



STATE BAR OF NEVADA

ANNUAL REPORT 2020



BY THE NUMBERS

- 9,169** Active attorneys
- 2,419** Inactive attorneys
- 249** Certified attorneys
- 1,027** Suspended attorneys
- 51.8** Average age
- 65.5** Percent male
- 34.5** Percent female
- 48.06** Percent in Clark County
- 13.0** Percent in Washoe County
- 2.7** Percent in Carson City
- 2.7** Percent in rural counties
- 33** Percent out of state
- 1,440** Ethics hotline calls received
- 41,000** Lawyer Referral Service (LRS) calls received
- \$95,476** Donated to civil legal aid through members' dues check-off
- 2,531** Members reported **122,771** hours of direct pro bono representation to persons of limited means
- 34,400** Attorney volunteer hours to state bar programs
- 4,714** Attorneys belong to **24** sections
- 350** Attorneys serve as Transitioning Into Practice (TIP) mentors
- 572** Volunteers serve on boards, panels and committees
- 1,275** Grievances received by the Office of Bar Counsel
- 58** Hearings held by Discipline panels

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

- President:** Eric Dobberstein
President-Elect: Ann Morgan
Vice President: Paola Armeni
Immediate Past President: Paul Matteoni
- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Jeffrey R. Albregts | Richard Dreitzer |
| Seth Adams | Vernon "Gene" Leverty |
| Julie Cavanaugh-Bill | Joel Locke |
| J. Douglas Clark | Catherine M. Mazzeo |
| Terry A. Coffing | Kari Stephens |
| Andrew Craner | Brittnie Watkins |
- EX OFFICIO:**
Dean Daniel Hamilton, UNLV Boyd School of Law
Richard Trachok, Chair, Board of Bar Examiners



OUR MISSION:

To govern the legal profession, serve our members and protect the public interest.

STATEMENT ON DIVERSITY, INCLUSION AND JUSTICE FOR ALL

Recent events in Nevada, America and in many countries around the world have led our human race to new levels of both unity and divisiveness. This moment calls each one of us to examine both our core principals of humanity, and our responsibilities to make this world a better place.

The State Bar of Nevada issues this statement as a commitment to our attorney's oath that we will support the Constitution and the Government and will promote the administration of justice. The State Bar of Nevada stands for justice for all and against racism and the systematic abuse of the justice system.

The State Bar of Nevada has committed to address the issue of race through open dialogues on diversity and inclusion, listening to the obstacles and experiences of people of color, and to explore ways to assist those lawyers and all people to know their legal rights and to protect such. Our work will continue through the sharing of our findings with law firms, promoting the benefits of diversity and inclusion in the firm setting and assisting firms to meet their diversity and inclusion goals.

Ethics/Professionalism

- Offered 60 live/virtual seminars and conferences.
- Offered 96.5 CLE credits in live/virtual programming comprised of 73 general, 16.5 ethics and 7 substance abuse, addiction disorders and mental health (a.a.mh.).
- More than 160 speakers delivered timely and relevant CLE programming.
- Published six new CLE articles including two on ethics and two for substance abuse/addiction/mental health CLE credit.
- More than 1,700 attended seven complimentary CLEs held during April and May on topics related to working outside the office and the economic shutdown.
- Supported an ADKT from the Nevada Supreme Court Access to Justice Commission adopting the new CLE for Pro Bono rule that allows for earning CLE general credit for pro bono service.
- The Standing Committee on Ethics and Professional Responsibility published two opinions responding to ethical rules posed to the Standing Committee, submitted a third draft opinion for public comment, and hosted an Ethics Year in Review CLE program.
- Petitioned the Nevada Supreme Court to amend the rules relating the Standing Committee on Ethics and Professional Responsibility and clarify the committee's functions through Rules of Procedure.
- The Lawyer Advertising Committee reviewed more than 300 lawyer advertisements; 85% of all filed ads were found to be compliant with the lawyer advertising rules.
- The Transitioning into Practice (TIP) mentorship program had 219 newly admitted attorneys complete the program in 2020; another 86 attorneys are currently enrolled.
- The Supreme Court of Nevada appointed 35 qualified attorneys to serve as TIP mentors in 2020, with an additional 11 pending appointment. In addition, 56 TIP mentors were re-appointed by the state bar's Board of Governors this year.
- More than 350 attorneys serve as court-appointed TIP mentors, responsible for guiding newly admitted attorneys through the six-month program and spending an average of 25 hours together.

Support

- Published 12 issues of *Nevada Lawyer* magazine, covering items of interest and importance to the Nevada legal community, including issues on consumer protection, federal law practice, gaming law, criminal law, bankruptcy and more.
- Published six *Nevada Lawyer* magazine articles for CLE credit, including articles approved to provide ethics and substance abuse, addictive disorders and/or mental health issues CLE credit.
- Published 51 issues of the state bar's weekly eNews, providing news to engage bar members and help improve their practices. In 2020, the "open" rate of the eNews increased to 26 percent – significantly higher than the national legal industry average of 19 percent.
- Created a special pandemic edition of the state bar eNewsletter, which shared eight issues worth of COVID-19-related news curated specifically for Nevada's legal community.
- Developed a pandemic resources section of the state bar website to provide a one-stop clearinghouse of all statewide legal news related to COVID-19, including more than 80 news stories issued by the state bar.
- Launched a Remote Work Blog in May 2020 providing more than a dozen articles written by practicing Nevada attorneys and judges offering real hands-on tips designed to help lawyers succeed while working remotely.
- Added "Ask a Nerd" technology tips to the weekly eNewsletter to support lawyers working remotely.
- Developed and launched a practice management program, Handle | BAR, to assist attorneys in starting, managing, protecting and transitioning their practices.
- Launched a new legal incubator program providing mentorship and training for lawyers interested in establishing solo practices.
- Based on feedback from 2019 LET'S TALK Summit, began statewide outreach and research activities regarding lawyer well-being, including the effect of incivility on mental health, stigma, and other barriers to seeking support.
- Supported Nevada lawyers through virtual weekly stress and anxiety meetings and weekly meetings for lawyers seeking support to maintain sobriety.
- Continued to provide education on abuse, addiction and mental health through state bar offered CLE programs and presentations to UNLV Boyd School of Law, Nevada Justice Association, and other statewide and national groups.
- In coordination with the ABA Well-Being Week, hosted a five-day series of events, CLE programs and resources centered around supporting Nevada lawyers.
- Provided more than 30 confidential therapy services at no cost to attorneys seeking assistance with issues affecting their ability to practice.
- The Lawyer Referral Service screened more than 41,000 calls from clients seeking paid legal assistance and made approximately 13,000 referrals. An online option was added providing referrals to clients after hours and on weekends.
- To assist in building solo attorney practices during the pandemic, the Lawyer Referral Service waived the program application fee for solo attorneys.
- The Lawyer Referral Service actively recruited attorneys to participate in the service through advertising and direct email communications, resulting in 41 new attorneys joining the program in 2020.
- Fastcase, a business partner that provides a free legal research database, completed 182,416 total transactions through November with 125,298 searches and 116,154 documents viewed. Fastcase also added 26 new premium subscribers through the State Bar of Nevada.





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Protection

- The Clients' Security Fund Committee reviewed 38 claims for reimbursement involving 15 attorneys who had been removed from practice. The committee approved reimbursements totaling more than \$2.5 million (\$260K with the per claim cap).
- The Clients' Security Fund received \$5,011 in restitution from attorneys who have returned to practice.
- More than 85 volunteer attorneys and laypersons serve on the statewide Fee Dispute Committee. The program's free services resolved more than 80 matters in 2020: 60 through mediation or settlement, reducing the timeframe for resolution.
- The Fee Dispute Committee hosted two free CLE programs to (1) educate attorneys on how to avoid fee disputes with clients, and (2) educate committee members on how to successfully resolve disputes through arbitration or mediation.
- The Office of Bar Counsel (OBC):
 - o Received 1,275 grievances;
 - o Screened 202 grievances for discipline; and
 - o Issued 50 Letters of Caution
- Court imposed discipline:
 - o Issued four Letters of Reprimands;
 - o Issued six public reprimands
 - o Issued 23 suspensions;
 - o Issued two disbarments;
 - o Processed 25 resignations;
 - o Monitors 14 conditional admittees; 11 on diversion; 26 on discipline probation;
 - o Closed two conditional admittees and opened two; opened eight diversion files and closed five; opened 13 probation files and closed nine; and
 - o Recovered \$78,455.85 from attorneys for discipline costs and fines.
- There are currently 84 members of the Southern Disciplinary Committee and 33 members of the Northern Disciplinary Committee. They participated in 58 hearings and 20 screenings; the disciplinary panels volunteered more than 600 hours of their time.

Administrative

- Admitted 300 new licensees.
- Processed 598 pro hac vice applications.
- Registered 195 MJP firms pursuant to RPC 7.5A (multijurisdictional law firms).
- The state bar's website was visited by more than 280,000 users, who participated in more than 581,000 sessions on the site
- Hosted the 2020 regional and statewide high school mock trial competition involving 21 teams, 190 student competitors and more than 20 attorney coaches and 150 volunteer attorneys who served as competition judges.
- Prepared for a completely virtual 2021 high school mock trial competition by adjusting competition rules and working with similar programs nationally to convert judge training and scoring to a virtual format.
- The state bar also pivoted its plans for its Annual Meeting, cancelling the scheduled in-person event in New Orleans in favor of a safer and more accessible virtual event that took place via Zoom on June 24, 2020.

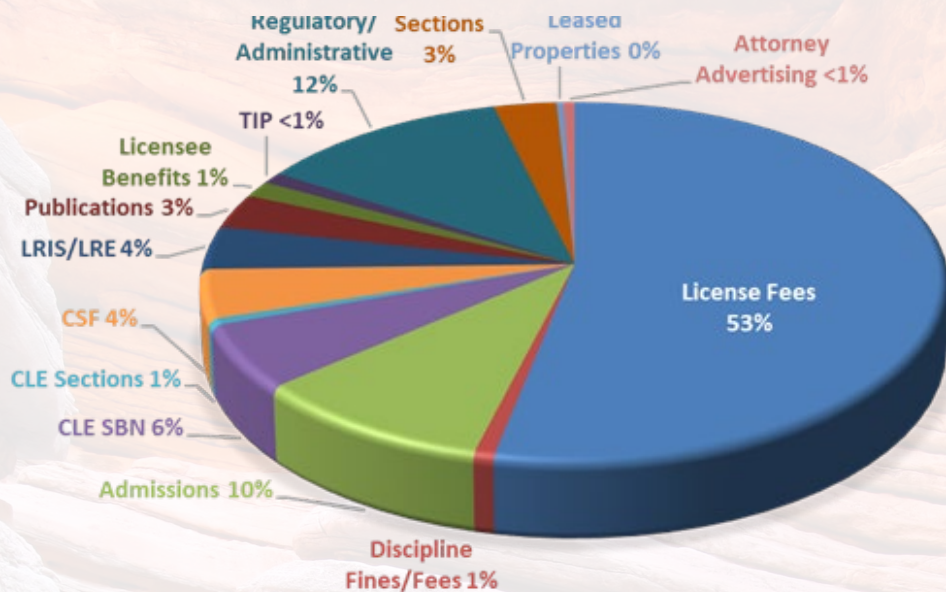
Collaborations

- A section leadership meeting training covered leadership and process items including legislative proposals, amicus curiae briefs, planning and presenting CLEs and communication options.
- Held affiliate bar meetings to promote partnerships and collaboration. Most recently the affiliate bar meeting focused on diversity issues. Among topics discussed was establishing a means to support a diverse lawyer population with mentorship, creating a pipeline, offering scholarships and educational opportunities.
- State Bar of Nevada and the affiliate bar associations agreed to place affiliate bar information on the State Bar's member renewal page.
- In partnership with the Access to Justice Commission, promoted a new virtual schedule of more than 50 free legal aid events in observation of Celebrate Pro Bono 2020.
- Managed the IOLTA activities of 31 financial institutions statewide.
- Published 10 articles in the Nevada Bankers Association eNewsletter educating Nevada financial institutions on the benefits of IOLTA.
- The Nevada Bar Foundation granted \$4.9 million in IOLTA funds to statewide legal aid programs serving low-income Nevadans in need of legal services.
- Produced a new update to the Nevada Civil Practice Manual's Sixth Edition in partnership with LexisNexis, working with more than 40 volunteer attorney editors, authors and reviewers.
- Worked with the Intellectual Property Section to publish five custom digital newsletters, featuring recent developments in the law and section activities.
- Hosted five free virtual town halls for probate and trust, real property, bankruptcy, labor and employment, and gaming law during the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Bar leadership continued to collaborate with specialty and local bar leaders to promote events, share ideas, and to foster programs that promote diversity and inclusion.
- Partnered with the Family Law Section for the 31st Annual Family Law Conference held partly in Bishop, California, with the rest by webinar.
- Partnered with the Gaming Law Section for the 19th Annual Gaming Law Conference held virtually in two 3-hour segments.
- Partnered with the Public Lawyers Section to deliver its annual conference as a five-day virtual event.
- Partnered with the Intellectual Property Law Section to offer its annual conference entirely online.
- Recognized by the American Society of Association Executives for research initiatives related to the Justice Gap in Nevada as one of "100 Associations that Will Save the World."

Membership Awards

- Presidential Award: The Hon. Larry Hicks
- Medal of Justice: 2017-18 Advisory Committee on the Administration of Justice
- Volunteers of the Year: Kevin Speed and Alex Velto
- Young Lawyer of the Year: Bronagh Kelly





*This chart does not equal 100 percent due to rounding.

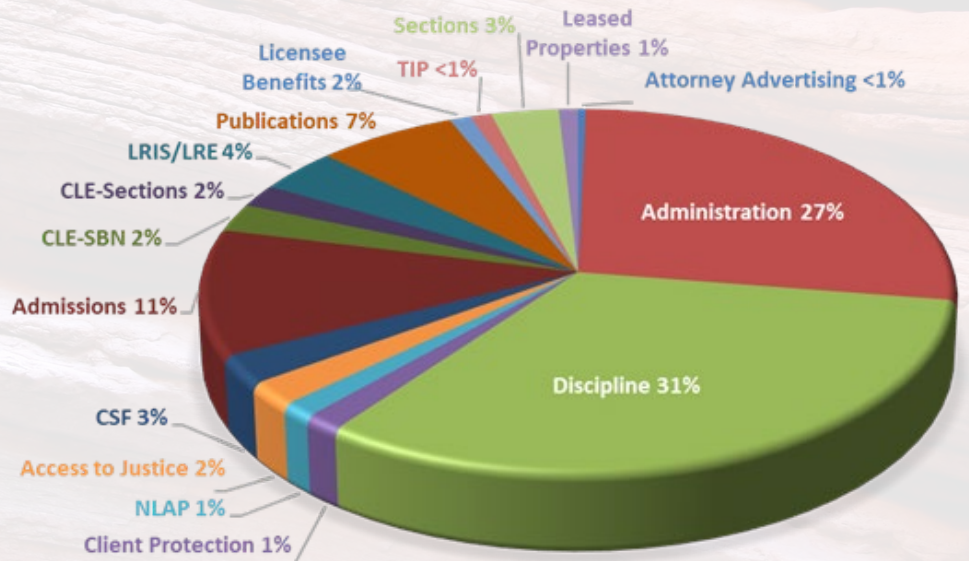
Income*

License Fees.....	\$3,795,200
Regulatory/Admin.....	\$865,600
Admissions.....	\$695,900
CLE-SBN.....	\$416,400
CSF.....	\$314,700
LRIS/LRE.....	\$277,000
Publications.....	\$222,400
Sections.....	\$212,900
Licensee Benefits.....	\$103,500
TIP.....	\$72,300
Discipline Fines/Fees.....	\$57,800
CLE-Sections.....	\$40,300
Attorney Advertising.....	\$38,100
Leased Properties.....	\$23,500
TOTAL INCOME.....	\$7,135,600

Expenses*

Discipline.....	\$1,843,100
Administration.....	\$1,526,900
Admissions.....	\$629,800
Publications.....	\$376,000
LRIS/LRE.....	\$217,800
Sections.....	\$180,600
CSF.....	\$145,900
CLE-SBN.....	\$140,800
Access to Justice.....	\$119,500
CLE-Sections.....	\$113,500
Client Protection.....	\$84,700
NLAP.....	\$74,900
Licensee Benefits.....	\$57,500
TIP.....	\$55,500
Leased Properties.....	\$51,400
Attorney Advertising.....	\$20,600

TOTAL EXPENSES..... \$5,638,500



*Not including depreciation

Assets, Liabilities and Net Assets*

*Based on projected 2020 year-end balances (unaudited).

Current Assets	Cash, accounts receivable, prepaid expenses, investments*	\$8,793,000
Land, Buildings, Property & Equipment	Land and buildings in Las Vegas and Reno, building improvements, furniture, equipment and software less depreciation	\$6,001,000
Other Assets		\$0
TOTAL ASSETS	<i>*Note that approximately \$2,800,000 are in designated funds and not intended to be used for general operations of the State Bar of Nevada and \$2,200,000 are 2021 deferred dues.</i>	\$14,794,000
Current Liabilities*	Accounts Payable, deferred revenue, payroll accruals	\$3,689,300
Long-term Liabilities	Notes Payable	\$0
Total Liabilities		\$3,689,300
Net Assets		\$11,104,700
TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS		\$14,794,000