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NOTE FROM THE ISSUE EDITOR

BY ERIN R. BARNETT, ESQ.

Within the legal industry, much is said and written about the transition from associate to partner, the billable hour, attracting clients and other hallmarks of working in private practice. However, less attention is given to the unique issues facing corporate counsel and what tools are available to them to help them better serve their client/employer. This issue of *Nevada Lawyer* constitutes an effort to change that.

Included within this issue is a rundown from Matthew Durham and Chad D. Olsen of employment-related questions that many in-house lawyers will encounter; a legislative update from Gayle M. Hyman and Matthew P. Digesti regarding blockchain and smart contract technologies, and how such technologies may impact the practice of an in-house lawyer; tips from Tabitha Fiddyment, Laura Ellen Browning and Ali Rothgeb on how to strategically partner with outside counsel; and advice from Jennifer Ko Craft on how an inhouse lawyer can prevent infringement of his/her client's trademarks and copyrights. Don't miss the back story by Noah Malgeri, Pro Bono Project director with the Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada, which provides guidance on how in-house lawyers can service the community through pro bono cases and activities. I offer a sincere thank you to all our contributors.

Rounding out this issue are some highlights from the State Bar of Nevada's Annual Meeting held in Austin, Texas. We hope you find this issue engaging and informative. **NL**

ERIN R. BARNETT is vice president and deputy general counsel for Affinity Gaming in Las Vegas. She is a member of the *Nevada Lawyer* Editorial Board and can be reached at <u>ebarnett@affinitygaming.com</u>.



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