





THE LAS VEGAS CHAPTER OF THE NATIONAL BAR ASSOCIATION 2021 RUBY RED GALA

BY ANDRÉA SIMMONS, ESQ.

The Las Vegas Chapter of the National Bar Association (LVNBA), an active affiliate of the National Bar Association (NBA), celebrated its 40th anniversary in 2021. This chapter of predominately African American attorneys, judges, professors, and other legal professionals looking to blaze a trail in the Las Vegas legal community was originally incorporated in 1981 by a small, yet mighty, group of 14 attorneys and judges. Each year since its inception, the LVNBA has strived to put on an annual gala to award scholarships to law students and recognize individuals in the legal community. The 2021 gala was held on October 16 at the Orleans Hotel & Casino.

The LVNBA thrives on supporting the mission of the NBA to promote social dialogue with the members of the bar, advance leadership and professional development, and improve the science of jurisprudence through education,

commentary, and scholarly analysis. The LVNBA is also committed to promoting professionalism, education, the pursuit of equal opportunity, justice for all, and much more.

The LVNBA Foundation was established to support fundraising efforts for the annual gala. Through the foundation, the LVNBA has been able to provide scholarships to students who demonstrate commitment to serving low-income, minority, and other underserved communities in Clark County. This year, LVNBA President Augusta Massey and LVNBA Foundation Chair Andréa Simmons set a goal of raising an unprecedented \$40,000 for scholarships in recognition of the LVNBA's 40th anniversary. With the hard work of Gala Committee Co-Chairs Cybill Dotson and Doreen Spears-Hartwell, and Fundraising & Corporate Sponsorship Committee Chair Caleb Green, the LVNBA and foundation worked together to meet and exceed the fundraising goal.

The scholarships presented at this year's gala included the Justice Douglas Scholarship, Judge Rawlinson Scholarship, Judge Guy Scholarship, Judge White Scholarship, Bryan K. Scott Book Scholarship, Scott Morris Book Scholarship, and the President's Book Scholarship. The LVNBA also presented Lifetime Achievement Awards to the founding members of the LVNBA: Andres Babero, Jeanne Banks, Judge Johnnie B. Rawlinson, Dan Winder, and Arthur Williams, the Community Service Award to Gentlemen by Choice, the Corporate Service Award to the Urban Chamber of Commerce, the Law Firm of the Year Award to the Nevada Attorney General's Office, and the Attorney of the Year Award to John Bailey.

After swearing in the new executive board at the gala, the LVNBA is looking forward to new goals set for the 2021-23 term. Members of the new executive board include President Angela Cook, Vice President Brittnie Watkins, Treasurer Caleb Green, Recording Secretary Crislove Igeleke, Corresponding Secretary Maliq Kendricks, Historian Loline-Marie Djidade, and Parliamentarian Jonathan Lee. The LVNBA Foundation board consists of Chair Andréa Simmons, Vice Chair Richard Manhattan, Treasurer Yvonne Schuman, and Secretary Latisha Robinson.

We look forward to celebrating with everyone at the LVNBA 2022 annual gala. Stay up to date on LVNBA events at <u>https://www.lasvegasnba.org/events-programs</u>.

Andréa Simmons Esq., LL.M received her J.D. from Thomas Jefferson School of Law in 2016 while raising four children with a spouse working overseas. She later obtained her Master of Laws in International Business Law in March 2020. Simmons wrote and defended her Masters' Thesis on "Concerns facing the Global Intellectual Property of Copyrights in the Digital Age." She is currently the chair of the Las Vegas National Bar Association Foundation. She sits on the board of Nevada Prep Charter School. She is also a Chapter Leader of the 17th Chapter of Upward Women in Las Vegas, Nevada.













News&Notes

RULE CHANGES

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

IN THE MATTER OF THE AMENDMENT OF JCRNLV 6.6, 34, 42, AND DELETION OF JCRNLV 48.5

ADKT No. 586 NOTICE OF RULE CHANGE

Notice is hereby given that on December 13, 2021, the Supreme Court of Nevada entered an order in ADKT No. 586 amending the Justice Court Rules of North Las Vegas Township (JCRNLV). The order amends JCRNLV 6.6, regarding customer service hours; 34, pertaining to in forma pauperis requests; and 42, relating to in forma pauperis requests in summary eviction cases; and repeals JCRNLV 48.5, relating to the Mandatory Small Claims Mediation Program. The amendment shall be effective February 11, 2022. IN THE MATTER OF AMENDMENTS TO NEVADA CODE OF JUDICIAL CONDUCT RULE 4.2

ADKT No. 588 NOTICE OF RULE CHANGE

Notice is hereby given that on December 1, 2021, the Supreme Court of Nevada entered an order in ADKT No. 588 amending the Nevada Code of Judicial Conduct (NCJC). The order amends NCJC Rule 4.2 to comport with the Nevada Legislature's November 2021 specialsession amendments to NRS 293.177, as well as with the 2019 amendments to NRS 293C.145 and 293C.175. The amendment was effective January 14, 2022, and sunset on February 6, 2023; however, the amendments to NCJC Rule 4.2(A)(6) and the deletion of NCJC Rule 4.2(D) are exempt from the sunset provision.

Rule changes are published by the Supreme Court Clerk in the same manner as an opinion of the court. In accordance with the Nevada Rules on the Administrative Docket, Section 6, the Clerk will disseminate printed copies of the order without charge to all subscribers to the advance opinions of the Nevada Reports. Single, printed copies of the order are available from the Supreme Court Clerk for \$2 each. Photocopies are available for \$1 per page.

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THE LAS VEGAS CHAPTER OF THE NATIONAL BAR ASSOCIATION 2021 RUBY RED GALA Photo Captions

- 1 Members of the LVNBA General Board, LVNBA Foundation Board, and scholarship award recipients from top left to top right: Caleb Green, Jonathan Lee, Brittnie Watkins, Judge Belinda Harris, Keith Hightower, Loline-Marie Djidade, Angela Cook, Augusta Massey, Andréa Simmons, Latisha Robinson, Karen Cormier, and Yvonne Schuman. Justin Williams 1L (bottom left), Crystal Washington 2L, Gennell Williams 1L, Robel Asefaw 3L, Cheyenne Kidd 3L, Karyna Armstrong 3L, Syanne Hines 3L, Eddie Currie 2L, Sebastian Ross 3L, and Clyde Swann 1L.
- 2 The LVNBA 2021-23 General Board swearing in by Judge Belinda Harris. Members are Caleb Green (from left), Jonathan Lee, Brittnie Watkins, Judge Belinda Harris, Angela Cook, and Loline-Marie Djidade stand alongside 2019-21 LVNBA President Augusta Massey, Keith Hightower, and Karen Cormier.

- **3** Gentlemen by Choice, recipient of the Community Service Award
- **4** John Bailey, recipient of the Attorney of the Year Award, alongside LVNBA President Augusta Massey
- 5 Law Office of Snell & Wilmer, recipient of the Ruby Red Sponsor Award
- 6 State Bar of Nevada, recipient of the Sponsorship Award
- 7 Members of the LVNBA 2021-2023 General Board
- 8 Founding member Andres Babero, recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award and Justice Michael Douglas Scholarship
- **9** Urban Chamber of Commerce, recipient of the Corporate Service Award