



Since 1958
LEGAL AID CENTER
■ ■ ■ ■ *of Southern Nevada*

2008
ANNUAL REPORT



Through Legal Aid, Justice Is Available To All

Tumble with the hardest, a playful child who throws a rock, an argument over property rights? No matter what the cause, both sides want justice.

Often, however, one party cannot afford the costs involved in a civil suit. In fact, despite the apparent affluence of most residents of the area, there are approximately 20,000 people in Clark County who qualify as indigents under federal guidelines.

These people would revert their outstanding legal rights through an attorney because they haven't the money to hire one. But justice is available, through the Legal Aid Society, one of 38 health, welfare, and character building agencies supported by the United Fund.

Just as they are entitled to Medicare and Welfare benefits, the indigents of Clark County are entitled to legal representation. Their legal problems usually involve divorces, sales contracts, garnishment of wages, non-support, and criminal or traffic matters, many of which are peculiar to the poor.

Problems handled by Legal Aid lawyers in the civil field usually fall into three main groups: One is economic. For instance, "Joe," because of illness had missed nearly eight weeks of work. He was "regaining his health" for his savings were depleted, and he was behind in his payments on an automobile contract. He couldn't pay his doctor, so would be able to pay his rent due in a week.

When Joe returned for work

children couldn't let her quit her job and stay at home to take care of her children.

There are other cases where property rights are concerned. For example, Mr. and Mrs. Z were new arrivals in the United States and Clark County. They rented a room in Mrs. A's apartment for \$10 a week. Sometime later, Mrs. A moved away and told the Zs they could take over the apartment if they wanted to assume the \$10 monthly rent.

The landlord refused to accept the rent and tried to evict Mr. and Mrs. Z on the ground that they were squatters. They presented their problem to Legal Aid. The lawyer took the case into court and was able to prove that the couple had lived in the apartment because Mrs. A moved out and therefore must have taken it over with her consent.

While not welfare matters of corporation and business law, or lucrative problems of trusts and estates, these are everyday problems of "plain" people, but so important to the well-being of a community as are cases which attract attention and involve large interests. They require specialized knowledge, sympathy, understanding of people, and professional skill — all of which are provided by Legal Aid.

Legal Aid Society in this country dates back to 1913 and the Clark County agency had its beginning in 1958, supported by United Fund and aided by the Office of Economic Opportunity and the free contributions of time and advice from members of the Clark County Bar Association.

LAS VEGAS IN NEED OF LAWYER NOW AIDED BY REFERRAL SERVICE



NEW LEGAL SERVICE — Dispensing the new Legal Aid referral service, started here last week, are (left) Robert Zimm, president of the Clark County Bar Association; Mrs. Gerry Shapiro, executive secretary of the Legal Aid Society; and Paul E. Larson of the Legal Aid Society board of trustees.

A legal referral service is a CLC number 44-76.



UNDER NEW LEGAL SERVICE, service recently has expanded in Clark County to include all of the legal aid, executive secretary of the Legal Aid Society.

LEGAL AID CENTER OF SOUTHERN NEVADA 1958

DEDICATED TO EQUAL ACCESS TO JUSTICE FOR ALL

Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada (LACSN) first opened its doors when our nation was undergoing dramatic social change. Located at 515 South 5th Street in Las Vegas, the new program was sponsored by the Clark County Bar Association and functioned primarily as a pro bono referral agency to members of the bar. Funding was provided by Justice of the Peace Art Olsen, who donated all of his local wedding receipts for the month of July 1958.

293 Persons Receive Help From Legal Aid Society



NEW LEGAL AID OFFICERS — The Clark County Legal Aid Society, under Robert Zimm, a clerk of court officer. From left are Robert H. Zimm, executive secretary of the Legal Aid Society; Mrs. Gerry Shapiro, executive secretary of the Legal Aid Society; and Paul E. Larson, executive secretary of the Legal Aid Society. The Legal Aid Society provides legal advice to persons unable to pay for legal services.

ANNUAL REPORT

DEAR FRIENDS AND ASSOCIATES,

It would be an understatement to say that the severe economic downturn of 2008 caught all of us by surprise. However, our 50 years of hard work and growth have prepared us for exactly this moment, when the need for our services has never been greater and our ability to serve has expanded. Because of this, we are proud to say that we do have good news to report.

Our incredible staff served 30 percent more individuals in 2008 than the previous year. More than 13,000 people came through our doors and were assisted either by attending a class, meeting with an intake advocate for advice, being placed with a pro bono attorney, or having the finest full-scale legal representation this community has to offer. Victims of domestic violence, abused children, seniors and people struggling with financial problems all came to us for help.

As we celebrated our milestone anniversary, we were compelled to consider the next 50 years and how we could even better serve Southern Nevadans in need. Toward this goal, the R&R Partners Foundation agreed to donate R&R's research, PR and advertising expertise to help us study our "brand."

After much deliberation, we realized that to better communicate our mission we had to change our name. Our previous name, Clark County Legal Services, created a misperception that we were a county agency and through surveying our clients, we also learned that they would have found us more easily if the term "legal aid" had been part of our name. Under R&R's tutelage, we re-emerged as Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada. This new positioning of our organization gave us the perfect opportunity to tell our story to local media outlets who, in turn, have generously helped to educate the community on the many services we provide.

Another part of this effort was the realization that we had outgrown our existing facility. To kick off our new capital campaign, we hosted a 50th anniversary celebration to highlight our legacy and educate the legal community on our efforts. We are especially grateful to Bill Boyd, CEO of Boyd Gaming, and Dick Morgan, former dean of the UNLV Boyd School of Law, for agreeing to co-chair our capital committee. Thanks to their help – and in spite of these difficult financial times – we have raised \$1 million in cash and \$1 million in pledges.

One of the benefits of being a nimble nonprofit law firm is that we can quickly respond to crises as they arise. By the end of the year, it was apparent that Las Vegas would become an epicenter in the national foreclosure crisis, so we sought and received a grant to begin our new Foreclosure Protection Program in 2009. We are also stepping up our Bankruptcy Facilitator Program to help Las Vegas residents through one of the most difficult economic periods in our nation's history.

A favorite quote around the LACSN office is Martin Luther King's statement, "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere." Our history, as chronicled throughout these pages, reflects this core value. Thank you for helping us to ensure that our most vulnerable residents have a voice within our legal system.

Sincerely,



Dean A. Hardy
President



Barbara E. Buckley
Executive Director

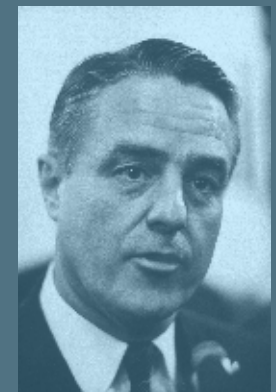




THE LEGAL AID MOVEMENT IN AMERICA *1960s*

Demands for a more equitable society finally spilled into America's streets.

To address the unrest, President Lyndon Johnson declared a "War on Poverty" in 1964 and appointed Sargent Shriver as the first director of the Office of Economic Opportunity. Mr. Shriver helped found the Legal Services Corporation (LSC) and for the first time, federal funding was available for neighborhood legal services programs. In 1967, thanks to Mr. Shriver's efforts, we received \$20,000 from the LSC fund to hire our first full-time staff attorney.



PROJECTS



CONSUMER RIGHTS PROJECT

Our Consumer Rights Project staff answers thousands of phone calls annually and represents victims of predatory lending, real estate fraud and collection abuse. We also assist people who are having trouble making their mortgage or rent payments due to wage garnishments.

2008 Results

- 5,618 people were assisted with consumer problems through legal advice, helping them fill out forms and representing them in court
- The LACSN Consumer Hotline received 3,127 calls

Barry

LACSN had one class action certified for litigation and one pending against payday lenders. The certified class action involves clients who entered into high interest loans for \$250 each and were subsequently sued for \$756, which represents a 1,202 percent interest rate. We alleged that the amount sued for against our client exceeds the statutory amount prescribed by law. Furthermore, we alleged that the lender was trying to fly under the statutory radar by suing consumers for unlawful amounts in Small Claims Court, hoping that the court would just simply grant the request.

The pending class action lawsuit involves clients who were sued in Justice Court for up to 10 times the amount of their original loans. We are alleging that Lucky Credit Company is operating under a business model that claims to be a line of credit and charges between \$7.95 and

\$68.95 per day for late fees in addition to the over-the-credit-line fee. In an effective sleight of hand, however, Lucky Credit charges under the 40 percent interest rate that would trigger the protection of state statutes. On behalf of our clients, LACSN alleges that this business model is based on the assumption that the consumer will default, thus incurring exorbitant fees that drastically increase the consumer's financial burden.

Bankruptcy Facilitator Program

A critical part of our Consumer Rights Project, the Bankruptcy Facilitator Program instructs citizens how to self-represent, provides the necessary forms to submit, and explains basic rights and protections under bankruptcy law. Sometimes, the facilitator will even step in and negotiate with debtors on behalf of our clients. Created in cooperation with our bankruptcy court judges with funding through the Federal Court Admission Fund, private practitioners and LACSN, the program has already demonstrated its necessity and effectiveness at this critical time in our economy.

2008 Results

- 262 hearings covered
- 48 people assisted

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROJECT

With domestic violence sharply on the rise in Southern Nevada, our Domestic Violence Project provides a critical lifeline to help victims obtain protection orders, secure divorce decrees and negotiate custody and support orders, all of which enables them to reclaim a life free from violence. In keeping with our mission to provide equal justice for all, we believe that no one should be victimized twice because of their inability to afford an attorney to protect their rights.

Immigrant Protection Program

Similarly, our Immigrant Protection Program provides legal counsel for immigrants who are victims of domestic violence and violent crimes. Under federal law, these victims are permitted to petition the U.S. government for permission to remain in this country.

2008 Results

- Represented 1,083 clients

Maria

A victim of extreme domestic violence, even while pregnant, Maria came to us seeking help with a divorce. After analyzing her case, we also realized she was eligible for protection under the Violence Against Women Act. She had married her abusive husband when she was 16 years old and they had two minor children together, one of whom was disabled due to beatings during her pregnancy. Her husband was an ex-felon who had served time for illegal possession of a firearm and domestic violence. The abuse she endured consisted of forced sexual intercourse, infection with chlamydia (which their first child also had at birth), slapping, and severe beatings with a stick and plastic hanger.

As is typical with domestic violence clients, Maria's spouse continued his abuse through dragging out the legal process, fighting her on every issue and threatening to take away the children. This was never an option that the courts would agree with, but the threat itself kept her fearful throughout the proceeding. Her LACSN lawyer was at her side through every court appearance and every hearing until the judge finally handed down a final decree. Maria was awarded primary physical custody of the children, with husband obtaining only daytime visits with no overnights. After his release from federal prison, her now ex-husband obtained a very good job, allowing the judge to order about \$1,250 per month in child support for our client and her children. She was able to collect on this for a period of time until he was arrested and returned to jail for an unrelated offense. She has since moved on with her life and is happy in a new relationship.

CHILDREN'S ATTORNEYS PROJECT

CHILDREN'S ATTORNEYS PROJECT

At current funding levels, our Children's Attorneys Project (CAP) is able to represent only half of the children who were in the foster care system in 2008. With additional funding, there is so much more that we could accomplish.

Special Education Program

By federal law, all public schools must provide disabled children with the physical support and materials that they need to succeed academically. This is especially important for disabled children in the foster care program given the family hardships they have already faced. Our Special Education Program steps in on behalf of children who are struggling and need specialized tutoring or other federally required accommodations.

Surrogate Parent Initiative

This program recruits volunteers who are willing to advocate for foster children with academic, social, emotional or behavioral problems toward the goal of making school a positive experience for them. Compounding the challenges facing these children is that many live in group homes where they are raised by staff rather than foster parents, who might champion their causes.

2008 Results

- 1,381 children were represented
- 30 new surrogate volunteers trained
- 58 additional families assisted

Tabitha

At the age of 6, Tabitha and her two younger siblings, ages 4 and 1, came into Child Protective Services (CPS) custody when their mother died suddenly. The mother had met a man over the Internet, married him two weeks after meeting him in person, was admitted to the hospital the same day she married this man, and died eight days later. The children were then placed together in a foster home, as they had no family member placements available to them. Their maternal grandmother was contacted by CPS and was not aware that she even had grandchildren and referred to the children as her "alleged" grandchildren. The natural fathers' whereabouts were unknown.

Fortunately, the children had "fictive kin" grandparents who desired to have the children placed with them. Meanwhile, the new stepfather decided he wanted the children placed with him and filed for guardianship. The CAP attorney was able to determine that the true desire of the children was to be placed with the fictive grandparents. We successfully argued that the children had been through a great deal of turmoil and grief and immediately needed the familiarity, stability and love of their fictive grandparents. The court agreed and the children were placed with their fictive grandparents the same day. The court also ordered the stepfather to have no contact with the children pending further order.

SOCIAL SECURITY PROJECT

SOCIAL SECURITY PROJECT

The Social Security Administration (SSA) was formed to provide a safety net for disabled workers, among others, who have paid into the system. Clients contact our Social Security Project when they have been wrongfully denied disability benefits by the federal government. Without these benefits, these citizens have no other means of financial support and typically end up on welfare or homeless.

2008 Results

- 73 hearings were held on behalf of clients with a 77 percent success rate

June

This 43-year-old African-American woman devoted her life to teaching in the Clark County School District. She began suffering "stroke-like episodes" while at school and was noted to have increasing problems with her memory, increasing confusion, dizziness and physical limitations with her hands. Because of these growing health concerns, she was forced to cease teaching. She applied for and received a disability pension from Clark County and began receiving benefits. However, when she applied for Social Security Disability benefits, which she desperately needed, she was denied.

June came to LACSN for assistance and we represented her at a hearing in front of an administrative law judge for the Social Security Administration. During the course of the hearing, the effects of June's illness were readily apparent. She frequently lost track of her answers and needed to have questions repeated, rambled at length on issues unrelated to her case and became increasingly frustrated at her inability to communicate. Following the hearing, June was granted Social Security Disability benefits and Medicare, which will enable her to breathe easier financially.

As a result of the increasing effects that her illness is having on her thought processes, she was forced to move in with her disabled father and now relies on him to assist with her finances and to accompany her whenever she leaves their home.

PRO BONO PROJECT

PRO BONO PROJECT

Community service is a critical aspect of law practice and we are fortunate to have strong partnerships with many Southern Nevada lawyers. Volunteer attorneys who work with our Pro Bono Project take on cases that we would have to turn away due to sheer volume or because we don't handle a particular area of law. Last year, more than 11,300 hours were donated. At \$300/hour, this translates to more than \$3.39 million donated to the cause of equal justice for all.

2008 Results

- 491 cases placed with 292 attorneys
- 1,135 clients were being assisted by pro bono attorneys

Ask-A-Lawyer

Every Thursday afternoon, the District Court Family Law Self-Help Center provides access to LACSN lawyers and volunteer attorneys so unrepresented litigants can literally ask a lawyer their questions. This clinic helps people obtain answers to specific questions regarding family law matters. The program has become so successful that people line up early in the morning just to have 15 minutes with an attorney. It also brings new cases to our doorstep that may fit our income guidelines.

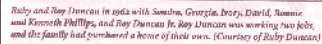
2008 Results

- 1,328 people served
- 281 shifts covered by 54 pro bono attorneys who donated 843 hours

The next action the state appears to require is the permit. For example, the draft would allow the Wildlife Division to approve all applicants who are asked to pay less than \$5,000.



When the state of Nevada removed thousands of people's welfare benefits without notice or proper hearings, local mother Ruby Duncan fought back. She approached LACSN for help and we filed a class action lawsuit charging violation of federal law and due process. LACSN and the Clark County Welfare Rights Organization mounted protests including the famous "300 Mothers March" on Caesars Palace on March 6, 1971. Activists César Chavez and Jane Fonda attended and the national media descended on Las Vegas. The court ultimately ruled that the state had "run roughshod over the constitutional rights" of recipients. All benefits were reinstated to eligible recipients and retroactive payments were ordered.



The staffing is strictly volun-
(Continued on Page 8)

The lawsuit alleges that because of mismanagement, the buildings fell into serious disrepair and there were numerous safety code violations. Ranches were such a common sight that they would literally poison an icy food container once it was opened, the complaint charges.

Filing the complaint along with James were Gail Barlow, Charlotte Kahl and Diane Hayes.

2008 AWARDS



CHILD ADVOCACY AWARD

LACSN DIRECTING ATTORNEY WINS 2008 ABA AWARD FOR CHILD ADVOCACY

Steve Hiltz's career spans 31 years of advocating for children's rights. He joined LACSN in 1999 as the first directing attorney for the Children's Attorneys Project and also helped to create the Pro Bono Attorney program for abused and neglected children. Additionally, Hiltz was instrumental in the creation of important laws that have passed the Nevada Legislature pertaining to children in foster care, including basic due process rights for children locked in psychiatric facilities and the protection of siblings' rights to remain together within the foster care system.

In 2008, Steve won the prestigious national Child Advocacy Award for representing abused and neglected children in Southern Nevada. Established in 1990, the Child Advocacy Award is presented annually by the American Bar Association Young Lawyers Division (YLD) in conjunction with the Center

on Children and the Law to honor a judge or lawyer for the unheralded service that child advocates bring to children and the legal profession.

The award recognized the tremendous impact that Steve's work has had in the lives of children affected by crime, neglect and abuse. He has been a strong advocate to those who seek custody or adoption, including one well-known local client, Brittney Begeron, who was left partially paralyzed after being attacked by drug addicts as a result of an illicit drug deal involving her mother. In an effort to find Brittney a secure family environment that was suited to her special needs, Hiltz repeatedly fought the court's decision to maintain her mother's parental rights and finally won Brittney the right to choose where she would live.



Steve Hiltz

LOCAL HEROES AWARD

DOREEN SPEARS HARTWELL OF LIONEL, SAWYER & COLLINS WINS BANK OF AMERICA LOCAL HEROES AWARD

Doreen Spears Hartwell's law career spans just a decade but her list of accomplishments, her dedication to access to justice for low-income residents, and the hundreds of pro bono hours she has donated to LACSN have already made an enormous impact on our community. As a shareholder with Lionel, Sawyer & Collins, Doreen specializes in commercial litigation, employment law, real estate liability and trust/probate litigation, yet she has taken on family law cases for LACSN at an amazing pace.

Since being admitted to the Nevada State Bar in 2000, Doreen has handled at least one new pro bono case every year and currently has four open cases through the Pro Bono Project. She has taken a special interest in abused and neglected children, domestic violence victims and other family law issues such as divorce, custody and guardianship. From helping an elderly woman save her home to assisting a child victim in getting adopted into a loving family, Doreen's passion

for justice and willingness to use her skills to benefit those in need makes her one of LACSN's most valued volunteers.

When LACSN added a pro bono component to the Children's Attorneys Project, Doreen was one of the first lawyers to step up to the challenge. She fights mightily for her young, vulnerable clients and makes an enormous difference in their lives as a fierce advocate for their rights. Over the years, she has been a loyal participant in our Partners in Pro Bono Mentorship Program with the UNLV Boyd School of Law, which matches volunteer attorneys with law students to work on pro bono cases.

In 2008, Doreen added Bank of America's Local Heroes Award to her list of accolades, which have included 2008 Attorney of the Year, National Bar Association (Las Vegas Chapter); 2005 Judge Sally Loehrer Pro Bono Service Award; and the 2001 Myrna Williams Children's Pro Bono Award. She donated her \$5,000 award to LACSN.



Doreen Spears Hartwell

2008 AWARDS

2008 AWARDS

2008 Award Winners

The Lied Awards are given in honor of the Lied Foundation, which helped us to retire our building's mortgage in 2003 through a challenge grant. The grant was based on the number of pro bono hours lawyers donated on a yearly basis to clients of Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada. We salute the attorneys who have helped in this effort and in our ongoing commitment to providing equal access to justice for all.

Lied Award for Most Hours for Law Firm: Lionel, Sawyer & Collins

Lied Award for Most Cases for Law Firm: Goldsmith & Guymon

Lied Award for Most Hours for Attorney: Conti J. Moore

Lied Award for Most Cases for Attorney: Shelley D. Krohn

Pro Bono Attorneys of the Year:

The Attorneys of Hanratty Roberts Law Group: Kari Hanratty, Amanda Roberts and Jason Stoffel

Outstanding Sole Practitioner Award:

Susan M. Sakio

Law Firm Rising Star Award:

Lewis and Roca

Up & Coming Pro Bono Award:

Breeden & Herbe

Judge Sally Loehrer Pro Bono Service Award:

Marquis & Aurbach

Louis Wiener Service Award:

Natalie Smoot

Myrna Williams Children's Pro Bono Award:

Erin Flynn

Justice Nancy Becker Pro Bono Award of Judicial Excellence:

Judge T. Arthur Ritchie, Jr.

Ask-A-Lawyer Community Commitment Award:

William M. Kapalka

Public Interest Law Students of Distinction:

Randall Forman,
James Griffin & Ofelia Monje

Pro Bono Award of Excellence:

R&R Partners



Hanratty Roberts Law Group (Kari Hanratty, Jason Stoffel, Amanda Roberts) accepts the 2008 Pro Bono Attorneys of the Year Award from Nevada Supreme Court Justices Michael Douglas, William Maupin, James Hardesty, Mark Gibbons and Ron Parraguire.



Betsy Ward, Director of Corporate Communications for R&R Partners, accepts the Pro Bono Award of Excellence from Barbara Buckley and Lynn Etkins.

Photographs courtesy of Vincent J. Kostiw and Phaedra Tschann Kostiw, AlsacePhoto.com.



Judge Art Ritchie accepts the Justice Nancy Becker Pro Bono Award of Judicial Excellence from the Honorable Nancy Becker.



Thomas Ryan, Managing Partner at Lewis & Roca, accepts the Law Firm Rising Star Award from Justice James Hardesty.



Pro Bono Project Director Kimberly Abbott thanks everyone for their support of LACSN.



Adam Breeden, a partner with Breeden & Herbe, accepts the Up & Coming Pro Bono Award from Justice James Hardesty.



William Kapalka accepts the Ask-A-Lawyer Community Commitment Award from Justice Michael Douglas and Barbara Buckley.



Pro Bono Attorneys of the Year: Kari Hanratty, Jason Stoffel and Amanda Roberts of Hanratty Roberts Law Group.



Law students James Griffin, Ofelia Monje and Randall Forman all accept the Public Interest Law Student of Distinction Award from Justice James Hardesty.



Conti Moore and Terry Coffing accept the Judge Sally Loehrer Pro Bono Service Award on behalf of their firm, Marquis & Aurbach, from the Honorable Nancy Becker and Barbara Buckley.



Inductees to the 100 Hours Club pose for a group picture.



Justice Michael Douglas gives Cam Ferenbach of Lionel, Sawyer & Collins the Lied Award for Most Hours for a Law Firm.



Justice Michael Douglas and Barbara Buckley give Dara Goldsmith of Goldsmith & Guymon the Lied Award for Most Cases for a Law Firm. Shelley Krohn, recipient of Lied Award for Most Cases for an Attorney was not in attendance. Partner, Dara Goldsmith accepted on her behalf.



Conti Moore, an attorney with Marquis & Aurbach, accepts the Lied Award for Most Hours for an Attorney from Justice Michael Douglas and Barbara Buckley.

2008 AWARDS

100 HOUR CLUB

Elizabeth S. Ashley
Conti J. Moore
Joseph F. Dempsey
Eric Dobberstein
Cody S. Munteer
Erin Flynn
Richard C. Gordon
Kari J. Hanratty
James E. Herbe
William M. Kapalka
Kate Lowenhar-Fischer
Shelley Lubritz
Carolyn Myers
for Crockett & Myers
Jennifer R. McDonald
Denise Mikrut
Katherine L. Provost
Amanda M. Roberts
Jason P. Stoffel
Scott L. Ward
Soraya M. Veiga

50 HOUR CLUB

Malik W. Ahmad
Ogonna M. Atamoh
Jennifer B. Anderson
Carol M. Barnes
Joice B. Bass
Lauren Calvert-Arnold
Marek P. Bute
Christopher Carr

Benjamin B. Childs
Philip J. Dabney
Laura Deeter
Tracy DiFillippo
Stefanie Ebbens
John M. Eccles
M. Lani Esteban-Trinidad
Cam J. Ferenbach
Tabitha Fiddymment
Dara J. Goldsmith
Philip K. Goldstein
John J. Graves, Jr.
Scott Halversen
Wayne J. Hardy
James Harper
Daniel S. Harris
Joel Henriod
Mohamed Iqbal
Andrea Jundt
Wendy A. Kazel
Kelly Kichline
Ron G. Kirschenheiter
Carla Kok
David H. Krieger
R. Douglas Kurdziel
Bryce C. Loveland
Maricar Magaña
Kari Molnar
Timothy R. Mulliner
Andrew H. Pastwick
Mary D. Perry
Anne E. Pieroni

Xavier B. Planta
R. Christopher Reade
Molly Rosenblum
Russell M. Rowe
Joel Z. Schwarz
Natalie Smoot
Erika Pike Turner
Karen C. Winckler
Jenica D. Yurcic

2008 PRO BONO HONOR ROLL LAWYERS

Malik W. Ahmad
Josh C. Aicklen
Connie L. Akridge
Husna F. Alikhan
Betsy Allen
Stephanie Allen
West W. Allen
Nancy L. Alf
David C. Amesbury
Alda A. Anderson
Juliana Anderson
Heather B. Anderson-Fintak
Michelle L. Anderton
Giovanni L. Andrade
Abira Anwar
Robert M. Apple
Carl E. G. Arnold
Elizabeth S. Ashley
Ogonna M. Atamoh
Maria Perez Avilez

Carol M. Barnes
Corey B. Beck
Peter J. Bellon
James E. Berchtold
Frederic I. Berkley
Kendal Sue Bird-Adams
Brian E. Blackham
Maya S. Bodhi
Thomas D. Boley
Gerard J. Bongiovanni
Craig G. Bourke
Kim Boyer
John E. Bragonje
Adam J. Breeden
Darren T. Brenner
Elizabeth Brickfield
Michelle D. Briggs
Deanna C. Brinkerhoff
Brandy L. Brown
Sarai L. Brown
Ernest A. Buche
Christopher P. Burke
Thomas M. Burns
Chelsie C. Campbell
Jonathan W. Carlson
Jennifer A. Carrollo
Jasen E. Cassidy
Matthew A. Cavanaugh
Radha Chanderraj
Benjamin B. Childs
Shawn Christopher
Sean K. Claggett

2008 AWARDS

Emily Gubler Clark
G. Lance Coburn
Jamie S. Cogburn
Gary L. Compton
Lynn Conant
Paul R. Connaghan
Dana M. Cotham
William L. Coulthard
Maximiliano D. Couvillier, III
Lucien A. Cravens, Jr.
Randy M. Crieghton
George E. Cromer
Thomas E. Crowe
Bill Curran
Philip J. Dabney
Scott R. Davis
Shan D. Davis
Laura A. Deeter
Damon K. Dias
Robert P. Dickerson
Tracy A. DiFillippo
Angela H. Dows
David E. Doxey
Bryce C. Duckworth
Laurel A. Duffy
Benjamin C. Durham
Ramon L. Dy-Ragos
Stefanie Ebbens
John M. Eccles
Diana Erb
Christy B. Escobar

Sylvia L. Esparza
M. Lani Esteban-Trinidad
Lars K. Evensen
Thomas H. Fell
Frances-Ann Fine
Jack W. Fleeman
Erin Flynn
Aaron D. Ford
Jonathan W. Fountain
Kristen T. Gallagher
Jill Garcia
Michael T. Gebhart
Christopher G. Gellner
Alex B. Ghibauda
Gregory S. Gilbert
Brin Gibson
Anthony B. Golden
Dara J. Goldsmith
Philip K. Goldstein
Gregory G. Gordon
John J. Graves Jr.
Talitha B. Gray
April S. Green
Christian N. Griffin
Mary P. Groesbeck
Nicole Guralny
John H. Gutke
Marjorie A. Guymon
George Haines
John D. Hancock
Karen L. Hanks

Kari J. Hanratty
Wayne J. Hardy
Michael J. Harker
Daniel S. Harris
L. Earl Hawley
Robert L. Hempen, II
James E. Herbe
Allison L. Herr
Kenneth E. Hogan
Richard F. Holley
Scott M. Holper
Brian E. Holthus
Amy B. Honodel
Charles J. Hoskin
Rena G. Hughes
Shauna M. Hughes
Jeffery L. Hulet
David W. Huston
Jason A. Imes
Mohamed A. Iqbal
Ron J. Israel
Kent L. Ivey
Gavin C. Jangard
Kathleen Janssen
James J. Jimmerson
Cory M. Jones
Ray C. Jones
Chen Min "Jack" Juan
Andrea Jundt
Edward L. Kainen
William M. Kapalka

Jake D. Kelsey
James P. Kemp
James S. Kent
Kelly R. Kichline
Michael P. Kimbrell
Rebecca L. Kinney
Michele A. Kiraly
Kristina C. Kirigin
Paul R. Kirst
Carla D. Kok
David H. Krieger
Shelley D. Krohn
Thomas F. Kummer
Jeanne F. Lambertsen
Caleb J. Langsdale
Zachariah Larson
Terry V. Leavitt
Helene Lester
Akke Levin
Tanya N. Lewis
Jennifer L. Lewkowski
Francis F. Lin
Michele T. LoBello
Bryce C. Loveland
Kate C. Lowenhar-Fisher
Shelley Lubritz
Francis I. Lynch
Michael F. Lynch
Cuthbert E.A. Mack
Aneta Mackovski
Maricar Magaña

2008 AWARDS

Jason C. Makris
Cliff W. Marcek
Aurora M. Maskall
Amy M. Mastin
Michael J. McCue
Jennifer R. McDonald
Richard McKnight
Ann Marie McLoughlin
Trude I. McMahan
Jeanette E. McPherson
Shell L. Mercer
Denise Mikrut
Rebecca H. Miller
David Mincin
Roi Moas
Alexandra K. Monaco
Andrew D. Moore
Macaire K. Moran
Jennifer E. Mullen
Timothy R. Mulliner
Patrick J. Murch
Corrine Murphy
Gary L. Myers
Susan L. Myers
Jason Naimi
Angela T. Nakamura
John M. Naylor
Sharon L. Nelson
Victoria L. Nelson
Tara D. Newberry
Robert E. O'Brien

Charles H. Odgers
Rodney K. Okano
Oliver J. Pancheri
Dawn M. Papaeliou
Lisa D. Parker
Sharon A. Parker
Mari D. Parlade
Andrew H. Pastwick
Cary Colt Payne
Jon Pearson
Lauren A. Pena
Mary D. Perry
Rob L. Phillips
Denise A. Pifer
Jordan J. Pinjuv
Andrew Platt
Daniel F. Polsenberg
Corinne M. Price
Elizabeth Quillin
Manita Rawat
R. Christopher Reade
Seth L. Reszko
Jarrod L. Rickard
Mariteresa Rivera-Rogers
Amanda M. Roberts
Stacy M. Rocheleau
Dina Romaya
Janet L. Rosales
Patricia A. Ross
Lawrence D. Rouse
Russell M. Rowe

Amie M. Sabo
Susan M. Sakio
Beverly J. Salhanick
Petra N. Sami
Bethany R. Sanchez
Susan Williams Scann
Paul H. Schofield
Christina R. Schwab
Evan D. Schwab
Lenard E. Schwartz
Adam P. Segal
Richard Segerblom
Erik C. Severino
Paul W. Shakespear
Jeffrey I. Shaner
Brian D. Shapiro
Joslyn D. Shapiro
Randa Reiff Shea
Ambrish S. Sidhu
Adam D. Smith
Natalie M. Smoot
Rosa Solis-Rainey
Georlen K. Spangler
Kerri Sparks
Doreen Spears-Hartwell
Dani L. Stephens
David A. Stephens
Elizabeth E. Stephens
Beau Sterling
Jason P. Stoffel
Laura E. Stubberud

Diana L. Sullivan
Kelly H. Swanson
Laura J. Thalacker
Timothy Thomas
Veronica T. Thronson
Christopher R. Tilman
Dylan P. Todd
Natrici C. Tricano
John Y. Tso
Erika Pike Turner
Francesca V. Van Buren
Edward E. Vargas
Melissa L. Waite
Julia M. Watson
John C. Wawerna
Darren J. Welsh
Joseph G. Went
Bret O. Whipple
Marshal S. Willick
Justin L. Wilson
Shann D. Winesett
Jeanne L. Winkler
John Witucki
Kristin F. Wood
Ryan J. Works
Bryan L. Wright
Wesley F. Yamashita
Amanda C. Yen
Elayna J. Youchah
Jenica D. Yurcic

Nonprofit groups leading way in low-income housing strategy

By Tom Martin
Review-Journal

At this third year in the last decade of the Twentieth Century begins, Southern Nevada will embark on a new strategy to expand the housing base for low-income households, according to leaders in a drive for more affordable housing in Clark County.

At a news conference this Friday, the Affordable Housing Institute, a new group under the umbrella of the United Way will announce formation of teams under the leadership of nonprofit organizations that will move forward with as many as nine proposed for-profit and for-ownership housing projects for lower income groups.

"It's clear that as long as we have a resort industry that produces thousands of service jobs at entry-level wages that we need a housing stock to fill this need," said Garth Winkler, president of the United Way. "It is in the community's economic interest to provide this kind of housing so that these workers can afford housing, and have a good quality of life."

Winkler and other leaders in this drive for affordable housing said that the institute is part of a strategy that will see coordination of federal programs, nonprofit groups, public agencies, primary lenders and other parts of the private sector. The Nevada Development Council is already moving ahead with a project under the federal HOPE III program.



Second in a series

This funding will be combined with financing from lenders and local governments in addition to cash and in-kind donations from the private sector, including the building real estate community.

The first seminars are scheduled for Jan. 12 and 14. For times, locations and information, call United Way at 882-2342. Additional seminars are scheduled for February, March, May and June.

"Basically these projects are going to be built by nonprofit organizations," said Winkler, "because they already know how to work with low-income groups and because they will not be driven by profit motive when they manage completed projects."

He also said that production of affordable housing projects by nonprofit groups is preferred by financial institutions, he said the following banks have made a commitment to support the institute's projects: American Federal Savings Bank, Bank of America, First Interstate Bank, B.M.B. Bank, U.S.



LEGAL ACTIVISM FINDS ITS PLACE 1980s

In 1981, LACSN joined with Nevada Indian Rural Legal Services to form a statewide program. Task forces were formed in public benefits, housing and Indian law and the group became actively engaged with the state Legislature. LACSN assisted in such landmark victories as increasing benefits in the Aid to Dependent Children program; winning major revisions to the Landlord/Tenant Act; authorizing pro se temporary restraining orders in domestic violence cases; establishing uniform standards and judicial review for county medically indigent programs; and creation of the Low Income Housing Trust Fund, which assists qualifying residents of Clark County with their rent payments.



Agency provides free legal assistance to low-income Nevadans

The Nevada Indian Rural Legal Services (NIRLS) is a nonprofit organization that provides free legal assistance to low-income Nevadans.

The agency was founded in 1981 and has since then provided legal assistance to thousands of low-income Nevadans.

The agency's services include representation in court, negotiation of settlements, and preparation of legal documents.

The agency's services are provided at no cost to the client.

The agency's services are provided at no cost to the client.

The agency's services are provided at no cost to the client.

The agency's services are provided at no cost to the client.

The agency's services are provided at no cost to the client.

The agency's services are provided at no cost to the client.

The agency's services are provided at no cost to the client.

The agency's services are provided at no cost to the client.

The agency's services are provided at no cost to the client.

The agency's services are provided at no cost to the client.

The agency's services are provided at no cost to the client.

The agency's services are provided at no cost to the client.

The agency's services are provided at no cost to the client.

The agency's services are provided at no cost to the client.



The agency's services are provided at no cost to the client.

The agency's services are provided at no cost to the client.

The agency's services are provided at no cost to the client.

The agency's services are provided at no cost to the client.

The agency's services are provided at no cost to the client.

The agency's services are provided at no cost to the client.

The agency's services are provided at no cost to the client.

The agency's services are provided at no cost to the client.

The agency's services are provided at no cost to the client.

The agency's services are provided at no cost to the client.

The agency's services are provided at no cost to the client.

The agency's services are provided at no cost to the client.

The agency's services are provided at no cost to the client.

The agency's services are provided at no cost to the client.

The agency's services are provided at no cost to the client.

The agency's services are provided at no cost to the client.

The agency's services are provided at no cost to the client.

**50TH
ANNIVERSARY**



CELEBRATING 50 YEARS

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF SERVICE TO SOUTHERN NEVADA

Light-speed growth and change have occurred in the Las Vegas Valley over the last five decades, and while this has meant great prosperity for some, 11 percent of our population lives below the federal government's poverty threshold and 13 percent more are classified as working poor.

As the population has increased, we have seen a dramatic increase in the need for our services, which has been further exacerbated by the economic crisis. Although we have been able to obtain several government grants to hire additional attorneys, we now are bursting at the seams in our current building.

With the challenge to grow before us, we secured a parcel of land directly adjacent to our downtown headquarters and announced a capital fundraising campaign toward the goal of a larger campus. This effort was rolled out, along with our new name and logo, at our 50th anniversary celebration, which was held at the Springs Preserve in September. As a special highlight to the evening, we honored the founder of the legal aid movement in America, Sargent Shriver, with his son, Mark Kennedy Shriver, serving as our guest speaker. The Southern Nevada community responded with great enthusiasm for this milestone with some 500 people in attendance and more than \$175,000 raised toward our capital campaign.



Mark Kennedy Shriver



Lynn Etkins



Senator Richard Bryan and Dick Morgan



Assemblyman William Horne and
Assemblyman Mo Dennis



Justus McCann, Ian Gillian, Jennifer Salem



Judge Art Ritchie and Cam Ferenbach



Barbara Buckley, Justice Michael Douglas,
and Judge Elizabeth Gonzalez



R&R Partners crew, front, Ereina Oyama,
Mindy Parker, David Wojdan, Michelle Mader,
Betsy Ward



Judge Betsy Gonzalez, Jay Hiner, Kathleen Jones and Randall Jones



Dean Hardy and Justice Bill Maupin



Tony Sanchez, Mark Kennedy Shriver and Barbara Buckley

MANY THANKS

MANY THANKS TO OUR TABLE SPONSORS:

Level 4

Harrah's Entertainment

Level 3

Koeller, Nebeker, Carlson & Haluck

Level 2

Lionel, Sawyer & Collins

Level 1

Renny Ashleman, Esq.

AT&T

Bank of America

Barrick Gold

Boyd Gaming

Canepa, Riedy & Rubino

Community Financial Services
Association

Cox Communications

Coyote Springs Land

Crockett & Myers

Embarq

Fennemore Craig

Fox Rothschild

Frias Holding Company

Harrison, Kemp, Jones & Coulthard

Holland & Hart

JMA Architects

Jones Vargas

Lewis & Rocha

LS Power

Martin-Harris Construction

McDonald Carano Wilson

Nevada Financial Services
Association

Nevada State Bank

Peel Brimley

Quon Bruce Christensen

R&R Partners

Sierra Pacific Resources

State Bar of Nevada

State Senator Steven Horsford

Sunbelt Communications

UNLV Boyd School of Law

Wynn Resorts

We would also like to thank our in-kind donors:

Deluca Liquor

R&R Partners

Springs Preserve

Wynn Resorts

PARTNERSHIPS



REFERRAL NETWORK

LEGAL AID CENTER OF SOUTHERN NEVADA REFERRAL NETWORK

We receive thousands of walk-in requests for our services every year, but the majority of our clients come to us through a wide network of referral sources. Below is a list of the many groups with whom we work:

Safe Nest	Nevadans for Equal Access	Center for Independent Living
S.A.F.E. House	Constable's Office	Henderson Allied Community Advocates (HACA)
Nevada Legal Services	United Way	State of Nevada Mortgage Lending Division
Senior Citizens Law Project	Consumer Credit Counseling Services	State of Nevada Consumer Affairs Division
County Social Workers	KNPR-Las Vegas/National Public Radio	Clark County Bar Association
Parents	KLVX-Las Vegas Public Broadcasting System	State Bar of Nevada
School Staff	KLAS-Channel 8	Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA)
Courts	KVBC-Channel 3	Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department
Private Attorneys	In Business Las Vegas	Nevada Fair Housing Center
Shade Tree	Las Vegas City Life	Social Security Administration
Clark County Social Services		Friends and Family

CLIENT INCOME GUIDELINES

CLIENT INCOME GUIDELINES

NUMBER OF PERSONS IN HOUSEHOLD	MAX. YEARLY INCOME *	MAX. MONTHLY INCOME *
1 Person	\$23,995.00	\$1,995.58
2 Persons	\$27,337.00	\$2,278.08
3 Persons	\$30,830.00	\$2,569.17
4 Persons	\$34,322.00	\$2,860.17
5 Persons	\$37,056.00	\$3,088.00
6 Persons	\$39,790.00	\$3,313.33
7 Persons	\$42,523.00	\$3,543.58
8+ Persons	\$45,257.00	\$3,771.42

*Based on 55 percent of area median income

Prospective clients also should not have more than \$5,000 in net assets other than a home, one motor vehicle and/or work-related equipment.

BOYD SCHOOL OF LAW

PARTNERSHIP WITH THE WILLIAM S. BOYD SCHOOL OF LAW

Community Legal Education Project

We are very grateful for our 10-year partnership with the William S. Boyd School of Law. Most first- and second-year law students volunteer at our office by teaching legal information classes to the general public under the supervision of a staff attorney. The law students gain valuable real-world legal experience and we gain much needed additional staffing to meet the ever-growing demand. We conduct classes in bankruptcy, small claims, divorce, guardianship and paternity/custody.

2008 Results

- 3,910 attendees
- Total attendees since its inception in 1999: 26,488

Partners in Pro Bono

Second- and third-year law students from the UNLV Boyd School of Law are given the opportunity to work on a pro bono case with a private attorney through our Partners in Pro Bono Program. Those participating are matched with volunteer attorneys in the community on a case involving family law, domestic violence, bankruptcy or consumer fraud.

2008 Results

- 26 students participated in this program representing 26 clients



UNLV Community Service Program Coordinator Cliff Marcek trains Boyd students how to teach the free community education classes.



WILLIAM S. BOYD
UNLV School of Law
Entering a new decade of excellence



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dean A. Hardy, Esq.
President
Hardy & Hardy

J. Randall Jones, Esq.
Secretary
Harrison, Kemp, Jones & Coulthard

Shelby Keefer, CPA
Treasurer
Serl & Keefer

Robert P. Dickerson, Esq.
Dickerson Law Group

Megan Dorsey, Esq.
Koeller, Nebeker, Carlson & Halluck

Lizzie R. Hatcher, Esq.
Law Offices of Lizzie Hatcher

Jay Hiner
Vice President, Community Development
Nevada State Bank

Paul Martin
President
Nevadans for Equal Access

Richard Morgan, Esq.
Lionel, Sawyer & Collins

Betsy Ward
Director of Corporate Communications
R&R Partners

Marshal Willick, Esq.
Willick Law Group

Of Counsel:
Cam Ferenbach
Richard Bryan
Lionel, Sawyer & Collins

LACSN STAFF

Barbara Buckley, Esq.
Executive Director

Dan Wulz, Esq.
Deputy Executive Director

Terry Bratton
Legal Administrator

Lynn Etkins, Esq.
Development Director

Kendal Adams, Esq.
Senior Attorney

Consumer Rights Project

Dan Wulz, Directing Attorney
Stefanie Ebbens, Attorney
Courtney Lee, Attorney
Kristine Jezairian, Attorney
Michael Joe, Attorney
Heather Branagan, Paralegal
Alice McCann, Paralegal
Elizabeth Montes, Paralegal
Veronica Aguilar, Paralegal
Gary Myers, Paralegal
Rosie Najera, Secretary

Children's Attorneys Project

Steve Hiltz, Directing Attorney
Janice Wolf, Deputy Directing Attorney
Melissa Casal, Attorney
Gia McGillivray, Attorney
Greg Ivie, Attorney
Ron Kirschenheiter, Attorney
Candace Barr, Attorney
Jennifer Silverman, Attorney
Laurie Richardson, Paralegal
Anne Rhu, Paralegal
Gwen Dixon, Paralegal
Samantha Dukart, Secretary
Teri Willman, Secretary

Domestic Violence Project

Veronica Thronson, Directing Attorney
April Stokes Green, Attorney
Susan Filon, Attorney
Susan Noyce, Attorney
Gabrielle Jones, Attorney
Candace Carducci, Secretary
Nancy Jasso, Secretary

Social Security Project

Robert Fleming, Directing Attorney
Kate Fiorillo, Paralegal
Paula Liba, Secretary

Pro Bono Project

Kimberly Mucha Abbott, Director
Silvina Gimenez, Paralegal
Jill Chambers, Administrative Assistant
Maria Parra-Sandoval, Volunteer Liaison
AMERICORPS Member

Administration

Sandra Arballo, Administrative Assistant
Melissa Klein, Secretary
Julio Gonzales, Runner
Hope Viera, Receptionist
Nicole Scagnelli, Clerk
Sasha Wong, Clerk

DONORS

DONORS

We would like to thank the following donors for their generous contributions to kick off our capital campaign:

Boyd Foundation

The Marnell Foundation

Tishman Construction

State Bar of Nevada

We acknowledge and thank our donors for their new and ongoing support of our organization. Our community is better for the compassion you demonstrate.

Robert Adams
William & Kendal Adams
Advance America
Nancy Allf
Tina Amodeo
AT&T
Ballard Spahr Andrews & Ingersoll
Bank of America Foundation
Bank of America, Inc.
Barrick Goldstrike Mines, Inc.
Suzan Baucum
Nancy Becker
Jeanette Belz
Lester H. Berkson
Janette Bloom
Boyd Gaming Corporation
Terry Bratton
Elizabeth Brickfield
Judge Bert Brown

Brownstein Hyatt
Farber Schreck
Senator Richard H. Bryan
Barbara Buckley
Stephanie Buhler
Canepa Riedy & Rubino
Rick Carter
Radha Chanderraj
Check City of Las Vegas
Check Into Cash of Nevada
Christina Cho
City of Henderson
Clark County, Nevada
Tom Collins
Judge Linda Bell
Vincent Consul
William Coulthard
Cox Communications
Coyote Springs Land Company

Crockett & Myers
Culinary Wokers Union Local 226
Judge Stephen J. Dahl
John E. Dawson
Jessica Dean
Deaner Deaner Scann
Malan & Larsen
Dickerson Law Group
DLS Power Holdings
Douglas Lindsey Jydstrup
Judge Jennifer Elliott
Embarq Management Company
Lynn Etkins
Robert D. Faiss
Fennemore Craig
Cam Ferenbach
Douglas K. Fermoile
Susan Filon
Fox Rothschild

David N. Frederick
Frias Holding Company
Friends of Steven Horsford
Lynn S. Fulstone
Gregory R. Gemignani
Fred D. III Gibson
Silvina Gimenez
Chris Giunchigliani
Mark Goldstein
Catalina Gonzales
Judge Elizabeth Gonzales
Dean Hardy
Joshua L. Harmon
Harmon & Davies
Harrah's Entertainment
Harrison Kemp Jones & Coulthard
Stacy Harrop
Paul R. Hejmanowski
Jason and Sara Helland

DONORS

DONORS

James E. Herbe	Sam Lieberman	Peel Brimley	Laura Thalacker
Mark Hinueber	Lynda Sue Mabry	Kris Pickering	The Lionel Foundation
Holland & Hart	Martin-Harris Construction	Peggy Pierce	Thomas & Mack Company
Renny Ashleman II	Justice William A. Maupin	Wayne Pressel	David Thronson
IGT	McCormick Barstow	Judge Sandra Pomrenze	Tishman Construction
Jessica Israel	Charles H. McCrea Jr.	Quon Bruce Christensen	UNLV Boyd School of Law
Judge William Jansen	McDonald Carano Wilson	R. Christopher Reade	Valley of the Sun United Way
Rodney M. Jean	J. Michael McGroarty	Rory and Cynthia Reid	Matthew E. Watson
JMA Architects	Carol Menninger	Republic Services	Wells Fargo Bank
Jones Vargas	Moneytree, Inc.	Judge Arthur Ritchie	John V. White
Wihelm Joseph	Richard J. Morgan	John A. Ritter	Marshal S. Willick
Edwin Keller	Mutual of America	Maddox & Associates	Richard A. Wright
William Kemp	National Defender	Marc Rubinstein	Wright Stanish & Winckler
Todd E. Kennedy	John Naylor	Security Finance	Wynn Resorts
Kennedy Special Account	NBI, Inc.	Senior Citizens Law Project	Xidix Technologies, Inc.
Koeller Nebeker Carlson & Haluck	Nevada Consumer Finance Association	Miriam Shearing	Jeffrey P. Zucker
Malani L. Kotchka	Nevada Health Care Association	Gregory E. Smith	
Paul Larsen	Nevada State Bank	Snell & Wilmer	
Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce	NP Media Source	Alan Moss Solomon	
Judge Michelle Leavitt	NV Energy	Southwest Gas Corporation	
Lee Family Trust	John Ocegura	Doreen Spears Hartwell	
David N. LeGrand	Judge Nancy Oesterle	Steven Strasser	
Thelma Lewis	Daniel Omerza	Frank P. Sullivan	
Lewis & Roca		Sunbelt Communications	



Bill targets deadbeat dads

Reid proposes tax break for missing child support

By Bob Shumanigian
LAS VEGAS SUN

A bill proposed by Sen. Harry Reid that would allow single parents to write off uncollected child support from their taxes is drawing mixed reactions in Las Vegas.

Reid's legislation would allow single parents the same tax status as businesses that are owed money but cannot collect it. If a business cannot collect money owed to it, the firm is allowed to write off that debt.

"We've had an excellent response in the last two years. Our collections have doubled," Burdick said. "I think we're really turned around. We're not getting people who are complaining about paying child support."

Sen. Reid also said he'd like to see more credit given to fathers who dutifully pay child support. "They should be getting some type of credit for paying child support. I'm not opposed to millions getting a tax credit for unpaid support. But I'm sure we could do both."

Barbara Buckley, staff attorney for Nevada Legal Services, said, "I credit Sen. Reid for taking initiative and for trying to help all those women who are not receiving anything, but I

This rampant abuse has gone unpunished for far too long."

Sen. Harry Reid

REID'S OFFICE

thinks the solution is increased enforcement to ensure the family receives support."

Burdick said a tax deduction would be nice for single mothers who are owed child support, but it won't pay the rent or the grocery bills.

Reid calls the bill "revenue-neutral" because every dollar deducted from tax returns would be matched by an amount taxed from businesses.

THE MODERN ERA 2000s

With the help of a \$300,000 city grant, LACSN purchased a building at 800 S. 8th Street. The doors opened on March 14, 2000, and by 2004, we had retired our mortgage with a pro bono challenge grant from the Lied Foundation. As part of our goal to make access to justice easier for low-income clients, LACSN acquired the Pro Bono Project, providing clients with a one-stop location to receive the help they need. In 2001, the Domestic Violence Project was established to assist victims with protection orders and all aspects of domestic violence family law.

Disabled suing to improve access

Nevadans hopeful that businesses will comply

By Rachael Levy
LAS VEGAS SUN

Disabled Nevadans will sue 28 businesses over the next seven weeks as part of a statewide campaign to improve access.

Fed up with narrow doors, low ramps and empty promises that

demanding that businesses comply with the 1990 Americans with Disabilities Act.

Starting Thursday, the first four federal lawsuits will be filed against restaurants. Next week, it will be four convenience stores and gas stations. After that, retail outlets, movie theaters, clinics.

In all, 35 Las Vegas businesses will be sued between now and July 26. The rest are elsewhere in Nevada, according to attorney Barbara Buckley said.

leading the campaign with help from nonprofit legal services in Clark and Washoe counties.

The initiative is a gamble not only due to the sheer number of lawsuits, but the widespread resentment of the law by businesses.

Buckley, from Clark County Legal Services, is confident the campaign won't be a bust.

None of the lawsuits seeks monetary damages, only compliance,



Vegas men accused of running fraudulent Legal Aid program

Victims were tenants who faced eviction

said the Bar's co-plaintiffs, Rose Woods and Julietta Jones, who both received eviction notices and were allegedly told by Chapman to file for bankruptcy as a remedy to halt their eviction.

ations that provide free legal services to low-income people families. Both organizations can be reached at 386-1070.

"None of the companies we've listed as defen-



NEVADA LEGAL SERVICES OF THE CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA, AND WASHOE COUNTIES, IS CURRENTLY OFFICE BY BARBARA BUCKLEY, P. 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000.

Hispanics vow to fight Stratosphere evictions

FINANCIALS



INCOME AND EXPENSES

2008 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Income

Grants	\$542,978.00
United Way	\$11,851.00
Private Foundation	\$602,116.00
Attorney Fees	\$152,544.00
Donations	\$344,908.00
Court Filing Revenue	<u>\$2,586,495.00</u>
Income Before Donated Services	<u>\$4,240,892.00</u>
Donated Services	<u>\$3,390,000.00</u>
Total Income and Donated Services	\$7,630,892.00

Expenses

Personnel	Attorney	\$1,500,053.00
	Non-Attorney	\$983,165.00
	Fringe	<u>\$329,284.00</u>
	Personnel Subtotal	\$2,812,502.00
Operating	General Office and Related	\$202,698.00
	Space and Utilities	\$394,609.00
	Travel and Training	\$75,948.00
	Legal Library and Dues	\$61,563.00
	Litigation and Case-Related Services	\$48,710.00
	Contract Services	\$42,333.00
	Community Outreach	\$6,342.00
	Capital Investments *	\$399,562.00
	Miscellaneous	<u>\$77,533.00</u>
	Operating Subtotal	\$1,309,298.00
	Expenses Before Donated Services	<u>\$4,121,800.00</u>
	Donated Services	<u>\$3,390,000.00</u>
Total Expenses and Donated Services		\$7,511,800.00
Allocated for FY 2009 Operating Expenses		\$119,092.00

*Allocated for new land/facility expansion



SO WE MUST GROW *Facts*

- In Clark County, 11% of residents live below federal poverty guidelines.
- An additional 13% of the population is classified as working poor.
- In 2008, nearly 500,000 residents of Clark County were eligible for our services.
- By 2021, it is projected that more than 720,000 Clark County residents will be eligible for our services.
- According to the 2008 Civil Legal Needs Assessment study, conducted by the Nevada State Supreme Court Access to Justice Commission, 80% of low-income Clark County residents have legal needs that are not being met.
- Our ultimate goal is to ensure that 100% of low-income residents have their rights protected through access to legal aid.

State, legal services staff praised for welfare work

By Alan Tash

Clark County Judge Friday commended state officials and a public interest law firm that represents the poor for working together to reduce a large backlog of unprocessed welfare applications.

Nevada Legal Services said the judge William Davidson earlier this year for cutting to process applications within 45 days, the time limit set by federal law.

Despite Attorney General Douglas' threat a report Thursday that stressed the state had made progress.

Michael Williams, a Williams & Son County administrator, said the judge Friday has asked for 50 new eligibility workers in the 2009-2010 fiscal year. Fourteen of those positions were granted earlier to deal with the huge backlog. Williams is optimistic the full request will be granted.

Williams has an additional 19 eligibility workers was requested in the 2008-2009 fiscal year.

The Welfare Division also has been wrestling with a shortage of requests for food stamps.

Clark County Judge Friday commended state officials and a public interest law firm that represents the poor for working together to reduce a large backlog of unprocessed welfare applications.

DMV pulled into class action law suit

LAS VEGAS SUN

A class action suit alleging that the Nevada Department of Motor Vehicles and Public Safety is violating federal laws regarding disclosure of car titles was filed Monday in Clark County District Court.

According to the suit, Alaska and Karen Perna purchased a used car that showed 36,000 miles on its odometer, but the car actually had been driven nearly 100,000 miles because the odometer had been rolled over.

The suit further alleges that the DMV was aware of the odometer rollover but processed the title anyway, violating federal law.

The couple's attorney, Don Wals, said the DMV did not require dealers and car dealers to make odometer disclosures in the buyer's title when the dealer has the title.

"Consumer protection laws are on the books to protect them. If the DMV doesn't comply with them, the public sues up faster," Wals said.

DMV spokesman Kevin Mahon said the suit does not state good points that the DMV does plan to look into.

ADOPTION

Request raises questions on rights

Girl, 12, wants names and addresses of natural and adoptive parents of biological siblings

By ALAN TASH

Clark County Judge Friday commended state officials and a public interest law firm that represents the poor for working together to reduce a large backlog of unprocessed welfare applications.

Nevada Legal Services said the judge William Davidson earlier this year for cutting to process applications within 45 days, the time limit set by federal law.

Despite Attorney General Douglas' threat a report Thursday that stressed the state had made progress.

Michael Williams, a Williams & Son County administrator, said the judge Friday has asked for 50 new eligibility workers in the 2009-2010 fiscal year. Fourteen of those positions were granted earlier to deal with the huge backlog. Williams is optimistic the full request will be granted.

Williams has an additional 19 eligibility workers was requested in the 2008-2009 fiscal year.

The Welfare Division also has been wrestling with a shortage of requests for food stamps.

Clark County Judge Friday commended state officials and a public interest law firm that represents the poor for working together to reduce a large backlog of unprocessed welfare applications.



Group to assist the homeless

By Adrian A. Hayes
LAS VEGAS SUN

The scarcity of affordable housing in Las Vegas and growing homelessness have spurred the creation of a broad-based committee designed to gather financial support for solutions.

The board, called the Southern Nevada Affordable Housing Committee, is made up of a range of groups representing government, nonprofit organizations and the private sector, said Chairwoman Barbara Buckley, an attorney for Nevada Legal Services.

Homelessness will be addressed, Buckley said, but the broader focus will be increasing low-cost housing for the city's poor.

The committee is scheduled to meet Friday with Bank of America to discuss its planned acquisition of Valley Bank and how that will affect the needs of the Community Reinvestment Act.

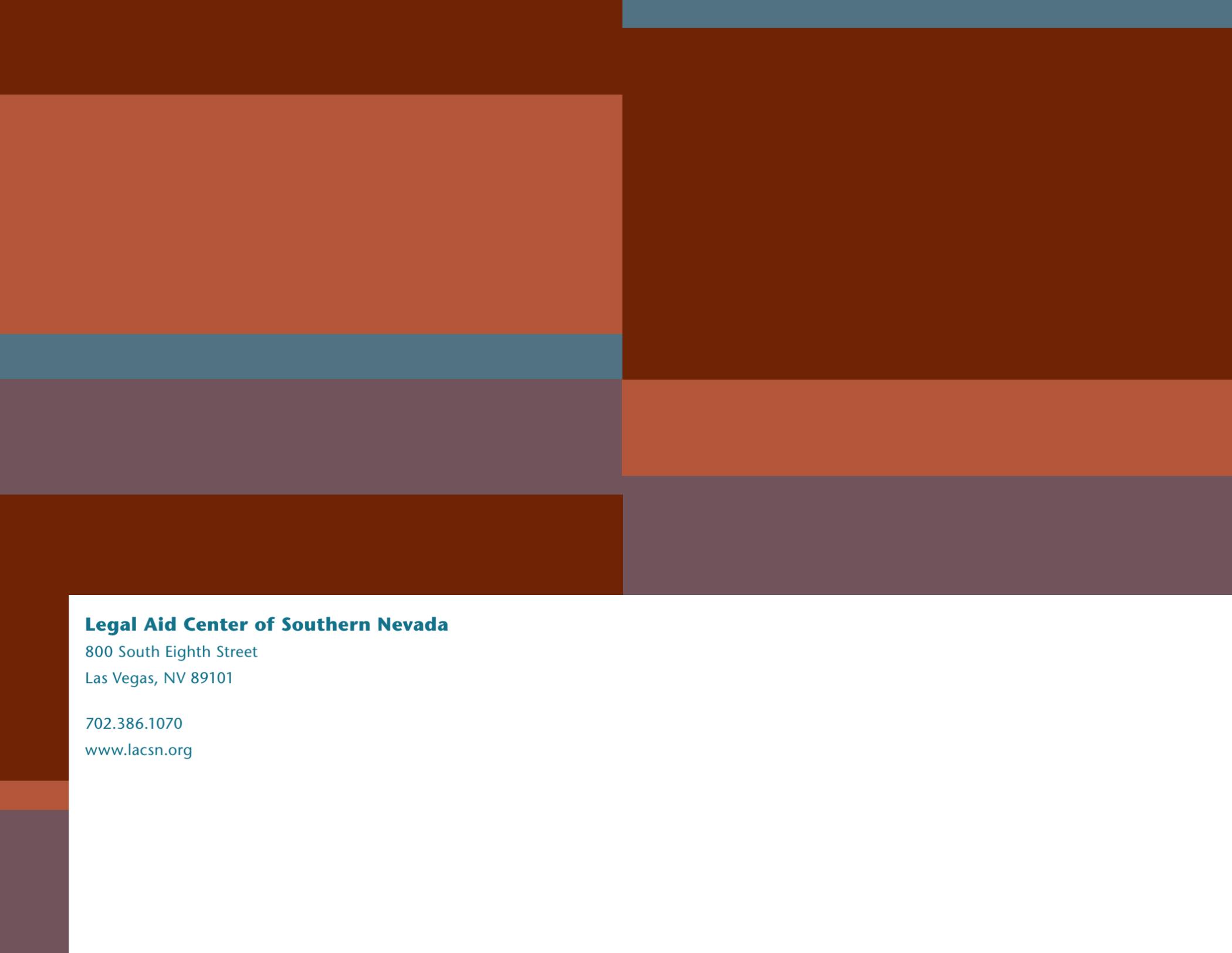
The act obligates banks to serve the needs of entire communities and allows the Federal Reserve to take into account a bank's record on needy projects when considering mergers.

Las Vegas Housing Authority Director Carl Rowe, a member of the committee, said Bank of America has an excellent CRA rating and all indications are that it will cooperate with the committee's efforts.

"Bank of America has indicated they are willing to sit down at the table," Rowe said. "Our experience has been that they are very amenable to this."

The committee also will meet with Bank of America and Security Pacific Bank, which have also announced a possible merger. That meeting will be set for a later date.

Among those participating in the committee are Las Vegas City Councilman Frank Hawkins, Homeless Advocacy Project Director Steve Switzer and businessman Brady Eaker.



Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada

800 South Eighth Street
Las Vegas, NV 89101

702.386.1070
www.lacsn.org