

PRO HONOR ROLL BONO



The State Bar of Nevada Board of Governors and the Access to Justice Commission extend a special thanks to the following attorneys who generously accepted cases in February 2012 through the Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada, Washoe Legal Services, Nevada Legal Services and Volunteer Attorneys for Rural Nevadans.

Adam Laxalt	Howard Kim	Mary Frances
Aileen Schlissel-Lanch	Israel Kunin	McCarthy
Alicia Johnson	Jason Peck	Micheal McKelleb
Amanda Roberts	Jeanne Lambertsen	Neal Gidvani
Boris Avranski	Jerome Blut	Nicole Lovelock
Brian Blackham	John Graves	Ogonna Atamoh
Brian Shapiro	John Howard	Paul Schofield
Candace Clark	Jon Carlston	Raymond Chau
Charles Kilpatrick	Jonathan Goldsmith	Rena Hughes
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Erick Gjerdingen	Mario Fenu	Thomas Fell
Erika Pike Turner	Marjorie Guymon	Timothy Thomas
Eunice Morgan	Mark Anderson	Trina Dahlin
Gabe Blumberg	Mark Smith	William Croft
Giovanni Andrade	Marshal Willick	

ASK-A-LAWYER, CLINICS, AND OTHER BRIEF SERVICES

Amber Robinson	Joe Riccio
Amie Fender	Kevin Sutehall
Anthony Wright	Kim Cooper
Beverly Salhanick	Lisa Chamlee
Brian Blackham	Lois DiVietro
Christopher Carr	Michael Lin
Corrine Murphy	Rene Valladares
Derek Jamison	Robert Blau
Fred Kennedy	Robert Reid
Gabrielle Jones	Ryan Anderson
Hon. James Bixler	Shannon Wilson
James Griffin	Stefana Lauranta Ghita
James Vitale	Susan Noyce
Jenica Yurcic	

BOLD honors multiple cases accepted and/or sessions conducted within the month.

PRO SPOTLIGHT BONO



ROBERT BLAU

BY CHRISTINA ALBERTS,
NEVADA LAWYER STAFF

When attorney Robert Blau decided to move to Las Vegas and restart his legal career, his wife (who was his girlfriend at the time) suggested he volunteer with the Ask-a-Lawyer program. Blau thought this was a great idea; volunteering with Ask-a-Lawyer would help him retrain himself to listen, quickly assess a situation and come up with a viable solution. Now, several years later, Blau has become a well-established local attorney with a strong devotion to the Ask-a-Lawyer program.

Blau says he began volunteering to brush up on his skills, but realizes the program helped him establish a good reputation within the community and to build his client base. Blau says there are many rewards in doing pro bono work, but patience and understanding are required.

“As far as pro bono is concerned, most of the time people come to pro bono with questions on guardianship, adoption,” Blau explains. “They expect black and white answers, but very rarely are there black and white answers.”

Learning to firmly and confidently explain a complicated situation to a client and help him or her understand what may be a lengthy process required to complete a custody agreement, adoption or some other legal action to make their lives whole, has become a strength of Blau’s. “I think the reason they like me is I am no-nonsense,” Blau says.

Blau began practicing in Nevada in 2008. He had been a practicing attorney in New York for several years, but hung up his legal cap to take a job on Wall Street. Blau worked for both Wachovia and USB banks in New York before moving to Nevada in 2005 to work for the Las Vegas UBS branch.

When UBS began to suffer financially, Blau decided to return to the law. He passed the Nevada bar exam and then assumed the practice that once belonged to Judge Bill Henderson, turning it into his own firm: Brewer Blau Law Group. ■