

MEET YOUR JUDGES

The following judges were newly elected, reelected or appointed during the 2018 election cycle.

BY THE NEVADA LAWYER EDITORIAL BOARD AND STAFF

JUDGE BARRY L. BRESLOW District 2, Department 8



Judge Barry L. Breslow earned a Bachelor of Arts in political science from Rutgers University in 1984, and he obtained his Juris Doctorate from Ohio State University College of Law, with an emphasis on the study of dispute resolution. After graduation, Breslow served as law clerk to U.S. District Court Judge Howard D. McKibben. He then joined the firm of

Robison, Belaustegui, Sharp & Low. His 30-year legal career focused on complex litigation and dispute resolution.

Breslow was appointed to the Second Judicial District Court by Governor Brian Sandoval in April 2017, and he was retained by the voters in the 2018 general election. As the presiding judge in Department 8, he hears both civil and criminal matters of general jurisdiction.

Having grown up in upstate Connecticut, Breslow is a lifelong Boston Red Sox fan. His cousin, Craig Breslow, was on the team during its 2013 World Series championship season, and his former high school baseball teammate was series Manager John Farrell.

JUDGE KATHLEEN DRAKULICH District 2, Department 1



Judge Kathleen Drakulich has practiced law for more than 30 years. She received a Bachelor of Arts from the University of California at Berkeley, completed coursework at Oxford University and received her law degree from the University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law. Drakulich served as a prosecutor with the Washoe

County District Attorney's Office and as an associate with Anderson, Pearl, Hardesty, Lyle & Murphy. She held the post of Assistant General Counsel at Sierra Pacific Power Company and Nevada Power Company (now known as NV

Energy). She was also a partner at the firm of McDonald Carano Wilson, where she focused on energy law, among her other specialties.

In 2017, Sandoval appointed Drakulich to Department 1 of the Second Judicial District Court, where she presided over criminal and civil matters, and had administrative oversight of the district court's Foreclosure Mediation Program. She was elected to another term on the bench in January of this year.

Drakulich has dedicated significant time volunteering for various pro bono and community programs. Among her volunteer efforts, she served as the spokesperson for the Washoe County Zero Tolerance drug program.

JUDGE DAVID S. GIBSON, JR. District 8, Family Division, Dept. L



Judge David S. Gibson, Jr. is a graduate of the UNLV Boyd School of Law, and he was admitted to the State Bar of Nevada in 2002. His career as an attorney has included working for several years as a solo practitioner as well as for the law firms Mills & Mills and Rands, and South & Gardner. Gibson served for six years as a juvenile dependency hearing

master in the Eighth Judicial District Court's Family Division.

Sandoval appointed Gibson to the Family Court bench on November 20, 2018. The governor noted Gibson's prior experience in Family Court when he announced the appointment. "David has worked with the current sitting district court judges in the Eighth Judicial District," said Sandoval at the time of the appointment. "I am confident that his experience and understanding of family court cases will serve him well in this new role."

Gibson is an Eagle Scout and has held several positions of leadership and service in his church, including serving a mission for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in Capetown, South Africa, from 1993 to 1995. He is a former football player, an avid Rugby fan and currently holds a black belt in Chun Kuk Do Karate and a blue belt in Brazilian Jiu Jitsu. He also enjoys tabletop gaming, reading and travel.

JUDGE DIXIE GROSSMAN
District 2, Department 2



Judge Dixie Grossman is a native of Montana, where she received her undergraduate degree from the University of Montana at Missoula and her law degree from the University of Montana School of Law. She moved to Nevada following law school, and she has been practicing law for more than 17 years. She served as law clerk to Judges Deborah Schumacher,

Charles McGee and Frances Doherty, and Grossman later went into private practice, specializing in family law. In 2013, Grossman was appointed as juvenile court master for the Second Judicial District Court, Family Division.

In March 2018, Sandoval appointed her to the Second Judicial District Court bench, Department 2, citing her previous work with the Family Division. "Dixie has an impressive history of family law experience and I am pleased to appoint her to this position," Sandoval said. "I am confident that the attention and passion with which she treats all those who enter her courtroom will make her a strong addition to the Second Judicial District Court bench."

Grossman is the first person in her family to graduate college. During her free time, she enjoys spending time with her family and friends, reading, baking and art.

JUDGE MARY KAY HOLTHUS
District 8, Department 18



Judge Mary Kay Holthus has practiced law for 29 years. She attended State University of New York, Binghamton for her undergraduate degree and received her Juris Doctorate from Villanova Law School in 1989, moving to Las Vegas the same year. Holthus practiced for two years as a civil law associate attorney at Jones, Jones,

Close & Brown before joining the Clark County District Attorney's Office in March 1991. At the DA's Office, Holthus spent 16 of the last 27 years in the Special Victims Unit, prosecuting crimes against women and children. In 2018, she was elected to the Eighth Judicial District Court, Department 18.

Prior to joining the bench, Holthus has tried approximately 150 felony jury trials and numerous misdemeanor bench trials. Outside of her legal and judicial work, she spends her time as a devoted sports mom, dance mom, cheer mom and theater mom.

JUDGE DAVID JONES
District 8, Department 29



Though initially drawn to teaching, Judge David Jones' legal career spans 26 years. The Las Vegas native attended Arizona State University, obtaining a Bachelor of Science in education and history, and the Distinguished Bachelor's Graduate distinction for the College of Education. After college, Jones returned to Las Vegas, where he taught history and coached sports teams.

Jones later attended the University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law, graduating in 1992. Afterward, he primarily worked as an attorney in the private sector in Las Vegas. Jones also served as an arbitrator, mediator, short trial judge and a judge within the Truancy Diversion Program. In 2016, Sandoval appointed Jones to serve on the Eighth Judicial District Court; Jones was retained by popular vote in November 2018.

While working as a schoolteacher in Las Vegas, Jones was the recipient of the Clark County School District Teacher of the Year Award. Along with his distinguished legal career, he has coached youth football, softball and basketball.

JUDGE TIERRA JONES
District 8, Department 10



Judge Tierra Jones has practiced law since 2006. She grew up in Hawthorne, Nevada and obtained her Juris Doctorate from the William S. Boyd School of Law in 2006. Immediately after law school, Jones went to work as a law clerk for Judge Stewart L Bell in the Eighth Judicial District Court.

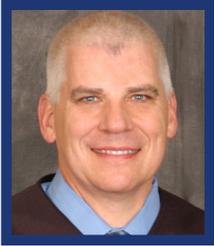
After passing the bar, she served as a public defender with the Office of the Clark County Public Defender. Jones subsequently began her career as a prosecutor with the Nye County District Attorney's Office, and later moved to the Clark County District Attorney's Office. During her time as a defense attorney and a prosecutor, Jones appeared in court almost every single day. She completed more than 35 jury trials.

Mentoring young law students is a priority for Jones. She's served as a mentor through the National Bar Association, the Clark County Bar Association and the Howard D. McKibben Inns of Court Program. She has also volunteered as a judge and coach for mock trial and moot court.

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MEET YOUR JUDGES

JUDGE EGAN WALKER District 2, Department 7



Judge Egan Walker earned a Bachelor's of Science in nursing from the University of Nevada, Reno in 1986, and he received his Juris Doctorate from the University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law in 1991. He worked as a deputy district attorney in Carson City and Washoe County, prosecuting crimes

that ranged from parking tickets to capital murder. He then went into private practice, where he focused on family law and personal injury litigation.

In 2011, Walker was appointed by Sandoval to serve as the presiding judge in Department 2 of the Second Judicial District Court. He was elected to serve the remainder of Judge Hardy's term in 2012, and Walker was elected again in 2014 to a six-year term. On December 22, 2017, Sandoval appointed Egan to Department 7, where he filled the vacancy left by the death of Chief Judge Patrick Flanagan. Walker was retained by the voters in the November 2018 general election.

Walker and his wife have six children in their blended family. He earned a black belt in Kenpo Karate at age 46 with one of his sons. **NL**

Tips for Practicing in Court

When asked to share some advice with attorneys, the judges above offered the following tips for practicing in court:

Breslow recommended that, "attorneys should maintain

their professional credibility at all times, not just with the court, but with opposing counsel and the jury." He explained that, once lost, such credibility is extremely difficult to recapture.

Gibson said, "I hope to create a courtroom environment of professionalism, mutual respect and kindness."

Grossman's advice to Nevada attorneys is to remember who they really work for; she encourages all attorneys to remain committed to their community and to serving its members.

When asked how attorneys can become better at their jobs, Holthus had this to say: "I believe that by pursuing your passion as an attorney, you will naturally improve the quality of your work."

Walker's advice to attorneys brings to mind the axiom 'brevity is the soul of wit,' as he recommends attorneys, "do not say in 20 pages what should be said in five, well-written, well-edited pages."

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