



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

BY BRYAN K. SCOTT, ESQ., PRESIDENT, STATE BAR OF NEVADA

I'M SO GLAD WE'VE HAD THIS TIME TOGETHER... SO LONG.

It seems like only yesterday that I was introduced as your newest state bar president, and now it's time to say "so long." It has been my greatest professional honor to have been the 88th and first African-American president of the State Bar of Nevada. It's a position I never thought I'd aspire to, one that gave me much advanced anxiety, but looking back, it's also one that I've enjoyed immensely. It's been immeasurably meaningful to have served on the Board of Governors for more than 11 years, and it's my hope that I have made a difference and have represented the lawyers of Nevada and our profession well during that time. The Board of Governors is made up of 15 hardworking and dedicated professionals who volunteer their time, effort and at times their personal finances to better the profession. I am proud to call them my colleagues and, more importantly, my friends.

This year has been extremely challenging; it has tested all of my faculties, time management skills, resourcefulness and negotiating skills on multiple occasions, particularly when balancing my obligations to the Las Vegas City Council and the public, as the senior assistant city

attorney for the City of Las Vegas, with my various obligations and duties to the members of the bar as your president. My hope is that you have gotten a sense of who I am and what's important to me as you've read these Messages from the President — among other things, my priorities as president included continuing legal education, diversity, collaboration with local and specialty bars, the nurturing and teaching of young lawyers, access to justice for underrepresented persons, personal wellness, strategic planning, civility, organizational transparency, member communication and succession planning.

My time as president and as a board member leaves me with these thoughts:

1. It's your state bar—it is what you make of it. Get involved and stay engaged.
2. Different perspectives, including those from various races, creeds, genders, ethnicities and orientations, make for a stronger bar association.
3. Voice your opinions to the Board of Governors members you elected to represent your interests. They are interested in your opinions. What affects you affects them!
4. If you need help, please *ask for it*.
5. If you see something unethical or untoward from a colleague, say something.
6. The law is an honorable profession; cherish it.
7. You can be civil and a strong advocate for your clients at the same time.
8. Access to justice is vital for those underrepresented persons in our state.
9. There is something to be learned daily.
10. Take time for you.

Thank You

The support, constant encouragement and well-wishes that I have received from bar members, my family, friends, the Las Vegas City Attorney's Office, the Las Vegas City Council, the employees of the City of Las Vegas and the state bar staff has been overwhelming, to say the least. I sincerely *thank you* all for that. A special thank you goes to state bar Executive Director Kim Farmer, for putting up with my multiple daily phone calls and crazy ideas. Additional thanks and much love goes out to my fellow Board of Governors members: Paul Matteoni, Ann Morgan, Eric Dobberstein, Richard Dreitzer, Paola Armeni, Jack Howard, Rick Pocker, Kimberly Buchanan, Kari Stephens, Ryan Russell, Ryan Works, Julie Cavanaugh-Bill, Doug Clark, Gene Leverty and Larry Digesti. Your confidence in me and your unwavering support have meant the world to me and have made this year all the more memorable. I will miss serving with you. Thank you to the *Nevada Lawyer* staff, Jenni Smith and Melinda Catren, for the always-helpful editing and research for my articles and speeches. Gale Skala: thank you for your guidance, expert travel arrangements and superb driving skills through the highways and byways of northern Nevada. Thanks to Bar Counsel extraordinaire, Stan Hunterton, and his staff for their hard work and constant vigilance in aiding our efforts to protect the public. Additional thanks to Marc Mersol, Suzy Moore, Vanessa Dalton, Shelley Young, Lisa Dreitzer and all of the other state bar staff members who keep our organization running like a well-oiled machine. Your hard work, dedication and professionalism are greatly appreciated.

What's Next?

For the past 25 years, I have dedicated myself to serving the members of the bar and the legal profession, culminating in my term as president of the Las Vegas Chapter of the National Bar Association, president of the Clark County Bar Association, president of the Clark County Law Foundation and finally the president of the State Bar of Nevada. For now, I will assume a less-active position on the Board of Governors as an ex-officio member. After that, I'll relax for a while and from there... who knows?

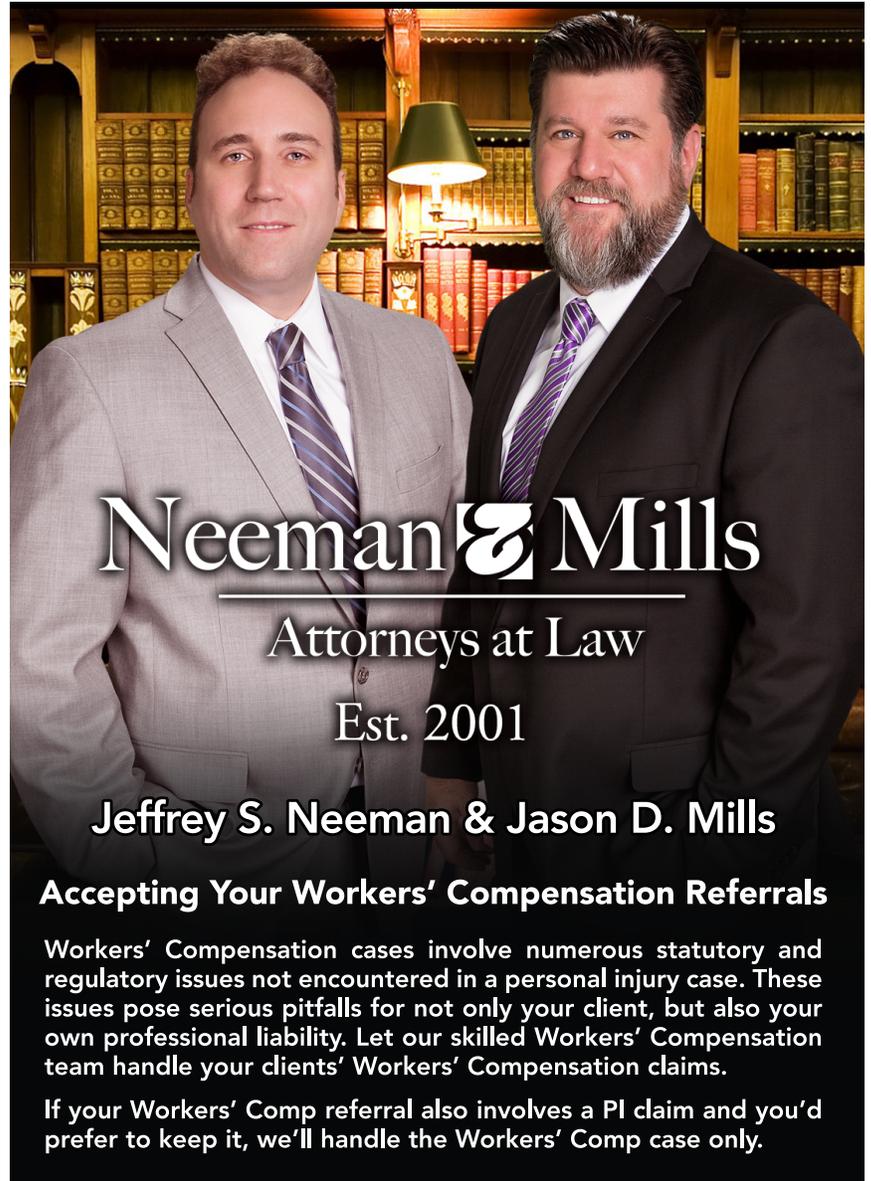
Again, it's been my great privilege to be of service to you. I wish you all well, and look forward to seeing you in the future.

Presidential STATISTICS

Serving as state bar president is a great honor – my predecessors and I strove to make the most of our terms by accomplishing as much as possible. In my presidential year, I have:

- ❖ Traveled more than 18,000 miles – nearly $\frac{3}{4}$ the distance needed to travel around the world!
- ❖ Attended nine meetings outside of Clark County – and too many within Clark County to track;
- ❖ Visited five counties in Nevada, including Clark, Washoe, Carson City, Douglas and Humboldt, and visited four other states representing the State Bar of Nevada to other national and regional bar associations;
- ❖ Wrote 10 columns for *Nevada Lawyer*, providing more than 10,000 words to the magazine;
- ❖ Gave more than 17 speeches on behalf of the state bar, uttering more than 6,000 words;
- ❖ Met with the leadership of all 17 of Nevada's specialty and regional bar associations;
- ❖ Delivered two Keynote Addresses;
- ❖ Visited five states;
- ❖ Presented one Nevada Supreme Court ADKT Petition; and
- ❖ Ripped one pair of pants. **NL**

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