

Jim Berchtold
Director of
Supervised Practice

BIOGRAPHICAL STATEMENT

Jim Berchtold is the Director of Supervised Practice at Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada.

Jim graduated magna cum laude from the University of Utah in 1992 and from the University of Utah College of Law in 1996, where he was a William H. Leary Scholar and served on the Board of Editors of the Utah Law Review. While in law school, Jim organized and edited the Utah Law Review symposium entitled "What Is a Family?," published at 1996 UTAH L. REV. 367-569, and worked for the Utah Legal Clinic, where he briefed and argued before the Utah Court of Appeals in a civil rights case challenging Utah's issuance of allegedly racist license plates, reported at 905 P.2d 317 (Utah Ct. App. 1995).

Prior to joining Legal Aid Center, Jim was a partner at a large, regional law firm with offices throughout the Southwest. Jim's practice focused primarily in commercial and corporate litigation, litigating disputes in both state and federal court and arguing cases before the Nevada Supreme Court and the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals.

Jim joined Legal Aid Center in 2009 and took on a number of different roles. He initially opened and managed the Civil Law Self-Help Center, Legal Aid Center's innovative, free, court-based resource center. In 2017, Jim took charge of Legal Aid Center's Guardianship Advocacy Program, which provides legal representation to older adults and adults with disabilities who are facing or under guardianship. Then in May 2019, Jim became the Directing Attorney of Legal Aid Center's Consumer Rights Project, where he led a group of dedicated attorneys fighting for the economic rights of low-income Nevadans.

Jim left Legal Aid Center in 2022 to join Justice in Aging, a national organization where he worked to improve and reform guardianship systems across the country, but returned in 2025 to launch Legal Aid Center's supervised practice initiatives in connection with Nevada's reimagining of its bar exam.