



Partner

JOSHUA J. HICKS

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PHONE 775.788.2000

Areas of Practice

Government Affairs
& Advocacy; Tax Law

Bar Admissions

Nevada
California

Court Admissions

U.S. Supreme Court
U.S. Court of Appeals,
Ninth Circuit

Education

J.D., Santa Clara University
School of Law, 1998

B.A., Santa Clara University,
History, 1995

Offices

LAS VEGAS
2300 West Sahara Avenue, Suite 1200
Las Vegas, NV 89102
P: 702.873.4100 F: 702.873.9966

RENO
100 West Liberty Street, Tenth Floor
Reno, NV 89501
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mcdonaldcarano.com

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Josh Hicks leads McDonald Carano's Government Affairs and Advocacy Group. He represents clients before the Nevada Legislature, local governments and state government agencies, and advises on all aspects of Nevada campaign finance and election law, including ballot initiatives. Josh is also a member of the Firm's Tax Law Group and provides counsel on local jurisdiction tax matters ranging from tax planning to litigated tax controversies.

Before joining McDonald Carano, Josh was a shareholder at a national law firm, as well as Chief of Staff to Governor Jim Gibbons and as General Counsel and Deputy Chief of Staff to the Governor of Nevada. Prior to his work in the Governor's Office, Josh was Senior Deputy Attorney General in the Nevada Attorney General's Office, where he represented the Nevada Department of Taxation, the Nevada Tax Commission and the Nevada Secretary of State.

A fourth-generation Nevadan, Josh and his family reside in Reno.

REPRESENTATIVE ENGAGEMENTS

Josh has served as lead counsel on several legal and legislative accomplishments. He has been the lead advocate on several pieces of key legislation in Nevada, including:

- Reform of Nevada construction defect laws
- Sales tax exemption on durable medical equipment and oxygen delivery equipment
- Nevada property tax reform
- Data privacy
- Employment background checks
- Tax abatements for NFL caliber stadium in Las Vegas
- Nevada contracts and procurement
- Pro-solar renewable energy incentives
- Streamlining construction rules and building codes
- Public records
- Business licensing
- Live entertainment tax
- Economic development abatements and incentives
- Blockchain technology in the financial sector

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REPRESENTATIVE CLIENTS

Josh has represented clients throughout a wide variety of industries in Nevada and beyond. His representative clients include:

- Microsoft
- Oakland Raiders
- Nevada Homebuilders Association
- Southern Nevada Homebuilders Association
- Builders Association of Northern Nevada
- Retail Association of Northern Nevada
- Consumer Data Industry Association
- C&S Waste
- First Solar
- Figure Technologies
- Public Employees Retirement System
- Streamlink Software
- Lennar Homes

Josh has argued cases in front of various Nevada District Courts, the Nevada Supreme Court, the United States District Court for the District of Nevada, the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Nevada, and the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. He has been the lead counsel on several published cases and numerous unpublished cases. Published cases include:

- *Malecon Tobacco v. Department of Taxation*, 118 Nev. 837 (2002)
- *Meridian Gold v. Department of Taxation*, 119 Nev. 630 (2003)
- *Department of Taxation v. Daimler-Chrysler*, 121 Nev. 541 (2005)
- *Herbst Gaming v. Heller*, 122 Nev. 877 (2006)
- *Nevadans for the Protection of Property Rights v. Heller*, 122 Nev. 894 (2006)
- *Nevadans for Nevada v. Beers*, 122 Nev. 930 (2006)
- *The Education Initiative PAC v. Committee to Protect Nevada Jobs*, 129 Nev. Adv. Op. 5 (Jan. 31, 2013)

Publications

American Bar Association Property Tax Deskbook – Nevada: Co-Author

American Bar Association Sales Tax Deskbook – Nevada: Co-Author

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AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS

The Best Lawyers in America® – Government Relations Practice



COMMUNITY SERVICE

Board Member, Nevada Taxpayers Association

Board Member, Reno-Tahoe Open Foundation

President, Catamount Fund

Volunteer, Maison T. Ortiz Youth Outdoor Skills Camp