

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



## We Asked What Services You Wanted – and You Responded!

BY PAOLA ARMENI, ESQ., PRESIDENT, STATE BAR OF NEVADA

**I hope you all enjoyed last month's column by guest writer, Bronagh Kelly. Since this is my first column of 2023, I want to wish you all a happy new year and hope that this is your best year yet. As we begin 2023, I thought this would be a great opportunity to discuss the Board of Governors' new year resolutions. As you may recall, in a previous column, I mentioned our Strategic Plan. This plan, along with our Mission Statement, guides the board. The plan consists of three goals:**

- (1) **Well-being:** Lead a statewide discussion on the well-being and health of the legal profession;
- (2) **Services:** Provide relevant and valuable resources to assist Nevada Lawyers; and
- (3) **Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI):** Develop and enhance relationships within the legal profession to identify and work to eliminate barriers in the legal profession for minority members.

This column focuses on Goal No. 2, services to our members. In upcoming president's columns, I will discuss the well-being and DEI goals. Goal No. 2 provides five key measurables:

- (1) Providing resources to members that assist in the practice of law and communicating those resources to members;
- (2) Evaluating information gained through the member benefits survey and implement ideas;

- (3) Collaborating with other organizations and sections to vitalize bar events and encourage members to attend;
- (4) Actively engaging with sections, committees, affinity bars, and Nevada lawyers, and communicating monthly information regarding the bar; and
- (5) Developing creative ways to encourage member involvement.

The five key measurables really boil down to two concepts:

- (1) Establishing and providing resources; and
- (2) Communicating those resources.

One of my goals as president has been to make every member feel that they are receiving a benefit from their membership in the state bar. To accomplish that goal, I set out to learn what the members wanted. In August 2022, we sent a survey to our members. The survey asked attorneys to rank priorities within six identified categories: (1) personal benefits; (2) professional technology; (3) professional support; (4) well-being; (5) non-CLE education; and (6) networking.

The members responded and provided the following feedback:

- Under personal benefits, the members ranked travel and hotel discounts most desired, followed by car rental discounts and home insurance.
- Legal research tools, cybersecurity, and software ranked as the top three benefits under professional technology.
- For benefits related to well-being, members thought

gym memberships, in-person professional therapy, and spa discounts should be provided.

- Books and manuals ranked as the most important non-CLE educational resources, followed by investment/wealth management resources.
- Lastly, the members thought in-person CLE seminars were the most important networking benefit.

The good news is that a large portion of these most-desired benefits are already provided by the state bar. For instance, the bar provides Fastcase<sup>1</sup> as a legal research tool. Active members have unlimited use of selected Fastcase offerings with no monthly, hourly, or time-based fees. The state bar also offers car rental discounts through Avis and Budget<sup>2</sup>; manuals and references related to various areas of practice, including appeals, real property, and gaming, as well as publications that assist in law practice management<sup>3</sup>; access to health insurance<sup>4</sup>; and a therapy benefit.<sup>5</sup> The therapy benefit consists of three sessions provided at no charge. The inquiry and subsequent three sessions are completely confidential. A full list of benefits can be found on the State Bar of Nevada website: [www.nvbar.org](http://www.nvbar.org).

For benefits the state bar doesn't provide but are important to our members, we are in the process of exploring how we can implement those. As new benefits become available, we will update our members through social media, the state bar website, and the weekly eNewsletter. If you have not already joined the State Bar of Nevada – Board of Governor Updates group on Facebook, please consider doing so. There are multiple updates weekly discussing what the state bar is doing, as well as important information related to our legal community.

If you did not participate in the survey and have ideas for resources you would like the state bar to explore, please email me at [president@nvbar.org](mailto:president@nvbar.org).

### ENDNOTES:

1. <https://nvbar.org/for-lawyers/resources/fastcase-2/>
2. <https://nvbar.org/for-lawyers/resources/business-partners/car-rental-discounts/>
3. <https://nvbar.org/news-and-publications/resources-2/books-manuals-and-references/>
4. <https://nvbar.memberbenefits.com/>
5. <https://nvbar.org/for-lawyers/resources/lawyer-wellbeing/>