

**Executive Committee:**

\*Jeffrey R. Rodefer, Chairman  
\*P. Gregory Giordano, Vice Chairman  
A.C. Ansani | Jaime K. Black | Michael R. Brunet  
\*Erica L. Okerberg | Maren Parry | \*Jennifer Roberts  
Karl F. Rutledge | \*Scott Scherer | Robert B. Ziems

\*Co-editors of the *Nevada Gaming Lawyer*

**Reply to:**

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c/o Robert Horne, Programs & Services Manager  
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# MINUTES

## February 16, 2024

**Attendance.** After being duly noticed, the following members of the Executive Committee (Committee), constituting a quorum pursuant to Section 4.5 of the Fourth Amended and Restated Bylaws (as approved May 9, 2001, amended October 18, 2006, July 9, 2014 and June 21, 2023), participated in a telephonic only meeting on Friday, February 16, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.: Jeffrey R. Rodefer, Chair; P. Gregory Giordano, Vice Chair; Michael Brunet; Maren Parry; Jennifer Roberts; Karl Rutledge; Scott Scherer; and Rob Ziems. Also attending from the State Bar of Nevada was Sonja Finley-Tratos, CLE Manager for the State Bar of Nevada.

### ITEMS DISCUSSED.

1. **Review and Approve the Minutes of November 3, 2023.** After reviewing a draft of the minutes, the Committee, upon a motion made by Rob Ziems and duly seconded by Greg Giordano, unanimously approved the Minutes of November 3, 2023.
2. **Pro Bono Gaming Employee Registration Program – Update.** Scott Scherer stated that he was recently assigned a case from the Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada (LACSN) and indicated there continues to be a periodic need for lawyers as he was notified by the LACSN that at least one other case was recently assigned to another lawyer. As such, he requested that a Listserve.com message be sent to the Gaming Law Section’s (GLS) membership asking if anyone was interested in being assigned a case and, if so, to respond to Scott who would develop a list of lawyers willing to accept a case from one of the legal aid agencies in the state.
3. **2023 Gaming Law Conference.** The Committee was informed that 164 attended the *2023 Gaming Law Conference*, which includes both paid attendees and complimentary passes (for speakers and Committee members). The Committee was also provided a link to the survey responses for the conference, which was only completed by 20 attendees. The conference generated a net profit of \$1,778.94 for the GLS.

Maren Parry inquired about what was the goal of the GLS events and publications; to breakeven or generate revenue for the section to fund other activities including philanthropic endeavors? This discussion

dovetailed into a more thorough dialogue about the *2024 Gaming Law Conference* and the publication of the *Nevada Gaming Lawyer* magazine. Jeff Rodefer responded briefly, in part, that the GLS mission was to further the education of the members of the State Bar of Nevada and the judiciary in the unique area of gaming law. In 2001, the Committee decided it also wanted to undertake a philanthropic activity. As a result, the *Annual Law Scholarship Golf Tournament* was born to raise scholarship funds for the UNLV William S. Boyd School of Law. This, in turn, led to sponsorships for, among other activities, the *Gaming Law Section Scholarship* for LL.M. students in Gaming Law and Regulation at the Boyd School of Law, UNLV Gaming Law Journal, Robert D. Faiss Gaming Law Lecture Series, Frank A. Schreck Gaming Law Moot Court Competition, the Global Gaming Women's educational fundraiser *Kick Up Your Heels*, the October 1<sup>st</sup> Las Vegas Victims Funds, United Way's COVID relief fund for Northern and Southern Nevada, Nevada High School Mock Trials, etc. Given the limited funds in the GLS account, the Committee may need to strongly consider suspending its philanthropic activities for the foreseeable future.

4. Gaming Law Section's Account Balance – January 1, 2024. On January 26, 2024, when notice of this meeting was sent, the Committee was provided with an estimate of the GLS year-end account balance of \$17,000-\$18,000. Subsequently, on January 29, 2024, the Committee was forwarded a copy of the Profit & Loss Statement for the month ended December 31, 2023 that showed an account balance of \$22,872.
5. 2024 Gaming Law Conference. Sonja Finley-Tratos stated for the Committee that she had contacted the following venues about availability on November 8<sup>th</sup> or November 22<sup>nd</sup>, including the related costs to host the *2024 Gaming Law Conference*; Durango Casino & Resort, JW Marriott, Red Rock Casino Resort & Spa and Suncoast Hotel & Casino. After a lengthy discussion, the Committee requested Sonja to modify her research to examine the availability of Red Rock Casino Resort, Suncoast Hotel & Casino, Resorts World, M Resort and the Palms on November 8<sup>th</sup> and December 6<sup>th</sup>, as well as the related costs. Since the conference has seen a significant decline in attendance the past four years, the Committee also asked that Sonja draft a survey for its review that would ask potential attendees what would attract them to attend the conference in person.

The Committee inquired if there was availability to offer the conference in a combination format; in person and Zoom. Sonja advised that conferences offering a Zoom option saw a dramatic decrease in those attending the event in person. She did provide that the CLE Department allows those that register for a live CLE event and are unable to attend to participate at a later date by viewing a recording of the seminar.

The Committee was also advised that the following four hours should be included on the conference agenda; one-hour Regulator Roundtable with the Chairs of the Nevada Gaming Control Board and Nevada Gaming Commission, one-hour Responsible Gaming; and two hours of ethics. In turn, the Committee would have three hours to fill, along with determining who the keynote lunch speaker should be. The Committee asked Jeff Rodefer to send the Committee an email that could be responded to for conference ideas on panels, speakers and sponsors.

6. 2024 Nevada Gaming Lawyer magazine. The Committee was informed that its longtime graphic artist, Roxane Berkecz was planning to retire at the end of the year. Moreover, it was uncertain if a new printer would have to be retained given the State Bar – Accounting Department’s inability to issue timely checks for last year’s publication expenses.

Jeff Rodefer advised the Committee that the expenses related to the production of the magazine are roughly \$15,000. Given the GLS budgetary constraints, the magazine needs to be closer to a breakeven expense rather than historically operating at loss. He suggested there were some possible ways to further reduce expenses, including limiting the size of the magazine to a maximum of 48-52 pages, reducing the number of printed copies from the 1,700 last year and decreasing the number of individuals receiving a copy in the mail. The latter would limit the regulators receiving a single copy via the U.S. Postal Service to Nevada Gaming Control Board Members, Board Division Chiefs and Deputy Chiefs, as well as Nevada Gaming Commissioners. The Board staff would have to receive their copy through the bulk shipments sent to the Board offices in Carson City and Las Vegas. Finally, he stated that the revenue stream from advertisers would also need to be increased to assist in making the magazine a breakeven venture.

The Committee stated its desire to continue to produce the magazine with leaner costs. In turn, it asked Jeff to send the Committee an email prompting ideas on topics/authors for the magazine, as well as further reducing publication costs and seeking advertisers.

7. Other Items of Interest/New Business. Jeff Rodefer raised the follow-up item from the November 3, 2023 meeting regarding production of a second edition to the *Nevada Gaming Law Practice and Procedure Manual* (1<sup>st</sup> ed. 2016). Additionally, given the most recent revisions to the GLS bylaws requested by the Board of Governors that included the option for law students to join the GLS without any fees. As such, he asked how to involve UNLV law students in GLS activities. No other items were raised for discussion.
8. Adjourn. Upon a motion made by Rob Ziems and duly seconded by Greg Giordano, the Committee unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting.

DATED 22nd day of May 2024.

State Bar of Nevada  
Gaming Law Section

  
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Jeffrey R. Rodefer, Chair