

## **STATE BAR OF NEVADA** ANNUAL REPORT 2022

#### **BY THE NUMBERS**

9,303	Active attorneys
2,820	Inactive attorneys
231	Certified attorneys
1,073	Suspended attorneys
52.3	Average age
64.52	Percent male
35.46	Percent female
50.21	Percent in Clark County
13.37	Percent in Washoe County
2.74	Percent in Carson City
2.72	Percent in rural counties
30.94	Percent out of state
1,500	Ethics hotline calls received
43,000	Lawyer Referral Service calls received
\$117,557	Donated to civil legal aid through members' dues check-off
3,349	Members reported more than 130,000 hours of direct pro bono representation to persons of limited means
37,000	Attorney volunteer hours to state bar programs
4,777	Attorneys belong to 24 sections
364	Attorneys serve as Transitioning Into Practice (TIP) mentors
1,353	Grievances received by the
	Office of Bar Counsel
B	DARD OF GOVERNORS
President: Paola A	rmeni

#### Pr President-Elect: Julie Cavanaugh-Bill Vice President: Richard Dreitzer Immediate Past President: Ann Morgan

Seth Adams Jeffrey R. Albregts J. Douglas Clark Terry A. Coffing Andrew Craner Patrick Leverty

#### EX OFFICIO:

Leah Chan Grinvald, UNLV Boyd School of Law Joel Locke Catherine M. Mazzeo Marisa Rodriguez Kari L. Stephens Alex Velto Brittnie Watkins

> 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 323 new licensees.
- The Transitioning into Practice (TIP) mentorship program had 202 newly admitted attorneys complete the program in 2022; another 96 attorneys are currently enrolled.
- More than 364 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.
- Offered 46 CLE live seminars in 2022 featuring 176 speakers.
- 4,986 people registered for the state bar's live CLE programming.

- More than 1,200 copies of articles for CLE credit were purchased by attorneys in *Nevada Lawyer* in 2022.
- 769 lawyers earned 2,676 general CLE credits through pro bono service.
- Partnered with practice area sections to present their annual conferences — the Gaming Law Section, Public Lawyers Section, and Intellectual Property Law Section.
- Offered the bar exam in February and July. In February, 203 applicants sat for the exam with a pass rate of 59 percent. In July, 311 applicants sat for the exam with a pass rate of 56 percent.

## **Serving Members Through Collaborative Projects**

- Hosted a diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) summit to gain feedback from attorneys about DEI issues facing Nevada's legal community. The summit was followed by visits to law firms where members of the Board of Governors engaged in discussions about firm DEI initiatives.
- The state bar's IDEA grant program awarded more than \$128,000 in grants to organizations supporting pipeline, mentorship, and educational programs.
- Offered two free DEI continuing legal education programs focused on having difficult conversations and the intersection between DEI and attorney wellbeing.
- Hosted the third annual Lawyer Wellbeing Week delivering five days of programs and resources including meditation, stress reduction, and resources for attorneys seeking assistance with drug and alcohol issues.
- The Nevada Lawyers Assistance Program continued to offer three free therapy sessions at no cost; confidential services were provided to 19 attorneys and two law school students.
- Published 12 issues of Nevada Lawyer magazine, covering items of interest and importance to the Nevada legal community, including issues on ethics, pro bono, trial practice, hospitality, and more.

- Published 51 issues of the state bar's weekly eNews, providing news to engage bar members and help improve their practices.
- Created a custom curated list for the 21-Day Disability Equity Challenge and launched a comprehensive communications campaign to encourage participation.
- Hosted the 2022 regional and statewide mock trial competition virtually, with 27 teams competing in northern and southern Nevada and more than 100 attorneys volunteering to serve as competition judges.
- Mock Trial Committee collectively volunteered in excess of 360 hours of their time; Mock Trial competition volunteers volunteered in excess of 1,500 hours of their time.
- The Lawyer Referral Service actively recruited attorneys to participate in its service, resulting in 48 new attorneys joining the program in 2022; most were solo and small practice attorneys.
- The Lawyer Referral Service screened more than 43,000 calls from clients seeking paid legal assistance and made more than 18,000 referrals to 188 attorneys participating in the program. The Lawyer Referral Service received more than \$350,000 in referral fees in 2022.
- The Handle|Bar program recruited nine attorneys to its March incubator class and an additional four attorneys to the September incubator class.

#### Protecting the Public Through Client Support, Discipline, Pro Bono

- The Clients' Security Fund Committee reviewed 37 claims for reimbursement involving seven attorneys no longer in practice. The committee approved reimbursements totaling more than \$248,000 (\$148,590 with the per-claim cap).
- More than 70 volunteer attorneys and laypersons serve on the statewide Fee Dispute Committee. The program's free services resolved more than 60 matters in 2022: 45 through mediation or settlement. Claims are resolved within four months, on average.
- The Office of Bar Counsel (OBC):
  - Received 1,353 grievances;
  - Screened 184 grievances for discipline;
  - Issued 49 Letters of Caution; and
  - Conducted 38 hearings.
- Court-imposed discipline:
  - Issued 11 Letters of Reprimands;
  - Issued eight Public Reprimands;
  - Issued four Stayed Suspensions;
  - Issued 16 Suspensions;
  - Issued five Temporary Suspensions;
  - Issued seven disbarments;
  - Processed four reinstatements;
  - Processed 49 resignations;
  - Monitored 12 conditional admittees: 10 on diversion, 24 on other discipline probation;

- Closed 28 probation/monitoring files upon the attorney's successful completion of probationary conditions and initiated additional proceedings on three attorneys for failing to comply with their probationary conditions; and
- Recovered \$115,000 from attorneys for discipline costs and fines.
- The 89 members of the Southern Nevada Disciplinary Board and 31 members of the Northern Nevada Disciplinary Board participated in 38 hearings and 16 screenings, volunteering more than 600 hours.
- Administered a newly developed Foundation Grant program using late fees provided by the Nevada Board of Continuing Legal Education to fund pipeline, educational, and pro bono legal services. The foundation authorized \$180,378 in grants and leveraged available dollars with \$77,500 in matching grants.
- 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, Northern Nevada Legal Aid, and UNLV William S. Boyd School of Law in support of 27 statewide events in observation of Celebrate Pro Bono 2022. Approximately, 600 Nevadans received free legal advice from more than 60 pro bono and 30 legal aid lawyers representing 800 hours of community service.

#### **Governing the Legal Profession Through Administrative Procedures**

- Administered the first full year of the Nevada Continuing Legal Education Board operations under the administration of the state bar.
- Due to improved communications, the number of attorneys requiring extensions to meet their MCLE requirements for the 2021-2022 compliance period decreased by 48 percent and the number of late fees issued decreased by just over 50 percent.
- Consolidated MCLE data within the state bar's membership database, providing for a single sign-on to access attorney CLE transcripts, self-report earned CLE credits, and complete the annual affirmation process.
- The state bar's website was visited by more than 246,000 users, who participated in more than 510,000 sessions on the site.
- Processed 780 pro hac vice applications.
- Registered 222 MJP firms pursuant to RPC 7.5A (multijurisdictional law firms).

#### **Serving Our Members Through Programs & Services**

- Partnered with LexisNexis to develop a new publication – Nevada Marijuana Laws and Regulations – produced in partnership with the state bar's Cannabis Law Section.
- Produced a new edition of Nevada Business Entities for 2022.
- 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 Family Law Sections to publish custom digital newsletters, featuring recent developments in the law and section activities.
- Produced a special issue of *Nevada Lawyer* magazine in February 2022 to inform bar members about the benefits provided by bar membership and how best to use them.



### **Bryan K. Scott Trailblazer Award**

Margo Piscevich, Franny Forsman, Dr. Ann Bersi, Hon. Gloria Sturman, Ann Price McCarthy, Hon. Nancy Allf, Kathy England, Connie Akridge, and Elana Turner Graham were the winners of the 2022 Bryan K. Scott Trailblazer Award. The recepients were all the State Bar of Nevada's female presidents of the Board of Governors prior to 2021.

## **State Bar of Nevada Member Benefits Practice Management**

The **Handle|BAR Practice Management Program** provides a wide range of services to help streamline your practice management while boosting your bottom line. From successfully starting, managing, protecting, and transitioning a law practice, Handle|BAR will help steer you in the right direction.

The **Handle|BAR Incubator Program** offers the mentoring and resources you need to start your solo practice, whether you are new to the practice of law – or looking to enter private practice for the first time in your career.

The **Ethics Hotline** assists Nevada attorneys with questions regarding their professional responsibilities. Call 702-382-2200.

**LawPay** payment processing is designed specifically for the legal industry. It provides Nevada attorneys with a simple, secure way to accept online payments in their practice. Receive a three-month free trial upon sign up.

The **Clio Practice Management System** is the No. 1 cloud-based legal practice management system for firms. Nevada attorneys receive a 10 percent lifetime discount.

**Fastcase Legal Research** is your key to free and unlimited online legal research. Fastcase includes access to federal and Nevada caselaw, local federal rules, reporters, links to court forms, and more.

**ALPS Malpractice Insurance** is the preferred legal malpractice provider of the state bar. ALPS is the nation's largest direct writer of lawyer's malpractice insurance, and has superior claims handling services and competitive prices for the broadest coverage.

The **IOLTA – Free Trust Accounting Publication** covers the complex issues that can cause concerns for even the most experienced attorneys. This publication is free to download.

#### **Development**

The Career Center is an excellent resource for job search and recruitment: jobs.nvbar.org.

**Continuing Legal Education** programs are provided by the State Bar of Nevada with many seminars available live as well as on demand.

The Lawyer Referral Service matches clients in need of legal services with qualified attorneys.

**Publications and manuals** include *Nevada Lawyer* magazine, the only statewide legal journal in Nevada. The State Bar of Nevada also offers a library of manuals and reference publications.

**Practice Area Sections** are open to membership by Nevada attorneys. Joining one or more of the 27 sections is a great way to connect with other attorneys practicing in the same area as you and benefit from specialized education opportunities.

#### Health & Well-Being

The State Bar of Nevada is committed to the health and well-being of Nevada attorneys. Programs and services ranging from talking to a fellow lawyer experiencing the same issues as you to seeking clinical assistance for issues related to addiction or mental health problems are available statewide.

The **Nevada Lawyer Assistance Program** offers confidential clinical services for attorneys suffering from abuse, addiction, and/or mental health issues that may impair professional competence. If an attorney wants assistance in dealing with a difficult life situation, he or she can request the name of a therapist by calling 1-866-828-0022. The first three sessions are provided at no charge. The inquiry and subsequent three sessions are completely confidential.

The **Lawyers Concerned for Lawyers** program provides confidential peer support for Nevada attorneys in need of support to get in – or stay – in recovery. Weekly closed-door meetings are held statewide.

The **Member Benefits Insurance Marketplace** offers a broad level of insurance choices designed exclusively for Nevada attorneys, their employees, and dependents.



#### **Expenses**

Discipline	\$1,595,000 \$704,000 \$148,000 \$365,000 \$444,000 \$220,000 \$160,000 \$140,000 \$131,000 \$80,000 \$61,000 \$98,000 \$60,000 \$31,000 \$31,000
Attorney Advertising	
TOTAL EXPENSES*	\$6,994,000

#### Attorney Advertising: <1% Leased Properties: 1% CSF: 3% **Transitioning Into** Practice: <1% LRIS/LRE: 3% Licensee Benefits: 0.8% Annual Meeting: 5.3% Client Protection: 1% Sections: 2% **NLAP: 1%** CLE (Sections): 1% Discipline: 29% Access to Justice: **MCLE: 6%** 2% CLE (SBN): 2% Publications: 6.1% Administration: 23% Admissions: Practice Management: 2% 10%

\*Not including depreciation

Assets, Liabilities and Net Assets *Based on projected 2022 year-end projections (unaudited) and will vary from final numbers.				
Current Assets	Cash & Investments			
	Funds Designated for Specific Purpose:	\$4,898,000		
	2023 Revenue Received in 2022:	\$2,993,000		
	Administrative Designated Fund:	\$4,052,000		
	Total Cash & Investments		\$11,943,000	
Land, Buildings, Property & Equipment	Land and buildings in Las Vegas and Reno, building improvements, furniture, equipment and software less depreciation		\$5,978,000	
Other Assets			\$139,000	
TOTAL ASSETS			\$17,880,000	
Current Liabilities*	Accounts Payable, deferred revenue, payroll accruals	\$4,161,800		
Long-term Liabilities	Notes Payable	\$8,200		
Total Liabilities			\$4,170,000	
Net Assets			\$13,710,000	
TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS			\$17,880,000	