



A.G. Burnett, Partner

agburnett@mcdonaldcarano.com

O: 775-788-2000

Area of Practice

Gaming & Administrative Law

Bar Admission

Nevada

Education

- J.D., Gonzaga University School of Law, 1996
- B.A., University of Nevada, International Affairs and Political Science, 1992

A.G. Burnett is Chair of McDonald Carano's Gaming & Administrative Law Practice. For nearly 20 years he served as a gaming regulator before joining McDonald Carano in 2018. A.G. clerked at McDonald Carano during law school. Due to his extensive experience working in and with regulatory agencies in Nevada and throughout the world, he is uniquely positioned to advise regulatory agencies, federal agencies and others in meeting and crafting regulatory standards, as well as represent gaming industry individuals, businesses, and investors, including those in the rapidly developing areas of sports betting and Esports, in navigating regulatory requirements in Nevada and across international borders. Mr. Burnett also assists companies with compliance programs and obligations.

Prior to joining McDonald Carano, Mr. Burnett was a member of the Nevada Gaming Control Board (NGCB) since January 2011. Governor Brian Sandoval appointed A.G. to serve as Chairman in November 2012 and reappointed him in January 2015. A.G. served as Chairman from 2012 through 2017 and as a member of the Governor's Gaming Policy Committee. During his service as Chairman of the NGCB, Mr. Burnett was the State's primary representative before the Nevada Legislature on matters pertaining to the gaming industry and was also responsible for negotiation and oversight of compacts with sovereign tribal organizations having gaming operations in Nevada. Prior to serving as NGCB Chairman and as a Member of the NGCB, Mr. Burnett was employed by the NGCB as Deputy Chief of the NGCB's Corporate Securities Division where he oversaw regulatory and investigative activities concerning publicly traded companies and lenders involved in the gaming industry. During his service at NGCB, he worked extensively with regulators of other gaming jurisdictions on matters of shared interest relating to the gaming industry and its growth throughout the world.

Prior to his employment with the NGCB, Mr. Burnett served as Senior Deputy Nevada Attorney General representing the NGCB, the Nevada Gaming Commission, and the Nevada Commission on Sports. During that time, he handled litigation matters on behalf of Nevada's regulatory authorities including disciplinary actions, tax disputes, and disputed licensing matters. From 2012 to 2015, he served as a Trustee and the Treasurer for the International Association of Gaming

Regulators. He also serves as a member of the William S. Boyd School of Law Gaming Law Advisory Board. For six years, Mr. Burnett also served on the Executive Committee of the State Bar of Nevada's Gaming Law Section.

Mr. Burnett provided testimony before the Nevada State Legislature and the U.S. Congress, and before the U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission regarding gaming in Asia. He spoke extensively in U.S. and international venues about gaming regulation, regulatory compliance, drafting legislation, and cooperation among worldwide gaming authorities. Mr. Burnett has also served in an advisory and consulting role to the American Gaming Association, specifically regarding the legalization and regulation of gaming and sports betting throughout the U.S. He provided strategic guidance to the AGA and its stakeholders such as state and federal legislators and regulators.

Mr. Burnett currently serves as Nevada Gaming Counsel (and advises regarding other matters including gaming policy and lobbying assistance, gaming licensing in other jurisdictions, mergers and acquisitions, and employment matters) and/or serves as an independent member of the Regulatory and Compliance Committee of gaming companies based in Australia, Japan, Korea, Slovenia, the United Kingdom, and the United States. Mr. Burnett served as Nevada Gaming Counsel to Hard Rock International in its December 13, 2021 agreement to acquire the operations of The Mirage Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas for \$1.075 billion.

Mr. Burnett is ranked in the highest Band I category in Gaming & Licensing Law in *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business* and has received three "Lawyer of the Year" awards in Gaming Law from *The Best Lawyers in America* in 2020, 2023 and 2025. Clients describe Mr. Burnett to *Chambers* researchers as "a very professional and experienced partner." "As a former regulator, he has gravitas and credibility." "A.G. has a very broad knowledge of all things gaming. He is one of the best attorneys I have ever worked with." "A.G. has fantastic experience in compliance and great relationships with regulators." "He is very knowledgeable and is always responding to legislative changes." "He has tremendous knowledge of the gaming arena." "He's got unbelievable insight into the gaming regulatory world." "He has a great network within the gaming regulatory community, and he uniquely understands how regulators think." "A.G. knows the regulatory landscape incredibly well, and he's very smart, responsive and ethical." "A dynamic team player who strives for win/win solutions to complex problems." "He is incredibly knowledgeable and has expertise in gaming law." "He comes up with practical solutions for complicated problems." "A.G. is an excellent lawyer." "Mr. Burnett is very capable, especially regarding the licensing process."

Professional Affiliations

- Independent Member, Board of Directors, Resorts World Las Vegas LLC
- Member, Compliance Committee, Boomer's Sportsbook
- Member, Board of Directors, GBank Financial Holdings Inc.
- Member, Nevada Advisory Committee, U.S. Global Leadership Coalition

- Member, International Masters of Gaming Law
- Member, International Association of Gaming Advisors (former member of Board of Trustees, former member of Regulator Relations Committee, former Chair of Governance Committee)
- Member, Gaming Law Advisory Board, UNLV William S. Boyd School of Law

Awards and Recognition

- *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business* – Gaming & Licensing Law/Nevada (Band 1 in 2023-2026, Band 2 in 2022, Band 3 in 2021)
- *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business* – Gaming & Licensing Law/U.S.-Nationwide (Band 1 in 2025-2026, Band 2 in 2023-2024, Band 3 in 2021-2022)
- *The Best Lawyers in America* – “Lawyer of the Year” in Gaming Law (2020, 2023, 2025)
- *The Best Lawyers in America* – “Lawyer of the Year” in Administrative & Regulatory Law (2025)
- *The Best Lawyers in America* – Gaming Law (2020-2026)
- *The Best Lawyers in America* – Administrative & Regulatory Law (2022-2026)
- *Business Today* – Top 10 Influential Nevada Gaming & Licensing Lawyers (2023)
- *Nevada Business Magazine* – “Legal Elite/Top Rank Attorneys” (2023)
- *Lawyer Monthly*, Legal Awards 2021, Gaming Law Lawyer of the Year USA (2021)
- International Masters of Gaming Law – “Outstanding Achievement Award for the Americas” (2018)

Community Involvement

- Member, Board of Directors, Northern Nevada HOPES
- Member, Nevada Governor Lombardo's Tourism, Gaming & Sports Working Committee

Interviews and Publications

- Quoted, “[A decade after Nevada fought daily fantasy companies, it's deja vu with Kalshi,](#)” *Indy Gaming/The Nevada Independent*, March 25, 2026
- Quoted, “[Thailand blazes new regulatory trail,](#)” *iGaming Business*, October 10, 2024
- Interview, “[Gaming Industry Outlook,](#)” *Nevada Newsmakers*, August 2, 2022
- Author, “[Nevada Changes Restricted Gaming License Requirements for Individuals,](#)” McDonald Carano Client Alert, February 28, 2022
- Quoted, “[Is Nevada The ‘Gold Standard’ For Casino Coronavirus Response?,](#) *Las Vegas Review-Journal*, July 6, 2020
- Quoted, “[Nevada Regulation Changes on Sexual Harassment Reporting Start March 1,](#)” *CDC Gaming Reports*, February 24, 2020
- Interview, “[Former gaming regulator A.G. Burnett on sports betting, industry trends,](#)” *Las Vegas Sun*, September 16, 2020

- Quoted, “[Sports & Betting Legislation to Watch in 2020](#),” *Law360*, January 1, 2020
- Quoted, “[Former Gaming Regulator Says Nevada Is and Must Remain as the ‘Tip of the Spear’](#),” *CDC Gaming Reports*, April 18, 2019
- Quoted, “[The Differences Between Black and Gray Gambling Markets](#),” *PlayUSA*, April 17, 2019
- Quoted, “[DOJ’s Wire Act Reversal Disregards Existence of Effective State Regulation](#),” *The Nevada Independent*, January 27, 2019
- Quoted, “[Hottest Topic at G2E is the Expansion of Sports Wagering](#),” *Las Vegas Review Journal*, October 13, 2018
- Quoted, “States Still Best Equipped to Regulate Sports Betting, Officials Say,” *Gambling Compliance*, October 3, 2018
- Interview, “[The future of sports betting: Interview with AG Burnett – Pt II](#),” *World Casino News*, May 30, 2018
- Interview, “[The future of sports betting: Interview with AG Burnett – Pt I](#),” *World Casino News*, May 29, 2018
- Interview, “[A.G. Burnett Reflects On Career In Gaming Regulation](#),” *KNPR*, January 5, 2018
- Interview, [GGB Podcast](#), *Global Gaming Business*, May 24, 2017
- Quoted, “[Nevada Gaming Control Board chairman Burnett leaving post](#),” *Las Vegas Review Journal*, December 11, 2017