



**Spring 2010 Adjunct and Visiting Professor Biographies**  
(10/28/2009)

**Fletcher N. Baldwin Jr.**, Emeritus Professor, University of Florida, Levin College of Law. Professor Baldwin is the past recipient of the Chesterfield Smith Professorship and is Director of the Centre for International Financial Crime Studies at the University of Florida. He is also Professor Invite , Centre du Droit de l'Entreprise, Universite de Montpellier, France, and an Honorary Fellow of the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, University of London. Professor Baldwin teaches, among other subjects, Constitutional Law, Media Law, International Financial Crimes and Comparative Constitutional Law.

**Neal Chambers** is a managing partner for Edwards & Chambers, a law firm based in Las Vegas and San Diego. Mr. Chambers provides estate planning services, including will and trust drafting, tax planning and probate representation.

**Matthew Christian** graduated magna cum laude from the Boyd School of Law in December 2002 where he was a member of the Nevada Law Journal. Having recently joined the firm of Kolesar and Leatham in Las Vegas, Mr. Christian practices in complex civil litigation, primarily in the areas of commercial construction and surety bond claims. Mr. Christian has published numerous articles in his areas of practice. After obtaining his B.A. from the University of Illinois in 1992, Mr. Christian worked for several years in the Las Vegas and Grand Canyon travel industries.

**Claudia Cormier** is an associate with the O'Reilly Law Group where she practices Gaming Law; Regulatory Law; Land Use; Real Estate Development; Business Transactions; Business Formation; Business Start-Ups; Emerging Growth Companies; Finance; Corporate Law.

**Douglas M. Edwards**, a stockholder at Ellsworth Moody & Bennion. Mr. Edwards practices primarily in the areas of Tax Law, Estate Planning, Corporate Law, Business Transactional Law and Real Estate. He has practiced law in Nevada for over 20 years. He is fluent in several languages and has lectured and written extensively on banking law and taxation.

**Franny Forsman** is the Federal Public Defender for the District of Nevada. She is a 1968 graduate of the University of Nevada - Reno and a 1977 graduate of the University of Notre Dame Law School, where she received the Justice Lewis Powell medal for Excellence in Advocacy. She is a former President of the State Bar of Nevada and Chair of the Board of Continuing Legal Education. She has extensive litigation experience in both civil and criminal cases.

**John Garman's** background and experience are in the areas of international commercial transactions and alternate dispute resolution. He is an arbitrator/neutral and has identified issues concerning ADR and the international practice of law. He was an adjunct Professor of Law at USC Law and Loyola Law School, Los Angeles, teaching International Commercial Arbitration. Mr. Garman is a member of the International Chamber of Commerce, Austria as well as a member of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, Europe and a Member of the United States Council for International Business. He is also a member of the Executive committee of the International Law sectional of the California bar. Mr. Garman has been appointed to the International Bar Association Task Force to study and evaluate the current text of the UNCITRAL Model Law on International Commercial Conciliation. He is "Of Counsel" to Hasch and Partners, and Austrian law firm and Mr. Garman has an office in Vienna and also Manhattan Beach.

**Gregory Gemignani** is a shareholder at Lionel Sawyer. Mr. Gemignani's practice emphasis is primarily on intellectual property law, gaming law, technology law, internet law, online gaming law and online promotions law. He has represented many clients ranging from the largest casino companies to start-up Internet ventures. Prior to practicing law, Mr. Gemignani was a software systems engineer.

**James Lewis** is a Deputy City Attorney for the City of Las Vegas. His principle duties include advising local government officials and agencies on governance, ethics, and land use issues. Before joining the City of Las Vegas in 2005, James was a Senior Deputy City Attorney in the City of North Las Vegas focusing on governance and land use issues, and an associate at Gordon & Silver, Ltd focusing on corporate bankruptcy and commercial litigation.

**Honorable James C. Mahan** was in private practice for twenty-five years until Governor Kenny Guinn appointed him in 1999 to be a state district court judge. In 2002, President George W. Bush appointed him to his current position of United States district judge.

**Bruce A. Markell** is a United States Bankruptcy Judge based in Las Vegas. Judge Markell is a 1977 graduate of Pitzer College, and a 1980 graduate of the King Hall School of Law, University of California at Davis, where he was first in his class and editor-in-chief of the law review. Following

graduation, he clerked for then-judge Anthony M. Kennedy when Justice Kennedy was a member of the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. Judge Markell practiced law in Los Angeles for 10 years, leaving a partnership with Sidley & Austin to join the law faculty at Indiana University School of Law – Bloomington. Before joining the Boyd School of Law faculty in 1999, he was the Bruce W. Nichols Visiting Professor of Law at Harvard Law School and the Southeastern Bankruptcy Law Institute Visiting Professor of Law at Georgia State University. In 2004, he was appointed to the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Nevada.

**Douglas D. McFarland**, Professor, Hamline University School of Law. Professor McFarland served as Associate Dean for Teaching and Scholarship at Hamline from 2002- 2005. He was elected Professor of the Year by students in 1976, 1984, 2001, 2005 and 2007. He teaches civil procedure, evidence, federal courts, persuasion , torts and trial advocacy.

**Mike K. Nakagawa** is the United States Bankruptcy Chief Judge for the District of Nevada. Judge Nakagawa was appointed to the bench in 2006. He graduated in 1980 from the School of Law at the University of California in Davis, where he was an editor of the U.C. Davis Law Review and a faculty-sponsored tutor in the area of civil procedure. He previously had obtained his undergraduate degree from the University of the Pacific in Stockton, California.

Judge Nakagawa was admitted to practice in California in 1980 and served an extended judicial clerkship with the Honorable Philip C. Wilkins, Chief Judge of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of California in Sacramento. He entered private practice in 1984 and was admitted to practice in Nevada in 1987. He was a partner in the law firm of Cooper, Nakagawa & Briseno, and concluded private practice as the founder of Nakagawa & Rico before his judicial appointment. His practice emphasized bankruptcy, commercial, and business litigation matters. He represented debtors, creditors, committees, trustees, and other parties in interest in Chapter 11 proceedings throughout California, as well as in Nevada, Oregon, Delaware, Illinois and New Jersey. He also represented consumer debtors in Chapter 7 liquidation cases and represented many standing Chapter 7 trustees in the Eastern District of California as well. From 1995 through 2005, Judge Nakagawa taught bankruptcy law and reorganization at McGeorge School of Law in Sacramento as an adjunct professor, and also at Lincoln Law School in downtown Sacramento.

**Lara Bierman Nelson** earned her J.D. in 1990 from Hastings College of the Law, where she was Associate Publications Editor for COMM/ENT (Hastings Communications and Entertainment Law Journal). From 1990 to 2003, Professor Nelson worked at the Office of Legislative Counsel in Sacramento, California, where she provided legal advice and services to

members of the California State Legislature and devoted much of her practice to legislative procedure and the budget process.

**Nancy Ganong Neslund** was most recently a Visiting Professor at the Roger Williams University School of Law, where she taught Wills & Trusts, Estate & Gift Tax, and Contracts. Through the years she has held a number of visiting and adjunct faculty positions, including visiting faculty appointments at Golden Gate University School of Law, Lewis & Clark Law School, and Widener University School of Law. She has significant corporate, tax and administrative law practice experience. Professor Neslund is a graduate of Columbia University School of Law. She received an LL.M from New York University School of Law. In addition to the subjects listed above, Professor Neslund has taught corporations, corporate and partnership tax, professional responsibility and business organizations.

**Stanford B. Owen** earned his law degree from Stanford University where he was a member of the Stanford Law Review. He was a litigator with the Salt Lake City, Utah law firm Fabian & Clendenin for nearly 35 years, but now teaches at the Boyd School of Law (Antitrust and Pretrial Litigation), the J.Reuben Clark Law School at Brigham Young University (Antitrust, Pretrial Litigation, Trial Advocacy) and the University of Utah Law School (Pretrial Litigation). He has taught Pretrial Litigation for over 30 years. He has substantial experience litigating large civil cases. He has recently returned from church service in Nigeria, West Africa.

**Richard A. Rawson**, a member of Jones Vargas' Business and Real Estate Transactions Practice Group. Mr. Rawson practices primarily in the areas of real estate development and municipal finance. He graduated Cum Laude from the William S. Boyd School of Law, where he was an Articles Editor for the Nevada Law Journal. Prior to practicing law, Mr. Rawson was a financial systems consultant and responsible for the implementation of financial systems for Mission Research Corporation, Bechtel SAIC Company, and TRW Environmental Safety Systems.

**Jennifer Roberts** is an associate at Lionel Sawyer & Collins where she practices in the areas of Gaming Law, Alcoholic Beverages, Liquor Licensing, Zoning, Planning & Land Use and Regulatory law.

**David Schwartz** is a former Chief Deputy District Attorney for the Clark County District Attorney's Office. He has been a prosecuting attorney for over thirty years. While at the DA's office he was assigned to the Major Violator's Unit where he tried numerous high profile cases including dozens of capital murder cases. In 2001 he received a "Meritorious Service Award" from the Inspector General of the United States Department of Defense for his work on the Arthur Bennett case. Currently he is teaching Criminal Evidence at UNLV and is a consultant

on death penalty cases. Mr. Schwartz earned his JD from Brooklyn Law School and his BA from the State University of New York at Stony Brook.

**Mark Tratos** is the managing shareholder of Greenberg Traurig's Las Vegas office, an international law firm with more than 1350 lawyers in the United States and overseas. He practices in the areas of trademark, copyright, rights of publicity and privacy, entertainment, art law and cyberlaw. He has been an adjunct professor in the Colleges of Fine and Performing Arts since 1984 and Hotel Administration at UNLV since 1995. He is also President of the Nevada Intellectual Property Law Association and is listed in Who's Who in American Law and Best Lawyers in America. Since 1985, he has been the author of the Nevada Chapter of the International Trademark Associations State Trademark and Unfair Competition law handbook.