



*Of Counsel*  
**THOMAS SHEETS**

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PHONE 702.873.4100 FAX 702.873.9966

**Areas of Practice**

Energy, Environment & Natural Resources; Tax Law; Commercial & Complex Litigation

**Bar Admissions**

Nevada  
Ohio  
Texas

**Education**

J.D., University of Toledo College of Law, 1975

Bachelor of Arts,  
Ashland College, 1973

**Offices**

**LAS VEGAS**

2300 West Sahara Avenue, Suite 1200  
Las Vegas, Nevada 89102  
P: 702.873.4100 F: 702.873.9966

**RENO**

100 West Liberty Street, 10th Floor  
Reno, Nevada 89501  
P: 775.788.2000 F: 775.788.2020

[mcdonaldcarano.com](http://mcdonaldcarano.com)

**PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND**

Mr. Sheets is of counsel in the Las Vegas office. His professional background includes more than 35 years of legal practice with substantial experience in the energy industry. He recently served as General Counsel of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission in Washington, DC. Mr. Sheets held the position of Senior Vice President and General Counsel of Southwest Gas Corporation for 24 years. He also served as a Senior Attorney with Texas Eastern Corporation, an interstate natural gas pipeline, and Staff Counsel at the Public Service Commission of Nevada. Early in his career, Mr. Sheets held Senior Attorney positions with Sierra Pacific Resources and Toledo Edison Company, both combination electric and gas utilities.

**AREAS OF EXPERIENCE**

***Energy, Environmental & Natural Resource Law***

As General Counsel of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Mr. Sheets provided legal advice, analysis, legislative testimony and support, and proposed policy direction. The position afforded significant exposure to all facets of renewable energy development.

Mr. Sheets served as Senior Officer and General Counsel of the fifth largest stand-alone local distribution gas utility in the United States. He and his team were responsible for the corporation's legal and regulatory representation, contracts, insurance, and workers compensation.

***Tax Law***

Mr. Sheets served as Chairman of the Nevada Tax Commission for six years and gained a detailed familiarity with Nevada's system of taxation, and the tax issues and policies affecting local governmental entities.

***Commercial & Complex Litigation***

Mr. Sheets has 35 years of commercial litigation experience, trying cases as lead counsel and managing complex commercial litigation activities.

***Alternative Dispute Resolution***

Mr. Sheets has served as a neutral of the American Arbitration Association since 1978. Cases have included complex construction contract disputes, energy disputes and general corporate disputes.

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## **AWARDS/RECOGNITION**

Martindale Hubbell AV Peer Review Rated



## **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

Member, American Arbitration Association / International Centre for Dispute Resolution (AAA / ICDR) North American Energy Advisory Committee

Member, Energy Bar Association Alternative Dispute Resolution Committee

Member, Nevada State Bar Professionalism Committee

Former President, Clark County Bar Association

Former Chair, Clark County Law Foundation

Former Member, American Arbitration Association Energy Advisory Committee

Former Member, Nevada State Bar Judicial Ethics and Elections Committee

Former Co-Chair, Nevada State Bar Administrative Law Committee

Former Chair, Nevada Tax Commission

Former Member, Nevada Public Radio Board of Directors

Former Member, UNLV Statewide Law School Advisory Panel

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