



# STATE BAR OF NEVADA

## ANNUAL REPORT 2021

### BY THE NUMBERS

<b>9,200</b>	<b>Active attorneys</b>
<b>2,772</b>	<b>Inactive attorneys</b>
<b>218</b>	<b>Certified attorneys</b>
<b>1,029</b>	<b>Suspended attorneys</b>
<b>52</b>	<b>Average age</b>
<b>64.5</b>	<b>Percent male</b>
<b>34.8</b>	<b>Percent female</b>
<b>50.05</b>	<b>Percent in Clark County</b>
<b>13.6</b>	<b>Percent in Washoe County</b>
<b>2.8</b>	<b>Percent in Carson City</b>
<b>2.9</b>	<b>Percent in rural counties</b>
<b>30.3</b>	<b>Percent out of state</b>
<b>2,000</b>	<b>Ethics hotline calls received</b>
<b>41,000+</b>	<b>Lawyer Referral Service (LRS) calls received</b>
<b>\$116,425</b>	<b>Donated to civil legal aid through members' dues check-off</b>
<b>2,531</b>	<b>Members reported 150,000 hours of direct pro bono representation to persons of limited means</b>
<b>35,500</b>	<b>Attorney volunteer hours to state bar programs</b>
<b>4,792</b>	<b>Attorneys belong to 24 sections</b>
<b>385</b>	<b>Attorneys serve as Transitioning</b>

### BOARD OF GOVERNORS

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**Vice President:** Julie Cavanaugh-Bill  
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#### EX OFFICIO:

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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.

## Serving Our Members Through Ethics and Professionalism

- Admitted 374 new licensees.
- Consolidated and streamlined the administrative operations of the State Bar of Nevada and Nevada Board of Continuing Legal Education (MCLE Board) via a petition submitted by the Supreme Court.
- Recognizing the consolidated operations of the MCLE Board, the state bar and MCLE Board rescinded the annual \$40 fee attorneys pay for MCLE compliance, reducing the cost to practice law in Nevada.
- Using MCLE funds obtained through attorney and provider late fees, petitioned the court to release these funds for program grants benefiting organizations with continuing legal education development, law-related education initiatives, delivery of legal services to underserved populations, and delivery of pro bono legal services.
- Examined the CLE compliance with an eye toward improving service to Nevada attorneys and increasing attorney compliance. Began process of consolidating MCLE data into the state bar's membership database; all annual renewals to be conducted with a single sign-on in 2022.
- In the first (partial) year of the new CLE for Pro Bono Rule, 591 lawyers earned 1,932 general credits of CLE by providing pro bono work.
- The Transitioning into Practice (TIP) mentorship program had 205 newly admitted attorneys complete the program in 2021; another 99 attorneys are currently enrolled.
- More than 385 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.
- The Ethics and Professional Responsibility Committee reviewed eight opinion requests and accepted four. The committee published one opinion (Opinion 58) relating to prospective conflict waivers.
- Offered 42 CLE live seminars in 2021 featuring more than 140 speakers.
- 28 of the CLE presenters were people of color.
- Women accounted for 41% of our presenters, better represented than among bar members generally (34.5% in 2020).
- More than 2,500 people registered for the state bar's live CLE programming.
- More than 600 attorneys downloaded CLE articles for credit published in Nevada Lawyer in 2021.
- Partnered with the Gaming Law Section for the 20th Annual Gaming Law Conference held virtually.
- Partnered with the Public Lawyers Section to deliver its annual conference as an in-person event with a virtual option.
- Partnered with the Intellectual Property Law Section to offer its annual conference entirely online.
- The Lawyer Advertising Advisory Committee reviewed more than 250 lawyer advertisements; 80% complied with the lawyer advertising rules.

## Membership Awards

- Presidential Award: J. Randall Jones
- Medal of Justice: Constance Akridge
- Trailblazer Award (new for 2021): Bryan K. Scott
- Volunteers of the Year: Claudia Aguayo and Augusta Massey
- Young Lawyer of the Year: Ashley Biehl



# Protecting Public Through Client Support, Discipline, Pro Bono

- The Clients' Security Fund committee reviewed 31 claims for reimbursement involving 18 attorneys who had been removed from practice. The committee approved reimbursements totaling more than \$1.85 million (\$230,000 with the per-claim cap).
- The Clients' Security Fund received \$169,308 in restitution from attorneys who returned to practice.
- More than 80 volunteer attorneys and laypersons serve on the statewide Fee Dispute Committee. The program's free services resolved more than 70 matters in 2021: 38 through mediation or settlement. Claims are resolved within four months, on average.
- The Office of Bar Counsel (OBC):
  - Received 1,282 grievances;
  - Screened 213 grievances for discipline;
  - Issued 50 Letters of Caution; and
  - Conducted 52 hearings
- Court imposed discipline:
  - Issued 18 Letters of Reprimands;
  - Issued seven public reprimands;
  - Issued nine Stayed Suspensions;
  - Issued 15 Suspensions;
  - Issued one disbarment;
  - Processed six reinstatements;
- Denied two reinstatement requests;
- Processed 37 resignations;
- Monitored 10 conditional admittees: 14 on diversion, 26 on other discipline probation;
- Closed 18 probation/monitoring files upon the attorney's successful completion of their probationary conditions and initiated additional proceedings on three attorneys for failing to comply with their probationary conditions; and
- Recovered \$78,367 from attorneys for discipline costs and fines.
- There are currently 82 members of the Southern Disciplinary Committee and 33 members of the Northern Disciplinary Committee. These volunteer members participated in 50 hearings and 16 screenings volunteering more than 600 hours.
- The Nevada Bar Foundation granted more than \$4.7 million IOLTA dollars to statewide legal services organizations serving 30,000 Nevada households.
- Partnered with the Access to Justice Commission, Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada, Nevada Legal Services, Southern Nevada Senior Law Program, VARN, Washoe Legal Services and UNLV William S. Boyd School of Law in support of 26 statewide events in observation of Celebrate Pro Bono 2021. Approximately, 552 Nevadans received free legal advice from 61 pro bono and 32 legal aid lawyers representing 788 hours of community service.

## Serving Members Through Collaborative Projects

- Hosted a series of meetings with the affinity bar associations. Throughout these discussions, it became clear that the following steps would benefit participating bars:
  - Organizations should inform the others on programs and efforts to promote collaboration – and avoid duplication of efforts and programs.
  - Bars will aid and support one another by encouraging their leadership to join the other affinity bars. Besides collaboration, this strategy will also provide differing point of views on issues affecting the legal profession in Nevada. These collaborations can also help mentor diverse membership in leadership positions.
  - Organizations will work in partnership to develop CLE programs.
- Launched an all-new bar publication – the Real Property Practice and Procedure Manual – produced in partnership with the state bar's Real Property Section. More than 60 attorney editors, authors, and reviewers worked to produce this nearly 1,000-page resource.
- Produced a new edition of the Nevada Appellate Practice Manual for 2021 in partnership with the state bar's Appellate Litigation section, working with more than 20 volunteer editors, authors, and reviewers.
- 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 and Family Law Sections to publish two custom digital newsletters, featuring recent developments in the law and section activities.





## Serving Our Members Through Programs & Services

- Hosted the second annual Lawyer Wellbeing Week, delivering five days of programs and resources including guided meditation, a discussion on building tools to develop mental health strategies, and a free CLE on wellbeing and law firm management.
- The Nevada Lawyers Assistance Program continued to offer three free therapy sessions at no cost to Nevada attorneys. This year, the program was expanded to include law school students.
- 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 12 "Nevada Trailblazer" columns in Nevada Lawyer magazine, profiling Nevada lawyers from a variety of diverse backgrounds.
- 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 50 issues of the state bar's weekly eNews, providing news to engage bar members and help improve their practices. In 2021, the "open" rate of the eNews increased from 26 percent to 30 percent – significantly higher than the national legal industry average of 19 percent.
- Created a custom curated list for the ABA 21-Day Racial Equity Challenge and launched a comprehensive communications campaign to encourage participation.
- Added "This Week at the Bar" recurring column in both the eNews and Nevada Lawyer magazine to encourage member participation in events and services.
- Hosted the 2021 High School Mock Trial regional and statewide competition virtually, with 19 teams competing in northern and southern Nevada and more than 100 attorneys volunteering to serve as competition judges.
- The Lawyer Referral Service actively recruited attorneys to participate in its service, resulting in 41 new attorneys joining the program in 2021; most were solo and small practice attorneys.
- The Lawyer Referral Service screened more than 41,000 calls from clients seeking paid legal assistance and made approximately 18,000 referrals to 218 attorneys participating in the program.
- The Handle|Bar program recruited four attorneys to its inaugural incubator class and an additional seven attorneys to the second incubator class. The incubator program provides mentorship and training for lawyers interested in establishing solo practices. To date, incubator attorneys have provided more than 328 hours of pro bono and modest means hours.
- 658 employers and 1,597 jobseekers used the State Bar of Nevada's Career Center, either to post a job or to find a new job. Employer registrations are up 37.7 percent over the same time period. Those employers posted 210 jobs, which is a 40.9 percent increase over the same period in 2020.
- 148 State Bar of Nevada members have processed more than \$20 million in credit card payments using the LawPay member benefit.
- State Bar of Nevada members conducted 56,252 searches through Fastcase, a business partner of the state bar. There were also 20 new premium subscribers through November 2021.
- 190 State Bar of Nevada members and 61 young lawyer members were using the benefits offered by Clio, a state bar business partner.



## Governing Legal Profession Through Administrative Procedures

- The Board of Governors revised the 2021-2023 Strategic Plan to ensure the state bar's goals and objectives are germane to our mission. Those goals are:
  - To serve our members and protect the public interest, lead a statewide discussion on the well-being and health of our profession, promote awareness of well-being services available to Nevada lawyers, and identify ways in which the well-being of our members can be improved through dialog among practitioners, the judiciary, and the community at large.
  - Develop a Designated Fund to provide grants to support organizations throughout Nevada to improve diversity, ethics, professionalism, and wellness within the legal profession.
  - Provide relevant and valuable resources to assist Nevada lawyers achieve professional excellence and success in serving their clients and the public.
  - Develop and enhance relationships within the legal profession to identify and work to eliminate barriers in the legal profession for minority members.
- Conducted meetings of the Blue Ribbon Committee on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (BRC). The BRC reviews programs and initiatives that place diversity, equity, and inclusion at the forefront of the bar's initiatives.
- To provide guidance to attorneys in possession of unclaimed or unidentified funds in their trust accounts, the state bar petitioned the court, resulting in a Supreme Court Order to allow those funds to be distributed to the Clients' Security Fund, benefiting victims of attorney theft.
- The Board of Governors successfully petitioned the Nevada Supreme Court to amend SCRs 81-97 to set standard timeframes for election to the board and to reflect current practices for regular and special meetings of the board.
- In coordination with the Standing Committee on Ethics and Professional Responsibility, the state bar sought the court's order amending the committee's related rules and establishing term limits for committee members. The state bar also approved rules of procedure that outline the process for requesting an advisory opinion and for public comment prior to publication (ADKT 0573).
- The state bar's website was visited by more than 291,000 users, who participated in more than 560,000 sessions on the site.
- Processed 698 pro hac vice applications.
- Registered 205 MJP firms pursuant to RPC 7.5A (multijurisdictional law firms).





CLE (Sections): <0.1%

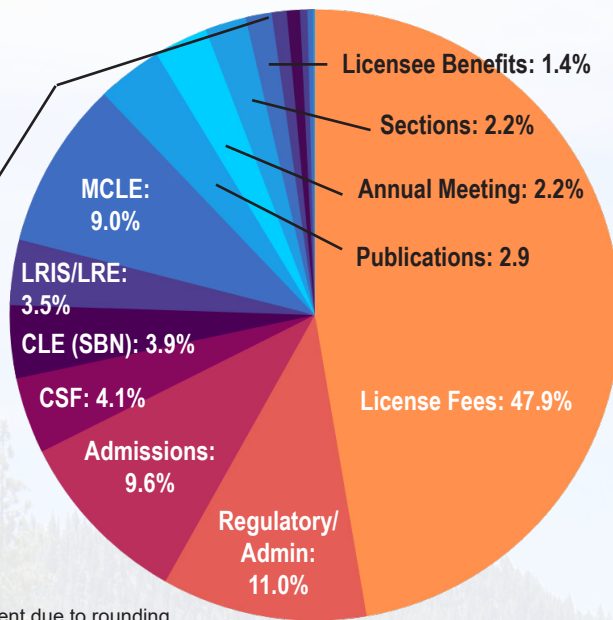
Attorney Advertising: 0.1%

Practice Management: 0.3%

Leased Properties: 0.4%

Discipline Fines/Fees: 0.7%

Transitioning Into  
Practice: 0.8%



## Revenue

License Fees .....	\$3,798,600
Regulatory/Admin .....	\$868,800
Admissions .....	\$761,400
MCLE .....	\$710,000
Practice Management .....	\$21,400
Annual Meeting .....	\$171,100
CLE-SBN .....	\$309,300
CSF .....	\$322,500
LRIS/LRE .....	\$279,400
Publications .....	\$226,500
Sections .....	\$177,700
Licensee Benefits .....	\$110,000
TIP .....	\$66,600
Discipline Fines/Fees .....	\$56,100
CLE-Sections .....	\$1,500
Attorney Advertising .....	\$11,800
Leased Properties .....	\$31,600

**TOTAL REVENUE ..... \$7,924,300**

## Expenses

Discipline .....	\$1,940,100
Administration .....	\$1,534,000
Admissions .....	\$743,800
MCLE .....	\$370,300
Practice Management .....	\$424,500
Annual Meeting .....	\$219,300
Practice Management .....	\$424,500
Publications .....	\$376,000
LRIS/LRE .....	\$217,800
Sections .....	\$226,700
CSF .....	\$191,693
CLE-SBN .....	\$130,100
Access to Justice .....	\$123,700
CLE-Sections .....	\$111,800
Client Protection .....	\$76,500
NLAP .....	\$81,400
Licensee Benefits .....	\$59,000
TIP .....	\$56,400
Leased Properties .....	\$27,700
Attorney Advertising .....	\$19,300

**TOTAL EXPENSES ..... \$6,928,593**

Attorney Advertising: 0.3%

Leased Properties: 0.4%

Transitioning Into  
Practice: 0.8%

Licensee Benefits: 0.9%

Client Protection: 1.1%

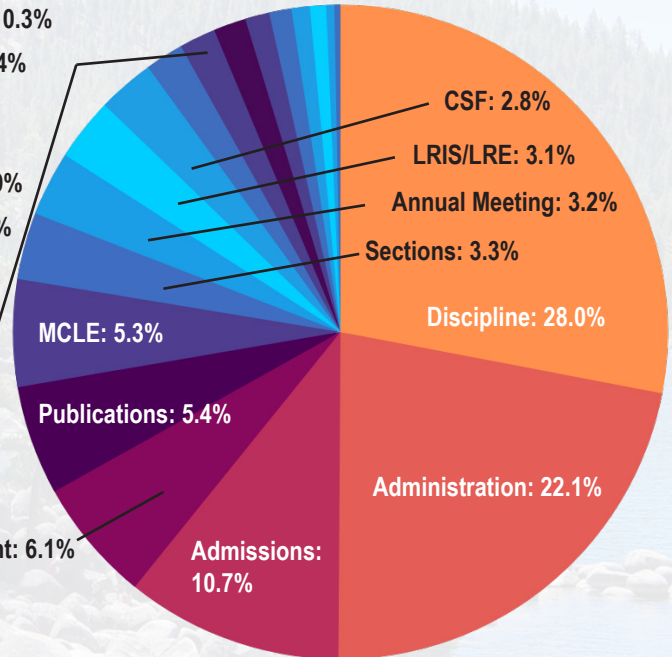
NLAP: 1.2%

CLE (Sections): 1.6%

Access to Justice:  
1.8%

CLE (SBN): 1.9%

Practice Management: 6.1%



\*Not including depreciation

## Assets, Liabilities and Net Assets

\*Based on projected 2021 year-end projections (unaudited) and will vary from final numbers.

Current Assets	Cash & Investments		
	Funds Designated for Specific Purpose:	\$5,211,223	
	2022 Revenue Received in 2021:	\$2,250,000	
	Administrative Designated Fund:	\$2,856,524	
	<b>Total Cash &amp; Investments</b>		<b>\$10,317,747</b>
<b>Land, Buildings, Property &amp; Equipment</b>	Land and buildings in Las Vegas and Reno, building improvements, furniture, equipment and software less depreciation		<b>\$6,250,500</b>
<b>Other Assets</b>			<b>\$0</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>			<b>\$16,568,247</b>
Current Liabilities*	Accounts Payable, deferred revenue, payroll accruals	\$3,689,300	
Long-term Liabilities	Notes Payable	\$0	
Total Liabilities			<b>\$3,689,300</b>
Net Assets			<b>\$12,878,947</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; NET ASSETS</b>			<b>\$16,568,247</b>