

PRO BONO HONOR ROLL



The State Bar of Nevada Board of Governors and the Access to Justice Commission extend a special thanks to the following attorneys who generously accepted cases in September 2012, through the Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada, Washoe Legal Services, Nevada Legal Services and Volunteer Attorneys for Rural Nevadans.

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|-------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Amanda Cowley | Frances-Ann Fine | Muriel Skelly |
| Amber Adams | Howard Kim | Nelson M. Segel |
| Boris Avramski | Israel "Ishi" Kunin | Patricia Lee |
| Bracken Longhurst | James Murphy | Philip Van Alstyne |
| Brandon Johansson | Jamie Hendrickson | Riana Durrett |
| Bryce Finley | Jason Bacigalupi | Richard Chatwin |
| Dana Grigg | Jason Peck | Robert Caldwell |
| Daniel Cereghino | John Bragonje | Robert Morris |
| Daniel Kiefer | John J. Jr, Graves | Rosa Solis-Rainey |
| Danny Lovell | Jon Eric Garde | Sandra Mae Pickens |
| Doreen Spears | Julie Kruze | Scott Fleming |
| Hartwell | Karl Riley | Sean Claggett |
| Edward Kainen | Kelly Swanson | Shay Wells |
| Edward Vargas | Kenneth Jordan | Shea Ann Backus |
| Erik Severino | Linda Norvell Marquis | Thomas Fell |
| Erika Pike Turner | Marshal Willick | Tracy O'Steen |
| Erin Houston | Michancy Cramer | William Schulle |
| Ernest Buche Jr. | Miguel Lopez | |

ASK-A-LAWYER, CLINICS, AND OTHER BRIEF SERVICES

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|------------------------|------------------------|
| Amber Adams | Kari Molnar |
| Angela Dows | Krissta Kirschenheiter |
| Arun Gupta | Kristine Bergstrom |
| Beverly Salhanick | Mario Fenu |
| Carol Kingman | Michael McKelleb |
| Damon Dias | Michele Roberts |
| Darlene Arnd | Naomi Arin |
| Dawn Miller | Nedda Ghandi |
| Doreen Spears Hartwell | Nelson Segel |
| Edward Ewert | Patricia Lee |
| Erik Severino | Ray Chau |
| Erin Houston | Rebecca Bruch |
| Gerad Constantian | Robert Blau |
| Hardeep Sull | Ryan Andersen |
| James Clafin | Ryan Burris |
| Jeanne Lambertsen | Sarah Bradley |
| Jennafer Wagner | Sugar Vogel |
| Jon Erick Garde | Trina Dahlin |
| Julie Arnold | |

BOLD honors multiple cases accepted and/or sessions conducted within the month.

PRO BONO SPOTLIGHT

TODD REESE

BY CHRISTINA ALBERTS,
NEVADA LAWYER STAFF



Todd Reese's venture into pro bono work began while working for the law firm of Dyer, Lawrence, Penrose, Flaherty, Donalson & Prunty, which required attorneys to be active in pro bono work.

Reese started accepting cases from Volunteer Attorneys for Rural Nevadans (VARN) and Nevada Legal Services (NLS) in 2009. Reese said the most common need for legal help was in the area of family law: divorce cases, guardianship, custody, wills and estates.

Reese said as he watched the economy deteriorate, he noticed a sad catch-22: During the boom, law firms had so much work they allowed their attorneys more freedom to take pro bono cases; however, when the economy started turning and the need for pro bono attorneys dramatically increased, many attorneys had to concentrate all their efforts on working with existing clients or finding more paid cases, resulting in significantly less time for pro bono work.

To attorneys who may have some apprehension regarding working on a pro bono case, Reese shared these words of wisdom: "I would tell them, especially if they are anxious, just go and do it! There are a lot of people who need attorneys. [If you are nervous,] take a smaller case." Reese said one of the ways in which working pro bono cases helped him was by preparing him for court. He said this aspect of helping those in need can be an invaluable and beneficial use of time for any attorney, especially for newer, less-experienced attorneys.

Another way in which attorneys can contribute to pro bono efforts without having to take a case, is by working with one of the many ask-a-lawyer clinics, such as Lawyers in the Library. According to Reese, these clinics are a great help to those with simpler legal questions and are a great way to help the community.

A graduate of University of California Davis and Southwestern University Law School, Reese clerked for former Nevada Supreme Court Justice Robert Rose after graduating from law school. In October of 2012 he took a position as a staff attorney with the Nevada Supreme Court. ■