



Attorney

Chelsea Latino

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Direct: 775.326.4356 | Fax: 775.788.2020

Areas of Practice

Commercial & Complex Litigation

Appellate

Employment & Labor Law

Bar Admissions

California

Nevada

Education

J.D., cum laude, William S. Boyd School of Law, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

B.A., magna cum laude, Criminal Justice, University of Nevada, Reno

Offices

LAS VEGAS

2300 West Sahara Avenue, Suite 1200
Las Vegas, NV 89102
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RENO

100 West Liberty Street, Tenth Floor
Reno, NV 89501
P: 775.788.2000 F: 775.788.2020

mcdonaldcarano.com

Professional Background

Chelsea Latino is an associate in the firm's Commercial & Complex Litigation, Appellate, and Employment & Labor Law practice groups. She represents clients from a variety of industries such as healthcare, gaming and hospitality, mining, construction, real estate development, and manufacturing, and regularly serves as local counsel for out-of-state firms in Nevada's state and federal courts.

Chelsea is a skilled legal writer and advocate, with a comprehensive understanding of procedural issues and rules, and long-range strategic sensibilities. Her commercial litigation experience covers a variety of issues in state and federal court, including contractual disputes, commercial torts, insurance coverage, products liability, shareholder litigation, and complex business disputes. She regularly handles employment-related litigation involving discrimination, wage and hour, and wrongful termination claims, in addition to advising clients on employment decisions, policies and procedures, and employee handbooks. Chelsea further focuses her practice on appellate law, frequently representing clients in appeals before Nevada's appellate courts and the Ninth Circuit, as well as administrative and trial-court level appeals in bankruptcy and land-use and planning matters.

Prior to joining the firm, Chelsea clerked for the Honorable Justice Mark Gibbons of the Nevada Supreme Court. She received her undergraduate degree from the University of Nevada, Reno, and her J.D. from UNLV's Boyd School of Law, where she was a judicial extern to the Honorable Judge Andrew Gordon of the U.S. District Court, District of Nevada, managing editor of the Nevada Law Journal, and president of the appellate moot court competition team. Chelsea also received numerous honors for her work during law school, including CALI Awards for the highest grade in pretrial litigation and each of her legal research and writing courses; Dean's Award for her contributions to the law school; SCRIBES Award from the Society for Legal Writers for her outstanding legal writing; and Pro Bono High Honors Award for her completion of over 100 hours of pro bono work.

Chelsea continues to dedicate her practice to serving the community through frequent pro bono work. She also currently serves as an at-large member for the Appellate Litigation Section of the State Bar of Nevada and treasurer for the Nevada Chapter of the Federal Bar Association.



Publications

- "The Virtual Raise It or Waive It: Preserving an Accurate Appellate Record of Remote Trial Court Proceedings," Nevada Lawyer, June 2021

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Awards and Recognition

- *Nevada Business Magazine* “Legal Elite” and “Best Up & Coming Attorneys” (2019-2021)
- *Super Lawyers Magazine* “Mountain States Rising Star” – Appellate, Business Litigation, Employment Litigation (2021)

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Partner

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Areas of Practice

Trust & Estates

Tax Law

Business Entities &
Transactions

Trust, Estate & Fiduciary
Litigation

Bar Admissions

Nevada

Utah

Education

LL.M., Taxation, University of
Florida, Levin College of Law,
2003

J.D., Brigham Young University,
J. Reuben Clark Law School,
2002

B.S., Accounting, Southern
Utah University, 1998

Professional Background

Mr. Noble joined McDonald Carano in 2003 after earning a Master of Laws (LL.M.) in taxation at the University of Florida, Levin College of Law. Prior to earning his LL.M., Mr. Noble earned a Juris Doctor degree from Brigham Young University, graduating magna cum laude, and a Bachelor of Science in accounting from Southern Utah University, graduating summa cum laude. Mr. Noble has also served as an intern for the Utah Supreme Court.

Mr. Noble's practice focuses on federal income, gift, estate and generation skipping tax planning; state and local sales, use and transfer taxation; and corporate law and business transactions including entity formation, trust administration and estate planning. Mr. Noble also has experience in legal matters pertaining to tax-exempt organizations.



Awards and Recognition

- *The Best Lawyers in America*® – Construction Litigation (2021)
- *Vegas Inc.* – “Top Lawyers” in Transactional/Probate (2020)
- *Super Lawyers Magazine* – “Mountain States Rising Star” in Business/Corporate, Tax/Business, Estate Planning and Probate (2013, 2014)

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Partner

Dennis Gutwald

dgutwald@mcdonaldcarano.com

Office: 702.873.4100 | Direct: 702.257.4517

Areas of Practice

Gaming & Administrative Law

Bar Admissions

Nevada

Education

J.D., UNLV William S. Boyd School of Law, 2003

B.S., University of Nevada, Las Vegas, 1986

Professional Background

Dennis Gutwald is a Partner in McDonald Carano's Gaming & Administrative Law Group. He has more than 20 years of experience helping investment companies, banks and other financial institutions, and high-net-worth individuals navigate the multi-jurisdictional gaming law requirements for acquiring equity interest in, or lending to, premier national gaming companies. In his practice, Dennis counsels clients pursuing liquor, land use, and cannabis regulatory approvals both locally and at the state level in Nevada. He has assisted numerous clients in obtaining the requisite gaming and liquor regulatory approvals required for acquisition or ground-up development of many major casino resort hotels and other liquor, gaming, and cannabis businesses.

Dennis spent seven years as a Nevada Gaming Control Board Investigative Agent before becoming a gaming attorney. He provides his clients with unique insight into the inner workings of gaming regulatory agencies and particularly what they look for in a gaming application and how they conduct investigations. He is valued for his seemingly innate ability to skillfully guide clients from start to finish through the application and investigation process, all while establishing trust and rapport with regulators.

Dennis's wealth of experience includes preserving grandfathered liquor and gaming land use entitlements and licenses. His extensive knowledge in this area has allowed many properties throughout the state to preserve grandfathered rights, despite closures lasting many years.

Dennis received his Bachelor of Science in Finance from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, in 1986 and earned his J.D. from the University of Nevada, William S. Boyd School of Law, in 2003. He is an active board member of Keep Memory Alive, a nonprofit organization created to increase awareness and raise funds for the research, diagnosis, and treatment of brain disorders in close affiliation with the Cleveland Clinic Lou Ruvo Center for Brain Health.

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Awards and Recognition

- *The Best Lawyers in America*® – Gaming Law (2021)
- *Vegas Inc.* – “Top Lawyers” in Gaming Law (2020)
- *Nevada Business Magazine* – “Legal Elite” (2017)
- Martindale-Hubbell AV® Preeminent™ Peer Review Rating
- 50 Hours Club, Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada's Pro Bono Project (2010)



Partner

P. Gregory Giordano

ggiordano@mcdonaldcarano.com

Direct Line: 702.257.4513 | Office: 702.873.4100

Areas of Practice

Gaming & Administrative Law

Bar Admissions

Nevada

Court Admissions

U.S. District Court, District of Nevada

U.S. Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit

Supreme Court of California

U.S. District Court, Northern District of California

Education

J.D., Santa Clara University School of Law, 1981

B.S., Business Administration and Accounting, and History, Notre Dame de Namur University, summa cum laude, 1978

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Professional Background

Mr. Giordano served with the Nevada State Gaming Control Board from 1989 to 1993 as the Chief of the Corporate Securities Division. In that position, he oversaw licensing investigations, analysis and monitoring of publicly traded corporations associated with Nevada gaming licensees. These included mergers and acquisitions, public and private financings, and compliance activities of business operations of publicly traded corporations and their subsidiaries. He has also supervised the investigations for approvals and the subsequent monitoring of all gaming activities conducted outside the State of Nevada by Nevada gaming licensees.

Mr. Giordano is ranked in the Chambers USA Guide of leading lawyers in Gaming & Licensing Law in both categories of "Nevada" and "USA-Nationwide." Client references highlight that Mr. Giordano "has a valuable perspective on the practical realities of how investigations work and how to guide clients through the process." "Greg is very knowledgeable, and he has deep experience, good judgment and people skills."

Representative Engagements

- Served as Acting General Counsel and Compliance Officer for the SLS Las Vegas Hotel and Casino
- Represented buyer in obtaining state and local gaming regulatory approvals required in connection with the \$32 million acquisition of a major hotel/casino and its related financing
- Represented buyer in obtaining state and local gaming regulatory approvals required in connection with the \$5 million acquisition of a 50% interest in a small hotel/casino
- Represented buyer in the negotiation and purchase of a small casino for \$8 million and in obtaining state and local gaming regulatory approvals required in connection with its purchase
- Represented hotel/casino borrower in obtaining state gaming regulatory approvals required in connection with its new \$185 million loan to finance an expansion project
- Represented a Nevada publicly traded gaming company for Nevada gaming purposes in connection with two separate financing transactions involving both public offerings and private placements of its debt and equity securities, having a combined value of over \$2 billion
- Represented a consortium of noteholders for Nevada gaming purposes in connection with the default and workout of publicly registered notes issued by a Nevada gaming company

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- Represented underwriter for Nevada gaming purposes in connection with its underwriting of over \$2.4 billion of financing provided to finance the leveraged buyout of a Nevada publicly traded gaming company
- Represented a number of Nevada publicly traded gaming companies in obtaining state gaming regulatory approvals for delayed or continuous public offerings of securities
- Represented a number of institutional investors in obtaining waivers from the Nevada state gaming authorities of shareholder findings of suitability requirements in connection with their ownership of equity securities in Nevada publicly traded gaming companies
- Represented a private equity company in connection with its foreclosure and acquisition of a major hotel/casino
- Represented a private equity company in connection with the filing of applications required to obtain state and local gaming and liquor regulatory approvals necessary to acquire a majority equity interest in a major hotel/casino
- Represented bank/underwriter for Nevada gaming purposes in connection with its underwriting of a \$750 million bond offering by a publicly traded Nevada gaming company
- Represented a Nevada publicly traded gaming company for Nevada gaming purposes in connection with two separate joint venture agreements for the development of new hotel/casinos in the Las Vegas area
- Represented a publicly traded seller for Nevada gaming purposes in the \$2.1 billion sale of its hotel/casinos to a privately held company
- Represented Nevada publicly traded gaming company buyer in obtaining state and local gaming regulatory approvals required in connection with two separate, strategic acquisitions of other Nevada publicly traded gaming companies having a combined value of \$14.3 billion

International Gaming

- Represented an Asian-based private equity company in acquiring a Las Vegas resort/casino.
- Represented a Swiss company and a United Kingdom company in connection with their obtaining Nevada gaming licenses and regulatory approvals for each to operate casino-resorts in Nevada
- Represented a United Kingdom-based institutional investor in connection with it obtaining a waiver from the usual Nevada gaming finding of suitability requirements as a large shareholder of a publicly traded Nevada gaming company
- Represented a Canadian company in connection with its application for a finding of suitability as a large shareholder of a publicly traded Nevada gaming company
- Represents an Australian-headquartered manufacturer and distributor of gaming devices concerning various Nevada gaming regulatory and compliance matters
- Assisted in the representation of a Japanese manufacturer and distributor of gaming devices in connection with its Nevada gaming licensing and registration

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Additional Information

Speaking Engagements

- IMGL Spring Conference Panel Presentation, “Sports Betting: Lessons the USA Can Learn from Europe” – March 28, 2019
- 26th Executive Development Program, “Government, Regulation & Compliance Roundtable Panel,” – Nov. 16, 2016
- IMGL Autumn Conference Panel Presentation on AML in Europe, US and Asia in Dublin, Ireland – Oct. 25, 2016
- ABA 20th Annual Gaming Law Minefield Nat’l Institute Panel Presentation, “What is Gambling?” – Feb 22, 2016



Awards and Recognition

- *Chambers USA Guide* – Gaming & Licensing Law/Nevada and Gaming & Licensing Law/USA-Nationwide
- *The Best Lawyers in America*® – Gaming Law
- *Super Lawyers* – Gaming, Administrative Law



Professional Associations

- Chair, ABA Solo, Small Firm and General Practice Division – Gaming Law Committee

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Senior Counsel
James W. Bradshaw

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Areas of Practice

Commercial & Complex
Litigation

Construction Law & Litigation

Bar Admissions

California

Nevada

Education

J.D., University of the Pacific
McGeorge School of Law,
1981

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Professional Background

Mr. Bradshaw practices in the litigation, construction law, and employment groups of the firm. He has been elected by his peers to the Nevada State Bar's board of governors since 2002. He served as a board member and chairman of the Northern Nevada Disciplinary Panel for nine years. Before joining the firm in Reno in 1982, he served a judicial clerkship in the Second Judicial District Court of the State of Nevada. Born and raised in Reno, Mr. Bradshaw is a fifth-generation Nevadan. He launched the firm's Las Vegas office in 1986 and was the Las Vegas managing partner until 1992, when he returned to Reno to raise his family.

Military Service

In addition to his career as an attorney, Mr. Bradshaw dedicated more than 24 years of service to the United States Air Force and the Nevada Air National Guard. He retired in 1995 as a Lieutenant Colonel. Mr. Bradshaw is the recipient of the Distinguished Flying Cross and Air Medals for service during Operation Desert Storm. He is a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Air National Guard Retirees Association, and the National Security Forum.

Areas of Experience

Mr. Bradshaw is experienced in representing business clients in Nevada and California's state and federal courts and government agencies. He has represented clients in the insurance, banking, construction, hotel and gaming, real estate, marketing, mining, electronics, and manufacturing industries. His practice includes all aspects of litigation, along with conflict resolution and risk management. In addition to traditional tort and commercial litigation, Mr. Bradshaw has experience in litigation involving insurance law, intellectual property, unfair trade practices, restrictive covenants, fraudulent transfers, and breach of fiduciary duties.

Representative Engagements

- A.C. Houston Lumber Company
- Acadia Medical Group
- The Boyd Group
- Brown & Brown Insurance
- California Franchise Tax Board
- Century Surety Company
- Degussa Corporation
- Eldorado Hotel Casino
- Employers Insurance Company of Nevada

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- H&E Equipment Services, Inc.
- Hamilton Company, Inc.
- J.M. Keckler Medical Company, Inc.
- Marsh USA, Inc.
- Nevada State Bank
- Primadonna Company
- Redi Services LLC
- Scolari's Warehouse Markets, Inc.
- Suburban Propane
- Summit Contractors, Inc.
- Transwestern General Agency
- Washington Group International



Awards and Recognition

- *Super Lawyers Magazine* “Mountain States Super Lawyer” – Construction Litigation, Business Litigation (2008-2021)
- *The Best Lawyers in America*® “Lawyer of the Year” – Construction Litigation (2021)
- Martindale-Hubbell AV® Preeminent™ Peer Review Rated



Community Engagement

- Member of the Board of Governors, Nevada State Bar (2002–12)
- Board member and chairman, Northern Nevada Disciplinary Panel (until 2002)
- Member of the Board of Trustees, Nevada Bar Foundation

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Partner

Jeff Silvestri

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Areas of Practice

Appellate
 Commercial & Complex
 Litigation
 Gaming & Administrative Law
 Trust, Estate & Fiduciary
 Litigation

Bar Admissions

California
 Nevada

Court Admissions

U.S. District Courts in Eastern,
 Northern, Southern and
 Central California
 U.S. Court of Appeals, Ninth
 Circuit
 U.S. Supreme Court

Education

J.D., University of San Diego,
 School of Law
 M.B.A., University of North
 Carolina, Kenan-Flagler
 Business School
 University of Kent at
 Canterbury
 B.A., Political Science,
 University of California, Los
 Angeles

Professional Background

Jeff Silvestri served as Managing Partner of McDonald Carano from 2016 to 2020 and is a current co-chair of the Appellate Practice Group. In 2020, The Best Lawyers in America® honored Jeff with the Las Vegas “Lawyer of the Year” award in Appellate Law.

Jeff concentrates his practice on commercial and complex litigation and administrative law, and he has tried numerous cases before the state and federal courts in Nevada and California. His complex commercial dispute experience includes cases involving contract disputes, business entity ownership and dissolution, regulatory actions, and other business related disputes. In addition to his trial court work, Jeff has briefed and argued numerous appellate cases before the Nevada Supreme Court and the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals.

In addition to handling all aspects of appeals, starting from post-judgment motion practice in the trial court through issuance of the appellate court mandate, Jeff also handles writ petitions, provides trial court support and analysis, assists other counsel in the appeal process, drafts amicus curiae briefs, and represents clients in proceedings before regulatory agencies, municipal and county governing entities, professional disciplinary boards and in the judicial review process that may follow.

In January 2016, Jeff was selected for the role of Managing Partner of McDonald Carano because of his business acumen and leadership capabilities, traits he frequently employs in his role as trusted advisor, strategist, and outside general counsel and business strategist for mid-market companies. Mr. Silvestri earned his MBA at University of North Carolina, Kenan-Flagler Business School. During his tenure as Managing Partner, the Firm grew and continued building upon its strong traditions and foundations. Jeff is strategic, thoughtful, and realized a vision of growth for the Firm focused on building and maintaining productive client relationships, understanding clients’ needs, enhancing the value of the Firm’s services through improved business operations, and attracting and retaining a diverse group of top-tier legal talent. With Jeff—a native Las Vegas—at the helm, the Firm capitalized on its strong history of relationships throughout Nevada. Those productive relationships, along with the Firm’s deep experience and familiarity with the state’s judicial and business environments, further solidified McDonald Carano’s position as the go-to law firm for clients—whatever their legal or business needs might involve.

Before joining McDonald Carano, Jeff served as a law clerk to the Honorable Robert E. Rose, Chief Justice of the Nevada Supreme Court.

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Publications

- Contributing author and editor, *Nevada Appellate Practice Manual 1st Edition*



Awards and Recognition

- *The Best Lawyers in America*® “Lawyer of the Year” – Appellate Practice (2020)
- *The Best Lawyers in America*® – Appellate Practice, Commercial Litigation (2020)
- *Mountain States Super Lawyers Magazine* – Appellate, Business Litigation, Administrative Law (“Super Lawyer” 2010-2021, “Rising Star” 2008)
- *Nevada Business Magazine* – “Legal Elite” (2013, 2017)

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Senior Counsel
John Frankovich

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Areas of Practice

Commercial & Complex
Litigation

Real Estate & Land Use

Appellate

Bar Admissions

California

Nevada

Court Admissions

U.S. Court of Appeals, Ninth
Circuit

Education

J.D., University of California,
Los Angeles

B.S., Mathematics, Stanford
University

Professional Background

Mr. Frankovich's practice focuses principally on real property development and transactions, litigation, and public utilities law. He joined McDonald Carano in 1973 after two years with the Washoe County district attorney's office. He is admitted to practice in state and federal courts in Nevada and California, including the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals.

Mr. Frankovich has represented a number of major real estate development projects in Northern Nevada in connection with acquisitions, entitlements, financing, and sales. He also handles commercial litigation, including bench and jury trials involving business and commercial disputes over, among other things, construction, real estate transactions, employment law, and condemnation.



Publications

- Co-author: *Major Land Use Laws in Nevada*



Awards and Recognition

- *The Best Lawyers in America*® – "Lawyer of the Year" (Real Estate Law and Real Estate Litigation)
- *The Best Lawyers in America*® (Real Estate Law and Real Estate Litigation)
- Chambers USA; Chambers USA 2017, 2018 (Real Estate Law)
- *Super Lawyers* – Real Estate, Land Use/Zoning, Business Litigation, Utilities
- Martindale-Hubbell AV® Peer Review Rated



Community Engagement

- Member of the board of directors, Recreational Enterprises, Inc., (operating company for the Eldorado Hotel Casino)
- Member, Economic Development Authority of Western Nevada
- Member, PackPAWS Advisory Board (affiliated with the University of Nevada to promote women's intercollegiate athletics)
- Member, Reno High School Alumni Association

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