



UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF NEVADA

STATE OF THE COURT 2001

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Seal of the
United States District Court for the
District of Nevada

INTRODUCTION FROM THE CHIEF JUDGE



On behalf of the judges of our court, I am pleased to introduce you to our first State of the Court report. I can report that our district is healthy and prepared to meet the needs of the bar and public in the years ahead. Many of the important events and projects of our court are detailed in this report. Two of the most significant relate to the judgeships and courthouses.

Through the extraordinary assistance of our congressional delegation, three new district judgeships were authorized for our court. These are the first new judgeships in the district since 1984. With the addition of these judgeships the average caseload per judge should be reduced from 725 cases to 400 cases, which, for the first time in almost twenty years, will be in line with the national average.

In November 2000, we dedicated the Lloyd D. George United States Courthouse in Las Vegas, giving our district its second new courthouse in the last five years. That is a remarkable feat since the construction of these courthouses occurred during periods of limited funding for new courthouse construction nationally.

The collegiality among the members of our bench and the relationship between the state and federal benches has never been better. We will hold our first State/Federal Judicial Conference in April 2002 to continue to develop a better understanding of the needs of both the state and federal judiciary in our state. We also continue to have a healthy and continuous dialogue with the members of the bar through the outstanding efforts of our lawyer representatives and the active participation of the legal community during our annual district conferences.

All of our judges, dedicated staff and agencies are committed to the mission of the court, which is to resolve matters fairly and timely in accordance with the Constitution and laws of the United States by providing an impartial, independent and dignified forum, to promote respect for the law, engender public confidence and trust, and to protect individual rights and liberties. We are confident that our court will be able to continually improve the administration of justice in our district in the years ahead.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Howard D. McKibben". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

HOWARD D. MCKIBBEN
Chief United States District Judge

UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGES



Howard D. McKibben

Howard D. McKibben was appointed United States District Judge for the District of Nevada by President Ronald Reagan in October 1984. He assumed the Chief District Judge position in 1997.

Judge McKibben received his bachelor of science degree in political science from Bradley University in 1962. He then attended the University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public and International Affairs and received a masters degree in 1964. He received his J.D. degree in 1967 from the University of Michigan Law School. He was admitted to the Nevada Bar in 1968 where he was in private practice until he was elected District Attorney of Douglas County in 1970. He served as District Attorney from 1971 to 1977. Governor O'Callaghan appointed Judge McKibben to the Ninth Judicial District Court in 1977 where he served until 1984.

Judge McKibben has served as president of the Ninth Circuit District Judges Association and the Nevada District Judges Association. He has been a member of the Ninth Circuit Judicial Council and was the chair of the Ninth Circuit Jury Committee. He served on the Nevada State Board of Bar Examiners for several years. Judge McKibben was one of the founders and a past president of the Nevada American Inn of Court, and he is one of the founders of the Bruce R. Thompson Inn of Court. He has served for many years on the faculty of the National Judicial College. Judge McKibben has participated with the American Bar Association's Central and Eastern European Law Initiative Program and has participated in seminars in Eastern Europe. Judge McKibben and his wife, Mary Ann, have two children.



Philip M. Pro

For more than twenty years, Philip M. Pro has served on the federal bench in the District of Nevada. Judge Pro was appointed Magistrate Judge in 1980 and served in that capacity until his appointment to the district court on July 23, 1987.

Judge Pro received his J.D. degree from Golden Gate University School of Law in June 1972. Shortly thereafter, he began his legal career as a law clerk for Judge William Compton of the Eighth Judicial District Court in Las Vegas. From 1973 to 1975, he served as a Deputy Public Defender for Clark County; as an Assistant United States Attorney both at Las Vegas and Reno from 1975 to 1977; as a partner in the law firm of Semenza, Murphy and Pro in Reno from 1977 to 1979; and as Deputy Attorney General for the State of Nevada assigned to the gaming division from 1979 to 1980.

In October 1993, Chief Justice Rehnquist appointed Judge Pro as chair of the Committee on the Administration of the Magistrate Judges System of the Judicial Conference of the United States, a position he held through October 1998. He has served as a member of the Board of Directors of the Federal Judges Association since 1992 and was elected vice president in 1997. From December 1986 to August 1993, Judge Pro was a member of the Ninth Circuit Jury Instructions Committee. He is an active member of the Nevada American Inn of Court, serving as its president from 1988 to 1990.

Judge Pro currently serves on the William S. Boyd School of Law Advisory Committee and on the State Bar of Nevada's Professionalism Committee. He is active in the *We, the People... the Citizen and the Constitution* program for high school students and has participated in a wide variety of continuing legal education programs sponsored by local, state and national bar associations, including the Department of Justice Attorney General Advocacy Institute. In 1999 and 2000, Judge Pro participated as a mock trial judge and panelist at international programs sponsored by the American Bar Association

and the International Law Enforcement Academy in Budapest, Hungary.



David Warner Hagen

Judge David Warner Hagen was born in Camden, Arkansas on October 2, 1931. He served in the United States Air Force from 1949 to 1952, obtaining the rank of Staff Sergeant. Judge Hagen served in Korea with the 606 Aircraft Control and Warning Squadron and Headquarters 5th Air Force from September 1950 until February 1952.

In 1956, Judge Hagen graduated from the University of Wisconsin with a bachelor of business administration in finance. In 1959, he earned his bachelor of laws from the University of San Francisco Law School. He was admitted to the California Bar in 1960 and the Nevada Bar in 1963.

Before moving to Reno in 1963, Judge Hagen practiced law in private law firms in Berkeley, California, and Loyalton, California. In Reno, he practiced law with Guild, Busey and Guild, which later became Guild & Hagen, Ltd. In 1991, he was honored as one of the Best Lawyers in America. As a member of the State Bar of Nevada, Judge Hagen served as chair of the Continuing Legal Education Committee from 1967 to 1975. He was president of the Nevada Barristers Club from 1968 to 1970. From 1983 to 1985, Judge Hagen was state chair for the American College of Trial Lawyers.

He served as chair of the Nevada Board of Bar Examiners from 1989 to 1991. From 1992 to 1993, he was president of the Thompson's Inn of Court. From 1981 to 1983, Judge Hagen served as the acting dean of the Nevada School of Law, formerly Old College Law School. He was an adjunct professor at the law school from 1981 to 1988.

Judge Hagen was confirmed by the United States Senate as a United States District Judge in 1993. Since his appointment to the federal bench, Judge Hagen has served on the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals Article III

Education Committee; he became chair of that committee in 1998.

Judge Hagen is an avid runner. He is a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 7246. He is also a member of the National Maritime Historical Society, United States Rowing Association, and United States Sailing Association.



Roger L. Hunt

Judge Roger L. Hunt was appointed United States District Judge for the District of Nevada in May 2000. Judge Hunt had served as a Magistrate Judge since July 1992, and was chair of the Executive Board of the Ninth Circuit Magistrate Judges Conference at the time of his confirmation.

A native Nevadan, Judge Hunt received his undergraduate degree in history from Brigham Young University in 1966. He worked on a master's degree for one year and then entered law school at the National Law Center at George Washington University, receiving his J.D. degree with honors in 1970. While attending law school, Judge Hunt worked on the staff of United States Senator Howard W. Cannon.

Judge Hunt passed the Nevada Bar in 1970 and was appointed Deputy District Attorney in January 1971. In December 1971, he joined the Las Vegas firm of Rose & Norwood; he became partner eighteen months later and remained with the firm under the name Edwards, Hunt, Hale & Hansen until his appointment to the bench in 1992.

Judge Hunt serves as the judicial liaison for the Criminal Justice Act Panel where he coordinates the Court Appointed Attorneys Panel. He chairs the Standing Committee on the Local Rules. He is also a past president of the Nevada American Inn of Court.

Judge Hunt and his wife, Mauna Sue, have six children.



Kent J. Dawson

Judge Dawson was confirmed by the United States Senate in May 2000 to fill one of the newly authorized seats in the United States District Court for the District of Nevada. He received his undergraduate degree in 1969 from Weber State College in Ogden, Utah, where he attended on athletic and music scholarships. After graduating from the University of Utah Law School in 1971, he clerked for Judge James Guinan in the Second Judicial District Court.

Judge Dawson became Henderson City Attorney in 1972 where he served until 1979. During that time he was instrumental in creation of the Henderson Public Improvement Trust, an issuer of tax exempt bonds. During his service, he represented the city in attracting Ethel M Chocolates, Levi Strauss, Breyers Ice Cream and many other businesses. He was also responsible for the first issuance of industrial development bonds in the cities of Las Vegas and North Las Vegas. Infrastructure for the master-planned communities of Lake at Las Vegas, Green Valley Ranch, McDonald Ranch and Seven Hills was financed with tax exempt bonds during his tenure. The communities have been the driving force behind Henderson becoming the fastest growing large city in the United States for the past two years. Judge Dawson served as legal counsel for that entity until his resignation in 1995 when he became a full-time judge.

Judge Dawson was in private practice from 1979 until 1995 when he was appointed Justice of the Peace for Henderson and was then elected for a six-year term. While engaged in private practice, he focused primarily in civil law. He was recognized by the Clark County Pro Bono Project for Outstanding Contribution by a Law Firm. Judge Dawson is an elected officer and director of the Henderson Chamber of Commerce, he received the Chamber's "Member of the Year" award and has donated his time in the creation of numerous charitable and community organizations.



Larry R. Hicks

Larry R. Hicks was appointed by President George W. Bush and was sworn in as a United States District Court Judge for the District of Nevada in 2001.

Judge Hicks received his bachelor of science degree from the University of Nevada, Reno in 1965 and his law degree from the University of Colorado School of Law in 1968. From 1968 to 1971, he served as Deputy District Attorney in Washoe County, Nevada, and in 1971 he became the Chief Criminal Deputy District Attorney. He was elected as Washoe County District Attorney in 1974 and served from 1974 through 1978. Judge Hicks successfully tried numerous murder, robbery and other major felony jury trials while with the District Attorney's office.

Judge Hicks joined the state-wide law firm of McDonald Carano Wilson McCune Bergin Frankovich & Hicks LLP as a partner in 1979 and practiced primarily in the areas of personal injury, commercial and complex litigation. He tried numerous civil jury and non jury cases and was the chair of the firm's litigation section from 1986 until he left the firm.

Judge Hicks is a past president of the State Bar of Nevada (1993-1994) and served on the Board of Governors of the State Bar from 1988 to 1994. He is a past president and a master of the Bruce R. Thompson Chapter of the American Inns of Court in Reno. In 1998, he was inducted as a fellow into the American College of Trial Lawyers. He also served as a delegate to the American Bar Association from 1994 until 2000.

Judge Hicks and his wife, Marianne, have three children. He and his wife are avid equestrians and outdoor enthusiasts.



James C. Mahan

Judge Mahan is a long-time resident of Las Vegas, having lived and practiced law there continuously since 1973. He was born in El Paso, Texas

during the Second World War, and he grew up in Grand Junction, Colorado.

Judge Mahan attended the University of Charleston, West Virginia, and following graduation, he served in the United States Navy from 1966 to 1969.

Upon receiving his honorable discharge, Judge Mahan attended Vanderbilt University Law School where he was selected for Vanderbilt's national moot court team. Following graduation from law school, Judge Mahan worked as a law clerk and then as an associate attorney. He was admitted to practice in Nevada in 1974. He was admitted to practice before the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, the United States Tax Court, and United States Supreme Court.

In 1982, Judge Mahan and Frank A. Ellis III formed the law firm of Mahan & Ellis, Chartered, where they practiced law primarily in the areas of business and commercial litigation for seventeen years. Judge Mahan was named in "Who's Who in America" and "Who's Who in the World," as well as "Who's Who in American Law."

In February 1999, Governor Kenny Guinn appointed Judge Mahan to the Clark County Judicial District Court. Judge Mahan served as chair of the Committee to Review and Revise the Eighth Judicial District Court Rules, as chair of the Clark Regional Judicial Counsel, as a member of the Joint Task Force on Civil/Criminal Specialization, and was appointed by the Nevada Supreme Court to the Study Committee to review the Nevada Rules of Civil Procedure.

In 2001, United States Senator John Ensign nominated Judge Mahan to the United States District Court. Judge Mahan formally took the Oath of Office on February 1, 2002.



Edward C. Reed, Jr.

President Jimmy Carter appointed Judge Reed to the United States District Court in October 1979. Judge Reed became Acting Chief Judge in

1983 and Chief Judge in 1986. He assumed his current status as Senior District Judge in July 1992.

After graduating from Reno High School in 1942, Judge Reed enlisted in the United States Army. During World War II, he served as a Staff Sergeant in the E.T.O. and the South Pacific; he was a prisoner of war in Germany in 1945. Judge Reed received his college education at the University of Nevada and went on to receive his J.D. degree from Harvard Law School in 1952.

Judge Reed worked as an attorney with Arthur Andersen & Co. in Boston before returning to Reno to join the law firm which later became Reed & Bowen. He served as a Special Deputy Attorney General of Nevada for water rights litigation from 1967 to 1979. Prior to becoming a member of the judiciary, Judge Reed served as a member of the Washoe County School Board (1956-1972). Reed High School, Sparks, Nevada, is named for him. Judge Reed is a member of Phi Kappa Phi, American Legion, State Bar of Nevada, the American Bar Association, and the American Judicature Society.



Lloyd D. George

Judge Lloyd D. George was appointed United States District Judge for the District of Nevada by President Ronald Reagan in May 1984. He served as Chief United States District Judge from 1992 to 1997, and assumed senior status in December 1997.

Judge George was a pilot in the United States Air Force. He received his bachelor of science degree in 1955 from Brigham Young University, and his J.D. degree in 1961 from the University of California at Berkeley (Boalt Hall). Upon graduating, he returned to Las Vegas where he built a successful private practice.

In 1974, Judge George was appointed to the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Nevada. During his ten years of

sservice as a bankruptcy judge, he served on and was instrumental in the creation of bankruptcy appellate panels which permit panels of three bankruptcy judges to hear appeals directly from bankruptcy courts.

In 1996, Judge George was selected to represent the Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit as a member of the Judicial Conference of the United States, the national policy-making and management body of the federal judiciary. That year Chief Justice Rehnquist also appointed him to the Conference's Executive Committee. Prior to his appointment to the Judicial Conference, he served for a number of years on three Judicial Conference committees and was the chair of two.

Judge George has distinguished himself as an expert in the organization of the judiciary. While serving on the International Judicial Relations Committee from 1993 to 1997, he and other judicial colleagues from various countries participated in numerous seminars and lectured on constitutional issues and court structure in Eastern Europe and the nations of the former Soviet Union. In 1996, he chaired a committee that worked to update the long-range national plan for the judiciary. He has also been a board member of the Federal Judicial Center (the education and research arm of the federal judiciary) where he served for four years with Chief Justice Warren Burger.

He has authored articles on the administration of the federal judiciary, ethics and insolvency. He has won many awards, including the Brigham Young University Alumni Distinguished Service Award, the Notre Dame Club's John C. Mowbray Humanitarian of the Year Award, and the Boy Scouts of America Silver Beaver Award.

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY JUDGES



Gregg W. Zive

Chief Judge Zive was sworn in as a United States Bankruptcy Judge for the District of Nevada in January 1995. He became Chief Judge effective October 1, 1999.

Judge Zive graduated from the University of Nevada in 1967, with a bachelor of arts in journalism. He graduated *magna cum laude* from the University of Notre Dame Law School in 1973, where he was a member and an editor of the law review. Prior to becoming a judge, Judge Zive's practice was as a general civil litigator, concentrating in the areas of commercial, contract, real property, and employment relations law.

Judge Zive was admitted to the bars of California (1973) and Nevada (1976). He is also a member of the Washoe County Bar Association (president, 1992-1993), member of the executive board National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges (Board of Governors 1999-2001), and American Bankruptcy Institute. He is a trustee of the Access to Justice Foundation of Washoe County, Nevada, and a master in the Bruce R. Thompson Chapter of the American Inns of Court.



Robert Clive Jones

Bankruptcy Judge Robert Clive Jones was born and raised in Las Vegas, Nevada. He is married to Michele Bunker Jones and is the father of four children.

He graduated from Brigham Young University with honors in accounting and then attended UCLA School of Law where he was associate editor of the law review, member of the Order of the Coif, and member of the Order of Barristers. He served in the Nevada and California National Guard.

Judge Jones passed the CPA examination in 1971 and obtained his CPA Certificate in November of 1976. He clerked for Judge J. Clifford Wallace, Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, and practiced law from 1976 to 1983. He is a member of the State Bars of California and Nevada and has been

admitted to the United States Tax Court.

Judge Jones was appointed as United States Bankruptcy Judge for the District of Nevada in February of 1983. He was appointed to the United States Bankruptcy Appellate Panel of the Ninth Circuit in November 1986, and served on that Panel until 1999. Judge Jones served as a member of the Judicial Conference Committee on Codes of Conduct from October 1989 until 1995.



Linda B. Riegle

Judge Linda B. Riegle was born and raised in Greenville, Ohio. She graduated *magna cum laude* from Shepherd College in West Virginia in 1970 with a bachelor of science degree. Judge Riegle received a masters degree from the Graduate School of Public Affairs at the State University of New York at Albany in 1972, and her J.D. degree from Albany Law School in 1977, where she was a member and an editor of the law review. She worked for the New York State Legislature in various capacities from 1971 to 1977.

Judge Riegle was employed at Lionel Sawyer & Collins in Las Vegas from 1977 to 1988, becoming the first female partner in that firm in 1983.

In January 1988, Judge Riegle was appointed as a United States Bankruptcy Judge for the District of Nevada. She served as Chief Bankruptcy Judge for the District of Nevada from July 1993 until October 1999, and served as chair of the Conference of Chief Bankruptcy Judges of the Ninth Circuit from October 1998 until October 1999.

She has served as the chair of the Standing Committee on the Local Rules for the District of Nevada, as chair of the 2001 District of Nevada Conference Committee, as a member of the Ninth Circuit Fairness Committee, and as a member of the Board of Governors of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges.

She has served as a pro tem judge on the Bankruptcy Appellate Panel of the Ninth

Circuit and has lectured at numerous conferences and workshops.



Bert M. Goldwater

Judge Bert M. Goldwater was born on January 4, 1915, in San Francisco, California. He first came to Reno, Nevada, at an early age where he was raised by his grandparents. Following his graduation from the University of Nevada in 1936, Judge Goldwater attended the University of Colorado School of Law. He was a member of Phi Alpha Delta and served on the Board of Editors of the "Rocky Mountain Law Review." He received his law degree in 1939.

Judge Goldwater was admitted to the Nevada Bar in 1939, beginning his legal career in private practice. He served as president of the Washoe County Bar Association, and from 1940 to 1955, he was a member of the Nevada Board of Bar Examiners where he was chair of that board. In 1954, he was elected a member of the American College of Trial Lawyers, and in 1995, he was named the national chair of the National Conference of Bar Examiners.

Judge Goldwater was chair of the first Nevada Human Rights Commission and was a member of the Nevada Gaming Commission. He was chair of the Commission appointed by the Nevada State Legislature to study Nevada's taxation system and was state chair of the Save Our Schools Committee which brought about the Nevada state sales tax.

Judge Goldwater began his judicial appointment as a Referee in Bankruptcy in 1964, and he was officially installed as a United States Bankruptcy Judge in 1973, in which capacity he served until his resignation in 1982. He went on to practice as a member of the law firm of Lionel Sawyer & Collins until resigning from the firm in 1992.

In 1994, Judge Goldwater was recalled as a United States Bankruptcy Judge and continues to serve in that capacity today.

UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGES



Lawrence R. Leavitt

A native of Chicago, Illinois, Judge Leavitt is a 1959 graduate of the University of Illinois at Urbana. After receiving a masters degree in philosophy from the University of California at Berkeley, he received his J.D. degree in 1969 from the University of California Boalt Hall School of Law. He was admitted to the Nevada Bar in 1970.

After a year in private practice, Judge Leavitt spent six years in the Clark County District Attorney's Office, first as a deputy district attorney and then as a chief deputy district attorney, where he prosecuted a variety of murder cases and other cases involving crimes of violence and drug trafficking. In 1978, he was appointed Chief Assistant United States Attorney for the District of Nevada. He served as the Chief Assistant for three and a half years, and prosecuted a number of public corruption and other white collar crime cases. Thereafter, Judge Leavitt spent six years in the Justice Department's Organized Crime and Racketeering Strike Force in Las Vegas, first as a trial attorney and then as the attorney in charge of that office, during which time he prosecuted numerous members of organized crime until his appointment to the bench in 1987.

Judge Leavitt serves as the chair of the Criminal Rules Subcommittee of the District of Nevada Standing Committee on the Local Rules and is an active member of the Nevada American Inn of Court, for which he served two terms as president.

Judge Leavitt is married and has one daughter, one stepson, and two grandchildren.



Robert J. Johnston

Judge Robert J. Johnston has served as a United States Magistrate Judge since 1987. He graduated from the University of the Pacific's McGeorge School of Law in 1977, and then clerked for Judge Merlyn H. Hoyt in the Seventh Judicial District in Ely, Nevada.

Prior to his appointment to the bench,

Judge Johnston was Chief of the Civil Section of the United States Attorney's Office. From 1979 to 1982, Judge Johnston served as the District Attorney for White Pine County and also maintained a private practice.

Judge Johnston participates in a variety of professional and social organizations. He served on the Pro Se & Prisoner Litigation Committee and the Advisory Committee of Magistrate Judges for the Administrative Office of the United States Courts. Judge Johnston also served as the Circuit Director for the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals for the Federal Magistrate Judge Association. While on the Ninth Circuit Conference Executive Committee from 1996 to 1999, he participated in organizing three circuit conferences.

Recently named as the District of Nevada's court historian, Judge Johnston is currently taking oral histories of his colleagues. These oral histories will eventually be transcribed and submitted to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals Historical Society. Passionate about history, Judge Johnston hopes that the personal interviews provide a more insightful understanding of the person. Among others, he has completed oral histories on Judge John Wooley of Kansas, the last of the original twenty-nine federal magistrate judges; Judge Venetta Tassopoulos, the first woman federal magistrate judge; and Judge Phyllis Halsey Atkins, the first woman federal magistrate judge from the District of Nevada.

Additionally, Judge Johnston is active in local organizations. He sits on the Congressional Award Council of Nevada and the President's Advisory Board for the Community College of Southern Nevada. He is the director of the Boulder Dam Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America and holds a leadership position within his church. Judge Johnston has taught a class for inmates to prepare them for reentry into the community upon their release from incarceration.

In his spare time, Judge Johnston enjoys running (including the Boston Marathon three times), Native American dancing, traveling, and spending time with his wife, Julie, and their three children.



Robert A. McQuaid, Jr.

Judge McQuaid earned a bachelor of arts degree from the University of Nevada, Reno in 1968. He received his law degree from Willamette University College of Law in 1971, and was admitted to the State Bar of Nevada that year.

Judge McQuaid served as a lawyer representative to the Ninth Circuit Judicial Conference (1987-1989) and was active in the State Bar of Nevada serving on the Fee Dispute Committee, the Disciplinary Committee, and the Medical-Legal Screening Panel.

Before his appointment to the bench in 1996, Judge McQuaid was a partner in the law firm of Georgeson, McQuaid, Thompson & Angaran in Reno.

Judge McQuaid is a member of the State Bar of Nevada and the American Board of Trial Advocates. He is a fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers and a master in the Bruce R. Thompson American Inn of Court.



Valerie P. Cooke

Valerie P. Cooke was appointed as a United States Magistrate Judge in 1999. Prior to her appointment, she was a partner in the law firm of McDonald Carano Wilson McCune Bergin Frankovich & Hicks LLP where she devoted her practice to creditors' rights in bankruptcy and commercial litigation.

Judge Cooke graduated *cum laude* from the University of Nevada, Reno with a bachelor of arts degree in English. A third generation Nevada lawyer, she received her J.D. degree from Northwestern School of Law of Lewis and Clark College in Portland, Oregon, where she served on the law review and was a member of the Cornelius Honor Society.

In 1995, Governor Bob Miller appointed Judge Cooke to the Nevada Tax Commission, where she served as vice-chair until her appointment to the bench. From 1997 until her appointment, she served on the Nevada Judicial Discipline Commission, and she was

president of Northern Nevada Women Lawyers Association in 1990. Judge Cooke was named as the 2001 recipient of the Outstanding Woman Lawyer Award by Northern Nevada Women Lawyers Association. She is a master in the Bruce R. Thompson Inn of Court and served as chair of the 2002 District of Nevada Conference Committee. She is a member of the Ninth Circuit's Standing Committee on Alternative Dispute Resolution.



Peggy A. Leen

Peggy A. Leen was appointed United States Magistrate Judge on January 16, 2001. A Nevada resident for more than thirty years, she attended the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, graduating with a degree in political science in 1976, and received her J.D. from the University of San Diego Law School in 1979.

Judge Leen has a diverse legal background as both a criminal and civil trial lawyer. She worked as a volunteer for the Clark County Public Defender's Office as a student at UNLV, and later did an externship with that office while in law school. As a law student extern practicing under Nevada's newly adopted student practice rule, she represented clients in felony preliminary hearings and tried one felony jury trial. After law school she worked as a Deputy Public Defender and tried a number of felony jury trials before joining the civil litigation firm of Thorndal, Backus, Maupin & Armstrong. Judge Leen became a partner in that firm in 1983 and was the managing partner for three years. While in private practice, she litigated mass disaster, toxic tort, radiation and employment cases in both state and federal court.

Judge Leen left private practice in 1995, and joined the Clark County District Attorney's Office where she prosecuted capital and other murder cases as a member of the major violator's unit. Just prior to her appointment, she defended the County in

eminent domain and tort cases as a Deputy District Attorney in the civil division.

She is the only woman lawyer from the State of Nevada who has been elected a fellow of the International Society of Barristers, the International Academy of Trial Lawyers, and the American College of Trial Lawyers.



Phyllis Halsey Atkins

Phyllis Halsey Atkins has the distinction of being the first full-time female federal judge in the District of Nevada. After serving as a United States Magistrate Judge part-time beginning in August 1980, Judge Atkins was appointed full-time in October 1982.

Born in Colorado, Judge Atkins received a bachelor of arts degree in business administration from Walla Walla College in Washington state. She earned her J.D. degree from California Western University School of Law in 1965.

After being admitted to practice in Nevada and California, Judge Atkins began her legal career in 1966 with the law firm of Streeter, Sala, McAuliffe and Richards, where she remained for five years. In 1971, she joined the Reno firm of Thornton & Stephens as an associate. She became a partner two years later, with a subsequent change of firm name to Thornton, Stephens, Atkins and Kellison. From 1978 to 1982, Judge Atkins engaged in private practice as a sole practitioner.

In 1999, Judge Atkins was honored by the Northern Nevada Women Lawyers Association as "NNWLA Woman Lawyer of the Year." The same year, she was presented with a "Women of Achievement" award from the Nevada Women's Fund.

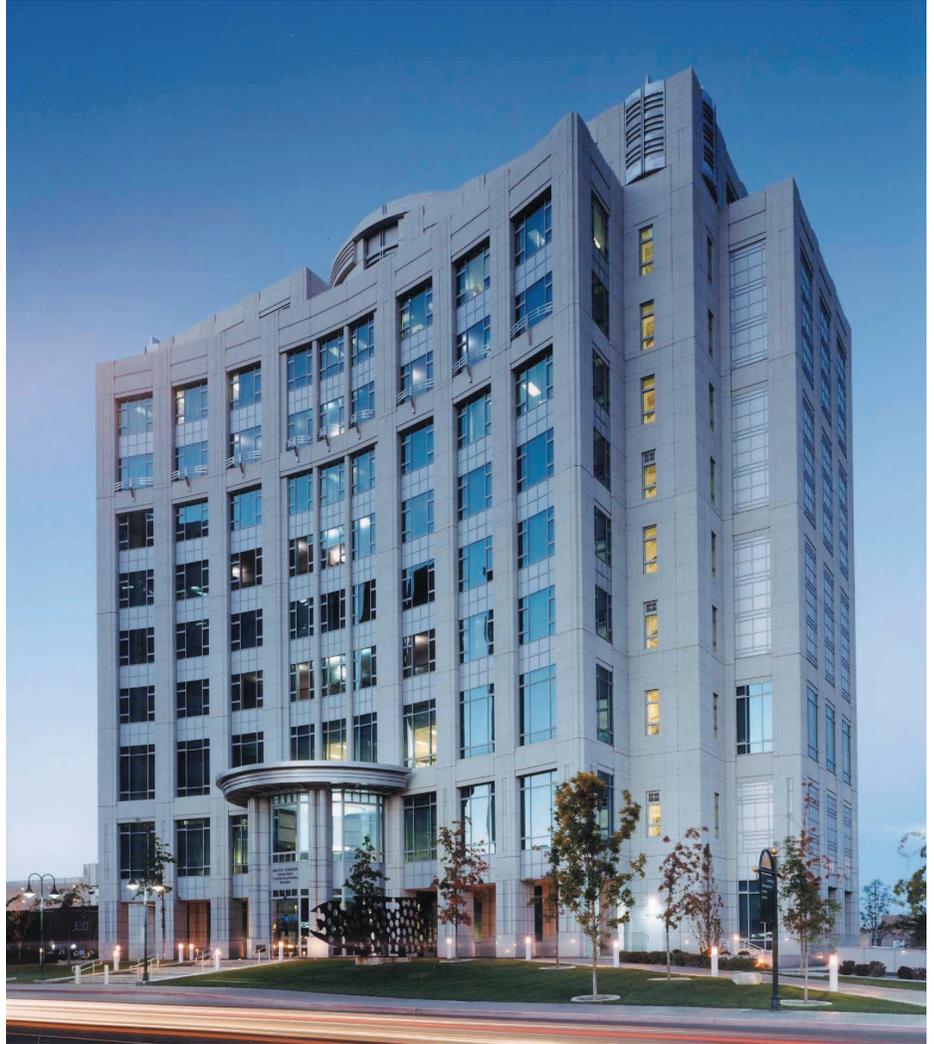
Judge Atkins officially retired from her judicial position on October 31, 1999, but immediately returned to the bench and served as a Recalled Retired United States Magistrate Judge until November 3, 2001.

Judge Atkins is married to Thomas A. Atkins; they have one adult son, Jeffrey.



Lobbies in the Bruce R. Thompson United States Courthouse in Reno, Nevada, offer panoramic views of the Sierra Nevada mountains.

UNITED STATES COURTHOUSES



Top: A cast bronze bust of United States District Judge Bruce R. Thompson awaits visitors in the courthouse rotunda.

Bottom: The distinctive grillwork design of the building's exterior is repeated throughout the interior of the courthouse, particularly in the unique woodwork of the spacious courtrooms.

THE BRUCE R. THOMPSON UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE AND FEDERAL BUILDING

On March 11, 1996, the Bruce R. Thompson United States Courthouse and Federal Building was completed in Reno, Nevada. The 191,000 square foot, eleven story building includes six courtrooms, chambers for federal judges, court agency offices, the Nevada Congressional delegation, and the United States Marshals Service. The building's exterior is made of Sierra white granite on the ground level with decorative aluminum inset panels and precast concrete on the upper elevations. The concrete panels are colored and textured to simulate the white granite. The building also includes an impressive entryway consisting of a two story glass and steel rotunda.

Nevada courthouses have always depicted in both form and name “the importance we place on justice, law enforcement and public service,” according to United States Senator Harry Reid.

Officials Break Ground for New Courthouse, Las Vegas Review Journal, July 10, 1994.



THE LLOYD D. GEORGE UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE

The Lloyd D. George United States Courthouse was completed in the spring of 2000. The 456,000 square foot, 175-foot tall building extends eight stories above ground and one story below ground. The building houses ten courtrooms and has been constructed to accommodate up to eight more courtrooms with some minor renovation. The building is expected to meet the district court’s needs in southern Nevada through the year 2022.

While evocative of the strength and uniqueness of the American judicial system, the courthouse is also inviting and open and an excellent addition to the Las Vegas downtown area. The courthouse is named for Senior United States District Court Judge Lloyd D. George, whose federal judicial career includes ten years as a Bankruptcy Judge and eighteen years as a District Judge.

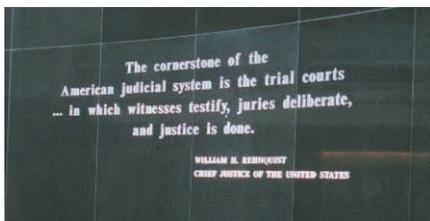


Top: The design of the dome over the courthouse entry allows natural light to flood the expansive rotunda.

Bottom: The courtrooms feature cherry wood and blue pearl granite finishes along with numerous examples of state-of-the-art court technology.

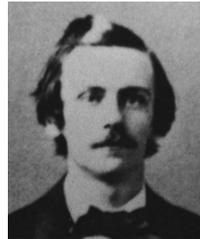
*The cornerstone of
the American judicial system
is the trial courts
...in which witnesses testify,
juries deliberate
and justice is done.*

*William Rehnquist
Chief Justice of the United States*



Chief Justice Rehnquist's eloquent words appear in brushed aluminum letters on a black granite wall in the rotunda of the Lloyd D. George United States Courthouse in Las Vegas, Nevada.

FORMER UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGES



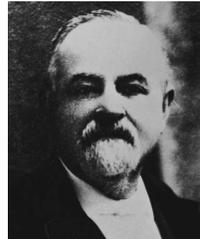
*Alexander White Baldwin
1865 - 1869*



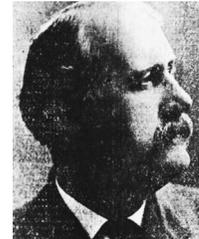
*Edgar Winters Hillger
1869 - 1882*



*George Myron Sabin
1882 - 1890*



*Thomas Porter Hawley
1890 - 1906*



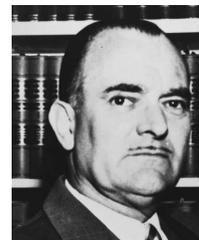
*Edward Silsby Farrington
1907 - 1928*



*Frank Herbert Norcross
1928 - 1945*



*Roger T. Foley
1945 - 1974*



*John R. Ross
1954 - 1963*



*Roger D. Foley
1962 - 1996*



*Bruce R. Thompson
1963 - 1992*



*Harry E. Claiborne
1978 - 1986*



*Johnnie B. Rawlinson
1998 - 2000*

FORMER UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY JUDGES

Prior to October 1, 1979, this position was called Referee in Bankruptcy



*Felice Cohn
1924 - 1932*



*Gray Mashburn
1947 - 1949*



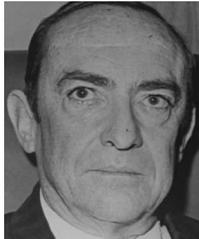
*Frank Ingram
1949 - 1955*



*John C. Mowbray
July 5, 1955 -
April 20, 1959*

No
Picture
Available

*Leslie E. Riggins
Jan. 12, 1957 -
Aug. 30, 1964*



*Russell B. Taylor
May 20, 1959 -
Oct. 31, 1974*



*Lloyd D. George
Feb. 28, 1974 -
May 3, 1984*



*James H. Thompson
Sept. 9, 1985 -
Oct. 1, 1994*



FORMER UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGES

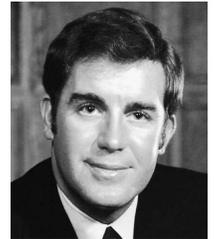
From 1789 to October 17, 1968, this position was called United States Commissioner. From October 18, 1968, to November 30, 1990, this position was called United States Magistrate.



*Stewart R. Wilson
June 14, 1971 -
July 31, 1972*



*William G. Ruymann
June 14, 1971 -
Oct. 5, 1972*



*G. Russell Pike
June 14, 1971 -
Feb. 28, 1975*



*Jack B. Ames
Aug. 1, 1972 -
Oct. 3, 1982*



*Joseph L. Ward
Oct. 6, 1972 -
Oct. 5, 1980*



*Thomas O. Craven
Mar. 1, 1975 -
Jan. 29, 1976*



*Harold O. Taber
Apr. 1, 1976 -
Dec. 23, 1979*



*John D. O'Brien
Mar. 24, 1978 -
Dec. 9, 1983*



*Philip M. Pro
Oct. 6, 1980 -
July 23, 1987*



*Richard D. Edwards
Dec. 11, 1981 -
Oct. 3, 1982*



*Elliott A. Sattler
Dec. 12, 1983 -
Dec. 11, 1987*



*Roger L. Hunt
July 13, 1992 -
May 25, 2000*

UNITED STATES COURTHOUSES



THE PAUL LAXALT STATE OFFICE BUILDING

(Nevada's First United States Courthouse)

On May 19, 1891, the first United States Courthouse in Nevada was completed. The structure, built in Carson City, cost \$134,605.53. The courthouse was designed by Miffilin E. Bell, a prominent nineteenth century federal government architect who also designed post offices in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and Brooklyn, New York. As he had done previously, Bell included a three-faced clock atop an impressive 106-foot tower. The Joseph Barborka Company of Iowa built the clock, and it runs on a complex system of weights and pulleys spanning four stories. The clock must be wound by hand every ten days.

The courthouse in Carson City is the only example of the Richardsonian Romanesque architectural style in the state and is characterized by dark red brick walls and asymmetrical massing atop a granite foundation, giving it an air of strength and stability.

Upon its completion, the new structure contained a post office, land office, weather bureau, and federal court. The building housed the federal court in Nevada until 1965, when the offices of the court were moved to Reno.

On May 17, 1971, the building was conveyed to the State of Nevada by quit claim deed, and in 1979 it was added to the National Register of Historic Places. On May 15, 1999, the building was named the Paul Laxalt State Office Building in honor of the former United States Senator from Nevada.



THE UNITED STATES POST OFFICE AND COURTHOUSE

The United States Post Office and Courthouse, completed in 1933, was the first civil federal structure erected in Las Vegas. The courthouse is an impressive three story block building featuring a flat roof and a central colonnade flanked on both sides by massive end bays. Its structure is an arrangement developed in eighteenth century France and adapted by the United States government for use in a variety of buildings. The United States Post Office and Courthouse was significant to the Las Vegas community in two respects. Architecturally, the building represented the eclectic revivalism of the Treasury Department's depression era Supervising Architect's office. Politically, the United States Post Office and Courthouse, like the concurrent Boulder Dam project, symbolized the presence and involvement of the federal government in the burgeoning desert town.

UNITED STATES COURTHOUSES



THE C. CLIFTON YOUNG FEDERAL BUILDING AND UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE

The federal building in Reno was completed in March 1965. The building was a much needed addition, housing thirty-one federal agencies which had previously been scattered throughout the Reno and Carson City areas. The United States District Court moved from its previous home in Carson City and occupied the top two floors. The district court's area included space for judges' chambers, the offices of the United States Attorney, the United States Marshal, jury rooms, bankruptcy court, detention cells, and a snack bar.

On December 5, 1988, the Reno Federal Building was named the C. Clifton Young Federal Building and United States Courthouse in honor of a Nevada Supreme Court justice, Cliff Young, who is also a former United States Representative and a former state senator.



THE FOLEY FEDERAL BUILDING AND UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE

The first tenants moved to the Foley Federal Building in August 1967. The building is a rectangular structure with four stories plus a basement and a roof-top mechanical penthouse. The exterior of the building features marble, architectural cast stone, metal, concrete panels, and aluminum framing the windows and entranceway. The structure cost approximately \$4 million.

The Foley Federal Building included two courtrooms for the United States District Court and accommodations for a third courtroom when the need arose. In addition to the courts, the building was designed to house numerous federal agencies. Prior to the building's construction, the district court and fourteen federal agencies occupied offices spread throughout Las Vegas.

On December 10, 1984, the building was renamed the Foley Federal Building in honor of the Foley family's dedication to public service which included nearly 300 years of combined legal service in Nevada.



Eldorado, a painting by Brent Thomson. The landscape depicts an environment that is both grand and inviting in its unspoiled beauty. *Eldorado* is located in the ground floor elevator lobby of the Lloyd D. George United States Courthouse in Las Vegas, Nevada.

COURTHOUSE CONSTRUCTION AND OTHER SPACE PROJECTS

A recent major accomplishment was the relocation of the district court in Las Vegas to the newly constructed Lloyd D. George United States Courthouse. The court is proud to have this outstanding new courthouse named after the Honorable Lloyd D. George, Senior United States District Judge. It is rare to have a courthouse named after a sitting judge, and this honor is a reflection of the enduring impact Judge George has had on the administration of justice in the District of Nevada and the country. The court is also pleased to report that the George Courthouse was completed on time and within budget.

The court is currently involved in a major renovation project at the Foley Federal Building in Las Vegas which houses the bankruptcy court. During the renovation project, the bankruptcy court will be relocated to the Lloyd D. George United States Courthouse. This will require the construction of two courtrooms and chambers and other modifications to accommodate the bankruptcy clerk's office.

While the Bruce R. Thompson United States Courthouse in Reno is only a little over five years old, the court will be out of space in the building within three to four years. The court has begun the process of updating the long range space and facilities plan to identify how to address the space requirements in the Thompson Courthouse.

General Services Administration is also in the process of developing the long range plans for the C. Clifton Young Federal Building and United States Courthouse which currently houses the bankruptcy court in Reno. The court is very active in this process and is dedicated to preserving the two district court courtrooms on the fifth floor of the courthouse.

COURT SECURITY

The District of Nevada has a very active Court Security Committee, chaired by Judge George. All of the district court judges, magistrate judges and bankruptcy judges, as well as representatives from every agency in the various federal courthouses within the district, serve on the committee. The Court Security Committee routinely meets quarterly and at other times as the need arises.

In response to the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks on America and the anthrax mail threats, numerous security enhancements were made at all federal courthouses in the District of Nevada. The court is appreciative of the excellent working relationship which exists between the United States Marshal's Office, Federal Protective Service, and General Services Administration. Through the cooperative effort of these agencies, as well as the other agencies located in the various courthouses throughout the district, the court responded in a timely and efficient manner to new security requirements.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

CLERK'S OFFICE



Lance S. Wilson
District Court Executive/Clerk of Court

The United States District Court Clerk's Office is administered by Lance S. Wilson, who serves as the District Court Executive and Clerk of Court. Mr. Wilson was appointed on January 30, 1995, after having served five years as Clerk of Court for the United States District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania and two years as Chief Deputy Clerk for the United States District Court for the District of Arizona. The District Court Clerk's Office has a staff of forty-four in Las Vegas and twenty-five in Reno.

The role of the clerk's office is varied and complex. The major functions in the clerk's office can be divided into two areas: administrative support and operational support. Administrative support includes the following areas: personnel management, budgeting, jury administration, automation support and development, space and facilities management, financial accounting, and short and long range planning. These support functions are similar to the support functions found in any private sector business.

The operational support side of the clerk's office deals more directly with the support provided to the bench, the bar, and the public. Major responsibilities include records management, docketing, case management, statistical preparation and analysis, court recording and reporting, handling of exhibits, imaging of pleadings, responding to inquiries from the public, intake of documents, and administration of the Criminal Justice Act. A majority of the personnel in the clerk's office are assigned to these operational support functions.

The clerk's office strives to provide excellent customer service to the bench, the bar, and the public. Additional information about the clerk's office and telephone numbers can be found on the court's Internet web site at www.nvd.uscourts.gov.



BUDGET

Several years ago the Administrative Office of the United States Courts developed and implemented a decentralized budget program. Through this process, the court is allocated funds and makes decisions at the local level as to the best use of these funds. The amount of money the Administrative Office allocates is determined primarily through the application of a number of formulas.

As with most public and private sector organizations, a vast majority of the budget is allotted for salaries of employees. A staffing formula consisting of a number of workload factors including the number of filings of civil cases, criminal felony defendants, and appeals; the number of jurors appearing; the number of judicial officers; the number of staff; the number of judges using electronic court recorder operators; and the number of divisional offices is used to determine the number of work units for which the clerk's office will be funded. Similar formulas determine the amount of funds received for operational expenses such as postage, automation, supplies and equipment, travel, and numerous other budget object codes.

As an example of the amount of funding received, in Fiscal Year 2001, the court received \$3,479,805 for salary expenses for clerk's office staff (chambers staff is not included in the decentralized budget program); \$476,801 for operating expenses, and \$304,346 for automation related expenses. The court fared very well in 2001 as sufficient funds were available to fulfill all of the court's needs and, for the first time, the clerk's office was able to offer funds to other court units and return funds to the Administrative Office. The majority of the extra funds were from the personnel allotment as vacancy savings were accrued by not hiring additional personnel.

Projections for Fiscal Year 2002 are not as promising due to changes in the manner in which the Administrative Office calculates prisoner filings and other statistical changes. These changes resulted in the clerk's office loss of funding for a number of positions. While no staff reductions will occur, it is anticipated that there will be very little, if any, discretionary funding available once non-discretionary funding obligations are met.

The clerk's office prepares an annual spending plan which details the status of the budget, identifies any anticipated shortfalls in specific areas, and recommends how any discretionary funding should be used at the end of the fiscal year. This spending plan is reviewed and approved by the Board of Judges.

COURTHOUSE AUTOMATION, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATIONS

The two newest courthouses in the district, the Bruce R. Thompson United States Courthouse in Reno and the Lloyd D. George United States Courthouse in Las Vegas, offer numerous examples of state-of-the-art technology. Kiosks at the entrances provide a directory of the agencies and their locations. Enhanced kiosks are planned which will display court calendars and public events being held in the courthouses. Both clerk's offices have large, comfortable intake areas with private research/review work spaces. Computers are available for visitors to access the court's electronic docketing program and to view case information and images of documents on file.

DOCKETING AND IMAGING

The United States District Court recently implemented new programs which make it possible to provide access to the court's imaged documents and related docketing and calendaring information via the Internet. The court is also part of the National Case/Party Index and PACER systems, as are a majority of the federal courts nationwide. These systems allow remote public access to the court's party index and electronic case records.

The documents in cases filed from the year 2000 and forward have been imaged and are available to the court and the public. In keeping with Judicial Conference policy, documents in social security cases and criminal cases are not available to the public. However, counsel are provided with access to criminal documents filed in specific cases in which they are associated. Hard copy docket sheets are also imaged to provide the court and the public with on-line information regarding those cases in existence before electronic docketing.

EMAIL MIGRATION

The Administrative Office of the United States Courts is migrating the internal mail system of the federal courts to Lotus Notes. The migration is expected to be completed by May 2002.

VIDEO CONFERENCING

In both Las Vegas and Reno, there is video conferencing in one courtroom, the judges' conference room, and one general purpose conference room. Video conferencing is used extensively for judicial, court staff, and committee meetings between Las Vegas and Reno. Video conferencing is also frequently used in the courtroom in lieu of physical court appearances particularly with regard to inmates in the Nevada prison system who are parties or witnesses in civil cases pending in the court. The court has also made its video conferencing systems available to other agencies who use it for meetings and for continuing legal education and Criminal Justice Act training.

REMOTE ACCESS AND PALM PILOTS

All judicial officers have been provided with laptop computers which enable them to remotely access the court's computers.

Palm Pilots have also been made available to the judicial officers. The Palm Pilots can combine the judge's courtroom calendar with their personal calendars. This feature allows judges to easily take their calendars with them.

SYSTEM UPGRADES

The court purchases upgraded desktop computers for approximately one-third of the office every fiscal year (if adequate funding is available). This cyclical upgrade of computers ensures that computers being used are no more than three years old and can keep pace with current applications in use for case management. The court also attempts to upgrade computer servers every three years to keep pace with technological advances.

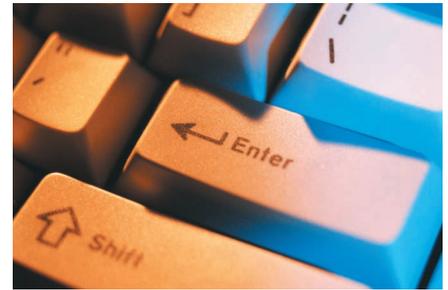
COURTROOM TECHNOLOGY

The bulk of the court technology is found in the courtrooms. Experts in acoustics, lighting, and evidence presentation were consulted in the design of the courtrooms, and efforts were made to accommodate not only the current technology, but future technology as well.

Examples of courtroom technology include:

- State-of-the-art sound reinforcement systems with digital processors.
- Integrated telephone conferencing systems which allow the court to conduct hearings with counsel and parties at multiple locations.
- Provisions for more private side bar conferences. Side bars are conducted either behind an acoustical panel using a dedicated microphone connected only to the recording system or through the use of a specially installed telephone system to allow counsel and the judge to confer while remaining seated in their respective locations in the courtroom. During side bars, the voice reinforcement systems can be muted while music or pink noise is generated through the speakers over the jury box.
- Hearing-impaired and simultaneous interpretation system. This technology uses infrared transmitters to transmit sound from a headset with a microphone worn by an interpreter to headsets worn by others in the courtroom, i.e., witnesses, parties, etc., who require language interpretation or who are hearing impaired. There is also an interface with the telephone systems which enables use of long distance interpreters via the telephone.
- Four-track recording equipment.
- The capability for “real-time” court reporting and transcript distribution. With “real-time” court reporting, a court reporter, with appropriate training and computer software and equipment, can generate transcripts simultaneous to “taking the record.” This component can distribute/display the electronic transcript throughout the courtroom.
- Sound transmission of the proceedings to adjacent holding cells.
- Digital evidence display systems contained in lectern-type carts. Typically these systems include a digital document camera which allows the display of anything placed on or near the camera. The displayed image can be enlarged or minimized and presented normally or in the negative. A touch-screen monitor can be used as an “illustrator” to mark or draw on any image. Images are displayed on either a drop-down screen or portable monitors which can be removed when not in use. Flat-screen monitors are also available on counsel tables and at various other locations throughout the courtroom. The evidence systems are designed to accommodate a variety of input sources including counsels’ laptop computers, DVDs, laserdisc players and specialized VCRs.

Many technological enhancements are planned including the installation of video-conferencing in all courtrooms and the jury assembly rooms, individual evidence display monitors inside the jury boxes, Internet access at counsel tables within the courtrooms, monitors outside of each courtroom to display court calendars, and more computers for public use at various locations within the courthouses.



The court's Internet web site continues to be enhanced, including links to PACER, images, local rules, forms, frequently asked questions, court information and links to other court-related sites.

The district court's web site can be accessed at www.nvd.uscourts.gov.

DISTRICT COURT CASELOAD

CIVIL CASES

CIVIL CASE FILINGS

Civil filings reached a plateau in the District of Nevada over the past two years. There is only a seven case difference in the number of civil cases filed district wide in Fiscal Year 2001 as compared to Fiscal Year 2000. Civil filings in Las Vegas decreased by 82 cases while Reno civil filings increased by 75 cases.

Civil Case Filings for Fiscal Year

	2000		2001		% Change 2000 to 2001
Las Vegas	1,665	71%	1,583	68%	-5%
Reno	674	29%	749	32%	+11%
TOTAL	2,339		2,332		-

CIVIL CASE TERMINATIONS

The decrease in civil filings was accompanied by a decrease in case terminations of 8% for Fiscal Year 2001 when compared to the same period in 2000. Reno experienced a 7% decrease in civil terminations while Las Vegas had an 8% decrease.

Civil Case Terminations for Fiscal Year

	2000		2001		% Change 2000 to 2001
Las Vegas	1,682	72%	1,540	72%	-8%
Reno	654	28%	609	28%	-7%
TOTAL	2,336		2,149		-8%

PENDING CIVIL CASELOAD

The district realized a 2% increase in the pending civil caseload for the period ending September 30, 2001, when compared to the same period in 2000. There was a 17% increase in pending Reno civil cases in 2001, while Las Vegas had a 5% decrease during the same period.

Pending Civil Cases for Fiscal Year

	2000		2001		% Change 2000 to 2001
Las Vegas	1,700	69%	1,610	64%	-5%
Reno	770	31%	901	36%	+17%
TOTAL	2,470		2,511		+2%

PENDING CIVIL CASES OVER THREE YEARS OLD

Pending civil cases over three years old constituted 4% of the total pending civil caseload for Fiscal Year 2000 and decreased to 3% for Fiscal Year 2001, placing the district well below the 14% national average in this category.

Civil Cases Pending Over Three Years

Reporting Period	No. Pending Over 3 Years	Pending Cases	Percent of Pending Cases
Sept., 2001	76	2,511	3%
March, 2001	78	2,443	3%
Sept., 2000	98	2,470	4%
March, 2000	70	2,447	3%

CRIMINAL CASES

CRIMINAL CASE AND DEFENDANT FILINGS

For the period ending September 30, 2001, the court experienced increases of 5% for criminal cases and 1% for defendant filings over the same period in 2000. The increase in criminal cases was almost evenly split between Las Vegas (12 cases, 3% increase) and Reno (14 cases, 9% increase). There was a 7% increase in the number of criminal defendants in Reno and a 2% decrease in Las Vegas.

Criminal Cases Filed During Fiscal Year

	2000		2001		Change 2000 to 2001
Las Vegas	362	69%	374	68%	+3%
Reno	160	31%	174	32%	+9%
TOTAL	522		548		+5%

Criminal Defendants Filed During Fiscal Year

	2000		2001		Change 2000 to 2001
Las Vegas	493	73%	484	71%	-2%
Reno	184	27%	197	29%	+7%
TOTAL	677		681		+1%

CRIMINAL CASE TERMINATIONS AND DEFENDANT CLOSURES

The district's criminal case terminations dropped 13% from Fiscal Year 2000 to Fiscal Year 2001, while criminal defendant closures declined 18% for the same period. There was a 20% decrease in criminal case terminations and a 24% decrease in criminal defendant closures in Las Vegas. During the same period, Reno saw a 4% increase in criminal case terminations and a 3% increase in criminal defendant closures.

Criminal Cases Closed During Fiscal Year

	2000		2001		Change 2000 to 2001
Las Vegas	415	72%	332	67%	-20%
Reno	160	28%	166	33%	+4%
TOTAL	575		498		-13%

Criminal Defendants Closed During Fiscal Year

	2000		2001		Change 2000 to 2001
Las Vegas	614	76%	468	71%	-24%
Reno	190	24%	195	29%	+3%
TOTAL	804		663		-18%

PENDING CRIMINAL CASELOAD

While there was a 5% increase in pending criminal cases between Fiscal Year 2000 and Fiscal Year 2001, the number of pending criminal defendants decreased 2% during the same time frame. The increase in pending criminal cases and the decrease in pending criminal defendants were virtually split between Las Vegas (+5% criminal cases and -2% criminal defendants) and Reno (+4% criminal cases and -2% criminal defendants).

Pending Criminal Caseload

		2000		2001		Change to 2000 to 2001	
Las Vegas	Cases	460	71%	Cases	485	71%	+ 5%
	Defts	676	73%	Defts	662	73%	- 2%
Reno	Cases	191	29%	Cases	198	29%	+ 4%
	Defts	247	27%	Defts	243	27%	- 2%
TOTAL	Cases	651		Cases	683		+ 5%
	Defts	923		Defts	905		- 2%

JURY PRACTICES AND UTILIZATION

JURY PRACTICES

In recent years, judges of the court have implemented a number of innovative jury practices. Key among these is the use of a one-day/one-trial system which requires prospective jurors to report only once during the life of a master jury wheel. If chosen to serve, the juror is excused after service on a single jury panel. If not chosen to serve, the juror may elect to be excused from further service for a minimum of two years. This system places less burden on individual jurors and provides an opportunity for more people to perform this

important public service. The judges have also utilized techniques such as “jury pooling,” where two or more judges choose juries in succession on the same day, and “multiple voir dire,” where the same judge selects juries for two or more cases on the same day.

The court provides a toll-free recorded message for jurors to call and receive final reporting instructions on the evening prior to their reporting date. Jury panels are given an orientation through the use of

professionally prepared video tapes and printed materials.

Other innovations include allowing the jurors to take notes and to submit written questions to witnesses subject to appropriate screening, the use of juror notebooks containing exhibits, the taking of witness testimony via video conference, pre-instructing the jury, instructing the jury prior to closing argument, and providing the jurors with copies of the written instructions for their use during deliberations.

JUROR UTILIZATION

The number of jury trials in the district decreased by 8%, from seventy-one in Calendar Year 2000 to sixty-four in Fiscal Year 2001. The total number of jurors reporting for jury selection decreased by 7%, from 2526 in Calendar Year 2000 to 2348 in Fiscal Year 2001. This figure represents a further decrease from Calendar Year 1999 when a total of 2725 jurors reported for jury selection. The total number of jurors who reported for jury selection and were not selected, challenged or did not participate in voir dire increased by 9.34% in Fiscal Year 2001 over Calendar Year 2000. This rise is attributed to an increase in settlements or changes of plea after jurors had arrived at the courthouse but prior to jury selection.

CALENDAR YEAR 2000 - TOTAL NUMBER OF:

FISCAL YEAR 2001 - TOTAL NUMBER OF:

	CALENDAR YEAR 2000 - TOTAL NUMBER OF:				FISCAL YEAR 2001 - TOTAL NUMBER OF:			
	Trials	Jurors reporting for trial	Jurors who reported for jury selection and were not selected, challenged or did not participate in voir dire		Trials	Jurors reporting for trial	Jurors who reported for jury selection and were not selected, challenged or did not participate in voir dire	
			#	%			#	%
Reno	24	818	235	28.73%	20	737	236	32.02%
Las Vegas	46	1708	654	38.29%	44	1611	736	45.69%
Combined	71	2526	889	35.19%	64	2348	972	41.40%
Percentage of increase or decrease of unused jurors from the previous year:					RENO			0.43%
					LAS VEGAS			12.54%
					COMBINED			9.34%

CRIMINAL JUSTICE ACT

CJA Vouchers Processed

	Las Vegas	Reno	Total	% Change from previous year
FY 1999	885	139	1024	
FY 2000	1056	337	1393	36%
FY 2001	1126	332	1458	5%
% Change 1999-2001	27%	139%		

Case Assignments

	RENO Criminal Justice Act Panel	LAS VEGAS Criminal Justice Act Panel	TOTAL	% Change from previous year
FY 1999	109	309	418	5.88%
FY 2000	107	206	313	-25%
FY 2001	81	245	326	4%

	RENO Federal Public Defender	LAS VEGAS Federal Public Defender	TOTAL	% Change from previous year
FY 1999	108	844	952	
FY 2000	120	683	803	-16%
FY 2001	141	655	796	-1%

The automated Criminal Justice Act system of the Administrative Office of the United States Courts has been upgraded to increase the speed at which vouchers can be processed. This upgrade has proven to be extremely helpful as the number of vouchers processed increased 42% in the last three years. The overall Criminal Justice Act appointments are rising again after a drop in 2000.

INTERPRETER UTILIZATION

Interpreter Reportable Events

	Las Vegas	Reno	Total	% Change from previous year
FY 1999	771	231	1002	
FY 2000	886	336	1222	21.96%
FY 2001	987	310	1297	6.14%
% Change 1999-2001	28%	34%		

Interpreter usage continues to rise as the number of non-English speaking defendants increases. The Las Vegas office no longer has two certified Spanish Interpreters available within the local community and must contract with interpreters from other states. Consequently, while the reportable events increased by 28%, the costs increased 46%.

NATURALIZATION

Calendar Year 2000

Month	Reno	Las Vegas	Total
1	74	212	286
2	0	290	290
3	70	382	452
4	0	318	318
5	73	324	397
6	73	396	469
7	0	1268	1268
8	63	376	439
9	59	730	789
10	0	241	241
11	0	151	151
12	53	416	469
TOTALS	465	5104	5569

Fiscal Year 2001

Month	Reno	Las Vegas	Total
10	0	241	241
11	0	151	151
12	53	416	469
1	0	292	292
2	41	311	352
3	48	286	334
4	0	310	310
5	47	387	434
6	0	466	466
7	0	307	307
8	0	338	338
9	50	389	439
TOTALS	239	3894	4133
%+/-	-49%	-24%	-26%

In Fiscal Year 2001, naturalizations decreased by 49% in Reno and 24% in Las Vegas, resulting in an overall district-wide drop of 26% over the number of naturalizations in Calendar Year 2000. This decrease was anticipated as the Immigration and Naturalization Service reduced its request for naturalization ceremonies from two to one per week in Las Vegas.

PRO SE STAFF ATTORNEYS

The pro se staff attorney section of the district now has a total of six lawyers, two of whom are assigned to the capital habeas corpus section. It is supervised by Douglas Emerick, Senior Staff Attorney.

For many years, the district has had one of the highest per capita and per judge inmate filings in the entire nation. That status continues, with Nevada ranking among the top 25% of courts nationally for such filings. During the last period of calculation (July 1, 2000 through June 31, 2001), the district had a total of 724 inmate filings. Under current guidelines of the Administrative Office of the United States Courts, the district is entitled to four full time staff attorneys (two in Reno and two in Las Vegas) for the remainder of Fiscal Year 2002. It is believed that the number of inmate filings will either remain constant or will increase for the next fiscal year.

Evidence of this inevitable increase in inmate filings is the new prison recently opened in the southern part of the state. The High Desert State Prison (HDSP) opened in September 2000 in Indian Springs, Nevada. Its current capacity exceeds 1,500

beds, and the Nevada Department of Prisons' expansion plans (as yet unfunded) would increase that number to exceed 3,000 beds. The district has already felt the increase of prisoner litigation from the addition of HDSP.

Between the Reno and Las Vegas offices in Calendar Year 2001, the staff attorneys generated approximately 900 orders regarding *in forma pauperis* status and content screening. In addition, the Las Vegas and Reno staff attorneys also generated in excess of 800 draft orders regarding post-service issues: matters relating to discovery, case management, and disposition of the case.

CAPITAL HABEAS CORPUS STAFF ATTORNEY SECTION

The district now has thirty-three capital habeas corpus cases. Based upon this

number of filings, the district is entitled to two full time capital habeas corpus staff attorneys, both of whom are based in Reno. The Administrative Office has commissioned a new study of all work currently being done by capital habeas corpus staff attorneys. This study was commissioned to re-examine the number of attorneys currently assigned to capital habeas corpus matters throughout the Ninth Circuit and the nation.

The number of capital habeas corpus cases filed in the district is not likely to decline any time soon. With ninety inmates currently residing on death row, Nevada's death row population is the highest per capita in the nation. As more of the cases proceed through the state district courts and the state supreme court, the district is likely to see a progressive increase in the number of capital habeas corpus cases filed.

ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION

ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION

The court encourages and supports the use of alternative dispute resolution (ADR) in civil cases. Court participation in early neutral evaluation conferences and settlement conferences frequently helps parties resolve litigation without the necessity of a trial. Magistrate judges typically conduct these ADR proceedings.

EARLY NEUTRAL EVALUATION

On January 5, 1998, the United States District Court for the District of Nevada implemented a pilot early neutral evaluation (ENE) project for employment discrimination cases. This pilot project was developed with the assistance of a special Alternative Dispute Resolution subcommittee of the Civil Justice Reform Act Advisory Group.

Early in the life of selected cases, a magistrate judge, other than the magistrate judge presiding over the case, held an informal, off-the-record, privileged, and confidential ENE session with all parties and respective counsel. The evaluating magistrate judge and the parties discussed the claims and defenses raised in the case and sought to reach settlement at the ENE session.

The ENE project was designed to provide parties and their coun-

sel an effective and efficient form of alternative dispute resolution and to also provide the court the means to evaluate the program. Each employment discrimination case filed in the district was randomly assigned either to a control group (cases assigned to the control group did not undergo ENE) or an ENE program group. At the conclusion of the study period (January 5, 1998, through February 8, 2000) all counsel in closed cases completed and returned a questionnaire to the court. The evaluating magistrate judge for each case also completed and returned a survey outlining the judge's experience in preparing for and holding the ENE session.

During the study period, 202 employment discrimination cases closed (107 cases in Las Vegas and 95 cases in Reno). Of the 202 closed cases, 315 surveys were returned (158 for Las Vegas cases and 157 for Reno cases).

The following details the principal findings of the study of the ENE project:

1) Cost to Litigants from Filing to Disposition: The mean cost for cases participating in ENE was \$8,045 per case while the mean cost for cases not participating in ENE was \$22,923 per case. These findings reflect a significant decrease in cost for those who participated in ENE.

2) Length of Cases from Filing to Disposition: The cases assigned to ENE lasted an average of 264 days from filing to disposition. The cases not assigned to ENE lasted an average of 317 days from filing to disposition.

3) Court workload:

(a) Motions:

One hundred and thirty-two motions were filed in all the non-ENE cases while only seventy-seven motions were filed in the ENE cases. Fewer motions to extend time and other non-dispositive motions were filed in ENE cases. Approximately the same number of dispositive motions were filed in the ENE cases and non-ENE cases.

(b) Orders:

After subtracting the orders entered to schedule the ENE hearings, the court issued 353 orders in ENE cases and 386 orders in non-ENE cases.

(c) Magistrate Judges:

Magistrate judges spent an average of 3.77 hours preparing for and holding each ENE hearing. There were a total of 113 ENE hearings held during the study period.

4) Survey Response:

83.5% of survey respondents felt the ENE hearing was effective in reducing the cost of the case, and 85.8% felt the ENE hearing was effective in reducing the length of the case. Twenty-six of 113 (23%) of the ENE cases settled at the ENE hearing.

Finally, a majority of those in the ENE group and those in the non-ENE group (57.5% and 58.4% respectively) felt that the ENE hearing was more productive because it was conducted by a judicial officer than it would have been had it been conducted by a private attorney. Approximately 46% of respondents in both groups believe the ENE program should continue in its present form. Another 25.4% of control group respondents and 36.7% of program group respondents believe the ENE program should be expanded.

The ENE program has been a success when measuring the cost and length of ENE cases against the cost of and length of non-ENE cases. Additionally, the responses by counsel indicate their desire to continue or expand the ENE program. As a result of these positive findings, the court has expanded the ENE program to include all employment discrimination cases. The court will continue an ongoing analysis of the time required to prepare for and to conduct ENE hearings by the magistrate judge.



SETTLEMENT CONFERENCES

Most civil cases in this district are referred to a magistrate judge to conduct a settlement conference after the close of discovery and after resolution by the court of any dispositive motions. Occasionally, an earlier conference may be held at the request of the parties or upon recognition by the court that a judicially-supervised settlement conference would be beneficial.

The assigned magistrate judge will issue an order setting the time for the settlement conference. This order will also include specific directions to the attorneys and parties regarding preparation for the conference. There are variations in the orders of the various magistrate judges; therefore, it is imperative that the order be read and followed in each case.

Generally, the magistrate judge requires the parties to submit to the court a confidential settlement conference statement before the date scheduled for the conference. This *in camera* submission includes information regarding the nature of the action, anticipated evidence, key issues, as well as strengths and weaknesses of a party's case. A history of settlement negotiations with a proposed acceptable settlement is also required.

The magistrate judge's order must be followed carefully when deciding who should attend the conference. Experience has shown that the likelihood of settlement at the conference is increased when trial counsel, individual parties, and representatives of business, governmental and other organizational entities with settlement authority attend the conference.

Finally, counsel, parties and other participants should allow adequate time for the settlement conference.

BANKRUPTCY COURT



Gregg W. Zive
Chief United States Bankruptcy Judge

Growth and uncertainty have marked the past year for the bankruptcy court in Nevada.

The growth is evident by the dramatic increase of both consumer and business filings in both the Reno and Las Vegas offices of the court. In addition to the large increase in the normal consumer and bankruptcy cases, several mega-cases have been filed. All of these filings have taxed the capacity of the clerk's office which has responded in exemplary fashion to the increased demands.

Uncertainty exists because of the stalled Bankruptcy Reform Act that includes a provision authorizing a new, much-needed judicial position for the court. The Reform Act will have significant effects on both the court and the clerk's office if and when enacted.

Each of the court's offices has had extraordinarily large cases with significant numbers of creditors, resulting in a great number of documents being filed and scanned. Links to the court's web page were created and maintained. Despite the staggering increase without a corresponding addition of deputy clerks or case

administrators, the staff of both clerk's office locations have demonstrated their dedication and competence. The court received correspondence from the President of the Northern Nevada Bankruptcy Bar Association reporting that the lawyers who practice before courts across the United States in large cases, such as Washington Group International, have justifiably praised the clerk's staff for their performance and assistance.

In addition to coping with the increased workload, the bankruptcy court is presently implementing the Case Management/Electronic Case Filing (CM/ECF) docketing system. This process has required considerable attention from the various committees who are addressing each of the issues that must be resolved as well as working with and training the bankruptcy bar to encourage it to utilize the new process.

Following is a more detailed report regarding the status of the court, space projects, use of technology and other matters. None of these projects could be accomplished without the dedicated service of the members of the clerk's office and chambers staff.



Patricia Gray
United States Bankruptcy
Court Clerk

PROFILE

The bankruptcy court holds hearings and trials in Las Vegas and Reno. Two judges preside in the Las Vegas division, and one judge and one recalled judge preside in the Reno division. One additional judgeship for the District of Nevada is included in the current Bankruptcy Code legislation now pending in Congress.

SPACE PROJECTS

The Foley Federal Building in Las Vegas is scheduled to begin a \$22 million renovation in September 2002. The Bankruptcy Court Clerk's Office and courtrooms will be temporarily relocated to the Lloyd D. George United States Courthouse in July or August of 2002. The renovation of the Foley Federal Building is scheduled to be completed by September 2004.

General Services Administration is presently conducting a feasibility study for the C. Clifton Young Federal Building and United States Courthouse in Reno to determine the renovation work to be completed (estimated cost: \$12 million) and set up a housing plan of federal government agencies to be housed in the building with the courts.

WEB SITE

In an effort to provide quick and easy public access to information, the bankruptcy court continues to make updates to the court's Internet web site. The web site was first brought on-line on January 13, 1998. Since that time, the court has added access to imaged documents, access to the court's hearing calendars, and information specific to several mega-cases filed with the court.

When the court begins accepting electronically filed cases and related documents in 2002, the web site will be even more important. Access to the CM/ECF

docketing system will be through the bankruptcy court's home page.

Over 450,000 visits have been made to the court's web site since January 1998. The web site address is www.nvb.uscourts.gov.

COURTROOMS DIGITALLY EQUIPPED

The bankruptcy court has made a concerted effort to provide the best quality recordings for all courtroom proceedings. The court has been utilizing computer based digital recording software since 1999. In the past, audio requests for court hearings were filled exclusively using cassette tapes. Since the Spring of 2001, the bankruptcy court has furnished the public with high quality recording copies on computer readable compact disks.

The bankruptcy court has also incorporated digital public address systems in courtrooms, profoundly enhancing the quality of the record.

CM/ECF DOCKETING SYSTEM

In March 2001, the bankruptcy court was notified of its status as a Wave 3 CM/ECF Court. This was the start of the implementation process for the new Case Management/Electronic Case Files (CM/ECF) docketing system.

CM/ECF will allow attorneys to file electronically and access pleadings twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week via the Internet. Accepting electronic files eliminates the need for paper, and conversion to this new system requires a court to examine all of its processes and procedures. The court has made many functional and procedural changes in preparation for this next generation of case management software.

The court is working closely with the Nevada bankruptcy bar to insure a smooth implementation. The CM/ECF Attorney Advisory Board (AAB), a group of attorney volunteers, is working with the court offering feedback on CM/ECF training, training materials and other matters related to electronic filing.

The bankruptcy court went live on CM/ECF internally on January 2, 2002. The members of the CM/ECF Attorney Advisory Board (AAB) will begin filing pleadings electronically by June 2002. Training classes for other interested attorneys are slated to begin in April 2002. The court will continually gather suggestions, make updates to the training classes, and proceed with customization to the system.

VIDEO CONFERENCING

The bankruptcy court has offered video conferencing for hearings since 1998. Video conferencing was originally used for only those hearings between Las Vegas and Reno. In 2000, the court installed ISDN lines which allow for a wide range of video conference transmission locations. Since that time, in addition to the routine hearings held between Las Vegas and Reno, the court has held hearings with California for the Bankruptcy Appellate Panel and with Toronto, Canada, for mega-case AgriBioTech hearings.

In August 2001, the court researched video technology for a product which would

offer a higher quality picture and better synchronized motion. The court held a video conference test with the programmers of the software in their offices in Israel. The picture quality was a vast improvement over the court's current technology. The court has purchased this equipment and will upgrade all of its existing video equipment by 2002.

CREDIT CARDS PAYMENTS

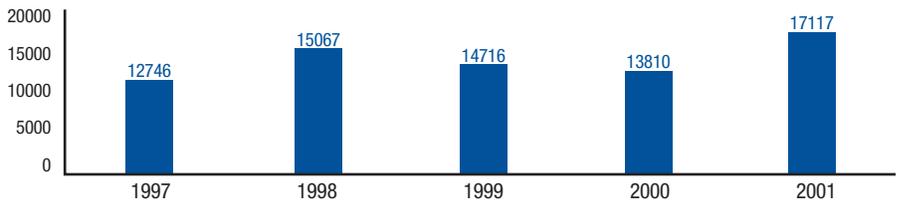
As of September 2001, the bankruptcy court now accepts credit cards for payment of services except from debtors. When filing documents electronically via the Internet, the filing fees will be required to be paid by credit cards. The court accepts credit cards for payment for all fees except registry funds and verified petitions.

STATISTICS

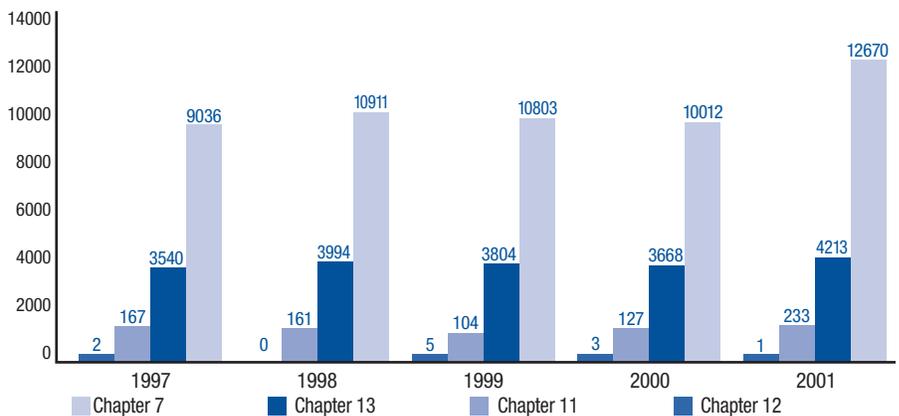
The number of bankruptcy petitions filed in the District of Nevada for the year ending September 30, 2001, increased to a record 17,117, up 24% from the previous calendar year. (The Reno office increased 14%, and the Las Vegas office increased 28%.) Chapter 11 filings increased by 83% for the same time period.

The bankruptcy filings nationwide increased 8.6% for the 12-month period ending June 30, 2001. The bankruptcy filings in the District of Nevada increased by 15% for the same time period.

Bankruptcy Filings (as of 9/30/01)



Chapter Breakdown 1997 through 2001



Calendar Years Ending September 30th

Year	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Chapter 7	9,036	10,911	10,803	10,012	12,670
Chapter 11	167	161	104	127	233
Chapter 12	1	0	5	3	1
Chapter 13	3,540	3,994	3,804	3,668	4,213
	12,744	15,066	14,716	13,810	17,117
		(+25%)	(-2%)	(-6%)	(+24%)

Statistics from the Administrative Office of the United States Courts for the year ending June 2001 showed that the District of Nevada: 1) continued to hold the number one per capita ranking for Chapter 7 filings per 1000 population; 2) continued to hold the number five per capita ranking in total filings per 1000 population; 3) the national median ranking for per capita filings per 1000 population was 4.8; and 4) Nevada's per capita filings ranking per 1000 population on June 30, 2001 was 8.1.

PROBATION OFFICE



David F. Sanders
Chief United States Probation Officer

HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

Although the concept of probation in America dates from the mid-nineteenth century, the Federal Probation Act was not passed by Congress and signed by President Calvin Coolidge until 1925. The Act authorized district courts to appoint probation officers and to place defendants on probation as an alternative to imprisonment.

On August 25, 1925, the Honorable E. S. Farrington of the United States District Court in Nevada appointed Jake Wainwright of Reno as the first federal probation officer in the district. Officer Wainwright was asked to make recommendations for probation if the defendant was deemed worthy of that consideration. No salary was attached to the

position. In fact, it was not until 1927 that probation officers were first compensated.

The Federal Bureau of Prisons provided oversight of the Federal Probation System from 1930 until 1940. Oversight was then transferred to the Administrative Office of the United States Courts because officers are appointed by the United States District Court and are subject to its direction.

Growth of Federal Probation was slow in the 1930s and 1940s, but with growth in the 1950s, there was an administrative need to designate an officer in Nevada as the Chief Probation Officer. That officer was Hugh Boyd who served in that capacity from January 1956, until April 1967. Successive Chief Probation Officers in Nevada were Eugene M. Sadoian, Fred C. Pierce, and the incumbent, David F. Sanders, who was appointed Chief Probation Officer in July 1992.

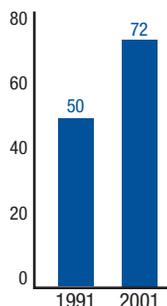
OPERATIONAL SITES AND PERSONNEL

The United States Probation Office is headquartered in leased space at 411 Bonneville Avenue, Suite 400, Las Vegas, Nevada, near the Lloyd D. George United States Courthouse. The staff consists of thirty-eight probation officers and twenty-two support staff.

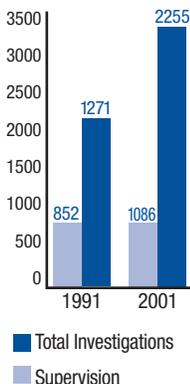
The other operational site is the United States Probation Office in Reno, Nevada, at the Bruce R. Thompson United States Courthouse. The probation office is situated on the first floor and is staffed by eight probation officers and four support staff.

Staffing of the probation office has kept pace with workload growth over the past decade as noted below:

Probation Office Staffing



Probation Office Workload



MISSION, BELIEFS AND VISION

As the component of the Federal judiciary responsible for community corrections, the Federal Probation Service is committed to providing protection to the public and assisting in the fair administration of justice.

The probation office believes . . .

In the right of all persons to be treated with dignity and fairness.

In ensuring the court is provided information vital to imposing just and fair sentences.

In the protection of the public as the most vital aspect of community supervision and in proper supervision as the best means to control and reduce risk.

In the ability of people to change and in the office's responsibility to provide persons under supervision with opportunities for treatment.

In individual commitment to a shared vision as the best way to achieve this mission.

The Federal Probation Service strives to exemplify the highest ideals and standards in community corrections.

INVESTIGATION OF DEFENDANTS - WORKLOAD

By order of the court, the probation officer makes a thorough investigation - a presentence investigation - into the circumstances of the crime as well as the defendant's background and characteristics. This investigation is conducted on all defendants who are found guilty or who plead guilty to a felony crime.

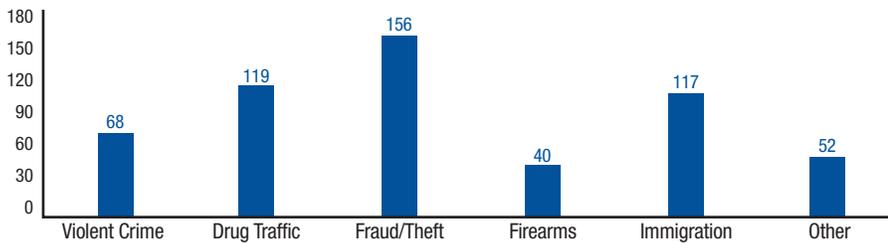
During the investigation, the officer gathers and verifies factual information about each defendant. The information includes, but is not limited to, information in the following areas:

- offense
- employment
- reputation
- family
- physical health
- residence
- criminal history
- mental health
- substance abuse
- education
- finances
- military

Interviews are conducted with the defendant, counsel, the case agent, crime victims, family members, and others who are able to provide relevant information. The investigation culminates with a report to the court which sets forth all relevant information, including the range of punishment and a recommended sentence, all of which is disclosed to the parties. The defendant and the government may then object to the factual content of the report

or to the application of the sentencing guidelines. The probation officer then frequently undertakes legal research in an attempt to resolve disputed issues before the report is submitted to the court.

Under suitable circumstances, officers may recommend probation with specific conditions designed to promote lawful conduct in the future. In addition, defendants placed on probation are able to compensate the victims of their offense.



SUPERVISION OF OFFENDERS - WORKLOAD

During Fiscal Year 2001, the probation office in Nevada supervised 1,086 offenders on probation, parole, and supervised release. Prior to November 1, 1987, federal prison inmates were released on parole, with accountability to the Parole Commission. Since that date, inmates are released on terms of supervised release, with accountability to the court. As a result, only 2,972 parolees are now under supervision nationwide. Probationers and supervised releasees, however, number 23,251 and 63,793 respectively.

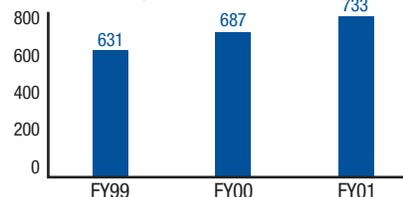
The growing number of supervised

In other cases, probation officers recommend terms of imprisonment, followed by terms of post release supervision in the community, called supervised release. Court-ordered conditions of supervised release are designed to minimize risk to the community, compensate crime victims, and promote law-abiding behavior.

During Fiscal Year 2001, the probation office completed 552 presentence investigations and reports. Defendants were convicted of the following types of crimes:

release cases has had a significant impact on all district courts. The District of Nevada has experienced the same trend, as seen below.

Offenders on Supervised Release



Supervision of offenders in the community is designed to accomplish three things: 1) enforcement of court orders; 2) management of risk that offenders pose to the community; and 3) delivery of services and programs which promote law-abiding behavior.

MANAGEMENT OF RISK

Certain federal offenders under supervision pose a greater risk to the public than others. As such, the conditions of supervision ordered by the court will warrant closer supervision of the higher risk offenders. The higher risk offenders, such as the sex offender, major drug trafficker, or a violent recidivist, will be subject to intensive supervision. The probation officer conducts overt and covert surveillance, monitors offender associates, verifies

employment and all sources of income, restricts travel if necessary, and maintains close contact with the offender and those who know the offender. The probation officer reports all violations of the conditions of supervision to the court. Whenever practical, without jeopardizing public safety, violations are punished with intermediate sanctions. Revocation of probation or supervised release is pursued as a last resort, as illustrated by the table below:

Fiscal Year	Violations of Court-Ordered Conditions	Intermediate Sanctions	Percent	Revocations	Percent
2001	804	700	87.0	104	13.0

ENFORCEMENT OF COURT ORDERS

Probation officers are responsible for the enforcement of court-ordered sanctions imposed on criminal defendants. They enforce court orders for intermittent confinement, home confinement with electronic monitoring, curfew, community service work, drug testing, and searches for contraband, such as illicit drugs and firearms.

Probation officers work in concert with the Financial Litigation Unit of the United States Attorney's Office to enforce payment of criminal monetary fines, restitution to crime victims, and mandatory penalty assessments (\$100 per count of conviction). While the United States Attorney's Office has primary responsibility in this area and deserves the bulk of the credit for successful collection efforts, probation officers work diligently to establish and enforce payment plans. During the last fiscal year, collection efforts resulted in the following deposits and disbursements:

Criminal Monetary Fines:

\$22,587,279.00

Restitution to Crime Victims:

\$ 1,067,553.00

Mandatory Penalty Assessments:

\$ 52,800.00

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

In addition to enforcement and risk control responsibilities, probation officers offer programs and correctional services to offenders under supervision. These services include individualized guidance and counseling, job training and placement, substance abuse counseling, mental health treatment, housing, emergency assistance, and more. These services greatly enhance the offender's ability to successfully complete supervision and to remain law-abiding thereafter. The Federal Probation Office of the twenty-first century is highly automated, fully equipped, and steadfastly committed in its service to the court and the community.

PRETRIAL SERVICES OFFICE



James R. Marsh
Chief United States
Pretrial Services Officer

The United States Pretrial Services Office was established in the District of Nevada in October 1984. Full operations of Pretrial Services functions began in Las Vegas in January 1985, and in Reno in March 1985. The office opened with a staff complement of five and, after seventeen years, has grown to a staff of seventeen. The district opened one of the first separate pretrial services offices in the country after the completion of the Pretrial Services Demonstration Project which was established by the Speedy Trial Act of 1975 and the enactment of the Pretrial Services Act of 1982.

The headquarters of United States Pretrial Services Office in Las Vegas is located in the new Lloyd D. George United States Courthouse. The divisional office in Reno is housed in the Bruce R. Thompson United States Courthouse. Although the state ranks seventh in area geographically, with 110,567 square miles, Clark County and more specifically the Las Vegas area, has 1.3 million of the state's 1.9 million population. The Las Vegas area is acknowledged as the "fasting growing area" in the country in recent years and

also experiences thirty million visitors annually. This growth and tourist population have been responsible for more than doubling the pretrial services cases activated over the past seventeen years.

The functions of Pretrial Services include collecting, verifying, and reporting to the court prior to a release hearing information pertaining to the release of criminal defendants. A recommendation for release or detention is made based on an assessment of the defendant's risk of non-appearance or danger to the community. If appropriate, conditional release is recommended. The office also supervises persons released to assure that such individuals comply with the conditions of release set by the court. Pretrial Services is mandated to inform the court and the United States Attorney's Office of all apparent violations of pretrial release and any danger a person may come to pose to others or the community. The office further provides investigation and supervision for individuals referred by the United States Attorney's Office for the Pretrial Diversion Program. The office provides a variety of programs to supervise defendants for the court including on-site drug testing, Substance Abuse

Subtle Screening Inventory (SASSI) drug assessments, in-patient and out-patient drug treatment programs, mental health counseling, an in-house Drug Awareness Group, electronic monitoring program, remote alcohol testing, voice track monitoring, residential placement, and a third party custodian program.

The mission of the United States Pretrial Services Office for the District of Nevada is to provide services to the court, as well as services and protection to the community, through fully executing the provisions of the Pretrial Services Statute. While maintaining impartiality regarding the guilt or innocence of defendants, the goals of the office are to:

- prepare objective, concise, and thorough pretrial services reports
- reduce unnecessary detention and crime committed on bail
- provide effective supervision in a fair and professional manner

During the first full year of operation in Fiscal Year 1985, 399 defendants were interviewed for pretrial services reports. In Fiscal Year 1999, that number rose to 1010, an all time high, and moderated to 873 cases in Fiscal Year 2001. Supervision has gone from 192 defendants in Fiscal Year 1985, up to a high of 387 in Fiscal Year 1999, and down to 315 in Fiscal Year 2001. Investigations conducted for other districts (collateral investigations), have dropped off drastically in Fiscal Year 2001. Nevada experiences a substantial volume of robbery, fraud, forgery, controlled substances, firearms, and immigration cases which places the district higher than the national average in these categories. The greatest number of cases handled in the district fall into the two categories of fraud and immigration.

Although the district follows the statute, which results in 91% of all defendants released being released on their personal

Office Motto:
*"Striving for Excellence and Integrity
in all That We Do"*

Pretrial Services Statistical Data

For the twelve-month period ending September 30

	1999	% Change	2000	% Change	2001
Investigations	1010	-13%	880	.45%	876
Supervision	387	-16%	325	-3%	315
Collateral Investigations	112	30%	146	-25%	109
Illegal Aliens	260	-11%	232	16%	274
Refusals	328	-8%	301	11%	336
Detention Rate	51%	.6%	51.6%	3.9%	55.5%

recognition, there is a high rate of detention. 1991 marked the lowest detention rate of 20%. In 2001, however, there was a detention rate of 55.5%. The Ninth Circuit had the highest detention rate in the country at 64.2%. Since 1991, the rate of defendants refusing pretrial services interviews and the number of illegal alien cases have increased. The refusal rate went from being almost nonexistent in 1991, to nearly 38.8% in 2001; and it is now higher than the Ninth Circuit's rate of 31.7%. Illegal aliens went from 4.5% in 1992 to 31.6% in 2001. These factors have had a dramatic impact on the detention rate in this district as it is difficult, if not impossible, to fashion conditions of release for these types of cases. In spite of innovative programs and development of alternatives to detention, the increased rate of detention has only moderately lessened. In the spirit of establishing additional innovative programs and programs that are alternatives to detention, the office is currently exploring the use of global positioning technology to monitor high risk defendants in the community.

The office has been progressive and innovative, piloting a student intern program and participating as a 1989 Drug Testing Demonstration Program district. The office was the first to use search and seizure as a condition of release, to field test remote alcohol monitoring units for BI Monitoring, Inc., and the Administrative Office of the United States Courts, and was one of the first to use electronic monitor-

ing as a condition of release. The office also developed the first Third Party Custodian Program to reimburse professional custodians to serve in that capacity for the court. Office staff have also contributed to numerous national projects such as New Officer Orientation Programs, Witness Security Programs, Supervision and Report Writing Monographs, the Home Confinement Program, and district reviews conducted by the Administrative Office of the United States Courts. The dedicated and outstanding work of the staff has been acknowledged for many years. In 2000, Senior Pretrial Services Officer Mary Kathryn Baker was recognized as the Federal Probation and Pretrial Officer Association Western Region Line Officer of the Year; and she was later selected to receive the Doyle Award, the highest recognition that can be awarded to a United States Probation and Pretrial Services Officer.

The office is also progressive with automation technology and has available some of the most up-to-date automation equipment, which it uses to improve office effectiveness and efficiency. Some of the programs in place include an automated card file system, on-line office manual, criminal retrieval access on officers' personal computers, voice recognition software, national forms package, automated case plan, automated case files, scanned case files, a newly developed Drug Pak system to input drug testing data, and GuardLink to better monitor defendants in the home confinement program.

ANNUAL DISTRICT CONFERENCE

The District of Nevada sponsors an Annual District Conference each spring which draws between 120 and 160 attendees. The 2001 Annual District Conference was held in Las Vegas. Topics included the civil rights movement, attorney and client relationships, and discovery in the computer age. The topic of the 2002 Annual District Conference is "September 11th - The Legal Landscape: Past, Present and Future."

The Annual District Conference routinely contains a State of the Circuit report by the Chief Judge of the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals and a State of the District report by the Chief Judge of the District Court. Another highly popular feature is a luncheon with the members of the bench which provides an opportunity for lawyers to discuss topics with a judge while sharing a pleasant meal. A committee of judges and lawyer representatives is responsible for planning the Annual District Conference.

A highlight from the 2001 Annual District Conference was an evening reception and concert featuring the Bar and Grill Singers from Austin, Texas. This enjoyable event was attended by approximately 200 people. It was held at the new Lloyd D. George United States Courthouse which afforded the attendees an opportunity to see the court's beautiful new jury assembly complex and outdoor atrium.

The court is looking forward to a joint meeting with the Nevada State Judiciary prior to the 2002 Annual District Conference in Reno. This eagerly anticipated event will provide a forum for the federal and state judges to discuss issues of mutual concern.



LAW LIBRARIES

Reductions in library subscriptions mandated by the Administrative Office of the United States Courts forced the cancellation of 16% of the chambers and library collections within the Ninth Circuit. This has especially affected the smaller libraries, like Las Vegas and Reno, whose collections were already minimal. In chambers, the impact will be felt particularly among the non-computer users who are used to an extensive print collection. However, the cancellation and removal of selected titles will allow for continued housing of more popular titles for a longer period of time.

Reliance upon existing services such as CALR, i.e., Westlaw, Lexis/Nexis, the Internet and interlibrary loan from local libraries and the Ninth Circuit is expected to increase. The older, larger libraries, whose collections are more extensive, will play a greater role within the Ninth Circuit as they are imposed upon to provide interlibrary loans of more of their collections.

The Las Vegas library moved to its new location in Room 7065 in the Lloyd D. George United States Courthouse in July 2000. The new location allows for a more efficient configuration for the patrons and a larger work space for the librarian and her assistant.

ATTORNEY ADMISSION FUND

A portion of the fee paid by attorneys to be admitted to practice in federal court remains with the local court and is placed in a fund referred to as the "Attorney Admissions Fund." The use of this fund is governed by Fifth Amended Special Order 59 and is limited to items which benefit the bench, the bar, and the public but which are not otherwise available from appropriated funds.

Requests for use of the fund are reviewed by an Attorney Admissions Fund Advisory Committee which consists of a magistrate judge, a bankruptcy judge, the United States Attorney, the Federal Public Defender, and the court's five lawyer representatives. The clerk of court staffs the committee and serves as trustee of the fund. The committee makes a recommendation with respect to the use of the fund to the district court judges who approve payments from the fund.

In the past several years, the Attorney Admissions Fund has been used for numerous purposes including furniture and equipment for the attorney lounges, establishment of an attorney training center for the use of evidence display systems, documentation of court history, public receptions following investitures and other court ceremonies, educational expenses related to the annual district conferences and attorney orientation and admission ceremonies, photographs of judicial officers and lawyer representatives, and the production of this report. The court welcomes suggestions from the bar for appropriate ways to use this fund.

LOCAL RULES OF PRACTICE

The District of Nevada oversees its Local Rules of Practice through the efforts of the Standing Committee on the Local Rules chaired by United States District Judge Roger L. Hunt. The Standing Committee is comprised of several judges, private and governmental attorneys with expertise in various types of law, and clerk's office support staff. The Standing Committee is further divided into three sub-committees who consider and recommend new and amended rules as needed. The Civil Rules Subcommittee is chaired by Magistrate Judge Robert A. McQuaid, Jr.; the Criminal Rules Subcommittee is chaired by Magistrate Judge Lawrence R. Leavitt; and Chief Bankruptcy Judge Gregg W. Zive heads the Bankruptcy Rules Subcommittee.

Recently, the Local Rules of Practice were renumbered to correspond to their counterparts in the Federal Rules of Civil, Criminal and Bankruptcy Procedure. The various sub-committees frequently review the need for new and amended rules and routinely invite suggestions and comments from the bar and public as required by Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 83. As 2001 closed, the Standing Committee on the Local Rules was beginning the process of crafting rules to accommodate electronic document filing, service via facsimile, and other issues related to the practice of law in an ever-expanding electronic environment.

The Local Rules of Practice are available at no charge on the district and bankruptcy court web sites at www.nvd.uscourts.gov and www.nvb.uscourts.gov or in hard copy binder format at a modest cost from the current publisher, Book Publishing Company of Seattle, Washington, by calling 1-800-537-7881 or via its web site on the Internet at www.bpc.com.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT - DISTRICT OF NEVADA
TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

RENO

Area Code: 775 (unless otherwise indicated)

UNITED STATES
DISTRICT JUDGES

- The Honorable Howard D. McKibben ...686-5880
Chief United States District Judge
Courtroom Deputy686-5827
- The Honorable David W. Hagen.....686-5888
United States District Judge
Courtroom Deputy686-5829
- The Honorable Larry R. Hicks.....686-5700
United States District Judge
Courtroom Deputy (702)464-5427
- The Honorable Edward C. Reed, Jr..686-5919
Senior United States District Judge
Courtroom Deputy686-5831

UNITED STATES
MAGISTRATE JUDGES

- The Honorable Robert A. McQuaid, Jr...686-5858
United States Magistrate Judge
Courtroom Deputy686-5835
- The Honorable Valerie P. Cooke..... 686-5855
United States Magistrate Judge
Courtroom Deputy686-5833

UNITED STATES
BANKRUPTCY JUDGES

- The Honorable Gregg W. Zive.....784-5017
Chief United States Bankruptcy Judge
Courtroom Deputy 784-5023 - ext. 3111
- The Honorable Bert M. Goldwater ...784-5017
Recalled United States Bankruptcy Judge
Courtroom Deputy784-5023 - ext. 3111

COURT AGENCIES

- Clerk, U.S. District Court686-5800
Chief Deputy-Reno686-5813
- Clerk, U.S. Bankruptcy Court.....784-5023
Deputy-in-Charge.....784-5613
- United States Attorney784-5438
- Federal Public Defender784-5626
- United States Marshal686-5780
- United States Probation686-5980
- United States Pretrial Services686-5964