

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



How Have We Done With the Three Cs?

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

Wow, time passes quickly. I can't believe this is my last column. Thank you for the opportunity to serve our legal community and lead this bar. Being president of the state bar has truly been a highlight of my career, and I have enjoyed every minute of it.

During my presidency, I set personal goals, which I outlined as my three Cs (communication, commitment, and community). While I still think there is more to achieve, I do believe we made a significant dent in accomplishing those goals.

Communication

For the communication prong, we implemented a Board of Governors (BOG) Facebook page (not to outshine the already fabulous State Bar of Nevada social media). This new page allowed us to make a personal connection with members. We shared what we were doing (including pictures), benefits and services the bar was providing, supported other legal organizations, and provided opportunities to get involved.

We also started the BOG meeting digest. After every meeting, members

now receive an email overview of our BOG meeting, which includes what was discussed, what votes were held, and any presentations received. Speaking of BOG meetings, every meeting has a time set aside for public comment. So, if you have something you would like to share or discuss with the board, there is always an opportunity to do so. You can attend in person or via Zoom.

Another way we have opened communications is through the president's email. We have been able to distribute important messages through this email. I must share that after the first email was sent through this channel, I was very excited to see all the responses, only to learn that the majority were all out-of-office messages. Nonetheless, some members have chosen to communicate with me through this avenue. I have read all messages, responded, and sought additional follow-up, if needed.

Commitment

Our commitment to our members started with a membership survey. Through the survey, we were able to see what the members wanted, rather than what we thought they wanted. We learned that we already provide a lot of the services sought by members.

Recently, we launched the Calm app. Additionally, on the wellness front, we developed and implemented a civility creed to support respect for

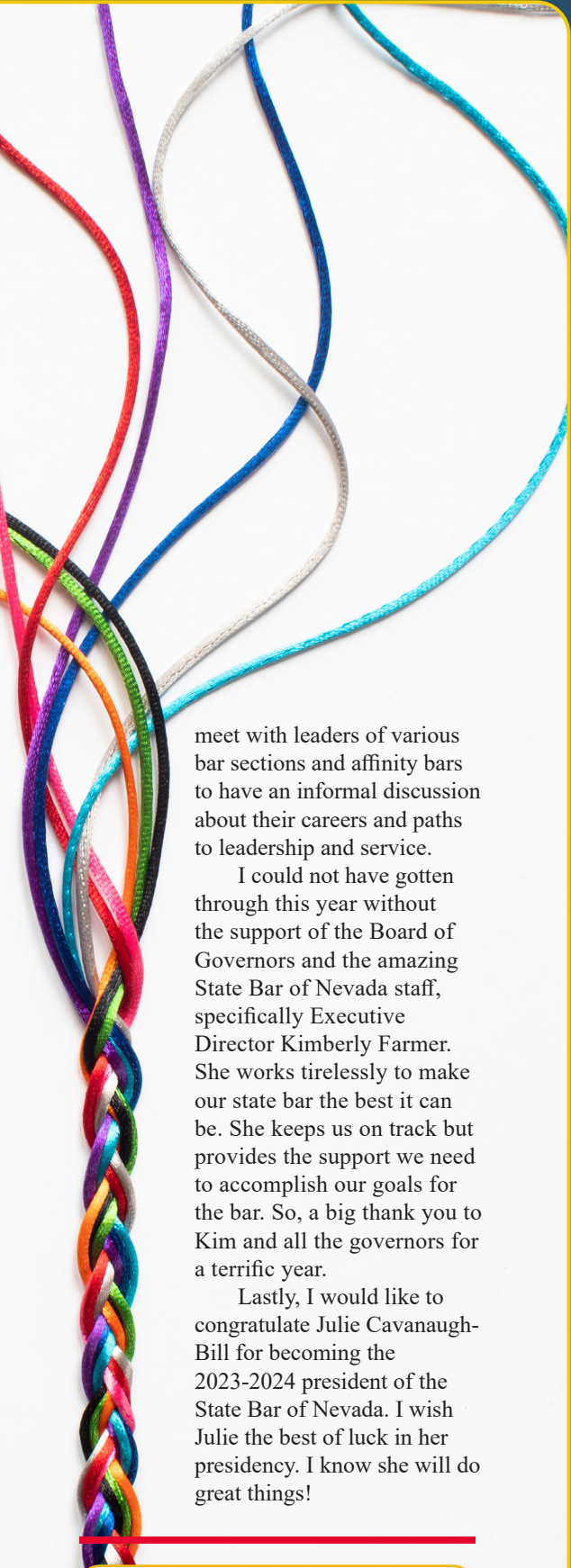
each other in our adversarial profession. Additionally, to support civility, we have teamed up with the National Judicial College to host a civility CLE in June. We also developed a "Rainmaking" series of CLE seminars to assist private attorneys in developing and keeping business.

Additionally, members shared that they wanted a forms bank. In response, we made our downloadable contract templates publication available for no charge. We are also working on developing a forms bank.

Lastly, as part of our commitment to our members and supporting all our members, we continued our DEI initiative highlighting various firms'/ organizations' commitments to DEI in the weekly eNews. Further, we have implemented a digital medallion (to be shared on an organization's website) for those firms and agencies that have shown a commitment to DEI.

Community

The last "C" in my president's plan was community. This year, we were able to support our legal community in two meaningful ways. We launched the Pro Bono Section Challenge to encourage attorneys to commit to pro bono in a fun and competitive way. We also teamed up with the William S. Boyd School of Law for a mentorship program called Pipeline to Leadership. Pipeline to Leadership allowed student leaders to



meet with leaders of various bar sections and affinity bars to have an informal discussion about their careers and paths to leadership and service.

I could not have gotten through this year without the support of the Board of Governors and the amazing State Bar of Nevada staff, specifically Executive Director Kimberly Farmer. She works tirelessly to make our state bar the best it can be. She keeps us on track but provides the support we need to accomplish our goals for the bar. So, a big thank you to Kim and all the governors for a terrific year.

Lastly, I would like to congratulate Julie Cavanaugh-Bill for becoming the 2023-2024 president of the State Bar of Nevada. I wish Julie the best of luck in her presidency. I know she will do great things!

PAOLA ARMENI can be reached at president@nvbar.org. For weekly updates from the bar, follow "State Bar of Nevada - Board of Governors Updates" on Facebook.

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