. Discussion Items | | Tab 2 |
| • Commission Membership Nominations | 5 minutes | |
| • Pro Bono Promotion Reinvigoration Plan | 20 minutes | |
| ○ Judicial support | | |
| ○ Public Lawyers Conference | | |
| ○ Plans and actions | | |
| • Legislative, Eviction Mediation Program, and Grant Updates | 15 minutes | |
| • ADR and Short Trials | 10 minutes | |
| ○ Addressing issues of indigent self-represented | | |
| • IOLTA | 15 minutes | |
| ○ IOLTA Rate Review | | |
| ○ Financial institution outreach | | |
| ○ IOLTA SCR 216 funding rule ADKT order filed | | |
| • Unbundled Services | 15 minutes | |
| ○ ADKT pilot program rule order filed | | |
| • Elder Grant – Library Legal Kiosk Program Update | 5 minutes | |
| ○ Statewide Technology & Forms | | |
| • Proposed Rules of Professional Conduct for Child Welfare Lawyers | 5 minutes | |
| IV. Reports | 5 minutes | |
| V. Other Business | 5 minutes | |



Nevada Supreme Court Access to Justice Commission

Meeting - Friday, November 4, 2022 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM

VI. Informational Items

Tab 3

- Legal Aid Provider Highlights
- Self-Help Center Statistics
- Triannual Provider Call Recap
- Nevada Bankers Association *The IOLTA Report*
- Public Awareness

Upcoming Access to Justice Commission Meetings

Meetings are Fridays at 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

November 4, 2022

March 17, 2023

June 9, 2023

November 3, 2023

Our Purpose

- Assess current and future civil legal needs.
- Develop statewide policies to improve legal service delivery.
- Improve self-help and pro bono services.
- Increase public awareness of the impact of limited access to justice.
- Investigate and pursue increased funding.
- Recommend legislation or rules affecting access to justice.



ACCESS TO JUSTICE COMMISSION

Access to Justice Commission Meeting Minutes
Friday, June 17, 2022 – 2:00 p.m.

Commission Members Present

Justice Kristina Pickering, Co-Chair
Justice Elissa Cadish
Connie Akridge
Deonne Contine
Diane Fearon
John Fortin
Judge Joanna Kishner
Doreen Spears Hartwell
Judge Cynthia Lu
Joseph McEllistrem
Judge Bridget Robb
Marisa Rodriguez
Judge John Schlegelmilch
Raine Shortridge
Judge Connie Steinheimer
Judge E. Alan Tiras
Steven “J.T.” Washington
Michael Wendlberger

Guests Present

Rachel Anderson
Giovanni Andrade
Rhea Gertken
Phyllis Gurgevich
Chanteyl Hasse
Justin Iverson
Courtney Kinsella
Susan Myers
Lauren Pena
Katherine Stocks
Peter Wetherall

Staff Present

Brad Lewis

Call to Order/Roll Call/Minutes

The Access to Justice Commission meeting was called to order. Justice Pickering welcomed all. A roll call was conducted and approval of the March 25, 2022 minutes was requested. Justice Cadish noted that the minutes should reflect the final “yes” vote of the Commission agreeing to the updated IOLTA



SCR 216 funding language from “substantially all” to “96 percent”. With the execution of that update, the minutes were adopted for the record.

Statewide Technology and Forms

The ATJC Statewide Technology and Forms Committee recommended that on a going forward basis the Committee should work in tandem with the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) to best fulfill the goals of standard commonly used statewide forms and to take advantage of AOC technology funding, including electronic filing. Justice Hardesty had encouraged the Committee’s continued cooperation with the AOC. While much good work was done including surveying courts for the most used forms and technology, it has been slow and difficult to gain widespread engagement and forms agreement. Part of the AOC initiative will require more standardization due to technological forms and guide-and-file advancements. Katherine Stocks, director of the AOC and state court administrator, joined the meeting to update the Commission. The AOC has both garnered budget funding and grants funding to advance on this initiative. The goal is to have a single, statewide Nevada Supreme Court website portal and it makes sense to combine our efforts. Examples of combined efforts include actively keeping portal forms up to date, cooperating on form instructions, and working together on allied initiatives such as the new legal kiosks in libraries grant initiative.

Justice Pickering noted that the newly hired law librarian, Ann Walsh-Long would be active in this effort and Ms. Long will be added to the Commission. Ms. Stocks outlined that the new guided interviews for forms completion will have a statewide focus and dedicated staff will be supporting the endeavor as it is important to keep forms up to date. This overall effort will assist the courts.

Pro Bono Reinvigoration

COVID has had a generally negative impact on pro bono participation. While some increases have been seen, particularly in Ask-A-Lawyer participation, overall pro bono efforts have been squelched over the past couple of years. As a result, the Commission agreed to review pro bono statistics and develop a draft pro bono reinvigoration plan for review, consideration, and feedback from the entire Commission. The draft plan is available from the Commission, but the focus is to collaboratively promote pro bono in conjunction with all of Nevada’s legal aid providers, hire a marketing firm to sharpen the messaging, and focus the pitch on the ability to earn CLE credit for pro bono service and determine how best to incorporate the persuasive power of the judiciary in the promotion.

After a brief review of the draft plan, Justice Cadish called for Commission feedback. Judge Kishner commented that she can help again with the front-of-line pass. Doreen Spears Hartwell liked the concept that we would promote that cases are curated for limited, accessible time commitments. Diane Fearon thanked the Nevada Supreme Court justices for supporting the Southern Nevada Senior Law Program effort to target probate and trust law attorneys with a recognition of SNSLP’s 10th anniversary as a standalone nonprofit. Justice Cadish shared that there can be a fear of how big the commitment is and suggested “most cases required only x hours” (less than five hours) might help case acceptance.



Annette Bradley thought that the opportunity for mentoring is a good tool for engagement. Ms. Fearon added that the CLE training earns credit and is a good inclusion. Augusta Massey, in Zoom chat, suggested that the pandemic has taken its toll and a lot of litigators are tired and overworked due to the legal shortage and struggle to keep up with deadlines as the courts try to catch up with litigation that has been on hold. It can be a mental health issue. Justice Cadish added that we have been seeing true mental health emergencies. Judge Kishner shared that on recent discovery law firm visits Michael Wendlberger from Legal Aid Center has joined to promote pro bono. She thought courthouse CLEs may be an option to promote taking a case. Mr. Wendlberger shared that some law firms have canceled their previous commitments due to time constraints. He noted in the courts' Blue Jeans chats, pro bono could be promoted. Jennifer Richards shared that she liked the idea of advance directives being a limited time frame option for volunteering.

Questions and feedback continued. Justice Cadish inquired if firm staff is working in offices. Mr. Wendlberger shared that many are still remote or hybrid. Justice Pickering liked the notion of gaining new pro bono attorneys from previously mostly untapped legal fields and making a specific "doable" pitch. Ms. Hartwell added that transactional lawyers can take cases and reinforced that helping someone makes you feel better and can improve mental health. Marisa Rodriguez shared that she is presenting a CLE at the Public Law Conference which may be an opportunity to pitch pro bono. Judge Kishner said that she believes retired lawyers are a good target market and Justice Cadish added that with the new CLE rule for lawyers 70 and over that the CLE for pro bono may be a draw. Judge Steinheimer agree that senior lawyers are untapped and might be encouraged if offered a digestible opportunity. She said a coffee club might be possible and CLE offers may help.

For public lawyers, it may be necessary to get elected officials to agree to time spent on pro bono work and their encouragement to participate could be very valuable. Issues such as how to address public employees spending time on pro bono cases would need to be focused on. Previously, this seems to have been most successful in serving veterans. It was suggested that attorneys in state agency departments could be influenced to participate if the governor and elected officials encourage it. Justice Cadish thanked the group for the good feedback. Justice Pickering liked Ms. Hartwell's idea to include "you may be stressed but putting your skills to work is a kindness that makes you feel better". Brad asked each Commission member to share what they believed were the top three strongest strategies for pro bono promotion, and key legal fields ripest for outreach to engage them in pro bono and will follow up by email to those unable to join today's discussion.

IOLTA

It was briefly noted that the SCR 216 IOLTA ADKT was advanced and a public hearing held. It updated the language from "substantially all" to "96 percent" of IOLTA funds being earmarked for civil legal aid. The measure advanced and will likely be adopted in due course. Brad shared that the IOLTA outreach and thank you to Nevada financial institutions began with a visit to northern Nevada, recognition at Washoe Legal Services Child's Voice Luncheon, and in person visits to banks. Heritage Bank, an IOLTA



top 10 bank, agreed to become a Nevada IOLTA *Leadership Institution* paying premium rates on IOLTA accounts.

Unbundling

The unbundling ADKT developed by the ATJC Unbundling Committee and approved by the Commission was filed May 25 with a public hearing set for August 2. Public comment is welcomed through July 22. The ADKT is available from the Commission. Justice Pickering urged members to share the ADKT and asked for comment and feedback to create awareness of the potential changes to garner the best feedback. She hoped that it may be complete in time to include in the 2023 Michie's legal reference.

Eviction Mediation Program

Brad shared that the monthly meetings with courts, legal aid, Clark County, nonprofit organizations and realty and landlord representatives continue. Formerly on two tracks, on eviction mediation and the other eviction diversion, beginning in July the separate Zoom calls will be combined into one monthly meeting.

Nominating Committee

ATJC Nominating Committee Chair Doreen Spears Hartwell reviewed the work of the Nominating Committee and referenced the memo in the meeting materials. The Committee recommends that all members be voted for Commission membership. Justice Cadish moved to adopt the slate recommended by the Committee, Judge Robb seconded, and the member nominees passed unanimously. Ms. Hartwell shared that the Committee will be looking for northern Nevada representatives moving forward. She also let Commission members know that the Committee is seeking new members and to please reach out if interest. Justice Pickering welcomed the new Commission members.

Elder Grant Legal Kiosks in Libraries

The newly hired project manager, Susan Myers, shared the progress on the grant in service to self-represented litigants. Ms. Myers reported she is currently researching all relevant information, including outreach to libraries and other states with similar programs currently in place. Currently, a proposal similar to the method Minnesota used from A2J Tech is being reviewed. A comprehensive technology analysis is underway with an eye toward continual updates, the ability to accommodate changes over time and service sustainability. To keep the access to information as easy as possible to access, a "checkerboard" concept is being reviewed and a sample was shared - [Colorado General Civil, Probate, Family Law \(checkerboard.co\)](https://www.colorado.gov/government-services/colorado-general-civil-probate-family-law-checkerboard-co). Good progress has been made in the initial six weeks. Brad will connect Ms. Myers with Katherine Stocks and Ann Walsh-Long to coordinate with the AOC.



Reports

Justice Pickering then called for legal aid provider reports. She also noted it would be good for the great information in the reports to be shared more widely. Brad will develop a draft plan to share with the providers and State Bar of Nevada.

- Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada – Michael Wendlberger reported that most important information is included in their written report. The focus on evictions and eviction diversion court opportunities continues.
- Nevada Legal Services – Peter Wetherall also reported the most important details are in the written report and then referred to Rhea Gertken. Ms. Gertken shared that NLS plans to develop a more robust annual report including success stories, videos, and more as a part of promoting access to justice and garnering pro bono support.
- Southern Nevada Senior Law Program – Diane Fearon once again thanked the Nevada Supreme Court for the certificate in support of SNLSPs new pro bono promotion efforts. The certificate has already been used to reach out to probate and trust attorneys to gain involvement in pro bono. She noted a new program with UNLV is advancing to leverage social service students to engage with legal issues. She said that it seems notices of evictions could improve to create a better understanding from seniors as to what they face and the timeline and wondered if an eviction hotline for tenants is something that could be considered. Jonathan Norman of Legal Aid Center has been involved in the new eviction diversion talks and said that the notice language is being rewritten. Work is also progressing on switching the first court-involved legal action from the tenant to the landlord and focusing diversion efforts on fixed income individuals to include seniors and disabled, and high eviction propensity zip codes.
- Washoe Legal Services – Deonne Contine said WLS will formally change its name to Northern Nevada Legal Services soon and WLS will revamp its website. She mentioned the northern Nevada eviction notice includes information about WLS and NLS. WLS is working with Washoe County on self-help services at the court, including for eviction matters and eviction sealing information. She also thanked Justice Hardesty for attending the WLS Child’s Voice Luncheon, which was sold out and the most successful ever, where Justice Hardesty was recognized and thanked IOLTA banks.
- Volunteer Attorneys for Rural Nevadans (VARN) – The written report from VARN and all other providers is available from the Commission.

Jennifer Richards shared that the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services, Aging and Disability Services Division newsletter *Legal News* often features successful legal aid outcomes and have been recognized by Federal funders. Also \$750 million over three years will help fund a legal risk assessment tool to try to preemptively change course to avoid legal issues.

Justice Pickering thanked all for the good reports and Brad will include the marketing of positive news in conversations with a potential pro bono promotion marketing firm.



Justice Hardesty and Justice Pickering wished Ms. Johnson good luck and thanked her for her inspirational work through NLS. Brad thanked Commission members, including the many new members and non-members, who have supported and served the Commission's efforts. Ms. Hartwell recognized Ms. Bradley and Ms. Rodriguez for volunteering for the Nominating Committee during the meeting.

Informational Items

Informational items included the following. Details upon request from the Commission:

- Legal Aid Provider Highlights
- Self-Help Center Statistics
- Triannual Provider Call Recap
- Nevada Bankers Association *The IOLTA Report*
- Public Awareness



ACCESS TO JUSTICE COMMISSION

MEMO

Date: November 4, 2022
To: Access to Justice Commission
From: Doreen Spears Hartwell, Chair, ATJC Nominating Committee
CC: ATJC Nominating Committee, Brad Lewis

RE: Access to Justice Commission Nominating Committee Recommendation

The ATJC Nominating Committee recommends the following persons be voted to become new members of the Commission.

The following are nominated, slot	To replace - organization:
• Dawn Jensen, 2(f)	Nic Danna - NV AG Office of Military Legal Assistance
• Tara Zimmerman, 2(e)	Deonne Contine – Northern Nevada Legal Aid

We are happy to answer any questions.

Thank you for your consideration.



ACCESS TO JUSTICE COMMISSION

MEMO

Date: October 26, 2022
To: Pro Bono Promotion Committee
From: Brad Lewis

RE: Pro Bono Promotion Plan Final Draft

Below is the final draft plan for 2022-2023 pro bono reinvigoration. The Committee has met three times since our last meeting to arrive at this final draft plan. This version synthesizes the feedback received from both the Committee meetings, Commission members, and other input.

Program promotion outline:

- Goals
 - Increase pro bono case-taking by 5% from 3442 (highest, 2021) to 3614
 - Increase # of first-time volunteers 10% from 194 (highest, 2019) to 214
 - Increase overall bar participation rate to 30% (2021 – 28%, 2020 – 29%, 2019 – 25%)
 - Include option to donate in lieu of pro bono (research monthly donor options)
 - Include updated “Dues Check-Off” marketing, goal to increase 3% (hi '20) to \$120,000
- Plan
 - Collaborative effort of all Nevada legal aid providers
 - Hire marketing firm to package concepts to capture/motivate attorneys
 - Hold focus group of active/non active pro bono attorneys for plan feedback
 - **Primary pitches/messaging:**
 - Message – first flight (for now)
 - Take a case
 - Earn CLE
 - Feel great
 - www.nvbar.org/probono (landing page built)
 - Message – second flight (for later)
 - Pro bono changes the world for one person
 - Build skills that make you a better lawyer
 - A pro bono mental break refreshes your perspective
 - www.nvbar.org/probono (landing page built)
 - Message – third flight (for later)
 - Legal aid delivers a quality pro bono experience for lawyers
 - Those most in need identified and selected
 - Provide model pleadings
 - Offer CLE, support, and malpractice insurance
 - www.nvbar.org/probono (landing page built)



- **Targeted pitches/messaging:**
 - Encourage firms to support or adopt pro bono policies
 - Target new attorneys for CAP cases
 - Provide mentors (via internal/external staff and/or inactive PB lawyers)
 - Pitch – “gain courtroom experience”
 - More messaging - “Take a case, earn CLE credit, help someone in need, improve your mental health/wellness”
 - Pitch – doable/deliver a quality experience
 - You can fit pro bono into your schedule
 - Hearings are remote (easier, less time)
 - Post first visit client meetings are remote
 - Legal aid will support your effort
 - **Provide model pleadings**
 - **Assign mentor**
 - **CLEs**
 - **Malpractice insurance**
 - Notarizing
 - Translating
 - Answer questions
 - Filings
 - Serving defendants
 - Gathering documents
 - Share the benefits to attorneys
 - **Change the world for one person**
 - **Build skills that make you a better attorney**
 - (Learn new case law, gain courtroom experience, engage in client interaction)
 - **Pro bono offers a mental break and makes you feel good**
 - **Get recognized in the legal and judicial community**
 - You became a lawyer to make a difference, here’s how
 - Expand your practice (share more on the “how” here)
 - We’re promoting pro bono cases being taken first
 - Your chance to deliver social justice
 - Reduce the Justice Gap
 - Bolster still soft understanding of CLE for pro bono - Pkg 3 hr. case CLE=2 credits
 - Develop peer to peer marketing aids, including email signature pro bono icon
 - Gain judicial agreement on: (so can be promoted)
 - Call pro bono cases first = strong pro bono message and commitment
 - Thank pro bono attorneys
 - Show brief pro bono video commercial on hearing platforms
 - Request feedback on firm visit opportunities
 - Get judicial feedback/agreement – Kishner, Lu, Robb, Schegelmilch, Steinheimer, Young...propose to new chief judge as potential 1st action



- **Challenge: Pandemic has taken its toll. Lawyers are tired, overworked, have low bandwidth.**
 - Background for messaging development
 - Supporting pitch/Phase II:
 - Engage inactive panel volunteers in mentorship plan
 - Develop new, commercial-type video that can be used for remote hearings and before CLE webinars
 - Use focused plan as basis for 2022 ABA *Celebrate Pro Bono* plans
 - Post-election
 - Gain pro bono buy-in from Governor, AG, identified Department Heads
 - Endorse office support for rolling pro bono volunteerism with all attorneys participating in at least one case over three years
 - Allow pro bono to count for billable hours
 - Provide Court affirmation that public attorneys are allowed and encouraged to volunteer pro bono (what is/is not conflict)
 - Post Phase I and II
 - Develop recognition plan, consider acknowledgement by Court
- Marketing
 - Synthesized marketing firm message to...
 - Bench/bar meetings – video (include judicial video, potential animated)
 - Bar association mags/eNews – CCBA, Washoe – ads, articles
 - *Nevada Lawyer* – ads, articles
 - Legal aid person outreach – all collaborate using same message
 - Webinar CLEs (Preferred: play at beginning, or play during pre-CLE wait, breaks)
 - Develop PowerPoint promo slide for inclusion at beginning/end of CLEs
- Timeline
 - Target main promotion for post Labor Day “CLE season”
 - Program marketing and video development July-August 2022 (video maybe Phase II)
 - Pitch focus post Labor Day through first half of 2023
 - Review July 2023, tweak and continue through end of 2023
 - Goal measurement yearend targets 2023, share goals, achievements, hits and misses
- Optional CLE concept for feedback
 - CLE: Breakout! How to use pro bono to build skills, grow business and improve wellness
 - Could incorporate a Justice, a firm pro bono coordinator (local and/or national), someone who has had success with this strategy
 - Could pitch the pro bono coordinator model
 - Could pitch pro bono hours counting toward billable hours
 - Could include a pro bono policy adoption declaration



TAKE A CASE
VOLUNTEER FOR AN ASK-A-LAWYER
MAKE A DONATION



NVBAR.ORG/PROBONO
atj@nvbar.org

AND FEEL GREAT

Pro bono volunteers are needed statewide to intervene at critical moments in people's lives

AREAS OF CRITICAL NEED

- Child Advocacy and Family Law
- Domestic Violence Victim Advocacy
- Elder Assistance
- Consumer Exploitation
- And more!



LEGAL AID DELIVERS A QUALITY PRO BONO EXPERIENCE FOR LAWYERS

BENEFITS OF PROVIDING PRO BONO HOURS

- Earn CLE
- Build skills that make you a better lawyer
- Pro bono mental break refreshes your perspective

SUPPORT FROM LEGAL AID

- Those most in need identified and selected
- Free CLE
- Model pleadings
- Malpractice insurance for pro bono

NEVADA SUPREME COURT



ACCESS TO JUSTICE COMMISSION
LEGAL ASSISTANCE FOR NEVADA



thank you

PRO BONO CHAMPIONS!

The Access to Justice Commission would like to congratulate this year's awardees. All of your volunteer work is greatly appreciated.

Don't forget!

***You can earn 2 CLE's for
Pro Bono***

1 Legal Aid Organization CLE= 1 Credit

3 Hours of Pro Bono= 1 Credit (4 Max)

-Take a Case

- Volunteer for a 3 Hour Ask-A-Lawyer

www.nvbar.org/probono



thank you

Pro Bono Senior Advocates!

The Access to Justice Commission would like to congratulate this year's honorees. All of your volunteer work is greatly appreciated.

Don't forget! You can earn two CLE's for Pro Bono.

1 Legal Aid Organization CLE= 1 credit
3 Hours of Pro Bono=1 Credit (4 Max)

- Take a case
- Volunteer for a 3-hour Ask-A-Lawyer
- Donate in lieu of Pro Bono

nvbar.org/probono

NEVADA SUPREME COURT



**ACCESS TO JUSTICE
COMMISSION**
LEGAL ASSISTANCE FOR NEVADA

Memo – Eviction Mediation Program Statistics – 10/22/22

Here is an overall picture of the Rental Eviction Mediation Program in 2022 as of September 30, 2022. The volume of cases was high this year, especially from June through September.

With the proposed Diversion Court for the Las Vegas Justice Court, cases could potentially start to decrease.

Las Vegas Justice Court

5853 cases sent for mediation

1866 agreement with rental assistance approved

382 settled prior to mediation

57 other agreement(s)

1378 rental assistance pending

1365 no tenant and/or landlord contact and/or participation

Other Courts North and South

1792 cases sent for mediation

360 agreement with rental assistance approved

102 settled prior to mediation

101 other agreement(s)

666 rental assistance pending

259 no tenant and/or landlord contact and/or participation

November 1, 2022

Nevada Supreme Court
Access to Justice Commission

RE: Findings from the “Committee to Study the Rules Governing Alternative Dispute Resolution and Nevada Short Trials” (ADKT 0595)

Dear Justice Hardesty, Director Lewis, and esteemed members of the Nevada Supreme Court Access to Justice Commission:

Thank you for this opportunity to address the Nevada Supreme Court Access to Justice Commission. We write to highlight important findings from the “Report of the Committee to Study the Rules Governing Alternative Dispute Resolution and Nevada Short Trials,” (Report) filed September 14, 2022,¹ and to emphasize the significance of those findings for Nevada’s Access to Justice efforts.

Before discussing the Committee’s Report, we first want to applaud the Nevada Supreme Court for establishing this Committee and crafting its charge. Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) procedures, which include arbitration (non-binding and binding), mediation, short trials, and settlement conferences, are a fixture in Nevada’s courts and an important part of the Access to Justice landscape here in Nevada.

In its Report, the Committee detailed its findings regarding the ADR and Short Trial programs in Nevada; it also recommended several amendments to the Rules governing both programs. Among the findings and recommendations was an important observation about Nevada’s Alternative Dispute Resolution and Short Trial programs. Specifically, the Report provides:

“The Committee further finds that a significant number of cases pending in the Alternate Dispute Resolution and Short Trial programs include proper person litigants several of whom have been granted in forma pauperis status.”

¹ The Report was authored by the Committee to Study the Rules Governing Alternative Dispute Resolution and Nevada Short Trials (Committee), created by the Nevada Supreme Court on March 24, 2022, with ADKT 0595.

Based on this finding, the Committee recommended that attorneys presiding over short trials be permitted to receive continuing legal education credits as the rules do not permit recovery of any fees when a litigant is exempted from payment under N.R.S. 12.015.²

The Committee's finding provides crucial insight into **who** makes use of these ADR and short trial programs in Nevada. Specifically, the Committee finds that indigent, self-represented litigants comprise a "significant" number of ADR users in addition to those represented by counsel.

We believe this important finding merits further inquiry from the Nevada Supreme Court and the Access to Justice Commission because well-established research tells us that self-represented litigants fare worse in ADR than do litigants with attorneys. We briefly summarize some of this research below³:

1. Lack of representation is the norm in civil cases, with most cases involving an asymmetry in legal representation.⁴ Research findings have long established that self-represented litigants do worse in court than do litigants with legal representation, a dynamic that holds across different kinds of courts, in a range of case types, and regardless of whether the self-represented party is a plaintiff or a defendant.⁵

² We assume the Committee also intends to include arbitrators and mediators in this recommendation for CLE as they, too, are not permitted to collect costs from any party to an arbitration or mediation in which one of the parties is deemed indigent and exempted pursuant to N.R.S. 12.015 (see Nevada Arbitration Rule 23(c); Nevada Mediation Rule 10(e)).

³ An expanded research memo is also attached as an exhibit to this letter

⁴ CIVIL JUSTICE INITIATIVE, [THE LANDSCAPE OF CIVIL LITIGATION IN STATE COURTS](#) 31–35 (2015) (finding that both sides were represented by counsel in only 24% of cases).

⁵ See, e.g., Mark D. Gough & Emily S. Taylor Poppe, [\(Un\)Changing Rates of Pro Se Litigation in Federal Court](#), 45 L. & SOC. INQUIRY 567, 582 (2020) ("cases involving pro se plaintiffs are associated with higher rates of termination by pretrial adjudication, higher rates of dismissals, and lower rates of settlement"); Mitchell Levy, [Empirical Patterns of Pro Se Litigation in Federal District Courts](#), 85 U. CHI. L. REV. 1819, 1838 (2018) (Finding when plaintiffs proceed pro se in federal court, the plaintiff wins 4% of the time; when defendants proceed pro se, plaintiffs win 86% of the time); FAMILY JUSTICE INITIATIVE, [THE LANDSCAPE OF DOMESTIC RELATIONS CASES IN STATE COURTS](#) (2018) (finding that, in domestic relations cases in 20 states, 72% of cases involved at least one self-represented party; these cases were less likely to secure a final judgment and more likely to have the case dismissed); Laura Beth Nielsen et al., [Individual Justice or Collective Legal Mobilization? Employment Discrimination Litigation in the Post Civil Rights United States](#), 7 J. EMPIRICAL LEGAL STUD. 175, 188 (2010) ("One in five plaintiffs acts as his or her own lawyer, operating pro se over the course of the lawsuit, and they are almost three times more likely to have their cases dismissed, are less likely to gain early settlement, and are twice as likely to lose on summary judgment.").

2. Unfortunately, this dynamic bears out in ADR processes, particularly formal and rule-based ADR processes such as arbitration.⁶ Studies of binding arbitration⁷ find that self-represented litigants have lower “win rates” than represented litigants.⁸ And, even when self-represented litigants do win in arbitration, the monetary awards they receive are half of what represented litigants receive.⁹ As our colleague Professor Jean Sternlight observes, it is a mistake to assume that, just because ADR is not court, that lawyers are not necessary or important.¹⁰
3. Indeed, having a lawyer helps considerably in all kinds of dispute resolution fora.¹¹ A meta-analysis of 18 different research studies (including a total of just over 18,000 adjudicated cases) demonstrates that lawyers’ greatest impact is assisting clients as they navigate procedural rules.¹² The same meta-analysis also found that lawyer-representation bestows a status on litigants that affects how judges and court staff evaluated their claims.¹³ Having an attorney certainly helps, but when it comes to arbitration, having an experienced “repeat player” lawyer helps significantly more than a lawyer who lacks arbitration experience.¹⁴ Nevada has already taken some important steps to provide self-represented litigants with

⁶ Andrea Cann Chandrasekher & David Horton, [Arbitration Nation: Data from Four Providers](#), 107 CALIF. L. REV. 1 (2019) (describing an empirical study of 40,775 cases filed in four major arbitration providers between 2010 and 2016; finding, among other things, that no variable affects win rates as dramatically as whether a plaintiff hires attorneys with arbitration experience); Erica L. Fox, [Alone in the Hallway: Challenges to Effective Self-Representation in Negotiation](#), 1 HARV. NEGOT. L. REV. 85 (1996) (Detailing pro se tenants’ experiences attempting to exercise self-agency in reaching agreements in the Boston Housing Court; pointing to individuals’ lack of knowledge of the legal system as one explanation for the harmful result reached in the pro se negotiation).

⁷ Most of the research examines binding arbitration, not the court-connected non-binding arbitration that we have here in Nevada. We think the findings are still relevant given the congruence in procedures between binding and non-binding arbitration as well as the backgrounds of the third-party neutrals.

⁸ Alexander J.S. Colvin & Mark D. Gough, [Individual Employment Rights Arbitration in the United States: Actors and Outcomes](#), 68 ILR REV. 1019 (2015) (finding that self-represented employees tend to settle cases less often, win cases that proceed to hearings less often, and receive lower damage awards).

⁹ *Id.* (“Model 2 also shows that the odds of an employee win decrease by 45.6% when an employee is self-represented relative to employees having professional representation. . . [a]nd when self-represented employees receive damages, they can expect a 47% decrease in the size of their monetary award relative to that for an employee with representation.”); Alexander J.S. Colvin, [An Empirical Study of Employment Arbitration: Case Outcomes and Processes](#), 8 J. EMPIRICAL LEGAL STUD. 1, 16 (2011) (describing results of an empirical study that found the mean arbitration award received by self-represented employees was \$12,228 compared to a mean award of \$28,993 for employees represented by counsel).

¹⁰ Jean R. Sternlight, [Lawyerless Dispute Resolution: Rethinking a Paradigm](#), 37 FORDHAM URBAN L.J. 381 (2010).

¹¹ Emily S. Taylor Poppe & Jeffrey J. Rachlinski, [Do Lawyers Matter? The Effect of Legal Representation in Civil Disputes](#), 43 PEPP. L. REV. 881 (2016) (reviewing existing empirical research on the effect of legal representation on civil dispute outcomes; finding professional legal representation is associated with better outcomes for litigants in cases concerning housing, governmental benefits, family law, employment law, small claims, tax, bankruptcy, and torts).

¹² Rebecca L. Sandefur, [Elements of Professional Expertise: Understanding Relational and Substantive Expertise through Lawyers’ Impact](#), 80 AM. SOCIOLOGICAL REV. 909, 924–925 (2015).

¹³ *Id.* Of the studies included in the meta-analysis, those showing the largest potential impact of lawyers included eviction cases and social security disability reconsideration hearings. “In these disputes, the focal party frequently labors under the double stigmas of a disesteemed social position—poor, disabled—and a disesteemed legal position—cast as a delinquent or a malingerer. Lawyer representation may act as an endorsement of lower-status parties that affects how judges and other court staff treat them and evaluate their claims, perhaps because court staff believe represented cases are more meritorious.” *Id.* at 924–925.

¹⁴ Chandrasekher & Horton, [Arbitration Nation: Data from Four Providers](#), *supra* n. 6.

UNLV | WILLIAM S. BOYD SCHOOL OF LAW

assistance as they navigate court processes, whether through Self-Help Centers or by expanding limited representation programs, and similar efforts could be deployed to help self-represented litigants in ADR.

Given that indigent, self-represented litigants make significant use of ADR programs in Nevada Courts and given what we know about how self-represented litigants fare in ADR, we ask the Access to Justice Commission to consider examining:

- how do Nevada's self-represented litigants fare in ADR? If they are at a comparative disadvantage to represented litigants—meaning they win less often and receive smaller awards when they do win—then how can they best be helped?
- what are additional ways to support the third-party neutrals who work with this population of litigants?

We appreciate your time and attention. We stand ready to assist and support this work.

Sincerely,



Professor Lydia Nussbaum
Associate Dean for Experiential Legal Education
Director, Saltman Center for Conflict Resolution



Professor Lena Rieke
Research Librarian, Wiener-Rogers Law Library

Included: Exhibit A, Research memo re: self-represented litigants in Court & ADR

EXHIBIT A

Below, please find the research cited in the main letter, along with additional resources providing insight into self-represented parties' experiences in court, ADR processes generally, and arbitration specifically.

SELF-REPRESENTED PARTIES IN COURT

- **Judiciary Data and Analysis Office, *Just the Facts: Trends in Pro Se Civil Litigation from 2000 to 2019*, U.S. COURTS: JUDICIARY NEWS (Feb. 11, 2021), <https://www.uscourts.gov/news/2021/02/11/just-facts-trends-pro-se-civil-litigation-2000-2019#a6>.**
 - Analyzing data collected by the Federal Judiciary Data and Analysis Office and finding that, between 2000 and 2019, 25.2% of civil plaintiffs proceeded pro se.
- **Mark D. Gough & Emily S. Taylor Poppe, *(Un)Changing Rates of Pro Se Litigation in Federal Court*, 45 L. & SOC. INQUIRY 567, 582 (2020).**
 - “[C]onsistent with other research on pro se litigation . . . cases involving pro se plaintiffs are more frequently disposed before trial, relative to cases in which both parties are represented. Indeed, only 0.5 percent of cases involving a pro se plaintiff reach a jury or bench trial, compared to 1.1 percent of cases where both parties are represented by counsel, 1.4 percent of cases where only the defendant is pro se, and 1.3 percent where both plaintiff and defendant represent themselves pro se. Cases involving pro se plaintiffs are associated with higher rates of termination by pretrial adjudication, higher rates of dismissals, and lower rates of settlement.”
- **FAMILY JUSTICE INITIATIVE, *THE LANDSCAPE OF DOMESTIC RELATIONS CASES IN STATE COURTS* (2018).**
 - Finding that, in domestic relations cases in 20 states, 72% of cases involved at least one self-represented party; these cases were less likely to secure a final judgment and more likely to have the case dismissed
- **Mitchell Levy, *Empirical Patterns of Pro Se Litigation in Federal District Courts*, 85 U. CHI. L. REV. 1819, 1838 (2018).**
 - Finding when plaintiffs proceed pro se in federal court, the plaintiff wins 4% of the time; when defendants proceed pro se, plaintiffs win 86% of the time
- **Emily S. Taylor Poppe & Jeffrey J. Rachlinski, *Do Lawyers Matter? The Effect of Legal Representation in Civil Disputes*, 43 PEPP. L. REV. 881 (2016).**
 - Reviewing existing empirical research on the effect of legal representation on civil dispute outcomes; finding professional legal representation is associated with better outcomes for litigants in cases concerning housing, governmental benefits, family law, employment law, small claims, tax, bankruptcy, and torts

- CIVIL JUSTICE INITIATIVE, [THE LANDSCAPE OF CIVIL LITIGATION IN STATE COURTS](#) 31–33 (2015).
 - Finding that, on average, 84% of defendants in the dataset were self-represented, and both sides were represented by counsel in only 24% of cases
- Rebecca L. Sandefur, [Elements of Professional Expertise: Understanding Relational and Substantive Expertise through Lawyers' Impact](#), 80 AM. SOCIOLOGICAL REV. 909 (2015).
 - Using meta-analysis and nonparametric bounding on findings of extant studies to reveal lawyers' greatest impact is in assisting clients navigate procedures and in ensuring courts follow their own rules
 - “The studies showing the largest potential impact of lawyers include eviction cases and social security disability reconsideration hearings. In these disputes, the focal party frequently labors under the double stigmas of a disesteemed social position—poor, disabled—and a disesteemed legal position—cast as a delinquent or a malingerer. Lawyer representation may act as an endorsement of lower-status parties that affects how judges and other court staff treat them and evaluate their claims, perhaps because court staff believe represented cases are more meritorious.”
- Laura Beth Nielsen et al., [Individual Justice or Collective Legal Mobilization? Employment Discrimination Litigation in the Post Civil Rights United States](#), 7 J. EMPIRICAL LEGAL STUD. 175, 188 (2010).
 - The authors analyze the outcomes of employment discrimination lawsuits filed in federal court from 1988 to 2003, examining case filings rather than published opinions and treating case outcome as a sequential variable.
 - “By far the most significant effects on outcome are legal representation and collective legal mobilization. One in five plaintiffs acts as his or her own lawyer, operating pro se over the course of the lawsuit, and they are almost three times more likely to have their cases dismissed, are less likely to gain early settlement, and are twice as likely to lose on summary judgment.”

SELF-REPRESENTED PARTIES IN ARBITRATION AND OTHER ADR PROCESSES

- Andrea Cann Chandrasekher & David Horton, [Arbitration Nation: Data from Four Providers](#), 107 CALIF. L. REV. 1 (2019).
 - The authors conducted an empirical study of 40,775 cases filed in four major arbitration providers between 2010 and 2016 and found, among other things, that no variable affects win rates as dramatically as whether a plaintiff hires attorneys with arbitration experience.
 - Regarding JAMS: “Pro se consumers were victorious in 6% of matters, but those with one-shot law firms succeeded in 38% of awards and those with repeat-playing firms won 31% of decisions. Moreover, pro se employees were victorious in 10% of cases, which pales next to the 43% mark achieved by employees with repeat-playing attorneys.”

- **Alexander J.S. Colvin & Mark D. Gough, *Individual Employment Rights Arbitration in the United States: Actors and Outcomes*, 68 ILR REV. 1019 (2015).**
 - Updating Colvin’s 2011 study, and finding that self-represented employees tend to settle cases less often, win cases that proceed to hearings less often, and receive lower damage awards
 - “Model 2 also shows that the odds of an employee win decrease by 45.6% when an employee is self-represented relative to employees having professional representation. . . [a]nd when self-represented employees receive damages, they can expect a 47% decrease in the size of their monetary award relative to that for an employee with representation.”
- **Alexander J.S. Colvin, *An Empirical Study of Employment Arbitration: Case Outcomes and Processes*, 8 J. EMPIRICAL LEGAL STUD. 1, 16 (2011).**
 - “In cases where the employee was self-represented, the employee win rate was 18.3% versus an employee win rate of 22.9% in cases where the employee was represented by counsel . . . the mean award received by self-represented employees was \$12,228 compared to a mean award of \$28,993 for employees represented by counsel.”
- **Jean R. Sternlight, *Lawyerless Dispute Resolution: Rethinking a Paradigm*, 37 FORDHAM URB. L.J. 381 (2010).**
 - The author reviews existing empirical examinations of legal representation in ADR processes, identifies how lawyers can help parties in ADR, and emphasizes that third-party neutrals cannot adequately make up for the absence of representation.
- **Erica L. Fox, *Alone in the Hallway: Challenges to Effective Self-Representation in Negotiation*, 1 HARV. NEGOT. L. REV. 85 (1996).**
 - The author details pro se tenants’ experiences attempting to exercise self-agency in reaching agreements in the Boston Housing Court, and points to individuals’ lack of knowledge of the legal system as one explanation for the harmful result reached in many of the observed pro se negotiations.

STATE AND LOCAL STUDIES OF SELF-REPRESENTED PARTIES

- **JOHN E. WHITFIELD, *VIRGINIA SELF-REPRESENTED LITIGANT STUDY – SUMMARY REPORT* (2018).**
 - Finding the vast majority of civil cases include at least one unrepresented party, plaintiffs prevail in the overwhelming majority of cases, but plaintiffs obtain judgment in less than 20% of the cases where defendants are represented and plaintiffs are not
- **Ellen Degnan et al., *Trapped in Marriage* (Nov. 28, 2018) (unpublished manuscript), https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=3277900.**

- Detailing the actual steps a pro se litigant must take (including visiting various law libraries, clerk's offices, finding a printer, etc.) to initiate and follow through on divorce proceedings in Philadelphia County; finding that, even with representation, only half of the litigants with attorneys had obtained a divorce within 3 years and only one of the 237 "control" (pro se) litigants had obtained a divorce within 3 years
- **AUBREY HASVOLD & JACK REGENBOGEN, [FACING EVICTIONS ALONE: A STUDY OF EVICTIONS IN DENVER, COLORADO 2014–2016](#)**
 - Finding tenants were virtually never represented by counsel in eviction cases, and unrepresented tenants faced a dispossession rate of 68% in private housing cases; also finding when tenants were represented by counsel, 78% avoided eviction
- **Anne Dannerbeck Janku & Joseph A. Vradenburg, [Self-Represented Litigants and Civil Case Dispositions in Missouri: An Impact Analysis](#), 51 CT. REV. 74 (2015)**
 - Finding that pro se petitioners were more likely to receive a judgment against them than non-pro se petitions; finding the same for pro se respondents; and that pro se litigants are more likely to have their cases dismissed without resolution
- **JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA, [STATEWIDE ACTION PLAN FOR SERVING SELF-REPRESENTED LITIGANTS \(2013\)](#)**
 - Finding the following numbers of self-represented parties in California's courts: 34% of petitioners and 90% of defendants in unlawful detainer cases, 22% of petitioners in probate cases, and 67% of petitioners in family law cases; at the time of disposition in family law cases, 80% of petitioners were self-represented

DATA AGGREGATIONS RE: SELF-REPRESENTED PARTIES

- **Court Statistics Project, [CSP STAT Civil](#)** (state court level data from self-reporting states, including number of self-represented parties) (click "Data Table" tab).
- **National Center for Access to Justice, [Self-Representation: State Scores and Rankings, 2020](#)** (weighted ranking/scoring system based on 56 policies identified as best practices for making equal justice accessible to self-represented litigants).



Nevada Supreme Court ACCESS TO JUSTICE COMMISSION

To: Access to Justice Commission (ATJC)/IOLTA Rate Review Committee
From: Brad Lewis, Director
Date: October 17, 2022
Re: IOLTA Rate Review

I. Standard IOLTA Interest Rate Review Process

- **45 days in advance of review date:** E-reminder to banks soliciting written comments within **ten** days for submission to ATJC.
- **30 days in advance of review:** Bank comments compiled and forwarded to designated ATJC staff who shall be responsible to review and forward to the ATJC IOLTA Rate Review Committee.
- **10 days in advance:** Relevant economic condition updates such as a sampling of comparable rates on local bank products and IOLTA offerings elsewhere is compiled. Such information shall be considered work product and disseminated only to the Committee.
- **Within 5 days post meeting.** Notice of rate is provided to banks with effective date (which shall be no sooner than 30 days from notice).

II. Comments

- A. *Bank comments – (Comments due 10/13/22. Banks in **bold** are Leadership Institutions.)*
1. Bank of George – Most banks continue to have excess cash, so rates are rising only marginally. A rate increase is expected. May consider becoming a *Leadership Institution* if the spread above the minimum is small.
 2. **Bank of Nevada** – Will raise their IOLTA *Leadership Institution* rate without condition to 1.5%.
 3. Citibank – The current rate of .65% is fair and should continue.
 4. *City National Bank* – Plan to continue participating. Expect small increase. (*Accounts \$10 million plus pay .80%.*)
 5. **First Savings Bank** – Expecting an increase.
 6. **Meadows Bank** – Expecting a small increase based on limited market rate increases.
 7. **Nevada State Bank** – Market liquidity remains elevated so interest rates, while increasing, for the time being are muted. While a rate increase may be expected, it would be appropriate for it to be incremental.
- B. *Staff comments*
1. The SCR 217 minimum IOLTA interest rate of .70% currently remains at .65% by temporary order due to the pandemic.
 2. There was a discussion within NAIP (National Association of IOLTA Programs) about Wells Fargo's joining preferred rate programs nationwide. Wells Fargo is currently participating in at least AR (.75%), CO, PA (1.69%), NY (60% of Fed Target Rate). They are a Nevada IOLTA *Leadership Institution* paying .70%.



Nevada Supreme Court ACCESS TO JUSTICE COMMISSION

3. ADKT 0479 was filed 5/12/22 changing SCR 216 language from “substantially all” IOLTA funds allocated to legal aid organizations to “96 percent”.

III. Economic Condition Updates (Note: Discuss changing LIBOR or adding new benchmark.)

A. Interest Rate Benchmarks (as of 10/7/22)

1. 30 Day LIBOR: **3.19** (last report 4/6/22 – .46) (LIBOR being phased out in U.S.)
2. 30 Day BSBY: **3.15** (not previously reported, SOFR, Ameribor other alternatives)
3. 90 Day LIBOR: **3.74** (last report – 1.01)
4. Federal Fund Target Rate: **3.25** (last report – .50)
5. Federal Discount Rate: **3.25** (last report – .50)

B. Sampling of Comparable Rates on Local Bank Products

Local financial institution business interest checking products were researched on 10/7/22 and the results showed the average interest rates between .01% and .20%, average **.06%**, (last report .01 – .20%, average .08%), www.bestcashcow.com 4/6/22. The Nevada Bankers Association has previously reported rates based on research at www.depositaccounts.com. Results showed average interest between .01% and .10%, average **.038%**, (last report .01 - .10%, average .06%). Statistics include interest rates for products with minimum balances not to exceed \$2500.

C. IOLTA Offerings Elsewhere

A review of the latest available (March 1, 2021) ABA survey of IOLTA Programs was compiled and provided the following: Five Highest Average Interest Rates: (1) Kansas - .9207%; (2) Maryland - .79%; (3) Maine - .77%; (4) New Hampshire - .62%; (5) Oregon - .595%. The March 1, 2021 high average was **.739%**. Three Lowest Average Interest Rates: (1) Vermont - .10%; (2) Oklahoma - .128%; (3) Alaska - .09%. The March 1, 2020 low average was **.376%**.

California Established Compliance Rate is 68% of the Federal funds target rate or .68%, whichever higher.

D. Interest Rates and the IOLTA Remittance Impact¹

Average Amount on Deposit	.85	.80	.75	.70	.65
\$948,919,664² <i>(Highest – August 2022)</i>	\$662,943	\$623,947	\$584,950	\$545,953	\$506,957
\$735,278,155³ <i>(Lowest – December 2021)</i>	\$513,687	\$483,470	\$453,253	\$423,036	\$392,819
\$842,098,910⁴ <i>(Average of highest and lowest months)</i>	\$588,315	\$553,708	\$519,101	\$484,494	\$449,888

Average Amount on Deposit & Projected Annual Remittance	.85	.80	.75	.70	.65
\$842,098,910⁴ <i>(Average amount on deposit of highest and lowest months)</i>	\$588,315 <i>(Monthly)</i>	\$553,708 <i>(Monthly)</i>	\$519,101 <i>(Monthly)</i>	\$484,494 <i>(Monthly)</i>	\$449,888 <i>(Monthly)</i>
	\$7,059,780 <i>(Annual)</i>	\$6,644,496 <i>(Annual)</i>	\$6,229,212 <i>(Annual)</i>	\$5,813,928 <i>(Annual)</i>	\$5,398,656 <i>(Annual)</i>

¹Annual IOLTA remittance is calculated using the following formula: (average amount on deposit) x (interest rate %) x (30 days)/365 x 12. Monthly remittance is calculated dropping x 12. ²Highest amount on deposit over last 12 months, ³Lowest amount on deposit over last 12 months, ⁴Average amount on deposit over the last 12 months.



Nevada Supreme Court ACCESS TO JUSTICE COMMISSION

- E. *Recent Year End Remittances for Subsequent Year Granting*
- a. 2021 - \$4,911,052
 - b. 2020 – \$4,774,400
 - i. This included \$300,000 in Nevada Bar Foundation reserves drawn down for core legal service providers. See note below.¹
 - c. 2019 - \$4,903,681
 - d. 2018 - \$3,535,433
 - e. 2017 - \$2,826,994
 - f. 2016 - \$2,607,092
 - g. 2015 - \$2,401,617
- F. Latest available year to date remittance (Aug. 2022) \$3,931,846
- G. Last total principal balance available (Aug. 2022) \$948,919,664
- H. Total number of Nevada IOLTA-participating financial institutions – 31
- I. Total number of *Leadership Institutions* paying premium rates – 18
- J. Total principal balance of *Leadership Institutions*² – \$622,294,089
- K. Percent of total principal balance – 65.6%
- L. Participating financial institutions - [IOLTA Eligible Banks – State Bar of Nevada \(nvbar.org\)](https://www.nvbar.org)

¹Note from the 2/4/21 Nevada Bar Foundation Trustees meeting on reserve replenishment:
“With the draw down in funds, the NBF reserves will stand at \$500,000. The mandatory minimum is \$600,000 (\$800,000 maximum). The Court’s July 2014 Order provides instruction for setting aside IOLTA dollars at 2 percent annually to meet the minimum standard. It was moved, seconded, and approved that beginning January 2022, that the Foundation set aside 2 percent of IOLTA dollars to reestablish the reserve minimum.”

²August 2022 accounts with at least 25 IOLTA accounts, including non-LI banks paying .70%+.

¹Annual IOLTA remittance is calculated using the following formula: (average amount on deposit) x (interest rate %) x (30 days)/365 x 12. Monthly remittance is calculated dropping x 12. ²Highest amount on deposit over last 12 months, ³Lowest amount on deposit over last 12 months, ⁴Average amount on deposit over the last 12 months.

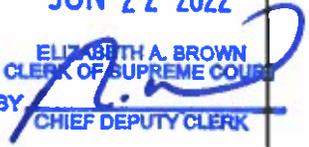
IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

IN THE MATTER OF AMENDMENTS
TO SUPREME COURT RULE 216:
CLIENT INTEREST BEARING TRUST
ACCOUNTS; CREATION OF
FOUNDATION.

ADKT 0479

FILED

JUN 22 2022

ELIZABETH A. BROWN
CLERK OF SUPREME COURT
BY 
CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK

ORDER AMENDING SUPREME COURT RULE 216

WHEREAS, on May 12, 2022, James W. Hardesty, Associate Chief Justice, and Kristina Pickering Justice, of the Nevada Supreme Court, filed a petition seeking to amend Supreme Court Rule (SCR) 216 related to interest-bearing trust accounts.

WHEREAS, this court solicited public comment on the petition and a public hearing was held in this matter on June 7, 2022; and

WHEREAS, this court concludes that the proposed amendments to SCR 216 are warranted; accordingly,

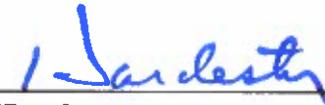
IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that SCR 216 shall be amended and shall read as set forth in Exhibit A.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that these amendments shall be effective 30 days from the date of this order. The clerk of this court shall cause a notice of entry of this order to be published in the official publication of the State Bar of Nevada. Publication of this order shall be accomplished by the clerk disseminating copies of this order to all subscribers of the advance sheets of the Nevada Reports and all persons and agencies listed in NRS 2.345, and to the executive director of the State Bar of Nevada. The certificate of the clerk of this court as to the accomplishment of the above-described publication of notice of entry and dissemination of this order shall

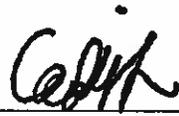
be conclusive evidence of the adoption and publication of the foregoing amendments.

Dated this 22nd day of June, 2022.

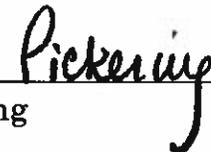

Parraguirre


Hardesty, J.


Stiglich, J.


Cadish, J.


Silver, J.


Pickering, J.


Herndon, J.

cc: Ann Morgan, President, State Bar of Nevada
Kimberly Farmer, Executive Director, State Bar of Nevada
Brad Lewis, Director, Access to Justice, State Bar of Nevada
Clark County Bar Association
Washoe County Bar Association
First Judicial District Bar Association
Douglas County Bar Association
Elko County Bar Association
Administrative Office of the Courts

EXHIBIT A
AMENDMENT TO SUPREME COURT RULE 216

Rule 216. Creation of a foundation.

1. The board of governors, with the approval of the supreme court, shall designate a tax-exempt bar foundation for the purposes of providing legally related services to the poor, to the victims of domestic violence, and to children protected by or in need of protection of the juvenile court; promoting or providing law-related educational programs for members of the public; and providing similar programs which qualify for tax-exempt status by the United States Internal Revenue Service under I.R.C. section 501(c)(3) or any additions thereto or amendments thereof. To carry out these purposes, the bar foundation may utilize the income accrued from interest-bearing client's trust accounts (IOLTA funds) as authorized by Rules 216 through 221, and as the supreme court may otherwise order.

(a) [~~Substantially all~~] Ninety-six percent of IOLTA funds, after adequate reserves (as approved by the supreme court) and reasonable expenses, shall be disbursed to civil legal service providers approved by the Access to Justice Commission for the purposes of providing legally related services to the poor, to victims of domestic violence, and to children protected by or in need of protection of the juvenile court. The remaining four percent of IOLTA funds shall be spent as the bar foundation deems appropriate, keeping in mind the purpose set forth in this rule.

(b) Among factors to be considered in disbursing the funds should be the geographic origin of the funds.

* * *

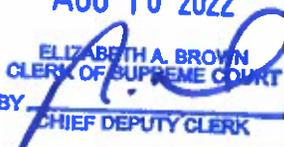
IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

IN THE MATTER OF THE CREATION
OF RULES FOR A PILOT PROGRAM
RELATED TO THE UNBUNDLING OF
LEGAL SERVICES IN ENUMERATED
FAMILY COURT CASE TYPES

ADKT 0597

FILED

AUG 16 2022

ELIZABETH A. BROWN
CLERK OF SUPREME COURT
BY 
CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK

ORDER ADOPTING RULE 26 OF THE DISTRICT COURT RULES

WHEREAS, on May 25, 2022, Elissa F. Cadish and Kristina Pickering, Justices of the Nevada Supreme Court, on behalf of the Access to Justice Commission, filed a petition requesting the Supreme Court consider rules for a pilot program related to the unbundling of legal services in enumerated family court case types. The petition includes proposed District Court Rule (D.C.R.) 26 and proposed notices of limited scope representation and completion of services in limited scope representation.

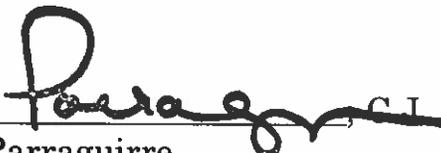
WHEREAS, this court sought public comment on the petition and a public hearing was held in this matter on August 2, 2022; and

WHEREAS, this court concludes that the adoption of a pilot program related to the unbundling of legal services in enumerated family court case types is warranted, and proposed D.C.R. 26 and notices of limited scope representation and completion of services in limited scope representation are appropriate; accordingly,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that D.C.R. 26 shall be adopted and shall read as set forth in Exhibit A. Further, the notice of limited scope representation as set forth in Exhibit B and the notice of completion of services in limited scope representation as set forth in Exhibit C are adopted.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the adoption of D.C.R. 26 and the notices of limited scope representation and completion of services in limited scope representation shall be effective on November 1, 2022, and expire on November 1, 2024, unless further extended by the court. The clerk of this court shall cause a notice of entry of this order to be published in the official publication of the State Bar of Nevada. Publication of this order shall be accomplished by the clerk disseminating copies of this order to all subscribers of the advance sheets of the Nevada Reports and all persons and agencies listed in NRS 2.345, and to the executive director of the State Bar of Nevada. The certificate of the clerk of this court as to the accomplishment of the above- described publication of notice of entry and dissemination of this order shall be conclusive evidence of the adoption and publication of the foregoing amendments.

Dated this 16TH day of August, 2022.

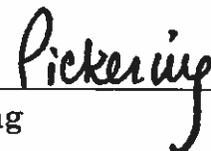

Parraguirre


Hardesty, J.


Stiglich, J.


Cadish, J.


Silver, J.


Pickering, J.


Herndon, J.

cc: All District Court Judges
Paola Armeni, President, State Bar of Nevada
Kimberly Farmer, Executive Director, State Bar of Nevada
Brad Lewis, Director, Access to Justice, State Bar of Nevada
Standing Committee on Ethics and Professional Responsibility,
State Bar of Nevada
Family Law Section, State Bar of Nevada
Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada
Nevada Legal Services
Northern Nevada Legal Aid
Clark County Bar Association
Washoe County Bar Association
First Judicial District Bar Association
Douglas County Bar Association
Elko County Bar Association
Administrative Office of the Courts

EXHIBIT A

ADOPTION OF DISTRICT COURT RULE 26

Rule 26. Limited scope representation.

1. "Limited scope representation" may be commenced either by:

(a) An attorney entering into a private agreement with a person involved in a court proceeding that creates an attorney-client relationship where the attorney and the person seeking legal services have agreed that the scope of legal services will be limited to specific tasks that the attorney will perform for the person. The creation of a limited scope agreement shall be in writing and shall not bind the court or limit the court's ability to deny a request to withdraw as attorney except as provided by this rule; or

(b) An attorney seeking leave of court to engage in limited scope representation in the permitted cases described in subsection 2 may do so as long as the appearance meets all of the requirements of this rule. The attorney engaging in limited scope representation shall clearly and with particularity describe the specific tasks that the attorney will perform on the record. If consent is given orally on the record in court, the limited scope attorney shall file the Notice of Limited Scope Representation no later than 48 hours after the hearing.

2. Limited scope representation shall be permitted in the following areas: divorce, annulments, dissolution of domestic partnerships, separate maintenance, child custody, paternity, child support, minor name change petitions, guardianships pursuant to NRS Chapter 159 or NRS Chapter 159A, and protection orders issued pursuant to NRS Chapter 33.

3. An attorney who contracts with a person involved in a court proceeding to limit the scope of representation shall:

(a) File a Notice of Limited Scope Representation, in a form substantially similar to _____, signed by both the attorney and the limited scope party, with the court stating:

(1) The scope of the limited representation with particularity, including a list of the specific services the attorney will perform;

(2) That any other party or their attorney is authorized and required to serve the limited scope party directly with any pleadings or papers filed with the court; and

(3) That the opposing party or their attorney may communicate directly with the limited scope party for matters not stated in the scope of representation to the extent not otherwise prohibited.

(b) Notify the court of that limitation at the beginning of each hearing in which the attorney appears and identify pleadings filed on behalf of the limited scope party in the signature block that the attorney is acting in a limited scope representation.

4. Service of all papers after the filing of a notice of limited scope appearance as provided in this rule must be made upon both the attorney making such limited scope appearance and the party on whose behalf the appearance is made. The limited scope party must be added to any electronic filing system utilized by the court and included in any electronic service list for service of papers or pleadings. The attorney must take all necessary steps to notify the court or register the party for electronic service to effectuate the requirements of this provision.

5. The court may make any further additions or revisions to the limited scope representation as necessary to conclude or resolve any matter or hearing subject to the limited scope representation.

6. An attorney who contracts with a party to limit the scope of representation, or is given leave by the court to act in a limited capacity, shall be permitted to withdraw only upon order of the court.

(a) The attorney shall file a Notice of Completion of Services in Limited Scope Representation, in a form substantially similar to _____, containing a statement that:

(1) All services required by the agreement and the court are complete, including any post-hearing settlement discussions and preparation or review of the hearing order;

(2) Lists all the services completed;

(3) Identifies the name of successor counsel or the address, email address, and telephone number of the party acting in proper person; and

(4) Notifies the party subject to the limited scope representation and all other interested parties shall have 7 days to file an objection to withdrawal stating the reasons for the objection and requesting a hearing.

(b) The party subject to the limited scope representation and all other interested parties shall have 7 days to file an objection to withdrawal stating the reasons for the objection and requesting a hearing.

(c) The Notice of Completion of Services in Limited Scope Representation must be served upon the party subject to the limited scope representation and all other parties to the action.

(d) The limited scope attorney shall then be allowed to withdraw from the matter if no objection is filed and the court determines the services in the limited scope representation are complete.

7. If the attorney fails to comply with these requirements:

(a) The attorney shall be deemed to have made a general appearance and shall be responsible for all aspects of the case until order of the court.

(b) The court may, on motion or on its own, order sanctions, including a requirement that the party failing to comply pay the reasonable expenses, including attorney fees, caused by the failure, unless the failure was substantially justified or other circumstances make an award of expenses unjust.

8. Nothing in this rule shall prevent an attorney acting in a limited scope from otherwise withdrawing on order of the court pursuant to RPC 1.16 prior to the completion of the limited scope of services.

9. These rules are adopted to facilitate a pilot program with respect to the provision by attorneys of unbundled legal services in Nevada. These rules take effect November 1, 2022, and shall expire on November 1, 2024, unless further extended by the court.

10. The provisions of these pilot rules apply in every judicial district; to the extent a district has preexisting rules concerning unbundled representation, those rules do not apply to representation undertaken after and during the effective period of these pilot rules. To that extent, D.C.R. 5 is suspended.

EXHIBIT B

NOTICE OF LIMITED SCOPE REPRESENTATION

Attorney: _____
Bar No.: _____
Firm: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____
Attorney for: _____

**IN THE _____ JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF _____,
STATE OF NEVADA**

PLAINTIFF,

Plaintiff,

v.

DEFENDANT,

Defendant.

Case No.:

Dept.:

NOTICE OF LIMITED SCOPE REPRESENTATION

Pursuant to the District Court Rules ____, the undersigned hereby makes a limited scope appearance on behalf of _____, Plaintiff/Defendant.

1. _____, limited scope counsel for Plaintiff/Defendant, have entered into a written agreement to represent the party for a limited scope of services. Limited scope counsel will serve as attorney of record only for the following specific issues or matters before the court:

Scope of Services

2. Any other party, or their attorney, must serve the undersigned with all pleadings related to the above-stated matters. Any other party, or their attorney, is authorized and required to also serve the Plaintiff/Defendant directly.
3. Any other party, or their attorney, may communicate directly with the Plaintiff/Defendant for all matters not stated in the above Scope of Services to the extent not otherwise prohibited.
4. INFORMED CONSENT: Plaintiff/Defendant understands the limited scope attorney will only complete the Scope of Services listed above and that Plaintiff/Defendant is responsible for all other aspects of their case not specifically listed above.

▶ _____
(Attorney's signature)

▶ _____
(Plaintiff's / Defendant's signature)

(Attorney's printed name)

(Plaintiff's / Defendant's printed name)

EXHIBIT C

**NOTICE OF COMPLETION OF SERVICES IN LIMITED
SCOPE REPRESENTATION**

Attorney: _____
Bar No.: _____
Firm: _____
Address: _____

Phone: _____
Email: _____
Attorney for: _____

**IN THE _____ JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF _____,
STATE OF NEVADA**

PLAINTIFF,

Plaintiff,

v.

DEFENDANT,

Defendant.

Case No.:

Dept.:

**NOTICE OF COMPLETION OF SERVICES IN LIMITED SCOPE
REPRESENTATION**

1. Pursuant to the terms of the agreement between _____, Plaintiff/Defendant herein, and undersigned

counsel, undersigned counsel agreed to provide limited scope representation in the above-entitled matter.

2. Undersigned counsel was retained as attorney of record only for the services described in the Notice of Limited Scope of Representation filed in this matter or entered on the record in this matter on _____ (date). The Notice of Limited Scope Representation is attached.
3. The court did or did not require additional services to be completed.
4. Undersigned counsel completed all services within the scope of the representation on _____ (date). The services completed were:

Services Completed

5. Undersigned counsel has caused or confirmed that the limited scope party has been added to the electronic service list or received a waiver of any electronic filing system used or required to be used by the court.
6. The contact information for substitute counsel or the Plaintiff/Defendant in proper person is:
Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____
7. The Plaintiff/Defendant and all other interested parties shall have 7 days to file an Objection to this Notice of Completion of Limited Scope

Representation stating the reasons for the objection and requesting a hearing.

DATED: _____

Respectfully submitted,
FIRM

By: _____
Attorney
Nevada Bar No.
Email
Attorney for:

NOTICE TO ALL PARTIES

Undersigned counsel has filed a Notice of Completion of Services of the limited scope representation in this matter. PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that you have 7 days to object if you believe that the attorney has not completed all of the agreed upon services. A hearing on this matter will not be held unless an objection is filed and served on all parties and counsel in this matter. If no objection is filed, an order granting the withdrawal of undersigned counsel in this matter may be entered without further notice.

DATED: _____

Respectfully submitted,
FIRM

By: _____
Attorney
Nevada Bar No.
Email
Attorney for:



Access to Justice Highlights 3rd Quarter 2022

Overall Highlights re Activities, Community Initiatives & Outreach

New Initiatives

We conducted a Spanish Family Law Forms clinic at the East Las Vegas Library in September. William S. Boyd School of Law students supervised by an attorney provided assistance to Spanish speaking clients on family law matters. We have classes scheduled at the Library in October and November.

The Children's Attorneys Project's newest initiative concerns children's mental health and the unwillingness and/or inability of the County to provide even the most basic mental health services to traumatized children. In addition, there is a horrific lack of appropriate foster family homes for high-needs children. The DOJ issued a report finding the state unnecessarily institutionalized children and did not provide children with community-based mental health services. Our office and our clients were interviewed by DOJ. As a result of a year's worth of work, the Governor recommended \$130 million dollars to build a children's mental health infrastructure to help our child clients. Legal Aid Center has promoted CAP attorney Kim Abbott to the newly-created position of Mental Health Initiatives Manager to develop strategies to provide appropriate care and treatment for our foster clients.

The Guardianship Advocacy Program, in partnership with the Southern Nevada Senior Law Program, has held three outreach programs (Summerlin Library, East Valley Family Services, and Mesquite Library) on how to avoid guardianship.

Ongoing Initiatives

Partnering with SCORE and the Library District, we continue our Small Business Ask-a-Lawyer programs providing legal education and advice to small business owners who cannot afford legal representation. The next program on Human Resources will be Thursday, October 30. Topics will include: Labor Laws (State and Federal); Employee vs. Independent Contractor; Tax Considerations; and Hiring/Firing.

We continue to participate in the Antiterrorism & Emergency Assistance Program (AEAP) monthly collaboration meetings with the State of Nevada and other AEAP sub-grantees. This past quarter the meetings have focused on planning for the 1 October Memorial events.

We conduct quarterly meetings with the William S. Boyd School of Law Thomas and Mack Immigration Clinic and Catholic Charities to share information and resources related to current immigration trends and needs in the community.

We continue to work with the Governor’s Office for New Americans to provide legal assistance to Afghan parolees who were resettled in Southern Nevada to escape the Taliban. We have completed 25 asylum interviews and received one decision granting asylum. We have filed 53 Temporary Protection Status (TPS) applications and received two approvals. We have filed three Adjustment of Status applications (2 based on approved Special Immigrant Visa petitions and one based on an approved family petition). The Pro Bono Project took 26 cases: 24 asylum cases – four clients moved out of state; three were referred to other attorneys; and one was kept by the original pro bono attorney. Fifteen of the 21 asylum petitions have been filed; the remaining cases have later deadlines. Two cases are special immigrant visa approvals pending adjustment of status. Eleven of 15 asylum petitions have had interviews; no asylum decisions have been rendered. Four interpreters assisted interpreting for Dari and Pashto speakers. There has been one TPS approval. We are still seeing Afghans enter the U.S. and settle in Las Vegas. In the last two weeks, we have received four new intakes for Afghans seeking assistance with asylum. Most of them entered in July or August of this year. The Pro Bono Project took three of those and we took one in house.

Website updates

- Continually updated the Associates Challenge page (www.lacsn.org/associateschallenge).
- Added new calendar items for the adult guardianship workshops and Pro Bono Celebration Week Ask-A-Lawyer (www.lacsn.org/events-calendar).
- Added a Student Loan Forgiveness page (www.lacsn.org/practice-areas/consumer-rights-project/student-loans/student-loan-forgiveness).
- Updated the General Information about Student Loans page (www.lacsn.org/practice-areas/consumer-rights-project/student-loans/general-information-about-student-loans).
- Updated the Student Loan Links page (www.lacsn.org/practice-areas/consumer-rights-project/student-loans/student-loan-links).
- Added a Criminal Record Sealing page (www.lacsn.org/cleanslate).
- Added a page and calendar items for the Spanish Family Law Forms clinic (www.lacsn.org/what-we-do/free-classes/family-law-forms-clinic).
- Added an Early Hire Pipeline to Justice Program page (www.lacsn.org/pipeline).

Community Outreach Events – 20 total for this quarter – 57 YTD

7/6/22	Legal Services Fund Outreach at New York New York	3 participants
7/24/22	DFS Foster Care Back to School Celebration	50 participants
7/29/22	Guardianship Adv. Prog. (GAP) – Summerlin Library	8 participants
8/4/22	Legal Services Fund Outreach at MGM Park	15 participants
8/4/22	AB197 Webinar	116 participants
8/5/22	UNLV Back to School Fair at Rowe Elem. School	75 participants
8/6/22	Whitney Recreation Center Back to School Event	100 participants

8/9/22	Trauma Intervention Program at LVMPD	40 participants
8/11/22	Congressman Horsford Housing Event	40 participants
8/16/22	Legal Services Fund Tip Earners Workshop	24 participants
8/18/22	Pro Bono Project Small Business Seminar	22 participants
8/30/22	GAP - East Valley Family Services	20 participants
8/30/22	Veterans at Nevada State College	25 participants
9/7/22	UNLV Involvement Fair and Boyd School of Law	41 participants
9/8/22	Legal Services Fund at Bellagio Bartenders Union	5 participants
9/9/22	Citizenship Class at Wynn	31 participants
9/10/22	Citizenship Class at Wynn	15 participants
9/12/22	U-visa training for CCSD	40 participants
9/15/22	Fresh Start Program at Whitney Library	25 participants
9/17/22	Spanish Family Law Forms Clinic at East LV Library	13 participants

Legal Aid Center in the News

- 7/28/22: <https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/congress/four-corporate-landlords-engaged-15000-evictions-cdc-moratorium-house-rcna40360>
- 8/12/22: <https://www.fox5vegas.com/2022/08/12/1-million-marijuana-tax-money-going-towards-free-legal-help-minor-drug-offenses/>
- 8/16/22: <https://thenevadaindependent.com/article/study-explores-automatically-sealing-records-on-cannabis-crimes-that-are-now-legal>
- 8/17/22: <https://thenevadaindependent.com/article/parents-lawmakers-praise-200-million-investment-in-public-and-mental-health-funding>
- 8/18/22: <https://thenevadaindependent.com/article/lawmakers-ok-25-million-to-prolong-rental-aid-prevent-evictions-in-clark-county>
- 8/18/22: <https://www.nevadacurrent.com/blog/state-allocates-millions-in-arpa-money-to-child-mental-health/>
- 8/24/22: <https://www.nevadacurrent.com/2022/08/24/told-need-has-not-peaked-lawmakers-allocate-more-arpa-funds-for-rental-assistance/>
- 8/26/22: <https://news3lv.com/newsletter-daily/non-profit-sees-benefits-from-nevada-funding-for-childrens-mental-health>
- 8/29/22: <https://www.nevadabusiness.com/2022/08/nevada-affordable-housing-assistance-corporation-partners-with-legal-aid-center-to-assist-homeowners/>
- 8/29/22: <https://www.8newsnow.com/news/local-news/partnership-announced-to-help-homeowners-facing-forclosure/>
- 9/29/22: <https://lasvegasweekly.com/news/2022/sep/29/vegas-strong-resiliency-center-sanctuary-support/>

New Videos

We added 5 public videos and shorts to Legal Aid Center's YouTube channel:

Representing yourself in court? Our free class can help!

<https://youtube.com/shorts/HlhIa7Nm77c>

Free Legal Help in the Heart of Las Vegas

<https://youtube.com/shorts/4d7qCw0lGM8>

Intro to AB 197: Health Services for Youth, Without Parental Consent

https://youtu.be/s_iARvvZTrI

2022 ¡Ándale! 5K Run/Walk

<https://youtu.be/3R44RPv0YFQ>

We're thrilled to support the Ándale 5K 2022!

https://youtube.com/shorts/M4_bAC7jKi8

We added 12 public videos and shorts to the Vegas Strong Resiliency Center's YouTube channel:

Have a Route 91 memorial idea?

<https://youtube.com/shorts/3oPXreEIAx8>

We can help with Victims of Crime Program applications or appeals

<https://youtube.com/shorts/HuP-Ray28YQ>

Victims of Crime Act - Denise's Story

https://youtube.com/shorts/c2v_O6JKvtU

Submit Your Route 91 Memorial Ideas

<https://youtu.be/6CJ9DdfFigA>

Ayuda a crear un monumento conmemorativo perdurable para el 1 de octubre

https://youtu.be/BZMND3li_aM

What is 988?

<https://youtube.com/shorts/xlbLPIAm5Xw>

Route 91 Peer Support - Meet HEART Lead Peer Mentor Jill Winter

<https://youtu.be/hggfglTwYMY>

Meet Route 91 Survivor & HEART Lead Peer Mentor Jill Winter

<https://youtube.com/shorts/x5BLWTw0S4g>

Marking Five Years Since 1 October

<https://youtu.be/lnPnAmnGUyw>

Help Is Here for First Responders

<https://youtu.be/CrS1vEFV6-A>

#VegasStronger: From the Darkest Night Comes the Strongest Light

<https://youtu.be/ojYQyOLXXMI>

#VegasStronger: De la noche más oscura surge la luz más fuerte

<https://youtu.be/ngUzhDGmDdI>

Consumer Case Highlights

*Mary**

Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada represented Mary,* an elderly person of color whose stepson, Craig,* was trying to steal her home.

Mary's husband, Bob,* had recently passed away. During their marriage, Mary and Bob had purchased a condo. However, the title to the property was only in Bob's name. When Bob was

diagnosed with a serious illness, he made every effort to put his affairs in order so that Mary would be provided for after his death. To ensure that Mary had a place to live, Bob signed a deed that added Mary to the condo's title. Bob then passed away.

Almost immediately after Bob's death, and without Mary's knowledge, Bob's son, Craig, opened a probate and got himself appointed as administrator of Bob's estate. Craig then filed a petition with the court asking that Bob's transfer of the condo to Mary be voided.

Mary, afraid that she was on the brink of losing her home, came to Legal Aid Center for help.

Legal Aid Center immediately appeared in the probate action on Mary's behalf. Mary's attorney filed a motion to dismiss and argued to the judge that Craig could not take away Mary's home. Not only was the condo community property, but voiding the deed would directly contradict Bob's efforts before his death to care of his wife. The judge agreed and granted the motion. Mary can now remain in her home for as long as she likes.

*Name changed to protect client's confidentiality.

Guardianship Advocacy Program Case Highlights

Robert*

Robert is a 82-year-old single man. Robert's daughter, Sharon, filed for guardianship over Robert's person and estate. The court appointed Legal Aid Center to represent Robert in the guardianship case.

Sharon alleged in her petition that Robert was diagnosed with dementia, resides alone in his home, and is unable to care for himself. Sharon also alleged that upon information and belief Robert is unable to handle his financial affairs and may be susceptible to financial exploitation. Further, Sharon stated in her petition that Robert executed both a medical power of attorney and financial power of attorney naming her as his agent, and a written nomination of guardian naming her as guardian.

Once Legal Aid Center counsel met with Robert, they learned that there were several issues with Sharon's petition. First, and most concerning, Robert informed that he was estranged from Sharon because a few years prior to her filing for guardianship, she financially exploited him. Robert stated that Sharon used his financial power of attorney to open several credit cards in his name, which she used for her own benefit. In fact, Sharon racked up tens of thousands of dollars of debt in his name. After that occurred, Robert removed Sharon's name from all of his accounts that she was on, and he requested assistance from a close family friend to help him manage his finances. The friend, Mary, was placed on Robert's accounts and from then on assisted Robert in managing his finances. Additionally, Mary's niece, Megan, assisted Robert with any day-to-day needs that he has. This included transporting Robert to and from doctor's appointments, picking up prescriptions for him, and taking him on social outings. Robert informed me that he was happy with the assistance he was receiving from Mary and Megan, that he wanted to remain in his home, and that he certainly did not want his daughter Sharon serving as guardian.

Later, Legal Aid Center counsel obtained financial records from Robert's bank showing Sharon's financial exploitation, which were used in preparing a written objection to the guardianship petition. After reviewing this evidence of Sharon's exploitation, her counsel withdrew Sharon's request to be appointed as guardian, and instead requested that a private guardian be appointed, which Robert did not want. Moreover, Sharon asserted allegations of exploitation by Megan and Mary which was investigated by Adult Protective Services ("APS").

At the citation hearing, the court was informed that the allegations of exploitation against Megan and Mary were found to be unsubstantiated by APS, and that Robert maintained his objection to the court appointing a guardian over him. Ultimately, the court denied Sharon's petition because less-restrictive alternatives were available and were providing the support Robert needed. The court closed the case.

Following the hearing, counsel met with Robert several times and prepared new powers of attorney for him based on his current wishes. Robert was relieved that the court denied Sharon's petition, and that new powers of attorney were in place in case he needs assistance in the future.

*names have been changed to protect confidentiality

Family Justice Project Case Highlights

Client moved from the marital home at the beginning of the divorce in 2019. The opposing party repeatedly told client and court that he wanted to refinance the house and pay client her share of the equity. At the sr. judge settlement conference, the parties agreed to sell the home and list it in 30 days. Opposing party continued to refuse to move from the home, list it for sale or refinance it. We filed a motion to allow client exclusive possession, the ability to list the home for sale and complete the sale on her own and for an unequal distribution of the net equity. Opposing party also agreed to pay client an additional \$17,000 in alimony, back child support and her share of the dump truck. Opposing party continued to refuse to cooperate. Finally, the judge ordered that he had 30 days to move out. During the 30 day period, opposing party harassed and threatened client and the real estate agent. Finally, court ordered opposing party to pay client \$112,000 within a week or we could submit a writ of restitution and have the sheriff remove opposing party. At this point, opposing party finally cooperated and paid client \$112,000 by cashier's check. With the funds she received, she can move into an apartment or buy a home (she was renting a room) and begin her life again.

Immigration Case Highlights

In August of 2021, my client, his wife, his three young sons, and his extended family all lived together in a home in Kabul, Afghanistan. At the time, my client was making a peaceful living as a fruit seller, but from 2005 to 2006 he had worked as an armed security guard at a US military base in Kabul. My client helped to protect the lives of Americans and was likely targeted by the Taliban for his role. In 2006, a masked assailant had thrown acid into my client's face as he walked through a public market on his way home from the base. A bystander helped

prevent serious injury to my client by immediately washing my client's face with water, but my client still bears scars on his skin from the acid burns.

My client's extended family also risked being targeted by the Taliban. One of his older sisters served as an interpreter for the US military, joining US troops on humanitarian missions in Afghanistan and also helping US troops train female soldiers in the Afghan National Army. An older brother was a teacher with the Afghan Ministry of Education, where he advocated for education for Afghan girls. Another older brother was a high ranking officer in the Afghan Ministry of Interior, a federal law enforcement department. The illegal drug trade was a major source of income for the Taliban, and the officer brother was heavily involved in drug enforcement and was responsible for catching and incarcerating numerous members of the Taliban. My client, his siblings and their families had all lived together in the same family home in Kabul.

In August of 2021, the Taliban encircled Kabul on their campaign to take over the country. My client and his entire family feared being targeted for retribution by the Taliban; the Taliban had a pattern of torturing and murdering Afghans who associated with Americans or the Western-allied Afghan government, and the Taliban would extend their cruelty to the family of those Afghans they targeted. My client and his family were perfect targets for Taliban retribution. The family's fear of retribution increased exponentially when the Taliban released all the inmates held in a major prison located on the outskirts of Kabul. That prison held Taliban inmates and many of those inmates had been put there by the work of my client's officer brother.

My client and his extended family were able to evacuate Afghanistan and were paroled into the United States under Operation Allies Refuge. After my client and his family made it to the United States, their fears of retribution were confirmed when a neighbor informed them that the Taliban had arrived to search the now-abandoned family home. The Taliban had asked the neighbor where the family was; the neighbor told the Taliban that the family had fled to the United States. While the Taliban promised amnesty for all Afghans who worked with Americans or the Western-allied Afghan government, numerous reports out of Afghanistan in the wake of the Taliban takeover show that the promise of amnesty was a lie. Afghans who worked with the Americans or the government have been victims of targeted murder by the Taliban, and while the Taliban continues to maintain its lie of amnesty, even official Taliban spokesmen have admitted that killings are happening due to the Taliban's inability to control its various internal factions. My client and his family would likely face similar fates should they be forced to return to Afghanistan.

We filed for asylum and my client and his extended family were granted asylum.

Children's Attorneys Project Case Highlights

When we think of our responsibility as lawyers to zealously advocate for our clients, we generally think about our roles in the courtroom as it relates to the law. However, in many situations our advocacy outside of the courtroom can have great results. Here, I want to

highlight the importance of listening, meeting people where they are, and creative problem solving as tools to get better results for our clients.

I had a hearing in which my client had been with a foster family since he was born. The cousin requested placement and an ICPC was submitted.

After 18 months, the ICPC was approved. The case was post termination of parental rights. As result, a placement hearing was requested.

During the 18 month period, the child was bonding with his placement. Despite efforts by the department and placement, the cousin would not make contact with my client or even express an interest.

Understanding that my client would want to have a relationship with his biological family, and the law, I needed to find another way to resolve the placement issue.

However, this was not an easy task. The cousin was upset about needing to have a hearing for placement and did not trust anyone involved in the case.

With each conversation that I had with the cousin I felt overwhelmed. However, after taking time to reflect on those conversations, I realized that she did not feel heard by my client's team and felt like she was being treated unfairly.

As I was reflecting, the idea of participating in mediation came to my mind. I wanted to avoid having a placement hearing because I knew that it would damage the relationship between the cousin and placement, and my client would likely remain with his placement.

I started talking to everyone involved in the case and with a great deal of hesitation, they all agreed to mediate. Mediation was the best decision that everyone could have made in this case.

During mediation, many of the misunderstandings were clarified, relationships were mended, and a mutual agreement was reached that allows my client to maintain his relationship with his biological family.

We generally don't think about using mediation to resolve issues involving family members and placements. However, in cases where there are communication barriers and issues can't be resolved, we need to think about alternatives that will improve cooperation and identify the underlying issues. In some cases, that may require a neutral person. In my case that person was our mediator.

Education Advocacy Program Case Highlights

*David**

David is a 17-year-old high school senior with no significant family ties. He is living on his own in supportive housing and preparing to age out of foster care later this year. David wasn't feeling well at school, so he went to the nurse's office. There he was subjected to a probably illegal search of his belongings, and a knife David hadn't realized was in his backpack was discovered. He was subsequently referred for expulsion. David's CAP attorney found out about the situation when David's DFS caseworker called to let him know she had been asked by the school district to come sign documents for the expulsion that she didn't have the authority to sign. The CAP attorney referred the case to the education team, which immediately dispatched an advocate to join the caseworker at the school meeting. At that meeting, Legal Aid Center's educational advocate provided the group with some guidance and education regarding SB 354, a bill that passed into law last year creating additional protections for group of students who are disproportionately subjected to exclusionary discipline practices like expulsions from school. Under the new law, special considerations must first be made regarding the nonacademic circumstances of the student's life and the impact they may be having upon the student's performance at school. After making those considerations, the team elected not to pursue the expulsion – an outstanding and unexpected outcome that can only be attributed to the excellent advocacy provided by Legal Aid Center's educational advocate.

*Name changed to protect client's confidentiality.

Vegas Strong Resiliency Center Case Highlights

*Andy**

On February 9, 2020, at the age of 17 years old, Andy was the victim of a shooting that left him paralyzed from the knees down. His mother related how he spent three months in the hospital recovering from his injuries. When COVID hit, he was still in the hospital and she could no longer visit him like she had before. Due to his injuries, he is now wheelchair bound.

When they came to the VSRC, they had already applied for the Victims of Crime Program (VOCP) benefits; however, their claim had been closed. They were granted relocation benefits, but due to her son being in the hospital three months, COVID hitting, and then needing to find a place to rent that now accommodated her son's disability and wheelchair, she was not able to find a place within the six-month period VOCP allows to relocate. They were not able to move until March 2021.

The center was able to contact VOCP to request their claim be re-opened. Our staff attorney was able to plead their case on why the relocation benefits could not be used in the required time frame and why they should still reimburse this family their relocation costs. VOCP ultimately agreed and sent the victim's mother the maximum benefit of \$2,500.

Andy also wanted to get his driver's license; however, due to his new disability, he had to take adaptive driving courses that cost money. He could not afford these courses. Therefore, our staff attorney was able to get VOCP to agree to cover these courses with the \$500 discretionary funds benefit. Andy is very excited to be able to learn to drive and take these courses.

Re-opening Andy's VOCP claim also allowed him to now participate in mental health counseling. He asked to be connected to group therapy for other people who are in similar situations as he is. Our center was able to get him connected to these resources he requested.

After further discussion about his immediate needs, it was discovered that Medicaid was being difficult in approving needed therapy and durable medical equipment to assist with his recovery. We were able to connect him with Nevada Disability Advocacy & Law Center (NDALC), who handles Medicaid denials for services and durable medical equipment. Our center also provided them information for Care Chest of Sierra Nevada to discuss their independent living program and other services they could benefit from.

Andy and his mother were very grateful for the services and support they were provided. They felt they finally had assistance to help them, after trying many other agencies to no avail. Andy is now able to get the resources he needs to move on from this tragic event.

*Name changed to protect client's confidentiality.

Pro Bono Project Highlights

Third Quarter 2022 Pro Bono Project Highlights:

I. Case Placements:

During this quarter we placed 130 cases.

- July – 29 cases
- August – 54 cases
- September – 47 cases

II. Pro Bono CLE Seminars:

- July 6 – Coffee with Immigration (1 credit)
- July 12 – Section 1983 4th Amendment & 8th amendment Claims (1.5 credits)
- July 15 – Intro to Representing Children in Abuse/Neglect Cases (2 credits)
- September 1 – Lunch with CAP: Supporting High Needs in Foster Youth
- September 13 – Education Advocacy and School Discipline
- September 16 – Intro to Representing Children in Abuse/Neglect Cases (2 credits)

III. **Volunteer of the Month Recipients:**

- July – Lisa McClane
- August – Marshal Willick
- September – Jason Onello

IV. **Pro Bono Firm and Bar Section Meetings:**

- July 7 – Hutchinson & Steffen (summer intern pro bono event)
- September 8 – Business Bench Bar
- September 12 – Henderson City Attorney Office PB Presentation
- September 13 – Civil Bench Bar
- September 15 – Public Lawyer’s Conference
- September 27 – Wilson Elser

V. **Additional Events:**

- July 5 – Monthly Afghan Legal Refugee Resettlement Meeting
- July 6 - Bankruptcy Pro Bono Committee
- July 13 – ABA PB Training
- July 14 - Dependency Court July 14 Judges Meeting
- July 15 – CCBA DICE Committee Meeting
- July 21 – Federal PB Standing Meeting
- July 26 – Nevada Housing Coalition
- July 26 – SABA Legal excellence event
- August 3 – Judicial Mixer
- August 4 – CCBA After Bar New Attorney Mixer
- August 4 – SNAWA Legislative Update
- August 4 – Federal Pro Bono Standing Meeting
- August 5 – CCBA - Community Service Committee Meeting
- August 10 – CCBA CLE Committee Meeting
- August 11 – Public Lawyers Conference Pro Bono Planning Meeting
- August 11 – Doreen Hartwell re Pro Bono Advisory Council
- August 18 – CCBA election luncheon
- August 19 – Meeting with Marisa Rodriguez re Public Lawyers Conference
- August 20 – CCBA Just One Project Outreach
- August 22 – Judge Gall Investiture
- August 25 – Nonprofit Leadership Retreat - Wynn
- August 26 – CCBA DICE Committee Meeting
- September 1 – Federal Pro Bono Standing Meeting
- September 6 – Monthly Afghan Legal Refugee Resettlement Meeting

- September 14 – CCBA CLE Committee Meeting
- September 20 - Dependency Bench Bar
- September 21 – Pro Bono Access to Justice Meeting
- September 21 – Federal Court Pro Bono Program Meeting
- September 21 – Partners in Pro Bono Orientation, Boyd
- September 22 – Legal Aid Center Fellowship Information Session
- September 28 – DICE CLE - Hispanic Leaders in Law
- September 29 – Federal Pro Bono Standing Meeting
- September 30 – CCBA DICE Committee Meeting

Consumer Rights Project - Cases Quarterly Stats				
	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr
Consultations	3,582	1,754	1,218	
Number of cases accepted for Attorney in quarter	295	238	332	
Total cases worked on by attorneys (includes previous years cases)	487	610	723	
Social Security Project Cases - Quarterly Stats				
	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr
Consultations/Hotline calls	333	119	337	
Number of cases accepted for Attorney in quarter	28	26	45	
Total cases worked on by attorneys (includes previous years cases)	127	126	137	
Guardianship Advocacy Project – Quarterly Stats				
	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr
Consultations	2	0	0	
Number of cases accepted for Attorney in quarter	237	209	209	
Total cases worked on by attorneys (includes previous years cases)	2,053	2,243	2,291	
Minor Guardianship Advocacy Project – Quarterly Stats				
	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr
Consultations	1	2	0	
Number of cases accepted for Attorney in quarter	156	162	168	
Total cases worked on by attorneys (includes previous years cases)	553	642	698	

Family Justice Project Cases - Quarterly Stats				
	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr
Consultations	633	509	584	
Number of cases accepted for Attorney in quarter	114	92	134	
Total cases worked on by attorneys (includes previous years cases)	318	298	317	
Immigration - Quarterly Stats				
	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr
Consultations	683	720	566	
Number of cases accepted for Attorney in quarter	181	107	96	
Total cases worked on by attorneys (includes previous years cases)	1,091	1,100	1,026	

Children's Attorneys Project Cases Quarterly Stats				
	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr
Consultations	64	62	74	
Number of cases accepted for Attorney in quarter	228	213	265	
Total cases worked on by attorneys (includes previous years cases)	1,875	1,981	2,007	
Education Advocacy Program Cases Quarterly Stats				
	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr
Consultations	0	0	2	
Number of cases accepted for Attorney in quarter	35	36	58	
Total cases worked on by attorneys (includes previous years cases)	167	197	252	
Volunteer Education Advocate Program Cases Quarterly Stats				
	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr
Consultations	0	0	0	
Number of cases accepted for Attorney in quarter	20	16	22	
Total cases worked on by attorneys (includes previous years cases)	144	157	174	

Civil Law Self-Help Center Quarterly Statistics				
	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr
Number of clients served	14,919	15,350	16,840	

Family Law Self-Help Center and TPO Quarterly Statistics				
	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr
Number of clients served	18,541	19,499	21,636	

Vegas Strong Resiliency Center				
	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr
Number of Clients served				
Route 91	798	1,530	1,383	
Other victims of crime			55	

Community Legal Education Program Attendance Statistics					
CLASS	JAN. - MAR.	APR. - JUNE	JULY - SEPT.	OCT. - DEC.	TOTAL FOR YEAR
Divorce	142	149	168		
Paternity/Custody	137	145	139		
Guardianship	56	83	77		
Spanish Family Law	13	13	22		
Bankruptcy	36	39	51		
Spanish Bankruptcy	3	0	4		
Small Claims	71	99	103		
Collection Proof	13	12	14		
Family Law Litigation & Trial Prep	52	58	58		
Immigration English	24	27	31		
Immigration Spanish	4	14	3		
Special Ed	7	1	0		
Eviction Sealing	11	33	43		
Tenant's Rights		18	129		
Spanish FL Forms Clinic	10	5	13		
TOTALS	579	678	855		

Pro Bono Project Case Statistics by Quarter					
	1Qtr (Jan - Mar)	2Qtr (Apr - Jun)	3Qtr (Jul - Sep)	4Qtr (Oct-Dec)	TOTAL
Number of cases placed	132	110	130		
Number of unique attorneys who accepted a new case	118	93	113		
Number of cases closed	107	33	7		

Ask-A-Lawyer Pro Bono Project Quarterly Statistics (All Programs Combined)					
	1Qtr (Jan - Mar)	2Qtr (Apr - Jun)	3Qtr (Jul - Sep)	4Qtr (Oct - Dec)	TOTAL
Total Clients Served	908	1048	941		
Total Events Held	57	57	58		
Total Unique Attorney Volunteers	202	211	198		
Total Volunteer Hours	464.5	492.5	407		



2022 Highlights: Second and Third Quarters

Outreach

NLS in the Community

04/01/2022	Hope for Prisoners Ribbon Cutting Ceremony	Clark
04/02/2022	Senior Connection Event	Washoe
04/02/2022	Transgender Day of Visibility	Clark
04/05/2022	SAAM Resource Fair	Clark
04/06/2022	Human Services Network: Legal Services for Unsheltered Nevadans Case Manager Education - Clark County Operation HOME! LEAPS	Washoe
04/06/2022	Team and Service Providers	Clark
04/06/2022	Project ECHO Session 3: Family and Youth Engagement in HCT	Statewide
04/07/2022	Henderson Equality Center Open House	Clark
04/07/2022	Southern Nevada Association of Women Attorneys Charity Luncheon	Clark
04/07/2022	Salvation Army Visit	Washoe
04/12/2022	Nevada 211 Ambassadors Quarterly Meeting	Statewide
04/13/2022	Ely Township Justice Court Unveiling the Challenges to Health Care Access for Differently Abled Individuals	White Pine Washoe
04/14/2022	Outreach St. Michael's, St. Peter, Immaculate Conception, St. Albert, Holy Cross, and St. Therese of Little Flower Catholic Churches Community Counseling Center Empowerment Group Presentation - SSI/SSDI	Washoe Clark
04/14/2022	Northern Nevada Continuum of Care Collaboration Meeting	Washoe
04/14/2022	Catholic Charities of Northern Nevada: The St. Vincent's Programs	Washoe
04/16/2022	Jet Foundation Easter Event	Clark Elko, Eureka, Humboldt, Lander
04/19/2022	Frontier Community Partners Meeting Project ECHO Session 4: Assessing Transition Readiness and Planning	
04/20/2022	Need for Skill Building	Statewide
04/20/2022	Outreach Yerington Farms and Local Businesses	Lyon
04/20/2022	Hope for Prisoners Job Fair	Clark
04/20/2022	Nye County Social Services Voucher Day 04/20/2022	Nye
04/21/2022	UNLV Immigration Clinic Resource Fair	Clark
04/21/2022	The Children's Cabinet Nevada Strong Start Child Care Services Center	Clark Washoe, Churchill, Lyon, Carson City
04/22/2022	HIV Law (Impact) Project and Special Programs Open House	

04/26/2022	Wells Justice Court	Elko
04/26/2022	Wells Indian Colony	Elko
04/26/2022	DETR Rapid Response Outreach	Douglas
04/27/2022	Outreach Smith Valley Farms and Local Businesses	Lyon
04/28/2022	Gender Justice NV Partnership Meeting	Clark
04/28/2022	Eddy House Outreach Visit	Washoe
04/29/2022	Safe Summer Nights - Reinvent Schools in LV 2022	Clark
05/01/2022	UNR-Migrant Worker Rural Outreach Clinic Event	Lyon
05/02/2022	National Action Network Community Meeting	Clark
05/02/2022	Southern Nevada Continuum of Care Moving On Working Group	Clark
05/02/2022	Tenants' Rights Class - LVCCLD	Clark
05/03/2022	Older Americans Bingo Night	Washoe
05/03/2022	Supported Decision Making Basics	Clark
05/04/2022	Project ECHO Session 5: Supported Decision Making and Guardianship	Statewide
05/05/2022	Cinco De Mayo Festival with Commissioner Kirkpatrick	Clark
05/06/2022	Senior Coalition of Washoe County Legal Panel	Washoe
05/07/2022	Senior Connection Event	Washoe
05/09/2022	Operation HOME Working Group	Clark
05/10/2022	Safe Summer Nights - Reinvent Schools in LV 2022	Clark
05/11/2022	Outreach Carson City Farms and Local Businesses	Carson City
05/13/2022	Safe Summer Nights - Reinvent Schools in LV 2022	Clark
	Wells Band Indian Colony Senior Law Project and Indian Law Project	
05/17/2022	Introductory Presentation and Ask a Lawyer	Elko
05/17/2022	Parhump Social Services	Nye
05/18/2022	Rural Nevada Health Services Network Membership Meeting	Statewide
	Project ECHO Session 6: Finding an Adult Provider, Transfer, and	
05/18/2022	Integration into Adult Care	Statewide
05/19/2022	Safe Summer Nights - Reinvent Schools in LV 2022	Clark
05/20/2022	Safe Summer Nights - Reinvent Schools in LV 2022	Clark
05/24/2022	Summer Nights	Clark
05/27/2022	Huntridge Clinic Outreach	Clark
	UNR class EDSP 720 Career & Community Life for Persons with	
05/31/2022	Severe Disabilities Presentation: Supported Decision Making Training.	Lyon, Washoe
05/31/2022	AHN In-service with HIV Law Project (RWPB and HIV Impact)	Statewide
06/03/2022	City of Las Vegas Military, Veteran and Family Support Summit	Clark
06/06/2022	Southern Nevada Continuum of Care Moving On Working Group	Clark
06/08/2022	White Pine County Library	White Pine
06/08/2022	White Pine Care Center	White Pine
06/09/2022	Eureka Senior Center 2022	Eureka
06/09/2022	Eureka Justice Court	Eureka
06/09/2022	HIV Task Force Meeting	Statewide
06/10/2022	Huntridge Clinic Outreach	Clark
06/10/2022	Henderson Pride Fest, Friday, 06/10/2022	Clark
06/13/2022	Operation HOME Working Group	Clark
06/13/2022	Outreach Winnemucca & Battle Mountain Farms and Local Businesses	Humboldt, Lander

06/14/2022	Outreach Carson City Farms and Local Businesses	Carson City
06/16/2022	Domestic Violence Intervention Open House	Churchill, Lyon
06/17/2022	Southern Nevada Health Consortium Meeting 06/17/2022 88.1 KCEP Father's Day Event w/Clark County Board of	Clark
06/17/2022	Commissioners	Clark
06/18/2022	Las Vegas Juneteenth Festival	Clark
06/18/2022	NAACP Las Vegas Branch 1111 General Membership Meeting: Housing Presentation	Washoe
06/19/2022	Northern Nevada Black Cultural Awareness Society Juneteenth Celebration	Washoe
06/21/2022	Outreach Fallon Farms and Local Businesses	Churchill
06/22/2022	Senior Health Fair Advanced Directives/POAs Presentation	Lyon
06/22/2022	Outreach Yerington Farms and Local Businesses	Lyon
06/23/2022	Senior Survival Guide Washoe County Bar Association Committee	Washoe
06/23/2022	Hope for Prisoners Criminal Record Sealing Class	Clark
06/25/2022	Reno Veterans Road Show	Washoe
06/26/2022	UNR-Migrant Worker Rural Outreach Clinic 18+ Survival Guide Washoe County Bar Association Committee	Lyon
06/27/2022	Meeting	Washoe
06/27/2022	Outreach Lovelock Farms and Local Businesses	Pershing
07/06/2022	Henderson Veterans Organization Forum meeting Opportunity Alliance Nevada Advisory Call Presentation re Nevada	Clark
07/08/2022	Legal Services	Statewide
07/11/2022	Operation HOME Working Group	Clark
07/11/2022	Catholic Charities of Northern Nevada-Legal Help	Washoe
07/12/2022	New River Township Court Presentation	Churchill
07/12/2022	Clark County Social Worker Outreach re: Eviction Assistance	Clark
07/12/2022	Nevada 211 Ambassadors Quarterly Meeting	Statewide
07/15/2022	Lovelock Health Fair	Pershing
07/18/2022	Reno National Council of Juvenile & Family Court Judges Conference	Washoe
07/18/2022	Blind Center of Nevada Nevada Homeless Alliance Pop-Up Project Homeless Connect Resource	Clark
07/19/2022	Fair	Clark
07/19/2022	Wells Senior Center 2022	Elko
07/20/2022	Outreach Smith Valley & Yerington Farms and Local Businesses	Lyon
07/21/2022	Elko Senior Center	Elko
07/23/2022	OHDC/NHDC New board member & farmworker presentation meeting	Lyon
07/23/2022	Northern Nevada Pride	Washoe
07/26/2022	Outreach Fernley Farms and Local Businesses	Lyon
07/26/2022	Back to School Resource Fair - Walnut Community Center	Clark
07/30/2022	NVTAP - Nevada Transition Assistance Program	Clark
08/01/2022	Southern Nevada Continuum of Care Moving On Working Group	Clark
08/02/2022	PACE Coalition and ABA HIV Impact Presentation	Elko
08/03/2022	Pathway from Poverty Provider Meeting	Clark
08/04/2022	Back to School Resource Fair - Clark High School	Clark

08/05/2022	Back to School Resource Fair - Wengert Elementary	Clark
08/06/2022	Henderson Equality Center Back-to-School Event	Clark
08/06/2022	Gardnerville Veterans Road Show	Douglas
08/08/2022	Washoe County Human Services Agency Introduction Presentation	Washoe
08/09/2022	Nevada Law Library Estate Planning Class	Clark
08/10/2022	SNRHA Quarterly Provider Meeting	Clark
08/10/2022	Summer Webinar Series for Youth, Parents and Providers: Engaging Youth in Health and Well-Being	Statewide
08/11/2022	Outreach Fallon Farms and Local Businesses	Churchill
08/13/2022	Fallon Veterans Road Show	Churchill
08/13/2022	UNR-Rural Outreach Clinic Event	Pershing
08/16/2022	Desert Garden Condominium Apartments Resource Team Meeting	Clark
08/16/2022	Nevada Homeless Alliance Pop-Up Project Homeless Connect Resource Fair	Clark
08/18/2022	United Way of Southern Nevada Nonprofit Sector Call	Clark
08/19/2022	Opportunity Alliance Nevada Eviction Mediation Team Q&A	Clark
08/21/2022	House of Love Community Resource Fair	Clark
08/22/2022	Facility Tour at Driven Neurorecovery Center	Clark
08/25/2022	Vietnam Veterans Pinning Ceremony and Resource Fair	Clark
08/26/2022	Huntridge Clinic Outreach	Clark
08/31/2022	Carson City Will-A-Thon Wills Seminar	Carson City
08/31/2022	Nevada Homeless Alliance Pop-Up Project Homeless Connect Resource Fair	Clark
09/01/2022	Reno Sparks Gospel Mission Presentation	Washoe Elko, Humboldt,
09/06/2022	PACE Community Coalition Meeting 2022	Lander
09/06/2022	Clark County Law Library Estate Planning Class	Clark
09/07/2022	VA CRRC Staff Outreach	Clark
09/07/2022	Washoe Homeless Services Staff Presentation	Washoe
09/07/2022	Outreach St. Michael's, St. Peter, Immaculate Conception, St. Albert, Holy Cross, and St. Therese of Little Flower Catholic Churches	Washoe
09/08/2022	Healthy Communities Coalition	Lyon
09/12/2022	Operation HOME Working Group	Clark
09/13/2022	Family Justice Center Advocate Collaboration Presentation	Clark
09/14/2022	SNAWA Miriam Shearing Gala	Clark
09/14/2022	AARP Spanish Presentation	Statewide
09/15/2022	LVMPD Crime Prevention Specialist Meeting	Clark
09/21/2022	Reno-Sparks Indian Colony Senior Fun Day	Washoe
09/21/2022	SNRHA FSS Bankruptcy Workshop	Clark
09/22/2022	Outreach Yerington Farms and Local Businesses	Lyon
09/22/2022	Note-Able Music Therapy Services Open House	Washoe
09/23/2022	Lutheran Social Services Presentation	Clark
09/24/2022	ACLU of Nevada Student Know Your Rights Event	Clark
09/25/2022	Clean Slate Outreach at The Source Tree House	Clark
09/28/2022	LVMPD Northeast Area Command Apartment Manager's Meeting	Clark

09/28/2022	Hispanic Leaders in Law	Clark
09/29/2022	Outreach Fallon Farms and Local Businesses	Churchill
	United Way of Northern Nevada and the Sierra 80th Anniversary	
09/29/2022	Celebration	Washoe

And More!

NLS in the News

06/10/2022	Kolo 8 News re Tenant Rights
07/05/2022	News 8 at Pearson Center
	Interview-Rising Rent and Evictions in Reno- Lee Enterprises/Public Service
08/04/2022	Journalism Reporter Emily Hamer
	KOLO Channel: Forum brings awareness to Supported Decision Making, an
08/08/2022	alternative to Guardianship
08/11/2022	Fox 5 - Clean Slate Project
09/13/2022	News 8 - Housing

Community Education Series

Basics of Record Sealing – Community Education Series – 2998 attendees

New YouTube Videos

5/1/2022	YouTube Law School: Episode 1 – Introduction and Behind the Scenes
5/12/2022	NLS Now! Live: Nearing the End of the State of Emergency
5/21/2022	YouTube Law School: Episode 2: Complaint Part 1
6/18/2022	YouTube Law School: Episode 3: Complaint Part 2
6/23/2022	NLS Now! Live: Inflation Resources
7/22/2022	YouTube Law School: Episode 4: Discovery

Project Updates

PRO BONO

New Cases Placed: We placed 148 new cases.

New Cases Accepted for Assistance: 498

New Volunteers: We had 27 new volunteers.

Champions of Justice: Our annual Champions of Justice Luncheons were held September 28 in Reno at the Nevada Museum of Art and October 13 in Las Vegas at Morton's the Steakhouse. Both events were a huge success and we thank everyone who attended and all of our pro bono volunteers!

We also have a new program in Las Vegas – our Lawyer in the School initiative funded by a Pro Bono Innovation grant. We are working through a partnership with Myrtle Tate Elementary School to embed pro bono attorneys and provide legal assistance to parents at the school.

CLEs

04/15/2022	Family Law: Alimony
04/22/2022	Estate Planning
04/27/2022	Bankruptcy Las Vegas
05/06/2022	Adoption CLE
05/27/2022	Family Law Community Property & Ethics
06/10/2022	Immigration VAWA & U-Visa
06/13/2022	Bankruptcy
06/24/2022	Name and Gender Marker Change
07/29/2022	Social Security Disability
08/05/2022	Tribal Law/ POWER ACT
08/12/2022	Record Sealing CLE for the Association of Corporate Counsel
08/26/2022	Criminal Record Sealing w/ ACC Nevada – Northern Nevada
08/26/2022	Identity Theft CLE
09/15/2022	Government Lawyer's Conference Pro Bono Presentation
09/16/2022	Minor Guardianship

CORE SERVICES

Case Stories

Subsidized housing:

The SNRHA sought to terminate our client’s Housing Choice Voucher (Section 8 assistance) because she failed to meet continuing eligibility by defaulting in the payment agreement with her prior landlord. The landlord had maliciously tried to interfere with our client’s Section 8 assistance by contacting the SNRHA demanding she be evicted and terminated from the program based on alleged deficiencies in the unit after she moved-out.

The previous landlord had withheld the security deposit for repairs beyond normal “wear and tear.” In Nevada, normal wear and tear refers to gradual damage that you would expect to see in a property over time. For example, worn carpets, faded curtains/blinds and minor scuffs and scrapes on walls are all things that are extremely difficult, if not, impossible to avoid over a period of months and years.

Our client lived in the unit for 6 years. Some of the damages alleged in the original complaint existed at the time she moved into the unit or were otherwise normal damage to the unit. Yet, the landlord had charged her over \$3,400 to essentially deep clean, paint, and replace appliances in violation of Nevada law. Unfortunately, the landlord told the court it could not locate our client after serving her at an address at which she did not live and a default judgment was entered against her. The landlord had intentionally deceived the court by sending the detailed security deposit summary and serving the complaint to an address not belonging to our client.

Our client, a victim of sex trafficking, and her disabled child were at risk of losing the very housing assistance they relied on to live in their home. To them, as to almost everyone, homelessness would be devastating. NLS represented her before a hearing with the SNRHA. At that hearing the termination of her assistance was overturned and she was able to keep her Section 8 assistance.

Unlawful Termination of Utilities:

NLS was contacted after our client and her family had been without running water for over 10 days. Client lives in the unit with her husband and child. The client had filed a Motion for Expedited Relief and the court ordered the landlord to restore the services; however, the landlord had not done so. Client stated that the landlord had served Client with a 7 day pay rent or quit in July alleging she owed rent and a court date had been set for November 28.

In order to get a hearing before the November eviction hearing to enforce the court's previous order, NLS assisted the client file a motion and order to show cause to have an expedited hearing.

A hearing was then set in August and we assist the client with the hearing. After argument the Judge gave the landlord 72 hours to have water service back on to the unit and will consider further sanctions if service not restored.

At the next hearing, landlord had restored water service to the unit on by the deadline. Due to the landlord's delay in restoring service, though, the Judge amended the Order to include damages for 2 months of rent - May and June 2022 - which were the subject of the rent action. While client's water was restored and the eviction avoided, she decided to move in order to avoid dealing with this landlord again.

Unemployment Benefits/Pandemic Unemployment Assistance:

In a story all too common, we assisted a client denied Pandemic Unemployment Benefits for allegedly failing to authenticate her identity. Our client had provided copies of her Nevada ID, social security card, and proof of residency. Despite this overwhelming evidence substantiating her identity, she was still denied benefits and was not able to even argue her case in a hearing until 2022 – almost 2 years after she had originally applied. NLS assisted her with her hearing once she finally received notice of her hearing date. The appeals referee agreed that she was entitled to benefits and she was finally able to recover over \$34,000 in PUA benefits she had been entitled to in 2020.

By the Numbers – Core Services	
New cases accepted during the quarter	827
Total cases worked by advocates during the quarter	1147

CONSUMER LAW PROJECT

Case Stories

Our client was a 77 year old veteran who like to feed a neighborhood stray cat. He received a 5 day lease violation and believed that was the reason for the eviction notice. The cat had been able to access the parking garage of a neighboring property through loose tiles. The landlord had fixed the tiles of the parking garage, trapping the cat inside. The client continued to give the cat water and food and had been contacting animal control for assistance. He stopped feeding the cat after receiving the notice but animal control was able to catch the cat and it is now up for adoption.

NLS filed a response to the eviction and the landlord advised at the hearing that they were dismissing the eviction. The court agreed and the eviction was dismissed and sealed. The client also signed a new lease with the landlord so everything appeared to resolve amicably.

In another case, an elderly disabled individual, received a 30 day notice to move out of her home. She had been living in the home with her partner until he died earlier this year. She had paid her portion of the rent every month to her partner, whose daughter owned the home. The daughter had come to the home, packed up all of the partner's belongings and took pictures of the interior and exterior of the house. She also took the partner's wallet that had the client's rent money included. The partner's daughter, the owner of the home, then posted a notice to vacate on the door 12 days after his death.

NLS attempted to negotiate with the landlord and requested additional time to move out considering her age and disability. This request was denied. NLS represented the client at the eviction hearing. Due to the deficiencies in the eviction notice and denial of the extension of time, the eviction was dismissed. We were able to preserve our client's housing for at least some time and allow her an opportunity to find alternate housing without being rendered homeless.

By the Numbers – Consumer Law Project	
New cases accepted during the quarter	137
Total cases worked by advocates during the quarter	204

SENIOR LAW PROJECT

Case Story

“Awesome!” declared Tim, after hearing that the crumbling concrete stairs and patchworked sidewalk leading to his rental unit would finally be repaired by the landlord of his subsidized housing unit. Not even the handrail was safe because of the crumbling cement of the unsightly steps. This state of affairs had been the status quo for years. Tim's complaints were unavailing, and management unresponsive.

Nevada law and housing codes, federal regulations for public housing authorities, and lease provisions may protect tenants, but some do not know whom to contact or how to proceed when

no action results after asking for repairs. A tenant’s right to habitable housing may seem like a Sisyphean task when complaints fall on deaf ears.¹

So, when Tim came into the rural Senior Center where Nevada Legal Services was providing free legal services to eligible seniors 60 and over, he brought pictures. Advised to send a 14-day written notice and repair demand (and the pictures) of the steps and stairs to his landlord, Tim waited two weeks, and receiving no response, he contacted Nevada Legal Services again.

With a little encouragement from NLS, the company’s agent committed to repairs at the first opportunity, and the job was done within a month. “My friend bet me they wouldn’t fix it until the end of the year”, said Tim. “Be positive, and don’t bet against NLS!” smiled his counsel.

¹ NRS 118A.290 Habitability of dwelling unit.

1. The landlord shall at all times during the tenancy maintain the dwelling unit in a habitable condition. A dwelling unit is not habitable if it violates provisions of housing or health codes concerning the health, safety, sanitation or fitness for habitation of the dwelling unit or if it substantially lacks...

(h) Floors, walls, ceilings, stairways and railings maintained in good repair.

By the Numbers – Senior Law Project	
New cases accepted during the quarter	138
Total cases worked by advocates during the quarter	214

HIV LAW PROJECT

Due to the significant outreach activities undertaken by our HIV Law Project, we have been able to receive additional funding to expand our project. The staff of the HIV Law Project significantly engage the community and all of our partner organizations to create an exceptional referral system for persons living with HIV to access legal services.

By the Numbers – HIV Law Project	
New cases accepted during the quarter	105
Total cases worked by advocates during the quarter	154

INDIAN AND FARMWORKER LAW PROJECT

We received a grant to start a new program with our Indian Law Project to provide education to tribal members across Nevada regarding entrepreneurship. NLS will be developing training materials and then scheduling a series of educational presentations with the tribes to provide greater access to economic opportunity for tribal members.

Case Story

In addition to legal assistance to tribal members, our Indian Law Project also works with the tribes themselves, especially with ICWA matters in state courts. In one case, the mother of the

child relapsed and the child was taken into care by Washoe County. WCHSA could only locate two family members willing to accept placement - one lived in CA which would require an ICPC, and the other lived on the Pyramid Lake Reservation which would require an inter-local agreement. Because both of these placements would take several months to complete, and the child was in congregate care, all parties agreed to transfer the case to the jurisdiction of the tribal court to enable quicker family placement (since the Tribe is not bound by the same restrictions re placement as the state). NLS drafted and filed a petition to transfer and stipulation, and the case was transferred to tribal jurisdiction to ensure the best interests of the child were address as quickly as possible and preserving tribal sovereignty over its members.

By the Numbers – Indian and Farmworker Law Project	
New cases accepted during the quarter	50
Total cases worked by advocates during the quarter	163

TENANTS’ RIGHTS CENTERS

Case Stories

Tenant contacted us for advice regarding a letter that she received from LL asking her to move out. Provided client with advice on no cause notice and eviction process. Advised client under NRS 40.251, as she is a senior, that she can request an additional 30 days in which to move. Additionally, the notice was deficient and the landlord would not have been able to proceed on that basis. Our NLS Tenant’s Rights Counselor drafted a letter explaining the deficiencies in the notice and mailed it to the landlord. Although she received a new notice curing the deficiencies, the time we were able to obtain for her to move allowed her to secure new housing and was happy with our services.

Another client contacted us for assistance and advice regarding the nonpayment of rent notice received. NLS Tenant’s Rights Counselor provided advice regarding the eviction process and the defenses to the eviction under AB486. Based on the AB486 defense, NLS assisted the client prepare the Tenant’s Affidavit to contest the eviction. Likely realizing the validity of the defense under AB486, the landlord did not proceed with the eviction and it was ultimately dismissed and sealed.

By the Numbers – Tenants’ Rights Center	
Total Cases Worked	1649

Coming next time...

Updates regarding our Clean Slate Project and Veteran’s Projects.



**Access to Justice Commission November 2022 Meeting
Informational Report**

Northern Nevada Legal Aid, formerly Washoe Legal Services, has officially changed its name! The organization is also in the process of a leadership change and will be resuming the work between staff and the Board on formulating a cohesive vision for the future of the organization, including a strategic action plan and board development in the coming months. NNLA and its staff and Board members are excited for the opportunities ahead.

Case Statistics: Case and Client Outcome Report Jan-Aug, 2022

Program	Count
Adult Guardianship	1110
Child Ad	1226
Consumer-Housing (General)	545
General (Misc)	1173
Immigration (General)	422
Intake	35
Jail	838
MLP	22
Pro Bono	14
Self Help	1394
SLC	948
Victim Advocacy	131
(blank)	9
Grand Total	7867

Closed Reason	Count
A - Advice & Counsel	796
B-Limited Action/Brief Service	2562
Client Withdrew/Lost Contact	152
Conflict- Unable to Assist	1
Court Decision	3
F-Negotiated without Litigation	43
G - Negotiated with Litigation	19
H - Administrative Decision	45
IA - Uncontested Court Decision	310
IB - Contested Court Decision	79
Insufficient Merit to Proceed	55
Referral or Information Only	1228
Open Cases	2574
Grand Total	7867

Outreach

- NNLA had a table and participated in the Juneteenth Celebration at Idlewild Park to outreach to our community and provide information about our programs and services.
- NNLA had a table and participated in the annual Pride Celebration at Wingfield Park to outreach to our community and provide information about our programs and services.
- NNLA partnered with the Reno Justice Court and NLS to provide a criminal record sealing clinic in the Justice Court Self Help Center. In addition to our self-help staff, we had several NNLA attorneys who participated.
- NNLA had a table and participated in the Senior Fest event held at the Old Town Mall, during staff provided over 100 attendees information on our programs and services.
- NNLA had a table and participated in the Fiesta on Wells Celebration to outreach to our community and providing information about our programs and services. During our time at the event, we were able to record a free public service spot for Spanish language radio.
- NNLA has been participating in numerous outreach events at our local senior centers, Northern Nevada HOPES, and for the Retired Public Employees of Nevada, Sparks Chapter, including clinics on end-of-life planning and providing a general overview of NNLA's programs and services.
- State Bar of Nevada Annual Conference - NNLA had a table and participated in the State Bar Annual conference to promote pro bono service and engage volunteers.
- NNLA partnered with the US District Court on a CLE for the Power Act Pro Bono Program and presented on the domestic violence legal process and promoted our pro bono service and engaged volunteers.
- NNLA participated in the State Bar Public Lawyers conference to promote pro bono service and engage volunteers.

Program Updates

- NNLA received an Office on Violence Against Women grant focused on rural Nevadans. Under this grant NNLA, will be building partnerships with rural domestic violence service partners, police departments, district attorney offices, and courts to better provide immigration services to victims of crime.
- NNLA continues to operate its Housing Stability Self Help Center located at the Reno Justice Court. Pro se tenants can receive free assistance through the Self-Help Center or a direct referral from the Self-Help Center to a NNLA staff attorney, as appropriate, on

legal issues affecting housing stability including, for example, all types of evictions, security deposit returns, and habitability. NNLA also continues to operate its general self-help center out of its main office and is looking at ways to expand these services.

Case Stories

Child Advocacy

- Two pre-teen girls were removed due to domestic violence and drug use. Their father passed and their mother had a baby with her abuser and struggled with substance abuse. The oldest expressed wanting to stay permanently with her relative placement because she did not feel that her mother would protect her and stay away from her abuser. Her younger sister, however, had hope that her mother would pull it together. Her mother made promises to both girls that she would purchase them laptops, phones and tablets, If THEY came home to her. She also repeatedly claimed that she was getting them back in the near future, but she made no progress on her case plan and continued to use drugs, live with her abuser, and lie about it all to CPS. Unfortunately, however, CPS was not very responsive to the oldest girls' request. They continued to advocate for reunification despite our client's preference to stay with her aunt. She worried her mom could/would not protect her and leave her abuser. She also saw a much better life with many more opportunities with her aunt. I advocated consistently for the oldest to obtain permanency with a guardianship as soon as possible. The mother would promise/threaten/manipulate emotionally by claiming she was signing away her rights, and "they would never see her again" but never would. Eventually the youngest became more aware and distrustful of her mother's challenges and wanted to stay with her relatives. Unfortunately, CPS advocated for a concurrent plan of reunification and guardianship a whole year into the case. After several more months of continued advocacy and working to assure the girls they would remain safe, the girls received the outcome we advocated for and felt safe and more secure than they had in a long time.
- Client and her two siblings were removed on October 30, 2019. We had to go to trial to terminate her mother's rights. Client was placed in her adoptive home along with her sister in March of this year. Now that Client has been in her adoptive placement for over six months, we have been able to set her adoption date. NNLA will be handling the adoption for Client on November 8th. Client's brother is being adopted by his aunt and uncle, and we were able to secure a sibling visitation order to ensure the children will visit in-person once a month and also have weekly video calls. Client's adoptive placement already has a wonderful relationship with her aunt and uncle, so Client is able to maintain a strong bond with her biological relatives.
- We conducted multiple interviews with several adoptive placements and ultimately decided to match Client with a family in Tennessee. NNLA ensured that Client was able to be involved in this process – and advocated for her to be able to meet with each family prior to us making a decision. Client liked three families and said she would be happy to be adopted by any one of them. The family that we chose was one of the three families that Client had selected. Client has been having almost daily video visits with this family

and she is already bonded to them and their children. She is very much looking forward to moving to Tennessee. Now that she has been matched with an adoptive placement, we are getting ready for the trial to terminate her parents' rights. We have an in-person meeting with the whole team, including the parents, to see if we can come to an agreement on the post-adopt contact. If we are unable to do so – we are prepared to proceed to trial on November 14th and 16th.

- Client successfully completed her in-patient treatment program at PRTF North at the end of July and she was able to return home with her grandmother and siblings on August 2nd. Client's mother passed away in late March, so her grandmother is now her primary caretaker. Client's goal is to be adopted by her grandmother, along with her 4 siblings. Her grandmother is still getting used to being the primary caretaker for five children with various needs and does struggle to parent without Agency involvement. Client's social worker is going to start working with Client on her independent living case plan in case her grandmother is unable to complete her adoption by the time she turns 18.

Victim Advocacy

- Client shares a child with adverse party but was separated from him. He used the child to keep tabs on and control her, and despite moving on to a new relationship, was extremely jealous of client attempting the same, even with friends. Adverse party's stalking, harassment, and threats ultimately ended with him shooting at client while she was in her vehicle attempting to leave a gathering where adverse party had created a scene. Client attended our clinic, and we represented her to get an EPO while assisting her in accessing other resources.
- Client married to adverse party with one child. Adverse party had been displaying signs of mental health issues including conspiracy theories and paranoia, which culminated in trying to flee with the child across state lines. Adverse party broke through two separate doors attempting to get the child from client, who was able to call 911. Client attended our clinic, and we represented her to get an EPO while assisting her in working through various other issues.

Housing & Consumer

- Clients who were still in a lease received a letter from the property manager stating that they were increasing the rent (during clients' lease period) and that there would be a new structure for late fees. NNLA contacted owner of property who apologized and agreed to modify increases in rent (to the statutory 60-day notice) after expiration of a lease. Landlord also agreed that a late fee can only be 5% of base rent and not a per day fee. Owner indicated he would apply these policy changes to all three buildings that he owns in Reno.
- NNLA represented a client who received four different eviction notices over an eight-month period, all of which were egregious violations of Assembly Bill 486 (2021). Last month, Reno Justice Court issued an order requiring the landlord and property manager to

pay \$1,000 in rental assistance to the client, \$2,380 in attorney fees, and \$284 in court fees. This is the first where NNLA asked for and client received damages under AB 486.

Adult Guardianship

- Client is a 28-year-old woman, who has been under guardianship in Douglas County since she was 18. After arranging a new capacity evaluation by her treating physician, Washoe Legal Services was able to terminate the guardianship, by drafting and executing Powers of Attorney in favor of her parents.
- Client is a 24-year-old man, who suffers from psychiatric issues for which he requires medications. He directed us to oppose the guardianship petition filed by his parents. Since a guardianship does not allow for forced medication against the will of the protected person, we successfully advocated for the dismissal of the petition for guardianship as it did not make a clear showing of incapacity. Further the main request in the petition, i.e. that the Protected Person be forced to take medication could not be granted under guardianship laws.
- NNLA represented a client who suffered an accident in Tahoe City, California, where he had resided for many years. Due to his condition, he was transported without his consent to Renown hospital in Reno. From there he was discharged to a group home in Carson City, where his needs exceeded the group home's ability to care for him. He was then admitted to Carson Tahoe Hospital, which petitioned to have the Carson City Public Guardian appointed to represent him. The Public Guardian was appointed, but later asked the court to be relieved because the client was not a Carson City resident and therefore not legally able to be represented by the Carson City Public Guardian. Prior to this issue being heard, NNLA attorneys determined that the client's sole wish was to return to Tahoe City, a desire he had expressed to all of his caregivers from the beginning. NNLA attorneys contacted friends of the client in the Tahoe City area and the Eldorado County Public Guardian to explore ways to get the client back to his home in Tahoe City. This was ultimately successful and arrangements were made to discharge the client from Carson Tahoe Hospital and return him to his home jurisdiction in California in accordance with his wishes.



Date: October 25, 2022

Reporting Period: July through September 2022

Community Outreach

July 13, 2022	James H. Downs Towers, Las Vegas	21 attendees
July 29, 2022	Summerlin Library, Las Vegas	9 attendees
August 24, 2022	Las Vegas Okinawan Club, Las Vegas	44 attendees
September 13, 2022	Carnegie Heights, Henderson	25 attendees

Cases Opened:

Elder Abuse/Exploitation:	34
Defense of Guardianship:	274
Power of Attorney Healthcare:	58
Health Care:	12
Housing:	161
Evictions:	53
Income:	24
Long Term Health Care:	1
Consumer/Other:	64
TOTAL Cases Opened	570

Number of Power of Attorney Health Care Clinics at SLP: 18

Pro Bono Program

Case Referrals:	17
Number of unique attorneys:	3
Pro Bono POAH Clinic Presentations:	10



CLE Training Participation

Attendees for DPOAH trainings 6

- August 16
- September 1
- September 20

Attendees for Wills/Homesteads 6

- August 23
- September 14

Case Story for Defense of Guardianship/Elder Abuse and/or Exploitation area of law:

Ruthie G. (age 62) came to SLP because her schizophrenic husband of 15 years had been removed from a hospital by his daughter who had fraudulently obtained his signature on a Power of Attorney while he was in the hospital. Husband is mentally ill and had an episode with a knife where he had threatened to kill Ruthie, and had been placed under the Legal 2000, (which is a 72-hour hold for psychiatric evaluation) by law enforcement based upon that situation. Due to COVID complications, husband had been subsequently hospitalized.

Husband's daughter removed him from the hospital and took out of state without Ruthie's knowledge, taking him to Oklahoma City, and proceeded to empty all joint bank accounts using the Power of Attorney. Client was extremely distraught, and her primary goal was to get her husband back so she could "keep him safe." Her situation was extremely urgent, not only because her husband had been relocated without her knowledge, but also, because the loss of money in the bank accounts resulted in her being unable to pay her bills, including her rent. She had received an Eviction Notice from their landlord.

Enlisting multiple attorneys and support staff at SLP, we engaged a collaborative effort to assist Ruthie. As Senior Staff Attorney Carol Kingman met with Ruthie, Senior Staff Attorney Chelsea Crowton researched Legal Aid options in Oklahoma City, and we also gave Ruthie contact information for Adult Protective Services in that area. Our UNLV Social Work student extern joined the appointment to outline Golden Groceries/Three Square Food Bank, rental assistance, and utility assistance strategies. Staff Attorney Nik Nicki consulted with Client regarding the Eviction notice. Additionally, Ruthie stated that her husband receives VA benefits, and she was unsure regarding the status of those. Staff Attorney Jeff Arlitz was consulted regarding the VA issue. Ruthie was tearful and enormously grateful. This case truly represented a "holistic" approach to what we do at SLP to give aid and comfort to our clients as well as legal assistance.



Case Story for Housing/Eviction area of Law:

On September 26, 2022, Mr. T. came into our office for an eviction consult. Mr. T. is an 82-year-old, disabled senior that rents a room in a house. His landlord appears to be experienced in the eviction process and attempted to use his superior knowledge of the process to manipulate Mr. T. into leaving the home before he could exercise his rights. The landlord intentionally gave Mr. T. eviction notices that did not inform him of his rights as a tenant. Mr. T. was informed that the eviction court would not honor the notices he was given and that he has the right to a hearing date to present his case to the eviction court hearing master. The landlord merely attempted to scare Mr. T. into leaving without presenting his case to the evictions court – Mr. T. disputes that he owes the landlord rent given their prior agreements and events between them. Mr. T.'s anxiety level visibly improved as he was informed of his rights by the Senior Law Program. Mr. T. now has the information and ability to find a new place to live without being fearful that the constable was going to come and throw him out before he had found a new home.

Case Story for Consumer/Other area of Law:

The threat of a contractor's lien being recorded against your property can terrify even the staunchest individual. The threat that a dispute with your contractor can result in the company foreclosing on your property is a situation that a senior should never encounter during their lifetime. Prior to coming to SLP, Mr. and Mrs. D (aged 74 and 71 years of age) hired a contractor to install new windows and doors at their home for a total cost of \$34,000. Pursuant to the terms of the contract, the total price would be financed in two parts through Greensky. After completion of the construction project, the construction company refused to process the final payment through Greensky. In lieu of complying with the contract terms, the construction company was sending multiple letters to these frightened seniors threatening to place a lien on their home and seeking to foreclose. They were frightened and reached out to SLP to inquire about their legal options. After reviewing the documentation, SLP entered into several discussions with Greensky and the construction company. SLP pointed out the illegality of the construction company to place a lien/foreclose and filed a complaint with Greensky against the construction company. During the whole ordeal, Mr. & Mrs. D. kept saying "I don't understand why this is happening to us" and were visibly distraught due to the threat of losing their home of over 10 years. They had tried, to no avail, for several months to get the construction company to return their calls. After several days of negotiations, the construction company relented, processed the final payment with Greensky, and confirmed that any threats of a contractor's lien were rescinded. By having an SLP attorney to respectfully listen to their concerns and provide a legal means to stave off a potential foreclosure, these clients expressed that "We did not know where to turn for help until we found SLP and are very grateful for this terrible burden to be lifted from our shoulders."

VOLUNTEER ATTORNEYS FOR RURAL NEVADANS
REPORT July-October 2022

PROGRAM STATISTICS

Date	Intakes	Online clients DVVAP	Online clients General	Brief service Pre-screen	Telephone	DVVAP case considerations	DVVAP Waiting List	New DVVAP Intakes	Total contacts
July	3	6	11	2	71	0	0	0	93
August	8	7	9	13	110	0	0	0	147
September	12	21	14	4	127	4	0	0	182
October	4	11	8	4	72	0	12	14	125
TOTAL	27	45	42	23	380	4	12	14	547

DVVAP CASES

	Intakes	Accepted cases	Case consideration	New Applicants	Total contacts
July	3	0			3
August	8	0			8
September	12	4			16
October	4	0	10	14	28
	27	4	10	14	55

Rural Senior Law Program (RSLP), Pro Bono Cases, Lawyer in the Lobby

	RSLP Clients	RSLP LIL	Lawyer in Lobby	Pro Bono cases	Total Contacts
July	2	8	29	0	39
August	9	9	56	1	75
September	2	7	45	0	54
October	2	3	42	1	48
	15	27	172	2	216

OTHER PROGRAM INFORMATION

Date	Type of Training	In person/Zoom
9/7/22 9:00 AM	Partnership of Community Resources	Zoom
8/3/22 9:00 AM	Partnership of Community Resources	Zoom
9/14-9/16	Public Lawyers Pro Bono Conference	In person-George
9/12-9/14	NCEDSV Conference	Zoom

June – October 2022

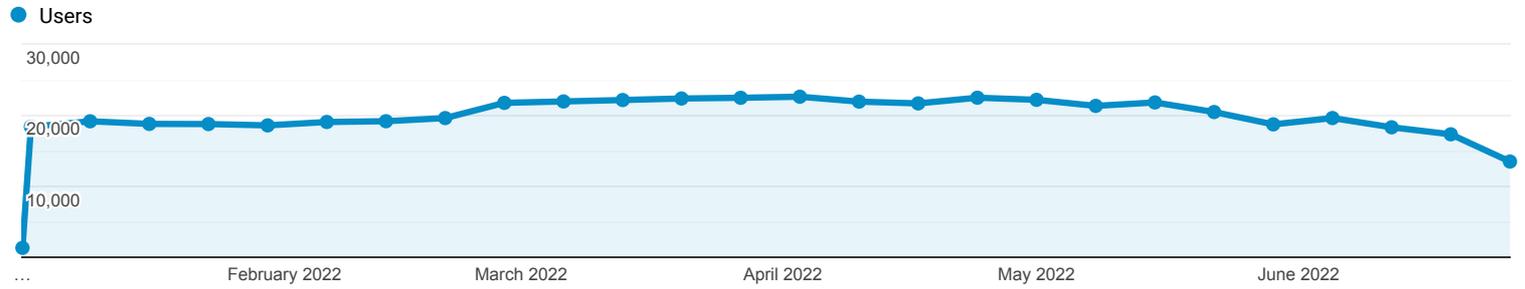
Outreach to courts, domestic violence and social service agencies 829

Audience Overview

Jan 1, 2022 - Jun 30, 2022

All Users
100.00% Users

Overview



Users
483,524

New Users
472,504

Sessions
637,528

Number of Sessions per User
1.32

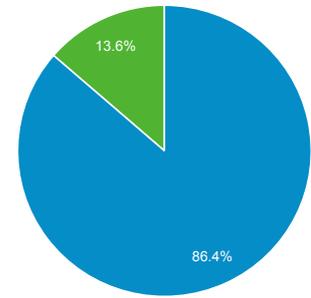
Pageviews
1,222,249

Pages / Session
1.92

Avg. Session Duration
00:01:51

Bounce Rate
71.66%

■ New Visitor ■ Returning Visitor



Operating System

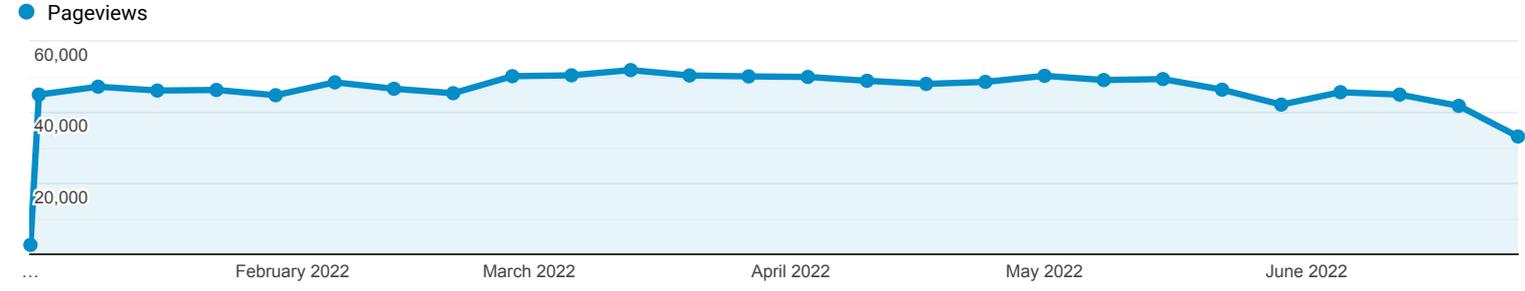
Operating System	Users	% Users
1. iOS	166,218	34.74%
2. Android	132,408	27.67%
3. Windows	130,428	27.26%
4. Macintosh	40,637	8.49%
5. Chrome OS	6,116	1.28%
6. Linux	1,685	0.35%
7. (not set)	872	0.18%
8. OS/2	34	0.01%
9. Playstation 4	15	0.00%
10. Tizen	14	0.00%

Overview

All Users
100.00% Pageviews

Jan 1, 2022 - Jun 30, 2022

Overview



Pageviews 1,222,249	Unique Pageviews 993,676	Avg. Time on Page 00:02:01	Bounce Rate 71.66%	% Exit 52.15%
---	--	--	--	---

Page	Pageviews	% Pageviews
1. /	100,975	8.26%
2. /self-help/lawsuits-for-money/pleading-stage-filing-a-complaint-or-responding-to-a-complaint/243-responding-to-a-complaint-if-you-ve-been-sued	49,786	4.07%
3. /self-help/getting-started/court-basics/56-types-of-cases	45,031	3.68%
4. /forms/eviction-housing-forms	33,306	2.72%
5. /self-help/evictions-housing/evictions/information-for-tenants/89-responding-to-an-eviction-notice	33,277	2.72%
6. /courts-and-case-lookup/look-up-my-case	31,616	2.59%
7. /self-help/evictions-housing/evictions/information-for-tenants/90-responding-to-an-order-for-eviction	31,605	2.59%
8. /self-help/evictions-housing	29,982	2.45%
9. /self-help/lawsuits-for-money/pleading-stage-filing-a-complaint-or-responding-to-a-complaint/241-filing-a-complaint-to-start-your-case	29,717	2.43%
10. /self-help/lawsuits-for-money/discovery-stage-getting-the-information-you-need/245-responding-to-the-other-sides-request-for-information	27,950	2.29%

Interview Name	January	February
Clark County Adult Guardianship Application	9	5
Clark County Adult Name Change Request	100	100
Clark County Collection of Judgment	7	19
Clark County Complaint for Divorce	61	60
Clark County Complaint for Illegal Lockout or Loss of Essential Services	18	18
Clark County Custody Answer & Counterclaim	4	11
Clark County Custody Complaint	31	42
Clark County District Court Fee Waiver	124	84
Clark County Divorce Answer & Counterclaim	4	10
Clark County Domestic Violence Temporary Protective Order	44	46
Clark County Joint Petition for Divorce	119	118
Clark County Joint Petition for Divorce (No Kids)	-	-
Clark County Motion to Modify Child Support	13	9
Clark County Motion for Temporary Orders	5	8
Clark County Criminal Record Sealing	-	-
Clark County Petition for Cremation	3	5
Clark County Petition for Special Letters of Administration	6	3
Clark County Petition to Disburse Money	10	15
Clark County Petition to Open Safe Deposit Box	0	0
Clark County Petition to Order Release of Medical Records	12	17
Clark County Probate Transfer of Property Petition & Affidavit of Entitlement	2	1
Clark County Small Claims Answer/Counterclaim	0	0
Clark County Small Claims Complaint	10	8
Clark County Summary Eviction Complaint	0	0
Clark County Tenant's Answer to Summary Eviction	1036	972
SUMMARY EVICTION: Tenant's Proof of Service for a CDC Declaration	0	0
SUMMARY EVICTION: Delay or Set Aside An Eviction Order	144	155
NV Protection Order Against Stalking or Harassment	92	83
Unemployment Judicial Review: Petition	7	5
Unemployment Judicial Review: Opening Brief	0	0
Unemployment Judicial Review: Reply Brief	0	0
	1861	1794
Growth in completions over prior month	4.67%	-3.60%
Interview Starts	10,428	9,594
Interview Completion Rate	17.85%	18.70%
Survey Completions	806	740
Survey Completion Rate	43.31%	41.25%
Documents Generated	6178	6038

January -December

March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November
5	8	8	11	0	0	0	0	0
91	119	90	116	0	0	0	0	0
8	9	17	27	0	0	0	0	0
66	70	68	99	0	0	0	0	0
11	11	8	6	0	0	0	0	0
10	10	4	11	0	0	0	0	0
25	39	34	42	0	0	0	0	0
70	89	72	104	0	0	0	0	0
6	5	5	12	0	0	0	0	0
65	64	77	81	0	0	0	0	0
117	149	123	139	0	0	0	0	0
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6	10	21	15	0	0	0	0	0
9	3	4	2	0	0	0	0	0
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3	2	3	5	0	0	0	0	0
1	0	2	4	0	0	0	0	0
19	23	9	27	0	0	0	0	0
1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
16	10	8	11	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
11	22	27	31	0	0	0	0	0
1	6	11	11	0	0	0	0	0
1036	955	942	1282	0	0	0	0	0
12	19	6	15	0	0	0	0	0
202	192	172	281	0	0	0	0	0
89	107	81	111	0	0	0	0	0
6	2	5	8	0	0	0	0	0
1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1887	1925	1798	2451	0	0	0	0	0
5.18%	2.01%	-6.60%	36.32%	-100.00%	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!
9,473	9,446	9,497	11,408	0	0	0	0	0
19.92%	20.38%	18.93%	21.48%	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!
764	710	772	850	0	0	0	0	0
40.49%	36.88%	42.94%	34.68%	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!
7200	6463	6232						

December	YTD TOTAL
0	46
0	616
0	87
0	424
0	72
0	50
0	213
0	543
0	42
0	377
0	765
-	0
0	74
0	31
-	0
0	21
0	16
0	103
0	1
0	74
0	3
0	2
0	109
0	29
0	6,223
0	52
0	1,146
0	563
0	33
0	1
0	0
0	11,716
#DIV/0!	
0	59,846
#DIV/0!	19.58%
0	4642
#DIV/0!	39.62%
	32111

Civil Law Self Help Center Interview
Family Law Self Help Center Interview
Deactivated Pending Updates
New Live Interview



Second Judicial District Court
State of Nevada
Washoe County

WASHOE COUNTY LAW LIBRARY

The mission of the Washoe County Law Library is to enhance access to justice by (1) providing legal information, education, resources, tools, and materials, in print and digital formats, to those engaged with the justice system, and (2) partnering with the courts, bar associations, legal clinics, civic organizations, and government entities to help ensure the legal needs of the community are addressed.

UPDATES

Since the pandemic, there has been an increased need for spaces where the public can view and participate in Zoom meetings. Though many Covid-affected activities have returned to normal, the need to access Zoom and other online meetings has not waned. We continually have multiple people at a time, participating in Zoom meetings from various ad hoc spaces in the Law Library. To address this need, we applied for and received a grant to create a more permanent solution. We have added two small meeting rooms inside the Law Library that are dedicated to participating in Zoom or other online meetings.



Washoe County Law Library
75 Court St., Reno Nevada 89501



Second Judicial District Court
State of Nevada
Washoe County

SERVICES

Lawyer in the Library – this free program in which members of the public can speak to a volunteer attorney for up to 15 minutes via Zoom continues to be incredibly popular. We hold the Family Law program on Tuesday evenings and the General Law program on Wednesday evenings, both beginning at 5:00 PM. We require pre-registration; no walk-ins are accepted. We open the sign-ups the Thursday morning prior to the weekly programs and the spots consistently fill within a couple of hours. We offer a waiting list option, and the wait lists are increasingly growing as well, truly demonstrating the need for this valuable service in the community.

Online Databases – in addition to the books on our shelves, we also offer several online databases that patrons may use at no cost. Some are even accessible remotely from outside the Law Library.

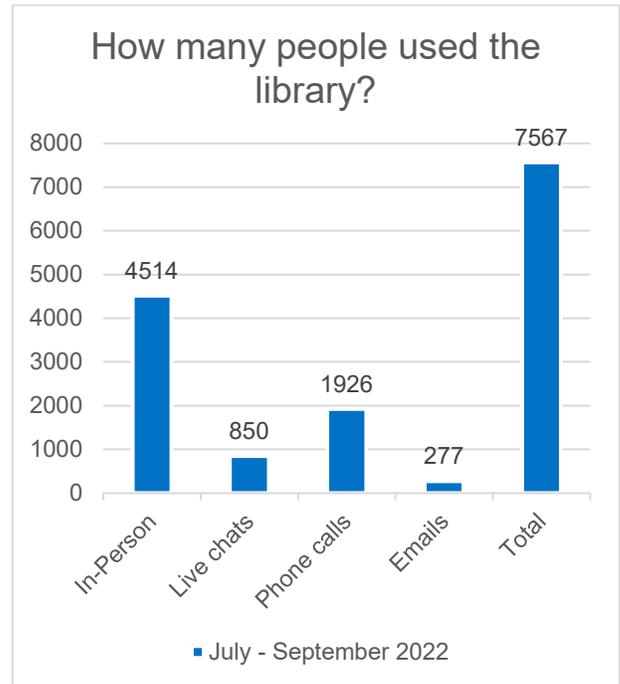
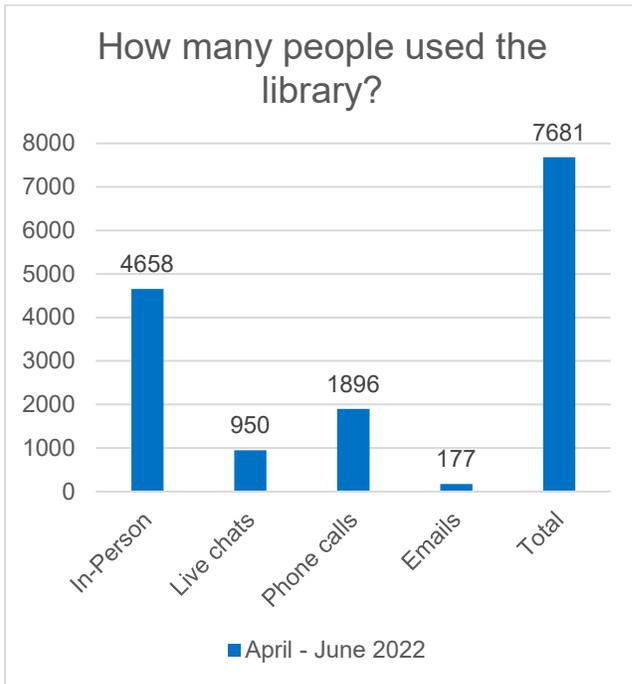
- EBSCO Legal Information Reference Center – contains eBooks of a large collection of self-help titles from Nolo Press. (Available remotely)
- Gale Legal Forms – forms templates and samples, many of which are Nevada-specific. (Available remotely)
- HeinOnline – online research platform that provides more than 202 million pages of multidisciplinary periodicals, essential government documents, international resources, case law, and much more. (In library use only)
- Lexis Digital Library – eBook platform for a large collection of legal titles, including the highly popular Nevada Civil Practice Manual. (Available remotely)
- National Consumer Law Center – eBooks on consumer law, including Fair Debt Collection, Student Loan Law, Home Foreclosures, Consumer Law Pleadings, Automobile Fraud, and more. (Available remotely)
- Westlaw – an online legal research service and proprietary database. Information resources on Westlaw include more than 40,000 databases of case law, state and federal statutes, administrative codes, law journals, law reviews, treatises, legal forms and other information resources.



EVENTS

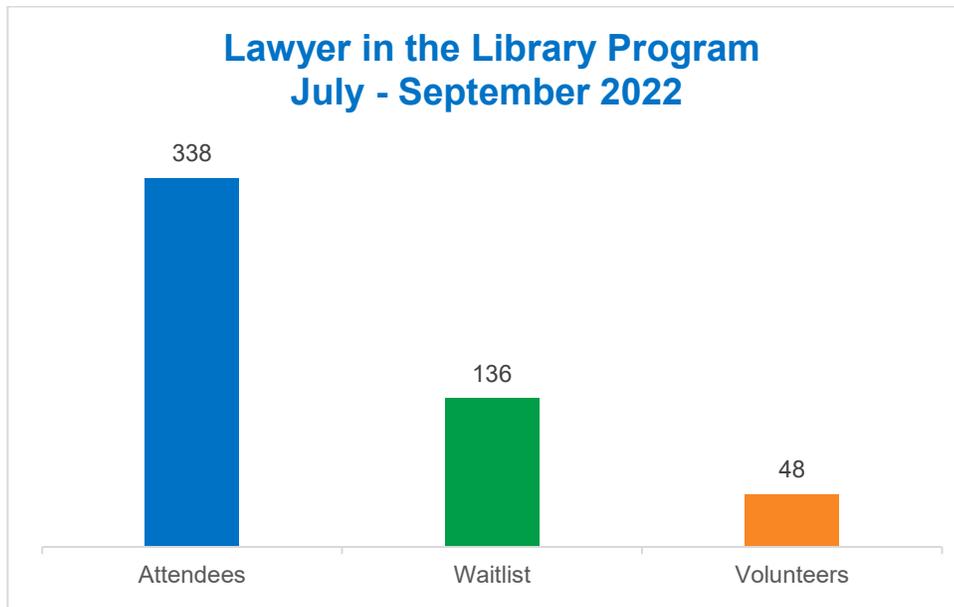
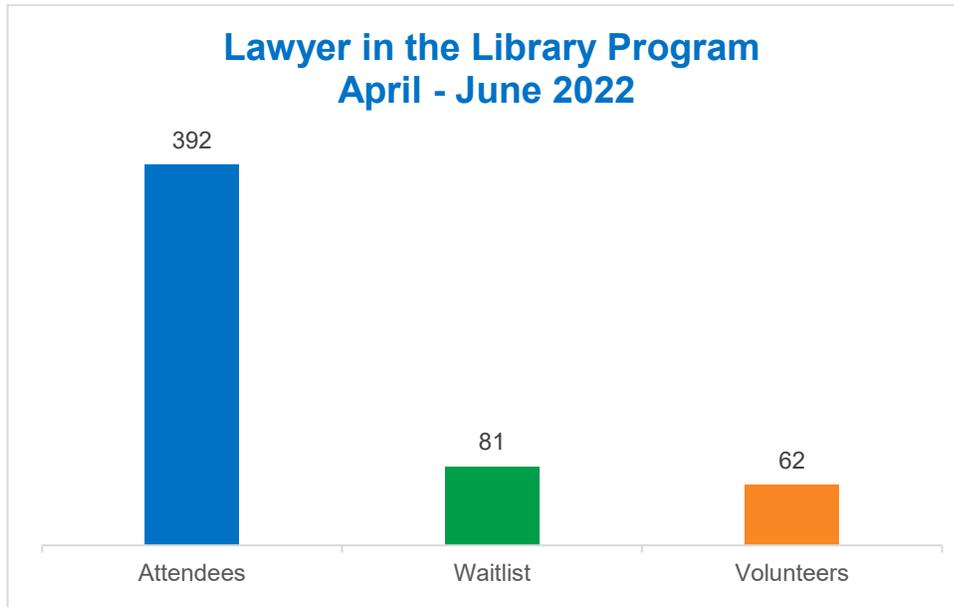
- Thursday, October 20, 2022 – We held a free webinar training for one of our eBook platforms, the Lexis Digital Library. The training was open to the public and use of the Lexis Digital Library is free to anyone in the community that needs it.
- Saturday, October 22, 2022 – The Washoe County Sheriff’s Office Detention Services Unit put on a Fall Community Resource Fair at the Boys and Girls Club. We had two Law Library team members there staffing a table to provide resources and information to the community.

LAW LIBRARY STATISTICS





Second Judicial District Court
State of Nevada
Washoe County





Second Judicial District Court
State of Nevada
Washoe County

Types of Questions Answered by Law Library Staff

April – June 2022

July – September 2022

Topic	Number
Lawyer in the Library	558
Law Library Services	356
Eflex/efiling/filing	344
District Court records/hearings/directions	216
Other Family Court Procedures/Packets	211
Divorce/Annulment/Separation	197
Motion/Notice/Emergency	182
Other	178
Child Custody	169
Zoom assistance	111
Probate/Wills/Trusts/Estate Planning	93
Guardianship	87
Civil Complaint/Petition	70
Landlord/Tenant Rights	62
Domestic Violence/TPO/EPO	58
Child Support	52
Answer/Opposition/Objection	51
Name Change	43
Adoption/ Termination of Parental Rights	39
Municipal/Justice Court	35
Criminal Law and Defense	34
Sealing of Criminal Record	27
Third Party Visitation	21
Employment/Labor	17
Appeals	14
Small Claims	14
Auto Title	9
Civil Rights/Constitutional Law	2
Contract	1
Immigration	1
Medical	1
Military/Veterans Rights	1

Topic	Number
Lawyer in the Library	628
Law Library Services	478
Eflex/efiling/filing	397
Other Family Court Procedures/Packets	307
District Court records/hearings/directions	231
Child Custody	201
Divorce/ Annulment/Separation	199
Other	196
Motion/Notice/Emergency	180
Guardianship	144
Probate/Wills/Trusts/Estate Planning	113
Zoom assistance	112
Civil Complaint/Petition	102
Domestic Violence/TPO/EPO	86
Municipal/Justice Court	84
Landlord/Tenant Rights	83
Answer/Opposition/Objection	62
Adoption/ Termination of Parental Rights	57
Criminal Law and Defense	55
Child Support	50
Name Change	40
Sealing of Criminal Record	21
Small Claims	19
Employment/Labor	18
Third Party Visitation	17
Civil Rights/Constitutional Law	12
Appeals	8
Auto Title	6
Contract	3
Immigration	3
Medical	3
Military/Veterans Rights	3



Second Judicial District Court
State of Nevada
Washoe County

RESOURCE CENTER

www.washoecourts.com/ResourceCenter

UPDATES

The Resource Center, which is located on the third floor of the Second Judicial District Court Family Division, reopened to the public for walk-in services over a year ago. We have only retained appointments for e-filing training, which occurs once a week. Our regular hours of operation are Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

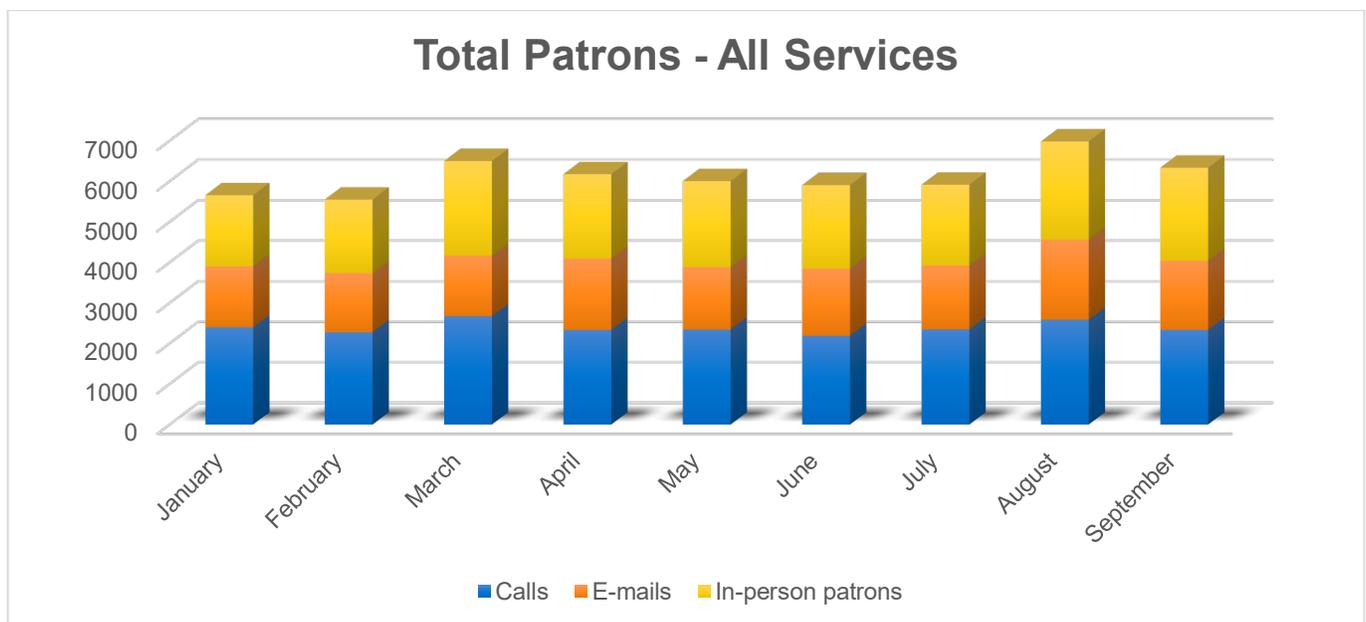
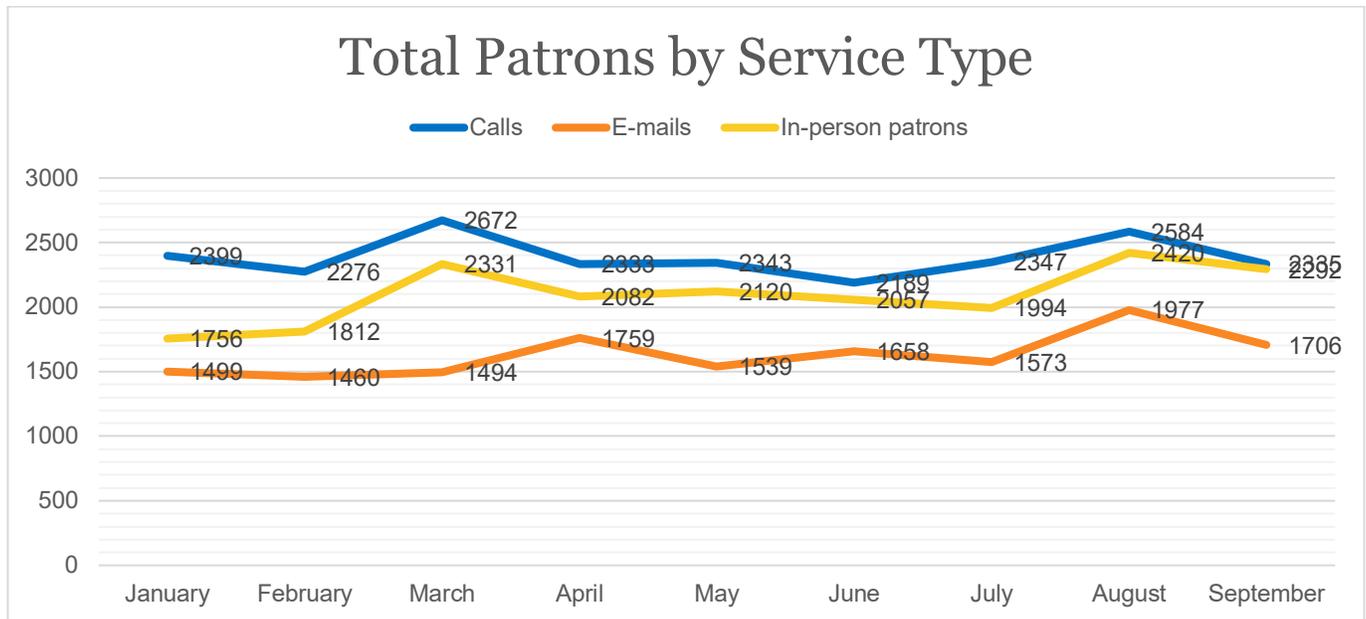
SERVICES

The Resource Center at the Second Judicial District Court is a “one stop shop” where pro se litigants can obtain information and assistance with their court matters. We help to provide the citizens of Washoe County with general and procedural information about court processes, provide court-approved forms and packets, assist patrons with filing documents, process court payments for fines and fees, provide public access to the court record, as well as direct patrons to free legal resources in the community.

- Team members are available by phone at (775) 325-6731
 - Callers may go through the main court phone tree at (775) 328-3110 and select the appropriate number for the Resource Center or call us directly at the number above.
- General questions can also be asked via e-mail at resourcecenter@washoecourts.us
 - Our team can answer most of the general questions that people have, or we will direct patrons to the correct department.
- Electronic filing support is provided via email at eflexsupport@washoecourts.us
 - Through the eFlex support e-mail we help patrons create new eFlex accounts, provide support with existing accounts, and answer questions about e-filing through eFlex.
- Zoom rooms
 - Currently we have two Zoom rooms which are set up with computers and equipment for patrons who need assistance with attending Court hearings via Zoom. Additionally, we have two iPads which patrons can use to attend Court hearings via Zoom in other private rooms.

- Zoom trainings
 - We continue to offer eFlex trainings every Tuesday morning during which we cover how to set up and navigate an eFlex account, how to e-file documents, and answer any other questions that arise. An average of 4 to 5 patrons sign up for eFlex training every week.

RESOURCE CENTER STATISTICS





ACCESS TO JUSTICE COMMISSION

Triannual Nevada Legal Aid Provider/Pre-ATJC Meeting - Highlights
Tuesday, September 20, 2022

Attendees Present

Barbara Buckley
Deonne Contine
Rhea Gertken
Diane Fearon
Victoria Mendoza
Jonathan Norman
Peter Wetherall

ATJC Staff Present

Brad Lewis

This was a regularly scheduled triannual provider call. Here was the agenda:

- **Pro Bono Promotions**
- **Proposed Rules of Professional Conduct for Child Welfare Lawyers Representing Children**
- **Evictions Grant, Future**
- **Elder Grant**
- **Unbundling**
- **IOLTA Outreach Plan**
- **Legal Needs Study Update**
- ***The IOLTA Report***
- **Potential Legislative Initiatives** (see list at bottom of recap)
- **Open Discussion**

Pro Bono Promotions

We began the call reviewing a draft of the pro bono timeline and messaging from FM Marketing. The main feedback was to add Ask-A-Lawyer and donations to the “take a case” focus, along with the promotion of, and ability to donate in addition to volunteering. Brad is pursuing the potential of a sections competition through the State Bar of Nevada and investigating ways the judiciary can support pro bono reinvigoration. The provider-shared *Celebrate Pro Bono Week* events listings will be issued with the pro bono outreach media release.

One element for feedback also was the potential for a CLE, “How Pro Bono Builds Your Business”. The feedback was generally supportive, encouraging Brad to research more and develop an outline for a CLE which could be held next year. Ideas to include: a way to expand your practice, e.g., enter into family law, and important to support if one ever desires to become a judge, etc.



There was a brief discussion of the AG Ford video shown by Marisa Rodriguez and Jennifer Richards, with an inquiry as to whether the video was shared throughout the AG's office, which was unknown. It's valuable for the public attorneys as it outlines both that conflicts can be avoided and it includes "permission" from a higher up. Brad to follow up.

Proposed Rules of Professional Conduct for Child Welfare Lawyers Representing Children

It was discussed that this could be an update element at the November ATJC meeting.

Evictions Grant, Future

The Eighth Judicial District Court grant for eviction mediation initiatives press rollout is set for Wednesday, October 12. Judge Saragosa, of course, will attend, as will Justice Hardesty, Barbara, and the Wells Fargo (IOLTA bank) president and Wells Fargo Foundation representatives.

Elder Grant – Kiosk/Library (Statewide Technology and Self Help Form Committee)

The NV DHHS ADSD legal kiosks in libraries grant continues to advance, with decisions nearing on number of kiosks, locations, technology support and sustainability. Peter reported that the Minnesota project has 269 kiosks in 231 locations. NLS is the lead on this grant and we thank them for making it possible. Susan Myers, project manager, can be reached at her NLS work email smyers@nevadalegalservices.org.

Unbundling

With the unbundling ADKT having been filed, the Justices have requested that legal aid providers track program progress, positives, issues and offer relevant recaps periodically throughout the pilot program phase.

IOLTA Outreach Plan (ADKT) and *The IOLTA Report*

Brad shared the follow-on plan to personally visit IOLTA banks with the Nevada Bar Foundation board of trustees president in the south, similar to the effort in the north. Additionally, that targeted banks may be invited to legal aid provider events with seating at the State Bar of Nevada tables. If additional space is needed (unlikely), Brad will reach out. A reminder was also that ATJC writes *The IOLTA Report* for each Nevada Bankers Association e-newsletter and there is an opportunity for each legal aid provider to include their own, self-written article to run.

Legal Needs Study Update

Brad shared that, unfortunately, the DHHS/ADSD grant we were seeking was declined. There may still be an opportunity with the UNLV Cannon Center. With the last study having been finalized in 2018, it is now nearly five years old, and a refresh would be great and is sought by Nevada Legal Services through a request from the Legal Aid Corporation.

Potential Legislative Initiatives

Diane asked about progress on the mobile home deed issue. Jonathan has it on his list and will include in items to advance.



Open Discussion

General feedback from all legal aid providers was sought on common problems and issues statewide for potential coordination. Primary among them is legal aid staffing. One idea was to see if post bar exam law school graduates (JDs) could work for legal aid pending bar exam results. Lawyers perhaps could work under a special license with legal aid supervision. All agreed this is an idea worth pursuing. The other main concern, in Las Vegas especially, was eviction waitlists and court and county capacity to handle eviction volumes and rental assistance.

Potential Legislative Initiatives

- Change some laws to be easier for pro se
 - Division of Manufactured Housing 2020 statutory timeline
 - Shorten Deed Upon Death timeline
- Create short trial rules for family law cases
- Eliminate service by publication
- NV unified forms and filing
- All court forms available in Q & A format
- Apps for bite-size legal topics
- Basic legal help/referral in every library and family assistance center in NV
 - Apps for bite-size legal topics
 - Case assessment-type tool at initial filing to track key high-risk DV cases

NBA August 2022 Newsletter –

The IOLTA Report: Justice for All?

Supporting CRA Credit for IOLTA

As most Nevada bankers know, Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) credit is not awarded in Nevada for Interest on Lawyer Trust Accounts (IOLTA), unlike in some other regions. As a result, the Nevada Supreme Court Access to Justice Commission and the Nevada Bar Foundation have joined the Nevada Bankers Association, American Bankers Association, National Association of IOLTA Programs, and others to voice our support. [Read our most recent comment letter on proposed rulemaking.](#)

The CRA continued civil rights initiatives from the 1960s and 1970s to focus attention on community reinvestment, and it particularly focused on housing and lending reforms. Forward 50 years: the types of investments that can help make communities more sustainable and vibrant now include community services, such as legal help for low- to moderate-income communities.

The voluntary nature of IOLTA programs mean banks choose to invest in local communities. That commitment is valuable and, we believe, should be formally recognized as a CRA-eligible activity.

Legal aid provides a critical safety net so that legal issues do not become cascading, intractable issues that cost local governments and citizens major dollars. IOLTA funds prevent many problems and help to improve the lives of everyone in low-income communities.

Legal aid fights against consumer fraud; protects victims of abuse, neglect, and domestic violence; helps foster children get a leg up; and more. Recently, legal aid helped more than 35,000 low- to moderate-income Nevadans with legal issues that help stabilize households. In 2021, of the nearly \$36 million spent on legal aid in Nevada, approximately \$4.8 million came from IOLTA. The return on investment (ROI) of legal aid is high. It reduces the costs of law enforcement, unwanted medical care, prevents emergency sheltering and homelessness, obtains earned veteran benefits, and so much more. In Nevada, there is a \$7 ROI for every \$1 spent on legal aid.

This fall, through a variety of bank visits, legal aid open houses, and other events, Nevada's banking community will be invited to learn more about the good IOLTA dollars do by delivering legal services to those who otherwise cannot afford it. [Contact us](#) if you'd like to join. The Nevada Supreme Court Access to Justice Commission and Nevada Bar Foundation thank IOLTA financial institutions for being an instrumental partner in delivering legal solutions to low-income Nevada communities.

Leading Nevada financial institutions pay favorable rates on Interest on Lawyer Trust Accounts (IOLTA) that, along with court filing fees, grants, and other funding, help deliver access to justice for all Nevadans, regardless of wealth, status, power, or the ability to pay. Legal aid is how "justice for all" is delivered.

NBA September 2022 Newsletter –

The IOLTA Report: Justice for *All*?

Victim of Kidnapping, Exploitation, and Elder Abuse Gets Help

Not many people think about the devastation left behind by criminal acts. While legal aid exclusively focuses on civil legal help for those in need, sometimes those people are victims of crime.

Recently, Volunteer Attorneys for Rural Nevadans (VARN) helped an elderly woman. The victim emailed a friend, saying that a man she did not know was keeping her inside her home and not caring for her. When officials investigated the home, the suspect met with them but was uncooperative and would initially not let deputies onto the property. Eventually, they went inside the home, where they found the victim in very poor health. She was taken to a nearby hospital for treatment.

Adult Protective Services contacted VARN to represent the victim, because the suspect had her complete a Power of Attorney and quit-claim the property. Counsel immediately took action to revoke the Power of Attorney and file an action in district court to quiet title.

Legal aid protects victims of abuse and avoids the implications of unmet legal needs. In examples like this elder abuse case, without legal help, Nevadans continue in abusive situations, miss work or healthcare appointments, and don't know where to turn or how to get help. With the help of legal aid, survivors gain independence from their abuser, can get an order of protection, may obtain a divorce, and get referrals to housing and other support programs.

Legal aid has a high return on investment (ROI). Funded in part by IOLTA, legal help for those who cannot afford it solves problems by reducing and preventing abuse. The savings from preventing domestic violence through reducing law enforcement costs and medical treatment save \$4 million. There is a \$7 ROI for every \$1 spent on legal aid in Nevada.

Regardless of ability to pay, victims of exploitation deserve competent legal help to gain safety and reestablish their independence. VARN's actions were able to put an end to the manipulation experienced by this senior and delivered a life-changing outcome for this survivor.

The Nevada Supreme Court Access to Justice Commission and Nevada Bar Foundation thank IOLTA financial institutions for being an instrumental partner in delivering legal solutions to low-income Nevadans.

Leading Nevada financial institutions pay favorable rates on Interest on Lawyer Trust Accounts (IOLTA) that, along with court filing fees, grants, and other funding, help deliver access to justice for all Nevadans, regardless of wealth, status, power, or the ability to pay. Legal aid is how "justice for all" is delivered.

NBA October 2022 Newsletter –

The IOLTA Report: Justice for All?

Nevada Legal Aid Providers Engage the Private Bar for “Celebrate Pro Bono Week”

Nevada’s five legal aid organizations, which provide legal help to Nevadans who cannot afford an attorney, announced a statewide campaign to recruit Silver State lawyers to help Nevadans with critical legal matters during the American Bar Association’s *Celebrate Pro Bono Week 2022*.

Nevada’s legal aid providers, funded in part by Interest on Lawyer Trust Accounts (IOLTA), along with lawyers providing pro bono can help people resolve a variety of legal troubles. The lawyers may help save a family home from foreclosure due to a medical catastrophe, protect a child from abuse or neglect, or defend against consumer fraud or the financial abuse of a senior.

Lawyers offer pro bono legal services through a collection of nonprofit agencies:

- Legal Aid of Southern Nevada
- Nevada Legal Services
- Northern Nevada Legal Aid
- Southern Nevada Senior Law Program, and
- Volunteer Attorneys for Rural Nevadans

Areas of critical need include child advocacy and family law, domestic violence victim advocacy, and elder assistance. Other types of help include securing benefits for eligible veterans and pairing children with legal guardians or adoptive families.

Access to Justice reports many benefits for lawyers who volunteer pro bono.

“Whether it’s volunteering for an Ask-a-Lawyer seminar or taking on a case, Nevada lawyers can build skills to make them a better lawyer,” said Brad Lewis, director of the commission, “but the biggest benefit we hear most from lawyers is that it feels great to help someone.”

Lawyers working with Nevada’s legal aid providers change Nevadans’ lives for the better, but the community need for legal representation is far greater than the number of hours volunteered by pro bono attorneys.

“76 percent of legal needs in Nevada go unmet,” added Lewis. “Legal aid and pro bono lawyers helped 40,648 struggling families in 2021, though there were more than 100,000 legal issues that did not receive professional legal representation because of a lack of lawyers to help on these cases.”

Not everyone has the means to afford an attorney. For eligible Nevadans with the most critical legal needs, IOLTA helps to fund nonprofit legal aid organizations and leverages pro bono lawyers who provide a critical safety net for vulnerable Nevadans.

The Nevada Supreme Court Access to Justice Commission thanks Nevada IOLTA financial institutions for being an instrumental partner in delivering legal solutions to low-income Nevadans.

Public Awareness as of 102622 –

Since the June 13, 2022 report...

Twitter - We increased from 214,443 to 217,855 impressions and from 11,249 to 13,531 profile visits on Twitter. We encourage you to follow us **@NevadaATJ**.

Top Three Tweets –

- Free legal help events for *Celebrate Pro Bono Week* – 116 impressions
- August 2022 Pro Bono Honor Roll – 272 impressions
- July 2022 Pro Bono Honor Roll - 233 impressions