



United States District Court District of Nevada



2023
Annual Report

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Foreword

It is my pleasure to share with you the 2023 State of the Court report for the United States District Court for the District of Nevada. As I reflected on this past year, themes of renewal and resilience were top of mind.

As to renewal, I am grateful that we start 2023 with a full roster of active-status, Article III judges for the first time in about six years. This past year, we welcomed United States District Judges Anne Traum and Cristina Silva, along with United States Magistrate Judge Craig Denney. I have enjoyed getting to know our new judges this past year, and look forward to working with them in the future. All three judges share our deep commitment to equal justice for all under the law.

We also welcomed a new United States Attorney for the District of Nevada, Jason M. Frierson, and a new Chief U.S. Pretrial Services Officer, Denise Jansen. Chief Jansen's appointment follows the retirement of Chief Shiela Adkins after 18 years of exemplary service as Chief U.S. Pretrial Services Officer for our District. These leadership changes further fuel my optimism for the future even as I reflect with gratitude and appreciation on the past.

As to resilience, 2022 was the year where we returned to essentially full operations after a lengthy period of restrictions and operational changes devised in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Despite the unprecedented challenges our District faced, we were able to adapt and develop innovative, robust policies and processes to continue to resolve disputes and dispense equitable justice throughout the pandemic's many waves. And the ways in which we have adapted, for example, in implementing remote hearings and increased telework, will no doubt make us more resilient and flexible as we encounter whatever future operational challenges we may face.

But even as I write with hope and optimism, grounded in the progress we have made, I also acknowledge that we continue to face the challenges presented by an uncertain world. And those who struggle the most with accessing justice through the courts face the greatest challenges. Yet our mission remains to provide justice equally, as one District, for all who seek it.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Miranda Du', with a large, stylized initial 'M'.

Miranda Du
Chief United States District Judge

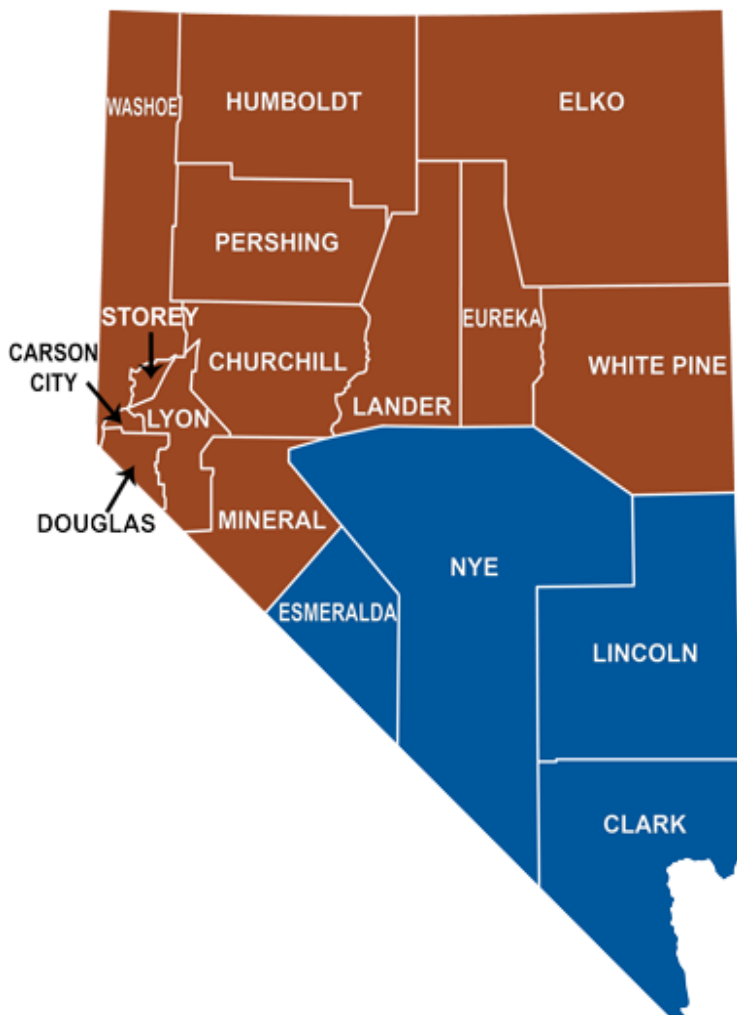
District of Nevada

Overview of the District of Nevada

Nevada became the 36th State on March 21, 1864. Alexander White Baldwin became Nevada's first federal judge on March 11, 1865. Nevada was first part of the tenth circuit from 1865-1866 and added to the Ninth Circuit on July 23, 1866. Additional information about the historical timeline of the District Court can be found at the Ninth Circuit Library: [historical timeline](#).

The U.S. District Court for the District of Nevada is the federal district court whose jurisdiction is the state of Nevada. The court has locations in Las Vegas and Reno. The District Court has seven active district judges, five senior judges, seven magistrate judges, and one recalled magistrate judge.

The District of Nevada is part of the United States Courts for the Ninth Circuit which consists of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, the federal district and bankruptcy courts within its 15 judicial districts and associated administrative units that provide various services to the courts. Judicial districts under the jurisdiction of the Ninth Circuit include the districts of Alaska, Arizona, Central California, Eastern California, Northern California, Southern California, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Eastern Washington, Western Washington, the U.S. Territory of Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.



Judges serving on the district courts are known as Article III judges, a reference to the article in the Constitution establishing the federal judiciary. Nominated by the president and confirmed by the Senate, Article III judges serve lifetime appointments upon good behavior. Federal courts also rely on senior district judges to assist with their workload. These are Article III judges who are eligible to retire but have chosen to continue working with reduced caseloads. In addition to Article III judges, the federal bench includes Article I judges, who serve as magistrate judges in the district courts. Magistrate judges are appointed by the judges of each district court and hold their positions for eight years. Magistrate judges may be reappointed after the court conducts a performance review and considers public comment evaluations.

The jurisdiction of the federal courts has been defined by the Constitution, congressional statutes, and decisions of the Supreme Court of the United States. Article III provides that the judicial power "shall extend" to nine types of "cases" and "controversies": all cases in law and equity arising under the Constitution, laws, and treaties of the United States; all cases affecting ambassadors, other public ministers and consuls; all cases of admiralty and maritime jurisdiction; controversies to which the United States is a party; controversies between two or more states; controversies between a state and citizens of another state; controversies between citizens of different states; controversies between citizens of the same state claiming lands under grants of different states; and controversies between a state or its citizens and foreign states, citizens, or subjects.

Courthouses



Lloyd D. George United States Courthouse

Las Vegas, NV

The Lloyd D. George U.S. Courthouse creates a symbolic corner within downtown Las Vegas. Its giant articulated column is a powerful totem that will no doubt become a signature in a city of signs and symbols. In addition to symbolizing a federal presence, the building responds to its urban surroundings, establishing a design precedent for large-scale public buildings.



Bruce R. Thompson Federal Building

Reno, NV

Completed in 1996, the Reno landmark features Sierra white granite used for the facade on the ground level. The upper floors are cast concrete colored to simulate the granite. Bruce R. Thomson was a federal judge born in Nevada.



Foley Federal Building

Las Vegas, NV

Constructed in the early 1960s, the four-story Foley Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse underwent a major renovation that was completed in 2004. Roger D. Foley and his father, Roger Thomas Foley, were both senior U.S. District Court judges for the District of Nevada. The building is named for the Foley family.



C. Clifton Young Federal Building

Reno, NV

Completed in 1965, the Federal Building was renamed for Clarence Clifton Young in 1988. Young served as a U.S. Congressman, in the Nevada Senate, on the Nevada Supreme Court, and as president of the National Wildlife Foundation

United States District Judges



Miranda M. Du, Chief Judge

Chief Judge Miranda M. Du was nominated by President Barack Obama and took the oath of office on April 23, 2012.

Judge Du was born in Viet Nam and left with her family by boat when she was eight years old. Judge Du and her family immigrated to the United States and ultimately settled in Oakland, California. Judge Du graduated with honors in History and Economics from the University of California, Davis. She obtained her JD from the University of California, Berkely, Berkeley School of Law in May 1994.



Gloria M. Navarro

Judge Gloria M. Navarro was appointed to the U.S. District Court of Nevada by President Barack Obama and took the oath of office on May 25, 2010. Judge Navarro served as Chief Judge from January 2014 until September 2019. She was appointed to the Ninth Circuit IT Committee where she enjoyed creating several presentations for judges about her paperless chambers and how to leverage technology including iPads, Remote Access, Apple TV, Courtroom Technology, and the Microsoft Word iPad App. In 2015, she was appointed by Chief Justice Roberts to the Information Technology Committee of the Judicial Conference of the United States and served two terms until 2021. In 2022, she was appointed by Chief Judge Murguia to Chair the Ninth Circuit IT Committee.

Judge Navarro has also served as a Patent Pilot Judge since 2011, the inception of the Patent Pilot Program, which was established pursuant to Pub. L. No. 111-349, until the program ended in 2022. Judge Navarro is the first Hispanic woman appointed to the US District of Nevada, the first Hispanic chief judge, and the first female chief judge in the US District of Nevada.

Andrew P. Gordon

Judge Andrew P. Gordon was nominated by President Barack Obama and took the oath of office on April 15, 2013. Judge Gordon graduated from Claremont McKenna College, cum laude, in 1984 and received his JD from Harvard Law School in 1987.

Judge Gordon has been a Program Director and faculty member for the National Institute for Trial Advocacy's Deposition Skills seminars for many years. He also served as Chair of the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals' Lawyer Representative Coordinating Committee and served on several federal court committees. He chaired the State Bar committee that drafted the Nevada Recommended Jury Instructions (Civil). Judge Gordon is admitted to practice in the state and federal courts of Nevada and Arizona, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, and the Supreme Court of the United States. Judge Gordon has been recognized in Best Lawyers in America, Mountain States Super Lawyers, and The Chambers USA Guide. He holds an AV rating from Martindale-Hubbell.

Jennifer A. Dorsey

Judge Jennifer A. Dorsey was nominated by President Barack Obama and took the oath of office on August 2, 2013. A native Las Vegas, Judge Dorsey earned her bachelor's degree in Communications from UNLV and her law degree from Pepperdine Law School. Before taking the bench, Judge Dorsey practiced civil litigation and appeals at the Kemp Jones law firm, was selected to serve on the Nevada Supreme Court's Committee on Professionalism, was listed among the Top Women in Litigation and Nevada's Legal Elite, and held Martindale-Hubbell's highest AV rating for competency and ethics.

Judge Dorsey sits on the Pepperdine Caruso School of Law's Board of Advisors and was honored as her law school's Distinguished Alumnus in 2016. She teaches legal writing as an adjunct professor at UNLV's Boyd School of Law and the Pepperdine Caruso School of Law. Judge Dorsey is a member of the American Law Institute and the President of the Howard D. McKibben Inn of Court, and she serves as one of this district's judges for the drug-diversion program known as RISE (Recovery, Inspiration, Support, and Excellence) Court.

United States District Judges



Richard F. Boulware II

Judge Richard Franklin Boulware II was nominated by President Barack Obama on January 16, 2014, and took the oath of office on June 12, 2014. Judge Boulware received an AB degree cum laude in 1993 from Harvard College and received his JD in 2002 from Columbia Law School where he was on the Law Review.

Judge Boulware is a past president of the Las Vegas chapter of the National Bar Association, as well as a former member of the National Board of Governors of the National Bar Association. He received a special President's Award from the national president of the National Bar Association in 2011 as well as the Medal of Justice award from the State Bar of Nevada in 2012. In 2013, Judge Boulware received the Dedicated Service award from Nevada Attorneys for Criminal Justice. He has served on numerous nonprofit boards and community committees focusing on education reform and other issues facing disadvantaged, indigent or at-risk individuals in the community.

Anne R. Traum



Judge Traum was first nominated for the judgeship back in 2016 by President Barack Obama during the 114th Congress, but no action was taken at the close of the 114th Congress. President Biden nominated Judge Traum during the first session of the 117th Congress, but the confirmation process was not completed before the first session of the 117th Congress concluded. She was nominated again on Jan. 3, 2022, and the Senate Judiciary Committee reported her nomination to the Senate Floor on Jan. 20, 2022. Upon taking her oath, Judge Traum filled a judgeship vacant since Feb. 1, 2016, when District Judge Robert C. Jones assumed senior status. She maintains chambers in Reno.

Judge Traum was professor of law from 2008 to 2022 and is now emeritus professor of law at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, William S. Boyd School of Law. She twice served the law school as Associate Dean for Experiential Legal Education from 2013 to 2015 and 2021 to 2022. At the law school, Judge Traum taught Criminal Procedure, Federal Courts, Criminal Law, and two law clinics: the Appellate Clinic, which she founded in 2009, and the Misdemeanor Clinic, which she co-founded in 2018. She served as Special Counsel for the U.S. Department of Justice, Office for Access to Justice, in Washington, D.C., from 2015 to 2016. Before joining the law faculty at UNLV, Judge Traum served as an Assistant Federal Public Defender for the District of Nevada from 2002 to 2008. She was an Assistant U.S. Attorney in the Office of the U.S. Attorney for the District of Nevada, Civil Division, from 2000 to 2002, and an attorney for the U.S. DOJ, Environmental and Natural Resources Division, in Washington, D.C., from 1998 to 2000.

Born in Redwood City, California, Judge Traum received her Bachelor of Arts, with honors in history, from Brown University in 1991 and received her Juris Doctor, cum laude, from the University of California, Hastings College of the Law, in 1996.

Judge Traum served as an Appellate Lawyer Representative for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, from 2009 to 2011, and a Lawyer Representative for the District of Nevada from 2013 to 2016. She served on the Ninth Circuit's Pro Se Litigation Committee beginning in 2015.

Judge Traum was instrumental in establishing the Nevada Appellate Pro Bono Program in 2013 and chaired the Nevada Board of Indigent Defense Services from 2020 to 2021. She was elected Fellow of the American Academy of Appellate Lawyers in 2020.

United States District Judges



Cristina D. Silva

Judge Silva was nominated by President Biden in 2021 and took the oath of office on April 8, 2022. Prior to taking to the federal bench, Judge Silva was a judge for the Eighth Judicial District Court in Las Vegas, Nevada. She previously served as an Assistant State Attorney for the Miami-Dade State Attorney's Office and as an Assistant United States Attorney in the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Nevada from 2011-2019. She was the first woman and Latina to serve as the Criminal Chief for that office. Judge Silva received her Bachelor of Arts degree from Wellesley College in 2001, and went on to receive her law degree from the American University Washington College of Law in Washington D.C. in 2007. She is a native of El Paso, Texas.



Howard D. McKibben

Howard D. McKibben was appointed by President Ronald Reagan and took the oath of office on October 12, 1984. He was Chief Judge of the District from December 1, 1997, until October 12, 2002. He assumed senior status on April 1, 2005.

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 master's 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 State District Judges Association. He has been a member of the Ninth Circuit Judicial Council and was the chair of the Ninth Circuit Jury Committee. Judge McKibben is the former chair of the Judicial Conference Committee on Federal-State Jurisdiction. He served on the Nevada State Board of Bar Examiners. Judge McKibben was a past President of the Howard D. McKibben Inn of Court, and he is one of the founders of the Bruce R. Thompson Inn of Court. In 2010, Judge McKibben was the recipient of the Inns of Court Professionalism Award for the Ninth Circuit. In 2019, he was the recipient of the State Bar of Nevada's Presidential Award. 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. He currently serves on the Board of Directors for the Eagle Valley Children's Home.

Judge McKibben and his wife Mary Ann have two children and four grandchildren.

United States District Judges



Kent J. Dawson

Judge Dawson was confirmed by the United States Senate in May 2000 and took the oath of office on July 7, 2000. 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 was the Henderson City Attorney between 1972 and 1979. During that time, he was instrumental in the creation of the Henderson Public Improvement Trust, an issuer of tax-exempt bonds.

Judge Dawson represented the city in attracting Ethel M. Chocolates, Levi Strauss, Breyer's Ice Cream, and many other businesses. He was also instrumental in the first issuance of industrial development bonds for the cities of Las Vegas and North Las Vegas. The infrastructure for the master-planned communities of The Lake at Las Vegas, Green Valley Ranch, McDonald Ranch and Seven Hills was financed with tax exempt bonds during his tenure. Those communities are the driving force behind Henderson becoming one of the fastest growing large cities in the United States for the past several years. Judge Dawson served as legal counsel for the Trust until he became a full-time judge.

Judge Dawson was in private practice from 1979 until 1995 where he focused primarily in civil law. He was recognized by the Clark County Pro Bono Project for Outstanding Contribution by a Law Firm. In 1995 he was appointed Justice of the Peace for Henderson and subsequently elected to a six-year term. Judge Dawson was for many years an elected officer and director of the Henderson Chamber of Commerce, having served as President and having received the "Member of the Year" award. In 2009, he received the City of Henderson Mike O'Callaghan Public Sector Person of the Year Award for outstanding service and advancement of the City's economic development goals. From 2013 through 2020, Judge Dawson served on the U.S. Judicial Conference Court Security Committee where he was chairperson of the Operations and Technology subcommittee.

He has donated his time in the creation of numerous charitable and community organizations. He has also been licensed as a private pilot with instrument and multiengine ratings. He is admitted to practice in Utah and Nevada.



Larry R. Hicks

Larry R. Hicks was appointed by President George W. Bush and was sworn in as 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 joined the statewide 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 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 also past-president and master of the Bruce R. Thompson Chapter of the American Inn of Court in Reno. In 1998, he was inducted into the American College of Trial Lawyers. He also served as a delegate to the American Bar Association from 1994 until 2000.

United States District Judges



James C. Mahan

Judge Mahan is a longtime resident of Las Vegas, having lived and practiced law there continuously since 1973. 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 was admitted to practice in Nevada, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, the United States Tax Court, and the 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 to "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 Eighth Judicial District Court. In the biennial Review Journal poll of lawyers in Clark County, he was the highest rated district judge in 2000 and 2002.

In 2001, Judge Mahan was nominated to the United States District Court. Judge Mahan took the Oath of Office on February 1, 2002. From 2005 – 2012, he served as an adjunct professor at the William H. Boyd School of Law. He served on the Board of Advisors for the Vanderbilt Law School from 2014 to 2017.



Robert C. Jones

Judge Robert Clive Jones was appointed United States District by President Bush in October 2003. He was sworn in on December 1, 2002. He was born and raised in Las Vegas, Nevada.

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 also 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.

United States Magistrate Judges



Cam Ferenbach

Magistrate Judge Cam Ferenbach has presided as a trial and settlement judge over hundreds of civil cases, including Employment, Personal Injury, Intellectual Property, Real Property, Contract, Civil Rights, Construction, and Business Disputes.

Judge Ferenbach graduated from Princeton University in 1969 and served in the United States Navy as a line officer from 1969 until 1973. After the Navy, Judge Ferenbach settled in Arizona where he managed a community owned water utility before beginning law school in 1977. He graduated from ASU Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law in December 1979 and began working as an associate at Lionel Sawyer & Collins in Las Vegas, Nevada, in March of 1980.

Except for a six month leave of absence, during which he served as a deputy public defender with the Maricopa County Public Defender's Office in Phoenix, Arizona, Judge Ferenbach was an associate and then a litigation partner at Lionel Sawyer & Collins until his appointment to the bench. Judge Ferenbach practice over 30 years included all areas of civil practice, representing individuals, small businesses, and large corporations. He tried cases to juries in state and federal court. Judge Ferenbach was the Pro Bono coordinator for his firm and regularly handled and supervised associates handling Pro Bono cases. While practicing law, Judge Ferenbach served on the boards of Nevada Legal Services, the Nevada Law Foundation, Clark County Legal Services (now Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada), the Clark County Bar Association, The Meadows School, and the State Bar of Nevada. Judge Ferenbach served as President of the County Bar in 2002 and President of the State Bar in 2010-2011.



Nancy J. Koppe

Magistrate Judge Nancy J. Koppe has been on the bench since 2013. Judge Koppe has acted as a settlement judge in hundreds of civil cases, including intellectual property, civil rights, employment, personal injury, and business disputes.

Judge Koppe is the Chair of this Court's Criminal Local Rules Committee and Attorney Admission Fund Committee. She also serves on other committees within this Court. Judge Koppe served as Chair of the Ninth Circuit's Magistrate Judges Education Committee from 2016 to 2017, and as a member of that committee from 2014 to 2016. She currently serves on the Ninth Circuit's Magistrate Judges Executive

Committee.

Prior to taking the bench, Judge Koppe was an Assistant United States Attorney for the District of Nevada for over 12 years. Judge Koppe tried criminal cases before nearly every District Judge in this District, including child exploitation, complex white-collar matters, and gang homicide cases. Many of these trials involved forensic analysis of computers and the evidence that arose therefrom. Judge Koppe also wrote appellate briefs and argued before the Ninth Circuit, including one argument before an en banc panel. In her capacity as an Assistant United States Attorney, Judge Koppe served as the Project Safe Childhood Coordinator for the District. Judge Koppe served as a lawyer representative for the District of Nevada and as a representative from this District to the Ninth Circuit's Lawyer Representatives Coordinating Committee. Judge Koppe also served as Vice Chair, Chair-Elect, and Chair of the Ninth Circuit's Lawyer Representatives Coordinating Committee. Judge Koppe has served as a member of the Ninth Circuit's Conference Executive Committee.

Before joining the United States Attorney's Office, Judge Koppe was an Assistant District Attorney in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania for almost eight years. In that capacity, she tried hundreds of bench and jury trials. Judge Koppe prosecuted both adults and juveniles for crimes ranging from attempted murder to sexual assault to insurance fraud.

In 2006, Judge Koppe was awarded the Department of Justice's Director's Award for Superior Performance as an Assistant United States Attorney. In 2011, Cornell Law School awarded Judge Koppe its Exemplary Public Service Award.

Judge Koppe received her undergraduate degree from the University of Pennsylvania and her J.D. from Cornell Law School.

United States Magistrate Judges



Carla B. Baldwin

Carla Baldwin presides over a variety of criminal and civil matters. Prior to her elevation to the bench, Judge Baldwin gained extensive and varied trial experience in both federal criminal and complex civil law. From 2010 until to her appointment to the bench, Judge Baldwin served as an Assistant United States Attorney in the criminal division of the United States Attorney's Office in Nevada. Prior to becoming a federal prosecutor, Judge Baldwin was an associate attorney with the law firm of McDonald Carano Wilson LLP from 2005 until 2010. Prior to her time at MCW, Judge Baldwin served as a judicial law clerk to the Honorable Procter R. Hug, Jr. on the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals and the Honorable Peter I. Breen on the Second Judicial District Court for Washoe County, Nevada. Judge Baldwin received her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Speech Communications with a minor in Business Administration from the University of Nevada, Reno in 1997 and her juris doctorate degree, with great distinction, from the University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law in 2003.



Brenda N. Weksler

Magistrate Judge Brenda Weksler joined the Court in 2019 following 16 years as a trial attorney at the Federal Public Defender Office. Prior to that, she served as a judicial law-clerk to Chief J. Kathy Hardcastle in the Eighth Judicial District Court. Judge Weksler has a wide array of litigation experience in federal court representing indigent clients charged with various federal crimes. In addition to her substantial experience with evidentiary hearings, she has tried numerous bench and jury trials. She has also represented her clients in the Ninth Circuit. She taught seminars on several topics across the country, including evidentiary and procedural issues, and was the Trial Training Director for the Federal Public

Defender's Office from 2012-2019.

Judge Weksler was born in Buenos Aires and moved to Las Vegas when she was 14 years old. She is a member of several organizations geared to improving the practice of law and preserving access to justice, and has served on several boards, including the Clark County Bar, the Federal Bar Association, and the Federal Court Pro Bono Program.

Judge Weksler graduated from Boyd School of Law, University of Las Vegas, Nevada in 2002. She received her undergraduate degree in English with a minor in Philosophy from University of Las Vegas, Nevada.



Daniel J. Albregts

Magistrate Judge Daniel J. Albregts was appointed to the bench effective August 5, 2019. Prior to his appointment, Judge Albregts was in private practice for 26 years handling civil and criminal matters in State and Federal Court. Judge Albregts handled all types of criminal cases, including death penalty cases, large complex, multi-defendant criminal cases, and was lead counsel in some of the largest white collar criminal cases ever prosecuted in Southern Nevada. Judge Albregts was lead attorney in over 125 jury trials in state and federal court and argued cases before the Nevada Supreme Court and the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. Prior to private practice, Judge Albregts served as an Assistant Deputy Public Defender

in the Federal Defender's Office for the District of Nevada from 1990-1993, and as a Deputy Assistant Public Defender for the Colorado Public Defender's Office from 1987-1990.

Judge Albregts served as the Lawyer Representative to the Federal District Court for the District of Nevada from 2001-2003 and 2017-2019, the Criminal Justice Act Lawyer Representative for the United States District Court, District of Nevada from 1999-2008 and 2015-2019 and a member of the National eVoucher Working Group for the Administrative Offices of the United States Courts.

Judge Albregts served on the Southern Nevada State Bar Disciplinary Committee from 1995-2004, serving as Vice Chairman from 1999-2004. Judge Albregts received his undergraduate degree in History/Political Science in 1984 and his Juris Doctorate in 1987, both from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

United States Magistrate Judges



Elayna J. Youchah

Magistrate Judge Elayna Youchah was a private civil litigator for approximately 25 years after completing a clerkship with the Honorable Lawrence R. Leavitt (Ret.) in the U.S. District Court for the District of Nevada. Immediately prior to joining the bench, Judge Youchah was an equity partner with Jackson Lewis, where her practice focused on labor and employment law.

During and before Judge Youchah's many years in the civil practice of law, she has been a dedicated advocate for children through Guardian ad Litem, Court Appointed Special Advocates Office, and the Children's Aid Program sponsored by the Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada. Judge Youchah is also involved in animal rescue when time allows.

Judge Youchah graduated Order of the Coif from the University of Southern California School of Law in 1993. She graduated with distinction with a A.B from the University of Michigan in 1980, and received a master's degree in Social Work from the University of Washington in 1983. Among the positions Judge Youchah held as a social worker were Director of the Wake County Juvenile Delinquency Project in Raleigh, North Carolina, Foster Home Coordinator for Casey Family Foundation in Seattle, Washington, and the social worker for one of King County (Seattle, Washington) public defender offices creating and coordinating alternative sentencing options for adjudicated juvenile offenders.



Craig S. Denney

Magistrate Judge Craig S. Denney was born and raised in Cleveland, Ohio. He and his family have lived in Northern Nevada since 1999.

Judge Denney has a bachelor's degree in Economics and Business Administration from Ohio Dominican College in Columbus, Ohio. Judge Denney received his juris doctorate from Case Western Reserve University School of Law in Cleveland, Ohio. He has a master's degree in business administration from Saint Martin's College in Lacey, Washington. He also has a master's degree in strategic studies from the U.S. Army War College in Carlisle, Pennsylvania.

Prior to his appointment to the federal court on January 24, 2022, Judge Denney held the following positions: Assistant United States Attorney, with the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Nevada; Counsel with Downey Brand LLP; Counsel and Partner with Snell & Wilmer LLP.

In 2016, Judge Denney was appointed as Administrative Law Judge with the Social Security Administration ("SSA"). He later served as the Chief Administrative Law Judge for SSA's Reno Hearing Office before his selection as a Magistrate Judge.

Prior to moving to Nevada in 1999, Judge Denney served on active duty for six years in the U.S. Army Judge Advocate General's Corps ("JAG"). He has also served in the Army Reserve JAG Corps for more than twenty years. During his time in the Reserve, Judge Denney served as a Military Judge from 2011 to 2021. He also currently serves as an Associate Judge (Army Reserve) on the Army Court of Criminal Appeals.

United States Magistrate Judges



Robert A. McQuaid, Jr. – Recalled

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.

United States Bankruptcy Judges



August B. Landis, Chief Judge

August B. Landis was sworn in as a Nevada Bankruptcy Judge on November 27, 2013. He became Chief Judge for the District on April 1, 2020.

Chief Judge Landis served in the U.S. Trustee Program of the U.S. Department of Justice and was acting U.S. Trustee for Region 17 from 2010 until being appointed as a judge to the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Nevada.

Prior to his government service, Chief Judge Landis engaged in private practice as an associate attorney at Whitfield & Eddy, P.L.C., in Des Moines, Iowa, from 1990 to 1995, and as a member attorney from 1996 to 2005. He handled commercial and bankruptcy litigation from case inception through resolution by arbitration, mediation, settlement, or trial. Chief Judge Landis also worked as an associate at Neiman, Neiman, Stone & Spellman, P.C., in Des Moines, from 1987 to 1989, representing debtors, creditors, and a Chapter 7 panel trustee in contested matters and adversary proceedings.

A native of Springfield, Illinois, Chief Judge Landis received his B.S. degree in business administration from Drake University in 1984 and his J.D. in 1987 from Drake Law School, where he served as a staff member of the Drake Law Review.



Mike K. Nakagawa

Judge Nakagawa was appointed to the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Nevada in September 2006 and was reappointed in 2020. He served as the Chief Bankruptcy Judge from October 2008 through September 2015. He received his B.A. in political economy from the University of the Pacific in 1977. He received his J.D. from the University of California at Davis in 1980, where he was a member and editor of the law review. After law school, he clerked for the Chief Judge of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of California.

Judge Nakagawa was admitted to the California and Nevada bars, and primarily practiced bankruptcy and business law. Before relocating to Nevada, he taught bankruptcy law and reorganizations in Sacramento at McGeorge School of Law as well as Lincoln Law School. Judge Nakagawa currently teaches courses in bankruptcy law and remedies at the William S. Boyd School of Law at the University of Nevada Las Vegas. He has been a presenter at numerous continuing legal education programs offered by the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, the American Bankruptcy Institute, the Norton Institutes on Bankruptcy Law, and other organizations.



Natalie M. Cox

Natalie M. Cox was appointed to the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Nevada in January 2020.

Originally from Kodiak, Alaska, Judge Cox attended Austin Peay State University in Clarksville, Tennessee, where she played on both the Women's Basketball and Softball teams. After graduating with a B.A. in History in 1997, Judge Cox attended the William S. Boyd School of Law at UNLV, graduating in the inaugural class in 2001.

After graduating from law school, Judge Cox entered private practice in Las Vegas with the law firms of Jolley, Urga, Wirth & Woodbury, and Kolesar & Leatham, Chtd.. Prior to her appointment, Judge Cox served in the Office of the U.S. Trustee in Wilmington, Delaware and Nashville, Tennessee.

United States Bankruptcy Judges



Gregg W. Zive

Judge Zive was sworn in as a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the District of Nevada in its Reno office on January 23, 1995 and was reappointed in 2009. He was the Chair of the Ninth Circuit Conference of Chief Bankruptcy Judges from October 2005 to September 2006. He retired effective December 31, 2010 and has been recalled on a full-time basis since January 1, 2011.

Judge Zive graduated from the University of Nevada in 1967 with a B.A. 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. He was admitted to the bars of California (1973) and Nevada (1976) and to the bar of the

Supreme Court of the United States.

Judge Zive is a past president of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges. He is a Fellow of The American College of Bankruptcy (inducted in 2005). He has been a director of the American Bankruptcy Institute from (2008–2014). He is a member of the Washoe County Bar Association (president, 1992-1993), Nevada State-Federal Judicial Council, State Bar of Nevada Advisory Commission on Law Related Education and Master Emeritus of the Bruce R. Thompson Chapter of the American Inns of Court. He has been a member of the Ninth Circuit Public Information & Community Outreach Committee and the Ninth Circuit Standing Committee on ADR. He is an adjunct professor at Boyd Law School.

Inactive and Retired Judges

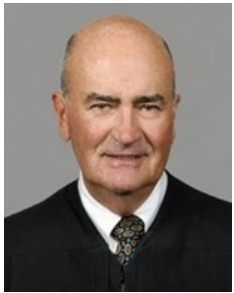


Roger L. Hunt – Inactive U.S. District Judge

Judge Roger L. Hunt was nominated to the United States District Court for the District of Nevada by President Bill Clinton on March 27, 2000 and took office on May 26, 2000. He served as Chief Judge of the District of Nevada from January 2007-May 2011. He took Senior Status in May 2011. Judge Hunt served as a Magistrate Judge from 1992 to 2000 and was chair of the Executive Board of the Ninth Circuit Magistrate Judges Conference at the time of his confirmation.

Judge Hunt received his undergraduate degree in history from Brigham Young University in 1966 and received his J.D. degree, with honors, in 1970 from George Washington University.

Judge Hunt served on the Ninth Circuit Judicial Council. He served as the judicial liaison for the Criminal Justice Act Panel for 15 years where he coordinated the Court Appointed Attorneys Panel. He served on the Ninth Circuit Model Jury Instruction Committee for seven years, was also a member of the Ninth Circuit Library Committee, was co-chair of the District's CM/ECF Implementation Committee, and chair of the Case Management Subcommittee.



William G. Cobb, Retired

William Cobb was appointed a United States Magistrate Judge for the District of Nevada on September 4, 2011 and was reappointed to a second eight-year term in 2019. He served until his retirement on January 4, 2022. A native of Nevada, he attended the University of Nevada, Reno, and Lewis & Clark Law School. He served in the US Army Reserves (Captain, Air Defense Artillery). He was previously elected to the Board of Regents of the Nevada System of Higher Education.

Prior to his appointment to the federal bench, Judge Cobb was a deputy district attorney in the Washoe County District Attorney's office. He later joined the civil litigation law firm of Erickson, Thorpe & Swainston, Ltd., where he practiced law for 33 years and was the firm's senior and managing partner. During his career as a civil and criminal trial attorney, Judge Cobb tried approximately 50 jury trials to verdict and was elected to membership in Trial Attorneys of America. Judge Cobb was a Nevada lawyer delegate to the Ninth Circuit Judicial Conference (Chair, 1991). He is a former president of the Bruce R. Thompson Inn of Court and was honored as a Master Emeritus of the Inn. He served as a Nevada Supreme Court Settlement Judge for 14 years and was also a Judge Pro Tempore of Nevada's "Short Trial" program. He remains a member of the State Bars of Nevada and California, the Washoe County Bar Association, the Federal Bar Association, and the American Board of Trial Advocates.

In his capacity as the District of Nevada's senior Magistrate Judge, he served as the district's representative to the Ninth Circuit Magistrate Judges Executive Board. He was also chair of the State and Federal Judicial Council of Nevada.

Chambers Staff

The District Court has seven active district judges, five senior judges, seven magistrate judges, and one recalled magistrate judge. The district judges are assisted in their work daily by forty-three chambers staff and nine pro se staff attorneys. Each active district judge has three chambers staff positions and each magistrate judge has two chambers staff positions. The Bankruptcy Court has four authorized judgeships, three of which are active. The bankruptcy judges are assisted in their daily work with two chambers staff positions. The chambers positions for district and bankruptcy judges are filled by a mixture of judicial assistants, paralegals, term law clerks, and career law clerks.

Chambers staff have a wide range of responsibilities including: assisting the judge in preparing for hearings, trials and other calendar matters; managing chambers' internal case management system; preparing workload and statistical reports; monitoring and managing caseloads; drafting written memoranda, orders, legal documents, and other materials for the judge's review and signature; providing legal counsel and support to the judge; and researching and analyzing substantive issues of federal and state law, both civil and criminal. They also serve as liaisons between attorneys, the public and the judge.

In addition to chambers staff, the District Court has nine permanent staff attorneys and two temporary staff attorneys (plus an additional temporary position starting at the end of January 2022) who work solely on prisoner litigation. Three permanent staff attorneys and one temporary staff attorney work on litigation filed by prisoners under 42 U.S.C. 1983. Four permanent staff attorneys and one temporary staff attorney focus on non-capital habeas corpus petitions filed by state prisoners under 28 U.S.C. 2254. The Court has two death penalty habeas corpus staff attorneys who assist with all of the Court's pending capital state habeas cases and also work on some non-capital habeas corpus petitions filed under section 2254. The Bankruptcy Court has one temporary law clerk to assist all the bankruptcy judges.

In prisoner civil rights cases, the staff attorneys screen all newly filed section 1983 complaints, address motions to proceed in forma pauperis, and draft orders either ordering service of the complaint, or alternatively dismissing all or part of the claims sua sponte under the Prison Litigation Reform Act where appropriate. In both capital and non-capital habeas cases, the staff attorneys work on the entire case from start to finish including screening all newly filed section 2254 petitions and drafting orders on substantive motions and the merits. The pro se staff attorneys are instrumental in the Court's management and resolution of prisoner cases.

District Court Clerk's Office



The District Court Clerk's Office is overseen by Deb Kempf, the Clerk of Court. Ms. Kempf became the Clerk of Court on January 3, 2017.

The employees of the Clerk's Office identified six core values that reflect the meaning of the court's vision statement: "One District Unified by Our Commitment to Equal Justice Under the Law". The core values are Integrity, Respect, Accountability, Professionalism, and Work/Life Balance.

The Clerk's Office is responsible for providing courtroom support and case management, maintaining accurate and timely records, and providing a wide range of customer service internally as well as to the bar and the public. The Clerk's Office is divided into administrative areas and operational areas. The administrative areas include budgeting, procurement, information technology, finance, human resources, jury management, and continuity of operations planning ("COOP"). The operational areas include intake, records, docketing quality control, CMECF help desk, case management, courtroom support, and court recording and reporting. The Clerk's Office consists of 45 employees in the Las Vegas division and 19 employees in the Reno division.

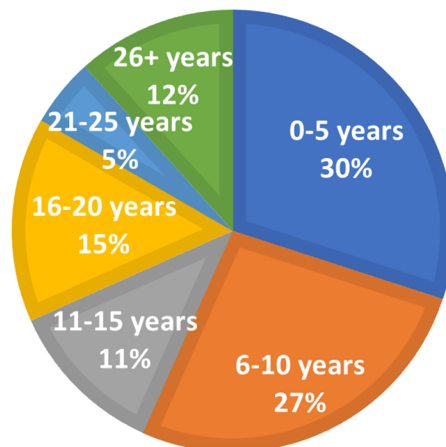
The employees of the Clerk's Office support the work and vision of the court despite ongoing challenges related to budget cuts at the national level. The amount of money allocated for our Clerk's Office salaries and operational expenses such as automation, supplies and equipment, travel, etc. is received from the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts and determined largely through formulas (filings, workload, number of judges, etc.). Due to national budget constraints additional reductions are usually made before the local funds are allocated. The budget for our Clerk's Office was reduced by 9.4% in fiscal year (FY) 2020; 10.4% in FY 2021; 13% in FY 2022; and 9.6% for FY 2023.

The employees of the Clerk's Office continually look for ways to improve customer service and increase efficiency through the use of technology, innovations, and ongoing review of daily operations and processes.

As of January 2023, the Clerk's Office consists of 61 employees, 44 in the Las Vegas division and 17 in the Reno division.

NV DISTRICT COURT - CLERK'S OFFICE YEARS OF SERVICE

■ 0-5 years ■ 6-10 years ■ 11-15 years ■ 16-20 years ■ 21-25 years ■ 26+ years



District Court Clerk's Office

Year 2022

Criminal Cases Filed

352

Count of Case Number

Criminal Cases Closed

479

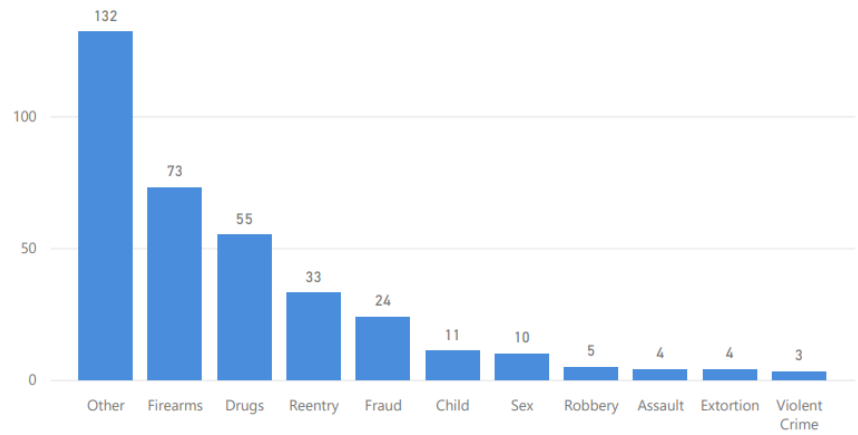
Count of Case Number

Criminal Motions Resolved

5873

Count of Motions

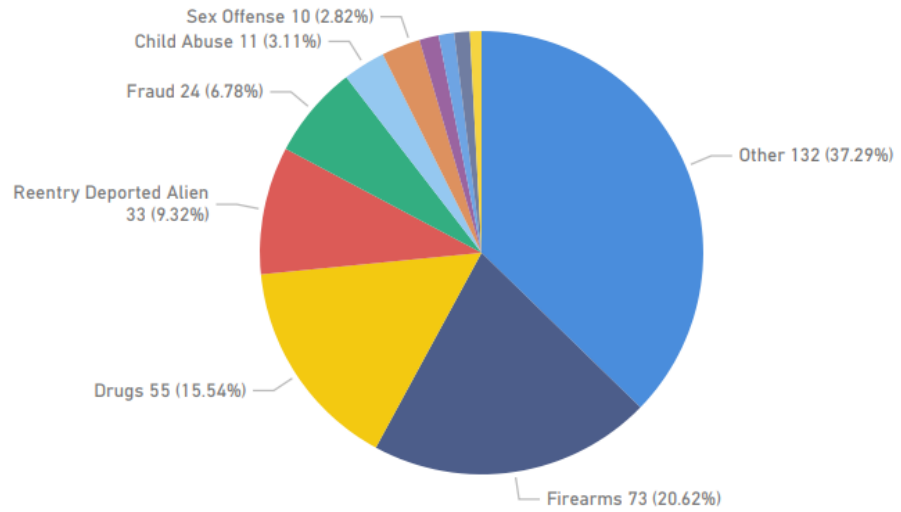
Cases by Criminal Type



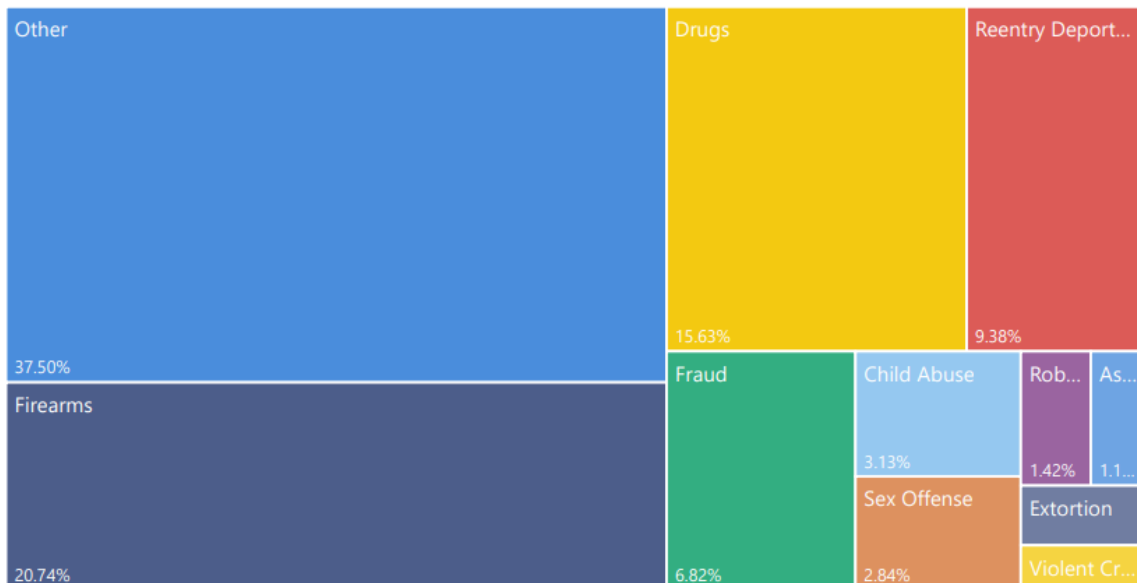
Cases by Criminal Type

Origin

- Other
- Firearms
- Drugs
- Reentry Deported Alien
- Fraud
- Child Abuse
- Sex Offense
- Robbery
- Assault
- Extortion
- Violent Crime



Cases by Criminal Type



District Court Clerk's Office

Year 2022

Civil Cases Filed

2760

Count of Case Number

Civil Cases Closed

2910

Count of Case Number

Civil Cases From State Court

541

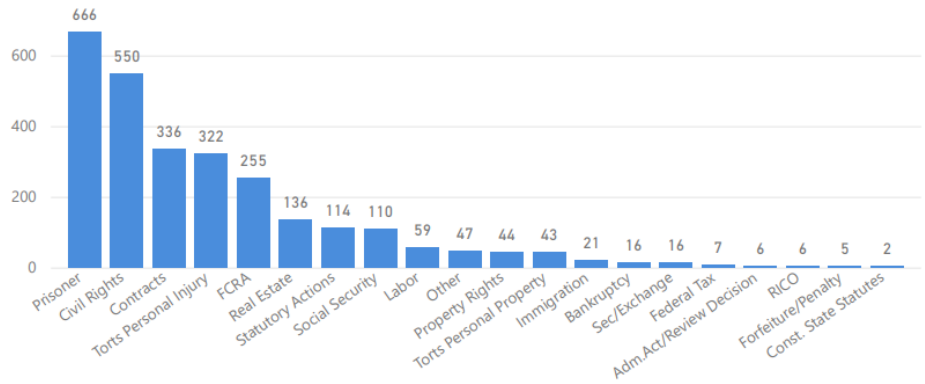
Count of Case Number

Civil Motions Resolved

23212

Count of Motions

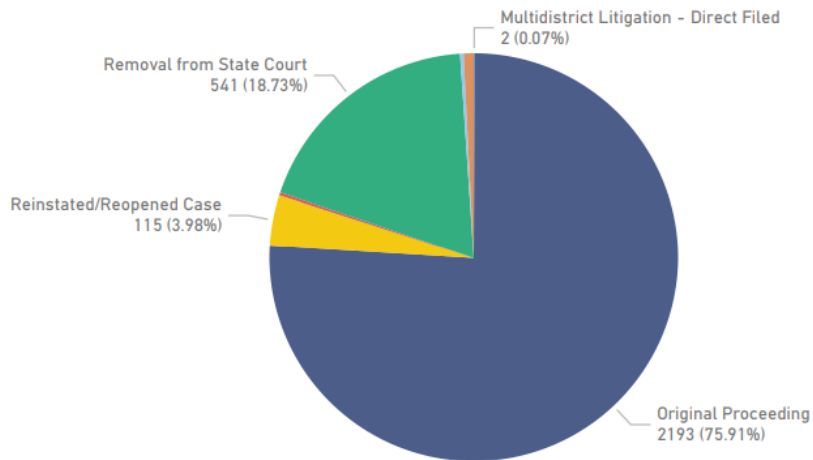
Civil Cases Filed - By Nature of Suit



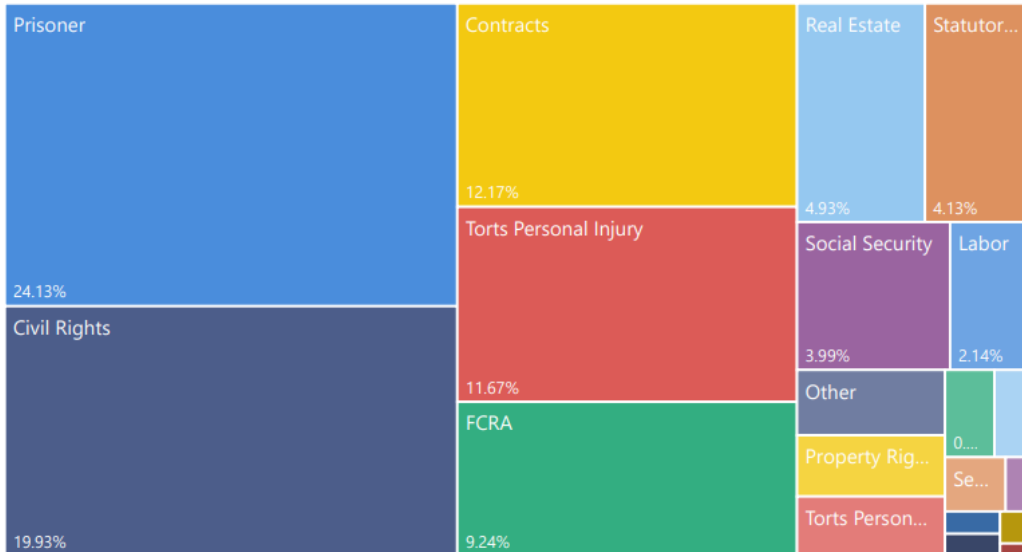
Civil Cases Filed - By Origin

Origin

- Multidistrict Litigation - Direct Filed
- Original Proceeding
- Reinstated/Reopened Case
- Remand from USCA
- Removal from State Court
- Second Reopening
- Transfer-in from Other District



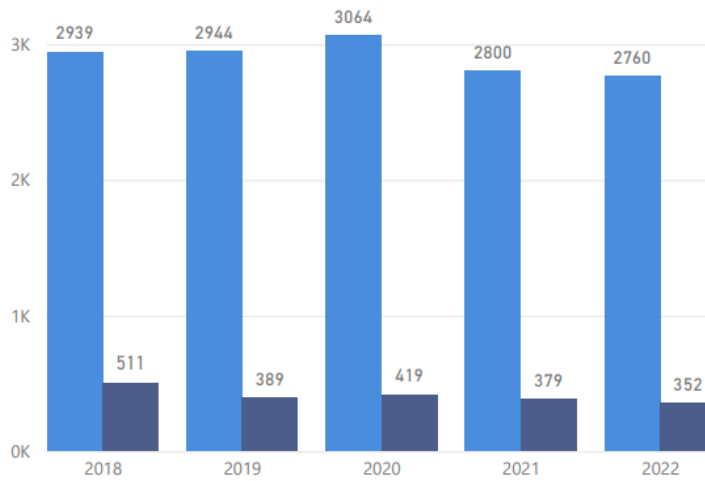
Civil Cases Filed - By Nature of Suit



District Court Clerk's Office

Cases by Year and Type

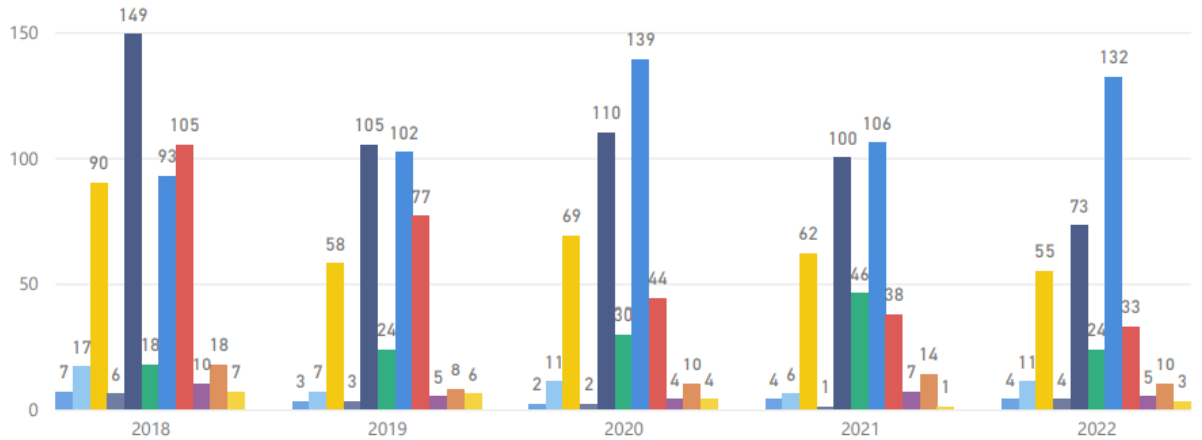
CaseTypeDetail ● Civil ● Criminal



Criminal Cases by Year and Criminal Type

Criminal Type

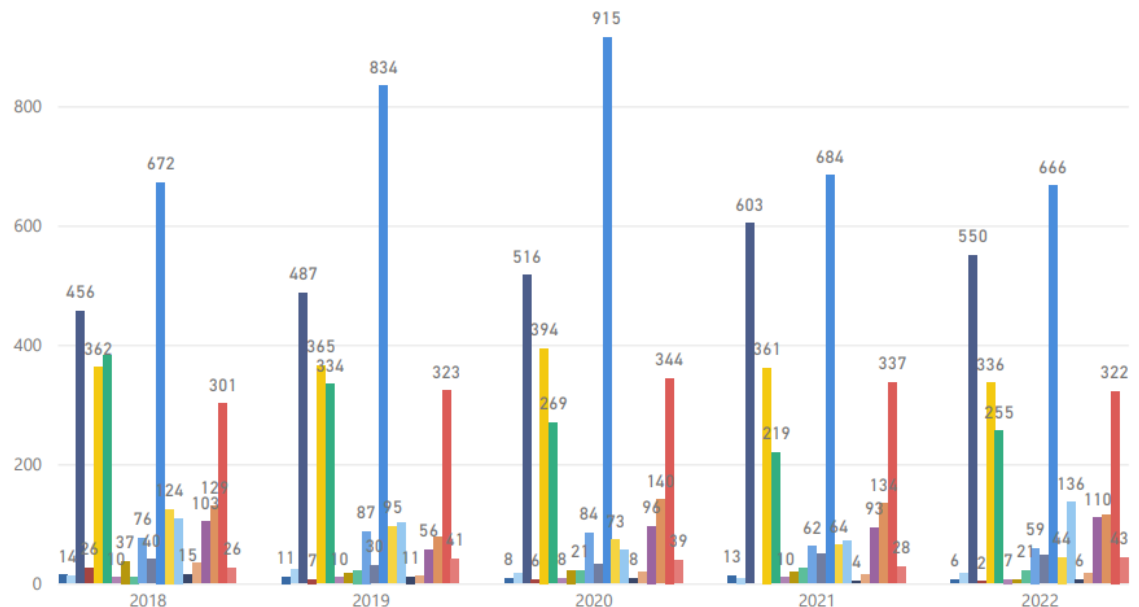
- Assault
- Child Abuse
- Drugs
- Extortion
- Firearms
- Fraud
- Other
- Reentry Deported Alien
- Robbery
- Sex Offense
- Violent Crime



Civil Cases by Year and Nature of Suit (groups)

Nature of Suit (groups)

- Adm.Act/Review Decision
- Bankruptcy
- Civil Rights
- Const. State Statutes
- Contracts
- FCRA
- Federal Tax
- Forfeiture/Penalty
- Immigration
- Labor
- Other
- Prisoner
- Property Rights
- Real Estate
- RICO



Employees of the Clerk's Office

Clerk of Court – Debra K. Kempf

Administration – The Chief Deputy's primary focus is oversight of the operational and administrative management of the Clerk's Office. The Divisional Manager oversees the administrative and operational functions of the divisional office in Reno. The Chief Deputy and Divisional Manager also act as the Clerk's liaison to district and magistrate judges, other court units, government agencies, bar associations, attorneys, litigants, and the public. The Assistant to the Clerk of Court is responsible for providing a variety of support and technical services essential to the direction and operations of the Clerk of the Court.

Vicente Angotti, Chief Deputy Clerk
Lia Griffin, Divisional Manager
Sharon Hardin, Assistant to the Clerk of Court

Docketing/Intake/QC – Docket/Intake Clerks perform various functions and are responsible for docketing, maintaining, and processing case information, and managing the progression of cases to final disposition, in accordance with approved internal controls, procedures, and rules. Quality Control ("QC") Clerks assist in ensuring the integrity and efficiency of the court's case information database by extracting and analyzing data from unit databases and making corrections.

Carrie Smith	Tyler Roush-Wallace
Daniel Morgan	Yelena Williams
Heather Magennis	Erin D. Smith
Hunter Lenz	Darci Reich-Smith
Jeff Callo	Shelly Denson
Kelly Ferris	Wayne Julian
Lucio Ortiz-Esparza	

Financial Administrators - Financial Administrators ensure the court's compliance with internal controls and regulations affecting financial and budget processes and their interaction with other court processes. Financial Administrators prepare, update, and analyze a variety of accounting records, financial statements, and budget reports; and oversee and assist with accounts payable and accounts receivable activities.

Patti Smythe-White	Monica Reyes
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Human Resources – Human Resources ("HR") develops, implements, and administers fair and effective policies, procedures, practices, and standards. HR provides advice and recommendations to managers, unit executives, and judges that are well-supported and consistent with unit goals; provides guidance to managers and supervisors on how to address issues related to performance management, attendance, and policy violations; and provides employee relations and human resources counseling to employees.

Latisa Carter

Jury Administrators – Jury Administrators oversee the overall jury system for both petit and grand juries and are responsible for the system's efficient operation, in accordance with approved internal controls, procedures, rules, and

Employees of the Clerk's Office

regulations. They oversee and perform duties related to the selection, qualification, summoning, orientation, management, and payment of jurors, while ensuring a random selection from a cross section of community wherein the court convenes.

Lorena Quintero

Audra Davis, Retired December 31, 2022

Hunter Lenz, Effective January 2023

Operations Managers/Supervisors – Operation Managers and Supervisors perform professional and managerial work related to supervision and oversight, operations management, case management, and operations support. They direct supervisors and employees, and ensure compliance with the appropriate guidelines, policies, and approved internal controls.

Amber Freeman

Dionna Negrete

Aaron Blazeovich-Gonzalez

Procurement Specialists – Procurement Specialists perform activities which include preparing complicated specifications, negotiating service contracts, and preparing significant and large purchase orders. They procure supplies, equipment, services, and furnishings from government and non-government sources through new contracts, competitive bids, or existing government contracts.

Andrea Krlichka-Drew

Jude Hurin

Alona Candito

Courtroom Administrators – Courtroom Administrators' responsibilities include managing the their assigned judge's caseload, attending, and logging court proceedings, and processing orders. They are responsible for court calendars and regulate the movement of cases, which involves setting dates and times for hearings, trials, and conferences, and attending court sessions and conferences. They assist with the orderly flow of proceedings, including setting up the courtroom, assuring the presence of all necessary participants, assisting with the selection of juries, and managing exhibits. They act as a liaison between the clerk's office, the bar, and the judge to ensure that cases proceed smoothly and efficiently.

Ari Caytuero

Karen Walker

Blanca Lenzi

Katie Sutherland

Danielle Cacciabauda

Lisa Mann

Denise Saavedra

Paris Rich

Elvia Garcia

Peggie Vannozzi

Jeff Miller

Ashlyn Bye

Jerry Ries

Nicholas Vaglio

Melissa Johansen

Angela Reyes

Tawnee Renfro

Summer Rivera

Employees of the Clerk's Office

Court Reporters/ECRO – Court Reporters perform court reporting services for judicial proceedings as required. At the request of a party or by order of the court, Court Reporters provide transcripts within the time prescribed by the court and cost requirements of the Judicial Conference. Court Reporters must maintain accurate, legible records which are subject to audits. The Electronic Court Recorder Operator (“ECRO”) performs specialized courtroom functions such as electronic court recording, calendaring and similar courtroom services work involving attending and logging court proceedings, and processing orders.

Amber McClane

Araceli Berish

Paige Christian

Samantha McNett

Kathy French

Patty Ganci

Donna Prather

Judy Moore

Court Interpreter – The Court Interpreter primarily interprets for the court at all proceedings from arraignments, through motions, trials, and sentences; translates written documents to and from the court that may be introduced into evidence or transmitted to other parties; and provides telephone and over-the-counter assistance to non-English speakers. The interpreter also performs administrative duties such as scheduling contract interpreters.

Cristina Sanchez

IT Systems Department – The Information Technology (“IT”) Department is responsible for overseeing and managing automated systems within the court, including operation, coordination, and integration of all Judiciary and local applications. IT manages courtroom technology and telecommunications capabilities; and maintains oversight of the quality of web development and management to ensure user needs are consistently met.

Shawn Knox

David Vazquez

Nicole Joseph

Thomas Pyle

Justin Farris

Robert Anderson

Guillermo Rojas

Bankruptcy Court Clerk's Office

The Bankruptcy Court Clerk's Office is led by Mary Schott, the Clerk of Court. The Clerk's Office is responsible for managing the non-judicial administrative activities of the court. This includes maintaining accurate records and dockets, managing the accounting activities of the court, case management, providing courtroom support, and providing a high level of customer service to the bar and the public.

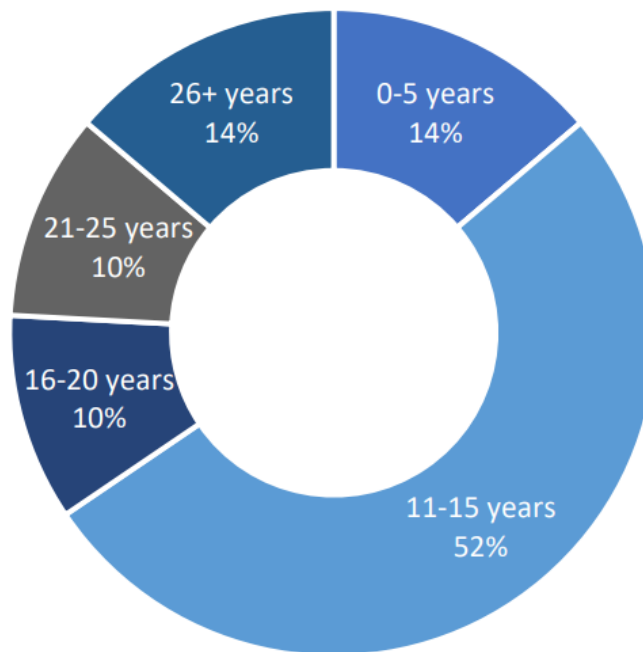
The Clerk's Office is divided into administrative areas and operational areas. The administrative areas include finance, procurement, and human resources. The operational areas include intake, docketing, quality control, CM/ECF help desk, case management, and courtroom services. The Department of Information Technology is shared with the U.S. Probation Office.

The employees of the Clerk's Office support the work of the court despite ongoing challenges related to serious budget cuts at a national level. The amount of money allocated for our Clerk's Office salaries and operational expenses such as automation, supplies and equipment, travel, etc. is received from the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts and determined primarily through formulas (filings, workload, number of judges, etc.). The money allocated for Clerk's Office salaries and expenses was reduced by 9.6% for fiscal year 2023.

The hard work and dedication of the Court employees during COVID-19 continues to be appreciated. Court operations have had to be adjusted quickly and sometimes with little notice.

As of January 2023, the Clerk's Office consists of 29 employees. The chart below indicates the breakdown of the years of service.

Nevada Bankruptcy Court - Clerk's Office
Years of Service



■ 0-5 years ■ 6-10 years ■ 11-15 years ■ 16-20 years ■ 21-25 years ■ 26+ years

Bankruptcy Court Clerk's Office

EMPLOYEES OF THE CLERK'S OFFICE

Clerk of Court – Mary A. Schott

Administration - The Chief Deputy acts on behalf of the Clerk of Court in her absence and shares responsibility for the management of the Clerk's office. This includes oversight of the administrative services and operational areas of the Court. The Legal Analyst analyzes changes in procedures and rules affecting operational areas of the Court, and provides guidance and assistance to Clerk's staff in procedural and case management issues.

Finance - The Finance department ensures the court's compliance with internal controls and regulations affecting financial and budget processes and their interaction with other court processes. This department also includes Procurement. The Procurement Administrator ensures procurement compliance and is responsible for the preparation of purchase orders for the procurement of supplies needed by the Court, participates in the yearly budget, acts as a liaison to General Services Administration, and participates in the formation and regulation of the yearly budget. Financial Specialists maintain the accounting records and applicable reports for all receipted funds and maintain accounts receivable for fees to be collected by the Clerk. The Administrative Specialist maintains the statistical data for the Court, including the various monthly and yearly reports that are generated by this data, prepares, and ensures travel vouchers and travel cards are accurate, and oversees the budget preparation and implementation of the Court's annual Spending Plan.

Human Resources – The Human Resources Manager performs duties related to benefits administration, recruitment, payroll, and ensures local policies are in compliance with Judiciary policies. The Human Resources Manager also assists with the coordination of training programs, and updates personnel policies, procedures, and guidelines.

Operations Supervisors – In Las Vegas, the Resource Coordinator Supervisor of Case Administration, the Resource Coordinator of Court Services, and the Operations Support Supervisor oversee the operations of the Court. In Reno, this is done by the Operations Manager. This includes Intake, Electronic Case Filing (ECF) Support, and Court Services.

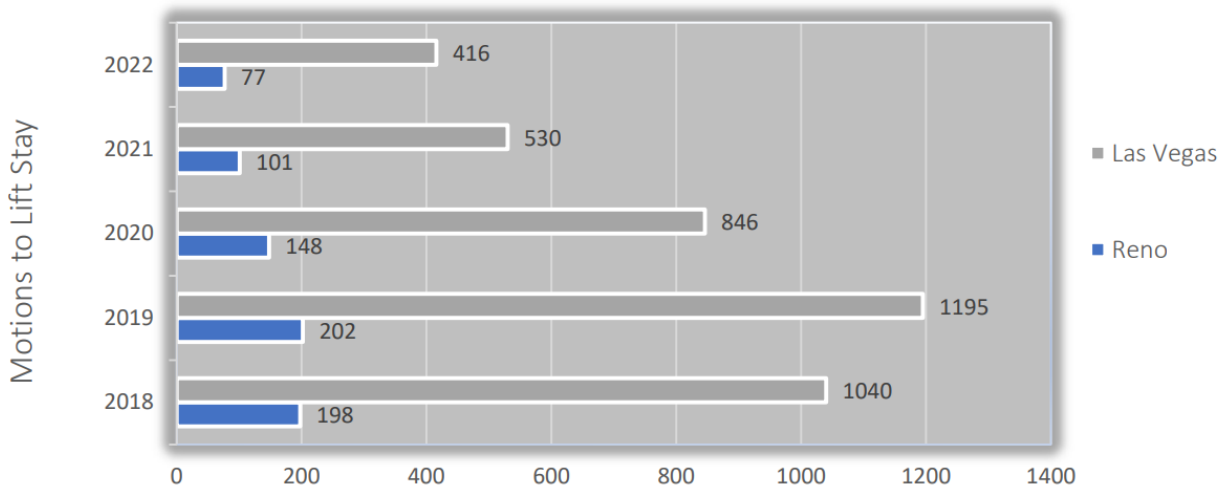
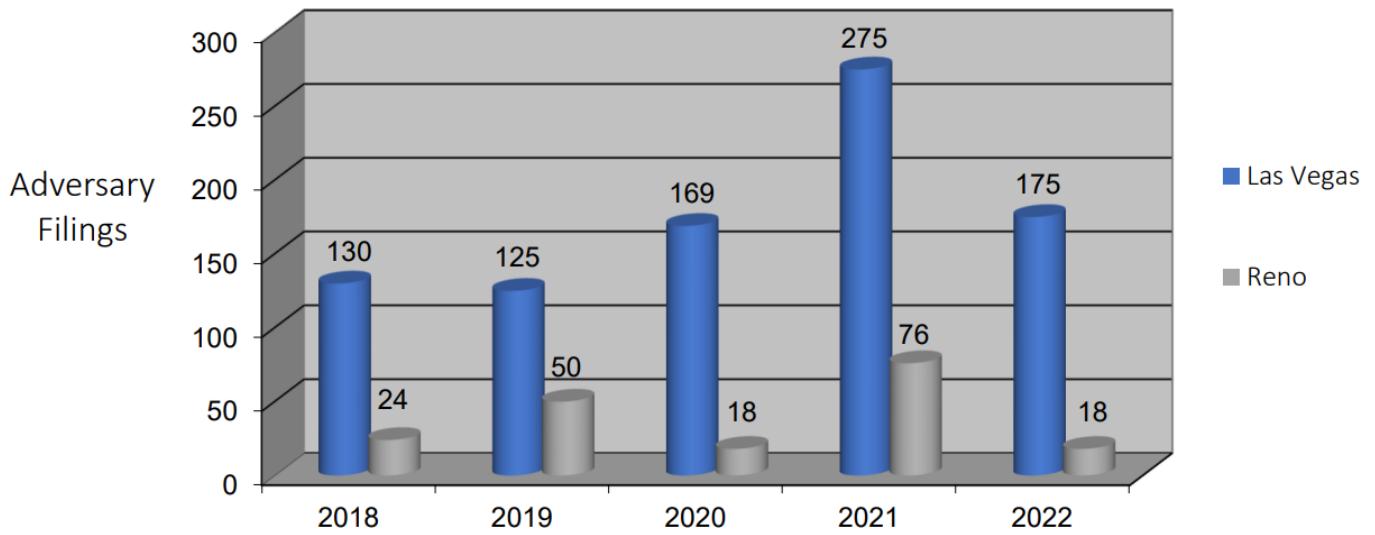
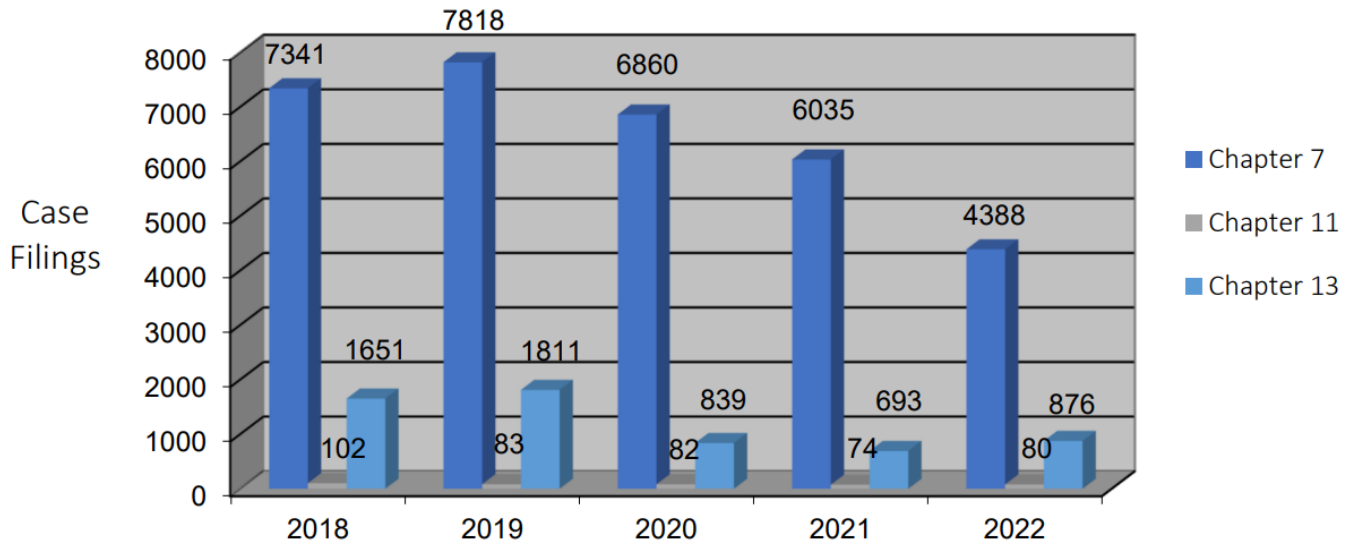
Case Administrators/QC/ECF Support – Case Administrators manage the bankruptcy cases and adversary cases filed. They are responsible for the management of cases filed over the counter or electronically filed, scanning paper filed documents, docketing, quality control of e-filed documents, and monitor cases for discharge and closing. Case Administrators are also responsible for mail duties, and processing funds received over the counter or in the mail. ECF Support provides quality control, audits docket activity, and advises supervisors of input errors.

Court Services - Court Services manages exhibits, assists with visiting judges, processes hearing dates and times, reviews documents for calendar preparation, prepares weekly duty judge calendars, performs quality control of new e-filed petitions, manages the courtroom, processes orders timely, ensures all hearings are being recorded properly, and prepares CDs of hearings when requested.

Department of Information Technology – The Department of Information Technology (DoIT) is responsible for all aspects of information technology within the U.S. Bankruptcy Court and U.S. Probation Office, District of Nevada. The Director of Information Technology evaluates the departments technology and needs, and develops and implements short and long-term improvement plans that anticipate future requirements. The Department is responsible for formulating and implementing appropriate IT policies, procedures, and standards. The Department also performs data backups, manages audio visual equipment, assists in technical service requests, manages the computer network infrastructure, maintains the CM/ECF case management system and all related programs, prepares user manuals, and designs and updates the website.

Bankruptcy Court Clerk's Office

United States Bankruptcy Court - District of Nevada



United States Pretrial Services Office



Denise Jansen, Chief United States Pretrial Services Officer

Staffing

The Pretrial Office ended calendar year 2022 with 16 full-time employees (12 in Las Vegas and three in Reno). Our current staff consists of 11 sworn law enforcement officers and five officer support positions. The law enforcement staff includes the Chief, three Supervising Officers, two Pretrial Services Officer Specialists, and five Officers. Administrative staff include an Administrative Manager, an Information Systems Technology Manager, a Data Quality Analyst, a Personnel and Financial Specialist, and a Contracts and Training Specialist.

After nearly 18 years as Chief Pretrial Services Officer, Shiela Adkins retired in May 2022. We wish Chief Adkins all the best in her retirement.

Workload Statistics

Pretrial Services Cases Activated

FY2020 Pretrial Services Investigations & Reports	FY2021 Pretrial Services Investigations & Reports	FY2022 Pretrial Services Investigations & Reports
486	481	466

Defendants Under Supervision

2020 Defendants Under Supervision	2021 Defendants Under Supervision	2022 Defendants Under Supervision
374	384	362

Pretrial Release Rate

FY 2020 Release Rates	FY 2021 Release Rates	2022 Release Rates
53.7%	51.3%	46.7%

United States Pretrial Services Office

Initiatives and Accomplishments in 2022

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

In September 2022, the Pretrial Services Office implemented a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Committee, currently consisting of seven staff members. The committee organized events to include a lunch during Hispanic Heritage Month. Staff will complete the National DEI Curriculum during calendar year 2023 and management will continue to promote a diverse, equitable, and inclusive work environment for all staff.

The Chief continues as a member of the National DEI Working Group, assisting in building a DEI curriculum for managers.

Wellness

Pretrial Services staff continue to focus on wellness and implemented a Wellness Committee, consisting of six staff members. Staff members are encouraged to participate in national wellness initiatives and will begin implementing district initiatives in 2023.

During an office retreat in August 2022, staff participated in wellness activities including a mindfulness and team building exercises.

Mission

During the office retreat, staff worked together to build a new mission statement:

“U.S. Pretrial Services in the District of Nevada uses best practices to provide quality services to our judicial partners and those we serve. Our team offers client-driven resources and support. We encourage individualized opportunities for success to those navigating the judicial process.”

United States Probation Office

Chad Boardman, Chief United States Probation Officer

Staffing

The probation office ended 2023 with 49 full-time employees (FTEs); 44 of our staff work in the Las Vegas office, while five work in Reno. Our current staff consists of 36 sworn law enforcement officers, seven officer support positions, and a four-member administrative operations team. The probation office also shares a seven-member Information Technology (IT) team with the U.S. Bankruptcy Court. The probation office pays the full salary of two IT positions (included in our count of 49 FTEs), and 50% of the IT Director's salary.

In 2022, three probation officers retired, and three new probation officers were hired. Due to attrition and budget cuts over the past several years, probation staffing remains at the lowest level in 29 years, or 1993. For comparison, at the highest staffing level in 2002, the probation office had 73 full-time employees. We anticipate adding two new probation officers in early 2023 (both are pending preemployment medical screening) and recruiting at least one more officer during the year. Also, due to the upcoming retirement of Deputy Chief Mike Mastrangioli in September 2023, we will also be advertising for a new Deputy Chief in early 2023.

Despite long-term staffing reductions caused by significant budget cuts over many years, including 2022, probation staff continued to demonstrate remarkable commitment and dedication at all levels of the organization, and consistently performed their duties and responsibilities with skill and professionalism.

Fiscal Year Workload Comparison (2019-2022)

	Fiscal Year 2019	Fiscal Year 2020	Fiscal Year 2021	Fiscal Year 2022
Presentence Investigati-	450	294	301	389
New Supervision Cases Received	559	564	510	480
Total Supervision Cases	1158	1190	1125	1124

Offender Population by Supervision Type (On 12/31/2022)

Supervision Type	Nevada		9th Circuit		National	
	Persons Under Supervision	Percent All Persons Under Supervision	Persons Under Supervision	Percent All Persons Under Supervision	Persons Under Supervision	Percent All Persons Under Supervision
Supervised Release	979	88.0%	20,333	88.0%	109,874	89.1%
Probation	126	11.3%	2,578	11.2%	12,180	9.9%
Bureau of Prisons	3	0.3%	45	0.2%	215	0.2%
Parole	3	0.3%	75	0.3%	597	0.5%
Other	1	0.1%	66	0.3%	512	0.4%
Total Persons Under Supervision	1,112	100.0 %	23,097	100.0%	123,378	100.0%

United States Probation Office

Persons Under Post-Conviction Supervision by Offense Type (FY2022)

	Violence	Drugs	Immigration	Firearms/ Weapons	Sex Offenses	Property	Public Order	Escape/ Obstruction	Other
Nevada	84	345	20	217	220	193	29	13	3
9th Circuit	1,421	10,542	2,375	2,332	2,549	2,917	424	301	70
National	7,412	52,764	7,083	21,035	12,699	17,432	2,025	1,895	527

Cases Closed with and Without Revocation (2022)

Total Cases Closed	Total w/o Revoc #		Early Term		Term Expired		Other		Total Cases Revoked		Technical		Minor		Major		Other		
	#	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Nevada	392	289	73.7%	108	27.6%	156	39.8%	25	6.4%	103	26.3%	92	23.5%	3	0.8%	7	1.8%	1	0.3%
9th Circuit	9,907	6,339	64.0%	1,620	16.4%	4,363	44.0%	356	3.6%	3,568	36.0%	3,037	30.7%	131	1.3%	384	3.9%	16	0.2%
National	51,147	34,346	67.2%	8,453	16.5%	23,768	46.5%	2,125	4.2%	16,801	32.8%	11,379	22.2%	1,359	2.7%	3,824	7.5%	239	0.5%

Officer Safety

The probation office realized a significant officer safety achievement in 2022. In May, the probation office finalized an agreement with Nevada's Department of Public Safety to allow probation and pretrial services officers to access the state-wide law enforcement radio communication system. Using portable radios in the community, officers are now communicating with trained dispatchers who continuously monitor officers' location, well-being, and need for emergency assistance.

Work Performed by Probation Staff in 2022

- Scheduled and reviewed over 330 polygraph examinations (sex offender cases)
- Completed 389 presentence investigations (FY22)
- Supervised a combined caseload of over 1100 people
- Completed 562 collateral investigations (investigations to assist other districts)
- Completed 33 immigration fast-track presentence investigations
- Completed over 13,800 contacts with individuals under federal supervision
- Submitted 1,178 supervision progress and violation reports to the court
- Completed 319 prerelease investigations for Federal Bureau of Prisons
- Completed Administrative Office's district-wide cyclical financial review
- Completed 74 pretransfer investigations (for individuals requesting a transfer to NV from another district)
- Performed 11 reasonable suspicion searches (FY22)

Lawyer Representatives

Lawyer Representatives provide vital input to the Court on myriad issues affecting the operations of the federal courts including but not limited to rule changes; development of new programs; planning of conferences; and the expenditure of funds from the non-appropriated account.

The Court has nine lawyer representatives who ensure the lines of communication stay open between the Court and the Bar. The Court holds quarterly meetings with the lawyer representatives and informal meetings as needed. Each year, the Court solicits applications to fill vacant lawyer representative terms, which are three years in duration. The terms are staggered so that one-third of the lawyer representatives are selected each year. The following is a roster of the lawyer representatives in our Court:

2022-2023

Holly Parker
Jonathan J. Tewⁱ
Lindsay Liddell
Adam Hosmer-Henner
Amanda Perach
Travis Barrick
Richard Tanasiⁱⁱ
Lindsay Ager
Leslie Nino Piro

2021-2022

Michael Large
Holly Parker
Lauren Gorman
Lindsay Liddell
James Kemp
Amanda Perach
Travis Barrick
Richard Tanasi
Elham Roohani
Lindsay Agerⁱⁱⁱ

2020-2021

Leslie Bryan Hart^{iv}
Kathryn Newman^v
James Kemp
Michael Large
Holly Parker
Amanda Perach
Travis Barrick
Richard Tanasi
Lauren Gorman

2019-2020

Leslie Bryan Hart
Kathryn Newman
Michael Large
Holly Parker
James Kemp
Amanda Perach
Lauren Gorman
Richard Tanasi
Travis Barrick

2018-2019

Michael C. Van
Michael D. Knox
Brenda Weksler
Daniel Albregts
Leslie Bryan Hart
Kathryn Newman
Holly Parker
Michael Large
James Kemp

2017-2018

Debbie Leonard
Molly M. Rezac
Russell E. Marsh
Michael C. Van
Michael D. Knox
Brenda Weksler
Daniel Albregts
Leslie Bryan Hart
Kathryn Newman

ⁱJonathan J. Tew agreed to extend his term two years to stagger the expiration date of future Lawyer Representatives' terms.

ⁱⁱRichard Tanasi's agreed to extend his term one year to stagger the expiration date of future Lawyer Representatives' terms.

ⁱⁱⁱLindsay Ager replaced Elham Roohani when Ms. Roohani became a state court judge

^{iv}Leslie Bryan Hart's three-year term was extended one-year due to COVID.

^vKathryn Newman's three-year term was extended one year due to COVID.

District Court Highlights

District Court Judges

Anne R. Traum



U.S. District Court Judge Anne R. Traum filled the seat vacated by Robert C. Jones, who took senior status on February 1, 2016. U.S. District Judge Gloria M. Navarro administered the oath of office.

Prior to her appointment to the federal court, Judge Traum was a law professor with the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, William S. Boyd School of Law beginning in 2008. Judge Traum also served with the United States Attorney's Office as an Assistant United States Attorney from 2000-2002, then as an Assistant Federal Public Defender in the Federal Public Defender's Office for the District of Nevada from 2002-2008.

Judge Traum received her Bachelor of Arts degree from Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island in 1991, and went on to receive her law degree from the University of California Hastings College of Law in San Francisco, California in 1996. Judge Traum assumed the position of United States District Judge on April 7, 2022, with chambers in Reno, Nevada.

Cristina D. Silva



U.S. District Court Judge Cristina D. Silva filled the seat vacated by Judge C. Mahan, who took senior status on June 29, 2018. U.S. District Judge Gloria M. Navarro administered the oath of office.

Prior to her appointment to the federal court, Judge Silva was a judge for the Eighth Judicial District Court in Las Vegas, Nevada beginning in 2019. Judge Silva previously served as an Assistant State Attorney for the Miami-Dade State Attorney's Office, then as the Assistant Chief of Litigation of the Domestic Violence Unit. She also served as an Assistant United States Attorney in the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Nevada from 2011-2019.

Judge Silva received her Bachelor of Arts degree from Wellesley College in Boston, Massachusetts in 2001, and went on to receive her law degree from the American University Washington College of Law in Washington D.C. in 2007. Judge Silva assumed the position of a United States District Judge on April 7, 2022, with chambers in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Magistrate Judge Denney Investiture

A formal investiture ceremony was held for Magistrate Judge Craig S. Denney on April 7, 2022.

It was well attended by family, friends, colleagues, and other members of the bar. A reception at the Nevada Museum of Art in Reno, Nevada followed the ceremony.



District Court Highlights

U.S. Attorney for the District of Nevada



Jason M. Frierson was sworn in on May 11, 2022, as the U.S. Attorney for the District of Nevada. Chief U.S. District Judge Miranda M. Du administered the oath of office. Mr. Frierson is the first African American to serve as U.S. Attorney for the District of Nevada. He was nominated by President Joseph R. Biden on November 15, 2021, and confirmed by the U.S. Senate on April 27, 2022. Mr. Frierson leads a team of over 100 prosecutors and staff professionals with offices located in Las Vegas and Reno.

Mr. Frierson earned his JD from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, William S. Boyd School of Law in 2001, and his Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Nevada, Reno in 1996. After graduating from law school, Mr. Frierson served as a law clerk for Justice Myron E. Leavitt on the Supreme Court of Nevada from 2001 to 2002.

Chief U.S. Pretrial Services Officer



The Court selected a new Chief U.S. Pretrial Services Officer for our district, Denise Jansen, to take over upon Chief Adkins' retirement. Ms. Jansen served as the Deputy Chief for the U.S. Probation and Pretrial Services Office in the Western District of Pennsylvania since 2019. In that position, Ms. Jansen oversaw the pretrial, presentence, and post-conviction units. She effectively collaborated and built relationships with the court, probation and pretrial services staff, chiefs and deputies across the country, treatment providers, and other stakeholders. Ms. Jansen also implemented a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee and championed evidence-based practices in that district. Prior to her position in the Western District of Pennsylvania, Ms. Jansen was employed with the District of Oregon and the District of Missouri.

Ms. Jansen earned a Bachelor of Science in Social Work from the Southeast Missouri State University and a Master of Social Work degree from the University of Missouri. In sum, Ms. Jansen brought strong experience and leadership skills that will be valuable to the Pretrial Services Office as well as the entire Court family.

Oral Histories

To honor the senior judges in the District of Nevada, a 5-7 minute video narrated by Judge Navarro was created containing highlights from the oral history interviews of Judges Dawson, Mahan, McKibben, Hicks and Jones. It was played at the 2022 District Conference held on May 17, 2022. In addition, a 25-40 minute video containing highlights of the senior judges' videos was played during the conference.

With the assistance of the Ninth Judicial Circuit Historical Society (NJCHS), the oral histories of four senior judges were added to the NJCHS's collection of oral histories: Howard D. McKibben, Larry R. Hicks, James C. Mahan, and Robert C. Jones.

Electronic Submission of NDOC Prisoner Documents

As of January 2022, all federal cases filed by inmates housed at Northern Nevada Correctional Center, Lovelock Correctional Center, Ely State Prison, High Desert State Prison, Florence McClure Women's Correctional Center, Warm Springs Correctional Center (until its closure in December 2022), and Southern Desert Correctional Center participate in the court's electronic filing program.

District Court Highlights

Naturalization Ceremonies

In 2022, the District of Nevada held 266 naturalization ceremonies in which 12,428 people were naturalized.

There were 225 ceremonies in Las Vegas involving 10,964 people; and 41 ceremonies in Reno involving 1,464 people.

The Las Vegas Lights hosted a naturalization ceremony during halftime on August 20, 2022, at the Cashman Field in Las Vegas.

Judge Gordon conducted the ceremony involving 691 people from 84 countries.



Magistrate Judge Direct Assignment

Pursuant to General Order 2021-03, magistrate judges continue to exercise jurisdiction over civil matters and enter final judgments in civil cases, provided all parties to the case consent to proceed before the magistrate judge. A percentage of all newly filed civil cases are randomly assigned to magistrate judges in this District, except for bankruptcy appeals, bankruptcy withdrawals, prisoner habeas petitions, prisoner civil rights cases, and cases in which a motion for preliminary injunction or temporary restraining order is filed simultaneously with the complaint. General Order 2019-08 continues to apply to the assignment of Social Security Appeals to the magistrate judges.

At certain early stages of the litigation, notices are sent to the parties reminding them of the option of consenting to have the case handled, in its entirety, by the assigned magistrate judge. If all parties consent to magistrate judge jurisdiction, then the assigned magistrate judge presides over all aspects of the case, and any appeals from the magistrate judge's rulings are made directly to the Court of Appeals, just like rulings by district judges.

District Court Highlights

Magistrate judges in this district have much shorter backlogs of pending motions than district judges. When parties consent to have their case handled by a magistrate judge, they can expect dispositive motions to be resolved more quickly. Parties can also expect trials to begin on dates set by magistrate judges. Further, cases will likely proceed to trial more quickly. Decision speed and certainty as to trial dates are two of the advantages of having a case handled by a magistrate judge rather than a district judge. Civil cases assigned to magistrate judges generally move along at a quicker pace. Magistrate judges may well be able to schedule trial within one year of the filing of the complaint.

Egypt's USAID Economic Courts Activity (ECA), 2022 Study Tour

On December 9, 2022, our Court was visited by a delegation from Egypt's ECA project. The ECA project supports Egypt's efforts to enhance the rule of law, reform the judiciary, and enable an improved business environment to attract national and international investors. The project was designed to enhance the ability of Economic Courts (ECs) to resolve cases promptly and effectively. ECA tasks focus on automation, transparency, and human and institutional capacity development.

The delegation was attending the National Center for State Courts' (NCSC) eCourts conference and asked NCSC to arrange a visit to our Court. They were focused on learning what U.S. courts have implemented, seeing IT application for court hearings and the clerk's office.

The delegation met with Judge Navarro to discuss her paperless chambers and how to leverage technology including iPads, Remote Access, Apple TV, Courtroom Technology, and the Microsoft Word iPad App. They observed an arraignment/plea hearing before Magistrate Judge Koppe and met with Vicente Angotti in his role as an IT specialist.



District Court Highlights

RISE Court

The court established Recovery Inspiration Support and Excellence (“RISE”) Court in February 2019. RISE is a pre-adjudication court-led drug-diversion program for qualifying defendants with a substance-use disorder. Participants enter a negotiated guilty plea, and their sentencing is held in abeyance while completing a comprehensive treatment program. Participation in RISE Court is typically for a period of up to 24 months. RISE participants undergo intensive supervision by the United States Pretrial Services Office and are required to attend specialized treatment and group meetings and submit to regular drug and alcohol testing. They are also required to complete assignments and actively engage in various other endeavors related to education, job readiness, life skills, wellness, and employment. Each month, RISE participants attend a RISE Court hearing before the Honorable Jennifer A. Dorsey and the Honorable Nancy J. Koppe to talk about their progress in the program. These discussions help participants focus on key tasks and goals. The desired outcome of RISE is to set the participants on a path that will help them lead successful, clean, and sober lives during and long after graduating from RISE Court, and to remain free from any further involvement in the criminal justice system. Successful completion of the RISE program also results in the dismissal of the underlying criminal case. Since the program began, nearly a dozen participants have graduated from the program and earned the dismissal of their charges.

Inmate Mediation Program

In 2009, the Court approved a one-year pilot program in the unofficial northern division in Reno for inmate early mediations in 42 U.S.C. 1983 cases to address a burgeoning caseload. The Court found the program to have merit and a permanent program was implemented in the District of Nevada by General Order 2010-03. The court recruited local attorneys to serve as pro bono mediators. Magistrate Judge Carla Baldwin leads the inmate mediation program.

After a case is filed and screened, a notice is filed in the case requiring the parties to provide information about the case, their interest in mediation, and other section 1983 cases the plaintiff may have pending. The magistrate judge assigned to the case decides whether to refer the matter to mediation. During this period, the defendants do not have to answer or otherwise appear. The mediation panel is notified of a pending mediation, and mediators volunteer to serve. A mediation order is issued to the parties, which explains the process and requires the parties to submit confidential mediation statements. Those statements are sent to the court’s chambers and forwarded to the assigned mediator.

Mediations are held on Tuesdays and Fridays. Prior to COVID, inmates appeared via teleconference from the prison, and the mediator, deputy attorney general and Nevada Department of Corrections’ representative appeared in the court. All parties now appear via Zoom. If a settlement is reached, it is placed on the record with the deputy court clerk. If no settlement is reached, this is also placed on the court record and the case is returned to the normal litigation track.

As of December 16, 2022, 154 mediations have been held. Of those mediations, 40 cases were settled for a 26% settlement rate. Between 2009 and 2022, 1294 cases were ordered to mediation and 342 cases were settled.

District Court Highlights

Pro Bono Representation and Collaboration with Law Firms

Over the past five years, the Pro Bono Program has been able to recruit attorneys to provide free legal services to indigent civil litigants. The Court is reaching out to other firms in the community to provide similar commitments. Numerous firms have committed to taking pro bono cases on a regular basis and the court extends its gratitude to the following firms for their commitment:

Armstrong Teasdale	Kemp Jones, LLP
Backus Burden	Kummer Kaempfer Bonner Renshaw
Bailey Kennedy	Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard & Smith
Ballard Spahr	Lewis Roca
Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck	Littler Mendelson P.C.
Claggett & Sykes	Marquis Aurbach Chtd.
Clark Hill	McDonald Carano
Dickinson Wright	Ogletree Deakins
Garman Turner Gordon	Paul Padda Law
Greenberg Traurig	Pyatt Silvestri
Holland & Hart	Pisanelli Bice PLLC
Holley Driggs	Reid Rubinstein & Bogatz
Hutchison & Steffen	Richard Harris Law Firm
Jackson Lewis P.C.	Snell & Wilmer
Kamer Zucker Abbott	Wilson Elser

The judges also authorized an increase in the maximum amount of cost reimbursements available for pro bono counsel. Pursuant to Amended General Order 2019-07, expenses incurred by pro bono counsel may now be reimbursed up to \$7,500. The Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada continues to provide outstanding support for this effort. The court looks forward to working with them to improve access to justice in the District of Nevada. The Pro Bono Program is supported by the Court's Attorney Admissions Fund ("AAF"). The Pro Bono Committee is chaired by District Judge Traum and Magistrate Judge Weksler.

District Court Highlights

District Conference

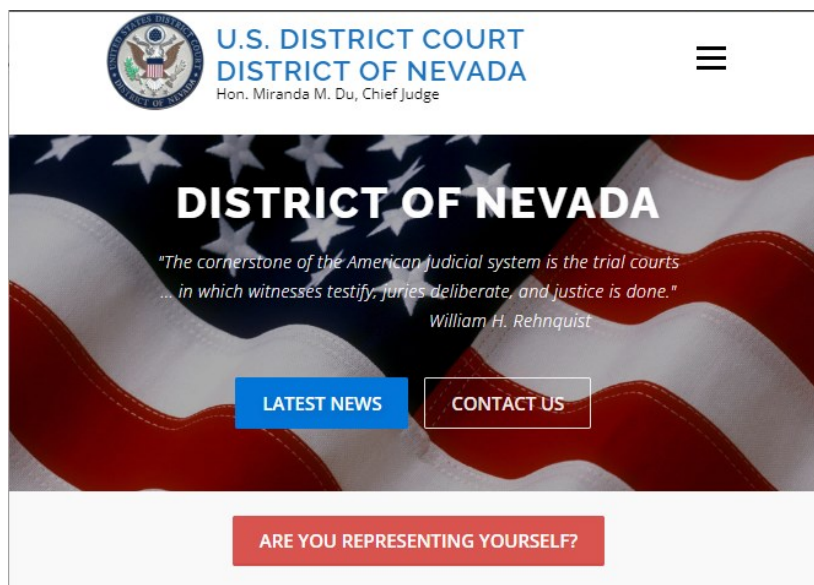
In 2022, the District Conference was held at Thomas & Mack in the Strip View Pavilion. The theme was The Business of Law. The conference focused on emerging workplace issues from transgender rights to pandemic-era challenges. Highlights included Dean Chemerinsky, who spoke on Recent Supreme Court Decisions; former lawyer and author Ross Guberman, who spoke on Writing for Success; Professor Nancy B. Rapoport, who spoke on Ethics in the Movies: Lessons for Real Life; Chief Technology and Security Officer of PacketWatch Michael McAndrews, who gave A Tour of the Dark Web; and Civil, Criminal and Bankruptcy Breakout Sessions hosted by judges and lawyer representatives. Two hundred sixty-one people attended; 56 out of the 261 attended online. The Court's AAF supports this event.



District Court Highlights

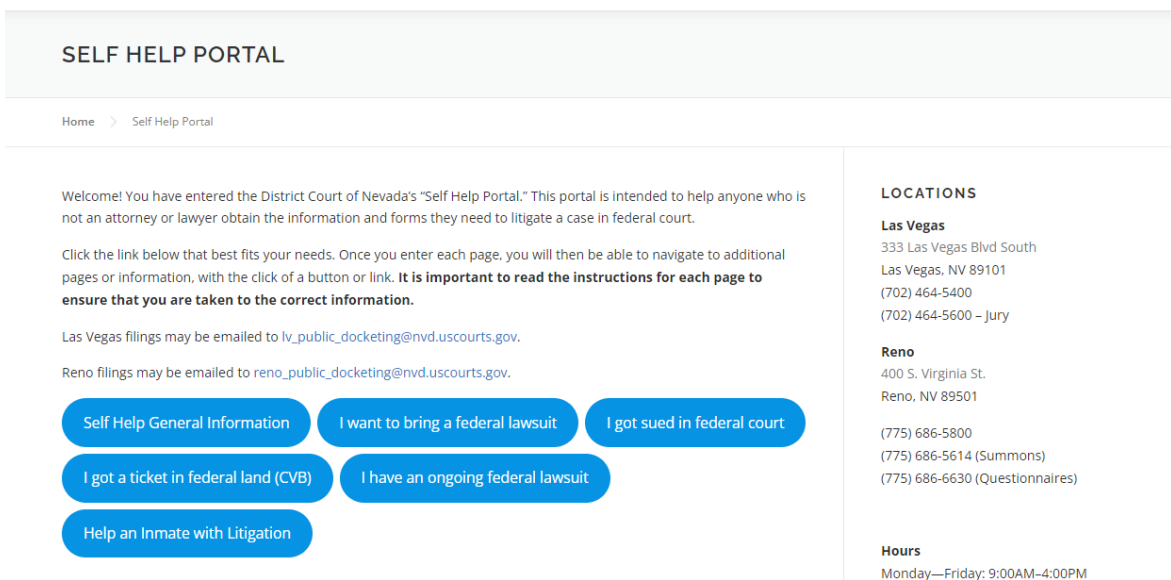
New “Self-Help” Portal

A large portion of the District of Nevada’s current caseload consists of cases wherein one or both parties represent themselves without an attorney. In effort to assist pro se litigants and improve their access to justice, the District of Nevada worked diligently throughout 2022 to create and launch a new, interactive “Self-Help” portal on its public website dedicated entirely to assisting litigants who are representing themselves. This one of a kind “Self-Help” Portal is essentially a website within the Court’s own website, which is accessed by simply pressing a button on the Court’s current home page. Once accessed, the “Self-Help” Portal allows users to easily navigate through various sub-pages, which provide pro se litigants with information, instructions, and forms on how to file virtually any type of document a pro se litigant may need.



The portal is interactive and is navigated by simply pressing clearly identified “buttons” that will take the user to various topics of information. The topic subpages are titled as follows: 1) Self-Help General Information; 2) I want to file a federal lawsuit; 3) I have been sued in Federal Court; 4) I have an ongoing federal lawsuit; 5) I got a ticket in federal land (CVB); and 6) Help an Inmate with Litigation. Within each of those subpages, users can find information about the specific topics as well as extensive instructions and forms specific to those topics. The Court thanks the Self-Help Committee for its ingenuity in conceiving of the Self-Help Portal and working to make it a reality, the District of Nevada’s 2022 Lawyer Representatives who assisted with drafting and updating the various instruction pages and forms, IT Staff Justin Farris, Vicente Angotti and Guillermo Rojas who assisted in designing the portal and worked tirelessly to create the public website pages, and Kim Goodnight, Supervising Staff Attorney, who assisted in editing and finalizing the portal webpages.

<https://www.nvd.uscourts.gov/self-help-portal/>



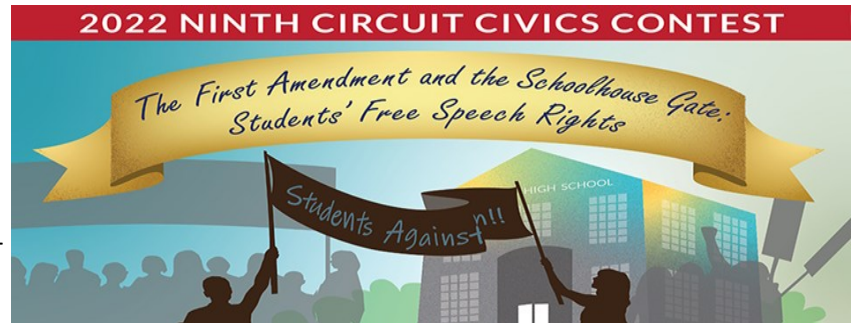
District Court Highlights

CIVICS EDUCATION

The Court also engages in civics education. Several examples of the Court’s engagement are highlighted below.

Ninth Circuit Civics Contest

The Ninth Circuit Civics contest, sponsored by the Ninth Circuit Public Information and Community Outreach Committee, is an annual event. The 2022 theme was “What are students’ free speech rights – and responsibilities – on and off campus?” The contest is open to high school students in nine western states and two Pacific Island jurisdictions. Students from public, private, parochial, charter schools, and home-schooled students of equivalent grade status may enter. Individual students can express their thoughts and ideas in an essay of between 500 and 1,000 words. Individuals or teams of up to three students can produce a 3-5 minute view on the theme. A student may submit both an essay and a video, but only one of each. The 2023 theme is “What Should Our Next Amendment Be?”



Cash prizes are awarded at the local and circuit levels in both the essay and video competition. The Court’s AAF contributes to help fund the contest. Lawyer representatives and judges vote and select the local winners. Cash prizes for both the essay and video consist of \$1,500 for first place, \$850 for second place and \$500 for third place. The winners at the local level go on to compete at the circuit level. The District of Nevada has made a good showing in the circuit competition over the past five years:

In 2019, the team of Matthew Lovering, Colton Massic, and Jason Mueller was awarded first place in the video competition. Students were asked to discuss the Fourth Amendment in the 21st century, “What is an “Unreasonable Search and Seizure” in the Digital Age?”

In 2020, two teams from Las Vegas were awarded first and third place in the video competition. First place was awarded to a team of three students from West Career & Technical Academy: Mandy Jiang, Cathleen Liang and Michelle . Third place was awarded to a team of three students also from West Career & Technical Academy: Sandar Aung, Amina Boulakhras and Nesrine Maldi. The topic for 2020 was “The Right to Vote: Milestone Anniversaries.”

In 2022, Dominico Granieri from Reno High School was the first-place winner in the District of Nevada essay contest. His essay was one of 12 essays for final consideration by the circuit.

AAF supports this program.

Youth Law Day

The court continues to partner with Jobs for Nevada Graduates to identify high-achieving and motivated high school students from under-privileged backgrounds and expose them to career paths in public service. Judge Weksler, Judge Denney, and lawyer representatives Lindsay Ager and Amanda Perach planned a panel presentation with representatives from various government agencies to talk to students about their career paths in public service. This is the second time this program has been offered. The program also includes a hands-on component, which will culminate in a contest in which the students will submit presentations about the career paths they researched. The Court, with the assistance of the Lawyer Representatives, will identify and award cash prizes to the winners: \$750 will be awarded for first place; \$500 will be awarded for second place; and \$250 will be awarded for third place. AAF supports this program.

District Court Highlights

OTHER PROGRAMS SUPPORTED BY AAF

As noted, the AAF consists of funds from attorney admissions fees. The AAF Committee, chaired by Magistrate Judge Nancy Koppe, advises the Court on matters concerning AAF and makes recommendations to the Court concerning the expenditure of funds from AAF.

Clark County Law Foundation’s Memorial Services

The Clark County Law Foundation organizes a memorial service for attorneys who passed away the previous year. A memorial was held in 2022 recognizing those who passed during the year. A reception, funded by AAF, was held following the ceremony.

Ninth Judicial Circuit Historical Society

The Ninth Judicial Circuit Historical Society is continuing to publish Western Legal History, and to increase their collection of oral histories. They have been working with retired Nevada Magistrate Judge Robert J. Johnston to update and expand their collection of biographies of Nevada district judges. This year, the oral histories of Judges Mahan, Hicks, McKibben and Jones were added to the collection. The Western Legal History Editorial Board is also looking at an issue on gaming law, which will have a Nevada focus.

Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada

The Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada (LACSN) is a private, nonprofit, 501(c)(3) organization serving individuals who cannot afford an attorney by providing free civil legal aid and pro bono services throughout Clark County and Southern Nevada. In 2022, they provided over 187,029 services. LACSN continues to assist with the Federal Court Pro Bono Program and the Bankruptcy Facilitator Program.

Northern Nevada Legal Aid

Northern Nevada Legal Aid (NNLA) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit legal aid organization in Reno, Nevada, which provides free and low-cost legal services to vulnerable populations throughout Northern Nevada. In addition to direct representation, Northern Nevada Legal Aid assists self-represented litigants so they are better able to represent themselves. In 2021, they assisted approximately 8,800 individuals, a 15% increase over pre-pandemic levels. NNLA continues to assist with the Federal Court Pro Bono Program and the Bankruptcy Facilitator Program. During the last few years, Northern Nevada Legal Aid’s involvement with court programs expanded to include the coordination and planning of the U.S. District Court POWER Act Program CLE.

Federal Court Pro Bono Program

The Federal Court Pro Bono Program continues to partner with the Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada and Northern Nevada Legal Aid to administer the Federal Court Pro Bono Program. Through this program, district and magistrate judges may refer a case to the program for appointment of pro bono counsel. During the last fourteen months several Nevada firms have agreed to be on a “direct assignment wheel.” In turn, these firms accept the recurrent assignment of cases based on need. Twenty-seven cases have been placed in since then, which represents a three-fold increase in case placement. The program also continues to work with other attorneys who also provide pro bono services either as counsel or mentors. The program has also implemented a training program through which experts in specific areas of law present at CLEs. The program thanks Magistrate Judges Ferenbach and Baldwin for their contributions to the program and welcomes District Judge Traum and Magistrate Judge Weksler as the new co-chairs.

District Court Highlights

Bankruptcy Facilitator Program

In this program, which was implemented in 2007, the Bankruptcy Facilitator, a Legal Aid Center attorney, assists unrepresented individuals (both pro se creditors and pro se debtors) by providing information and forms. They refer some individuals for placement with volunteer pro bono counsel when appropriate. Between August 2021 and July 2022, 21 cases were placed with pro bono attorneys. Three mid-stream cases were placed with a pro bono attorney. Twenty-eight (28) were assisted by the Legal Aid Center.

The Bankruptcy Facilitator Program is overseen by an active Pro Bono Bankruptcy Committee, which meets quarterly. The committee consists of bankruptcy judges, attorneys and trustees, as well as staff from LACSN and NNLA.

Project REAL

Project REAL's statewide Sequential Education Program organizes virtual court field trips, Constitution Day activities, lessons improving students' understanding of the difference between state and federal laws, and the state and federal court systems.



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