

PRESENTERS' BIOGRAPHIES
PRESESSION ORIENTATION PROGRAM FOR NEW LEGISLATORS
DECEMBER 3, 2014

BRIEFING ON JUDICIARY TOPICS

A.G. Burnett is the Chair of the State Gaming Control Board (SGCB). He was appointed by Governor Brian Sandoval to this role in October 2012. Prior to his chair appointment, he was a member of the SGCB, appointed in January 2011. A.G. currently serves as a trustee and the treasurer for the International Association of Gaming Regulators. Before being appointed to the SGCB, he served as Deputy Chief of the Corporate Securities Division for the SGCB, handling legal matters and overseeing regulatory and investigative activities. Prior to his time on the Board, A.G. served as Senior Deputy Attorney General in the Gaming Division of the Office of the Attorney General and was responsible for litigation matters, disciplinary actions, tax hearings, and disputed licensing matters. He received his Juris Doctor (J.D.) from Gonzaga University School of Law in 1996, and his bachelor of arts degree in international affairs and political science from the University of Nevada, Reno in 1992. A.G. is a member of the State Bar of Nevada and is licensed to practice before all Nevada and federal courts.

J.D. Decker was appointed Administrator of the Real Estate Division, Department of Business and Industry (DBI) in August 2014. He previously served as the Deputy Commissioner for the Compliance and Enforcement investigative units for the DBI. He came to State service after 20 years in private sector investigations and senior management with the Bank of America tasked with anti-crime, anti-terrorism, and risk operations management. Prior to that, J.D. served as the special investigative unit manager for State Farm Insurance, after serving in the military as a United States Army Special Forces officer. He grew up in California's Napa Valley and graduated from University of California, Berkeley.

Associate Justice James W. Hardesty was elected as a Supreme Court Justice for the Nevada Supreme Court in November 2004 and served as Chief Justice in 2009. Prior to his election, he served as District Court Judge for the Second Judicial District Court of Washoe County, Reno, Nevada, service as Chief Judge of the Second Judicial Court from November 2001 until he was elected to the Nevada Supreme Court. He also served as president of the Nevada District Judges Association in 2003. As a District Court Judge and a Nevada Supreme Court Justice, he has served on various Supreme Court commissions and task forces. He was in private practice from 1975 through 1998 receiving the highest rating by Martindale-Hubbell, a nationally recognized publication of lawyer ratings. He obtained his J.D. from the University of the Pacific McGeorge School of Law and a bachelor of Science degree in accounting from the University of Nevada, Reno.

Stephanie Heying has been a Court Services Analyst with the Administrative Office of the Courts since 2008. She is the project coordinator for the Commission on Preservation, Access, and Sealing of Court Records; the Commission on Statewide Juvenile Justice Reform; and the various subcommittees. Stephanie holds a State of Nevada insurance license. She received her bachelor of arts in criminal justice from the University of Nevada,

C.J. Manthe has served as the Administrator of the Housing Division within the DBI since May 2014. Prior to her appointment, she gained over 25 years of management experience in the public and private sectors. For the past ten years, C.J. worked as the Chief Financial Officer for the Nevada Rural Housing Authority (NRHA) and Deputy Director, prior to that. During her tenure at NRHA, she developed expertise in affordable housing programs, tax-exempt bonds, taxable forward market funding, and mortgage credit certificates. C.J. has also served in leadership roles at nonprofit organizations including the American Red Cross and Guide Dogs for the Blind. She earned a bachelor's degree in managerial accounting from the University of Wisconsin. C.J. is a member of the National Council of State Housing Agencies and is a certified public accountant.

John McCormick has been employed since 2006 by the Administrative Office of the Courts. He is currently the Assistant Court Administrator and previously served as the Rural Courts Coordinator. John has acted as a legislative liaison for the judicial branch during the past four Nevada legislative sessions. He is a third generation native Nevadan and interned for former U.S. Senator Richard Bryan in 1999. John received his bachelor of arts degree in political science in 2001 from Lewis and Clark College in Portland, Oregon.

Thomas A. Wilczek, Esquire is the liaison for Nevada's defense and aerospace industry, with the Governor's Office of Economic Development. He possesses greater than 25 years of experience in defense, energy, environmental, aerospace, and construction law; management; and engineering matters. Thomas supported numerous mission-critical programs for the U.S. Department of Energy, U.S. Department of Defense, National Nuclear Security Administration, and regional and local governments. He represented the Office of Energy in the advancement of renewable energy bills in the Nevada Legislature and was a registered lobbyist in previous legislative sessions. Thomas has a license to practice before the Nevada and Nebraska courts, the Nevada Federal District Court, and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit. Thomas is a charter class graduate of the William S. Boyd School of Law at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, and possesses a masters of environmental science degree from the University of Colorado and bachelor of science degree from Michigan State University.

Patrick Guinan has been a Principal Research Analyst with the Research Division of the Legislative Counsel Bureau (LCB) since 2002. He began his LCB career with the Constituent Services Unit and has since served as primary staff to several session and interim committees including Transportation, Elections, Government Affairs, High-Level Radioactive Waste, and Child Welfare and Juvenile Justice. Patrick was born in Reno and is a second generation Nevadan. He received his bachelor of arts in English literature from the University of Nevada, Reno, and his master of arts in the same field from San Francisco State University.

Diane C. Thornton is a Senior Research Analyst with the Research Division of the (LCB). She started with the Research Division in 2002. In 2007, she moved to Boulder, Colorado, and recently returned to the LCB in 2013. Her committee assignments have included the Assembly Committee on Commerce and Labor, High-Level Radioactive Waste, Telecommunication Services, and the Legislative Committee for the Review and Oversight of the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency and the Marlette Lake Water System. She received both her bachelor and master degree in economics from Clemson University in South Carolina.