



Kelci S. Binau, Associate

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Areas of Practice

Gaming & Administrative Law
Business Entities & Transactions
Trust & Estates

Bar Admissions

Nevada, California

Education

- J.D., With Great Distinction, University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law, with Tax & Business Concentration
- Master of Education in Elementary Education, University of Nevada, Reno
- B.A., Speech Communication, Minor in Women's Studies, University of Nevada, Reno

Kelci Binau is an attorney in the Gaming & Administrative Law, Business Entities & Transactions, and Trust & Estates Law Practice Groups at McDonald Carano. Kelci serves as Vice Chair of the Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee and Vice Chair of the Associates Committee.

Ms. Binau's Gaming & Administrative Law practice includes experience with Nevada and multi-jurisdictional applications and 50-state gaming surveys concerning contests, sweepstakes and skill games legality. She also assists clients regarding communication with regulatory agencies and boards within the gaming industry. She provides licensing, approval and compliance assistance to companies involved in the development, management, financing, acquisition and restructuring of gaming projects in the casino and on-line gaming markets. Her clients include owners and operators of casinos, on-line/mobile operators, manufacturers of gaming equipment and software, eSports entities, and traditional and non-traditional investors and lenders.

Ms. Binau helps clients obtain and maintain licenses and approvals and provides assistance and guidance throughout all steps in the process, including initial application, investigation and interview, public hearing on suitability, and ongoing obligations to update regulators. She also has experience with waivers or exemptions from licensing requirements on behalf of clients that do not exert the required control over the gaming enterprise. In addition to license applications and compliance issues, Ms. Binau assists clients with commission investigations.

In her corporate law practice, Ms. Binau guides companies with a comprehensive range of commercial transactions involving formation, incorporation, governance, operation, growth and mergers and acquisitions. She has assisted clients with designing their corporate structure, domesticating, merging and converting foreign and domestic entities, and acquiring state and city business licenses. Ms. Binau's clients include publicly traded corporations, privately held businesses and startups in a wide range of industry sectors, including hospitality, entertainment,

technology, education, healthcare, accounting, financial services, retail, manufacturing, and transportation. Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, Ms. Binau assisted entities and individuals in navigating the complex CARES Act and American Rescue Plan Act, including regulations for various government assistance programs such as the Paycheck Protection Program.

Additionally, Ms. Binau has experience with the foundational elements of Trust and Estate Planning with an emphasis on asset protection and wealth preservation, fiduciary and beneficiary representation, foundation and tax-exempt organization initiatives, gaming trusts and generation-skipping, gift and income tax planning.

Awards and Recognition

- *The Best Lawyers in America* – Gaming Law (2024)
- *The Best Lawyers in America* – Administrative and Regulatory Law (2022-2024)
- *Northern Nevada Business Weekly*, Best In Business awards – 1st Place “Up & Coming Business Person” (2023)
- *CDC Gaming Reports* – 10 Women Rising in Gaming Under 40 (2023)
- Nevada Women’s Fund – Women of Achievement Honoree (2023)

Presentations and Publications

- Quoted, “Nevada Gaming Control Board Site May Have Been Hacked,” *Bonus.com*, January 29, 2024
- Author, “New Cybersecurity Regulations from the Nevada Gaming Commission,” *Communiqué* magazine, Clark County Bar Association publication, November 2023
- Roundtable Leader, Sip & Social event hosted by Global Gaming Women, Global Gaming Expo, October 12, 2023
- Presenter, “Self-regulation for Emerging Gaming Verticals, including Esports”, International Masters of Gaming Law Spring Conference, April 26-28, 2023
- Presenter, “The Future of eSports in Nevada’s Gaming Industry: Betting on the Next Generation”, Gaming Law Conference 2022, Gaming Law Section of the State Bar of Nevada, November 18, 2022
- Author, “Recent Leadership and Position Changes within the Nevada Gaming Control Board,” *Nevada Gaming Lawyer*, September 2022
- Author, “Nevada Changes Restricted Gaming License Requirements for Individuals,” *McDonald Carano Legal Update*, June 1, 2022
- Contributor, Washoe County Bar Association’s Millennial Minute column

Professional Associations

- Member, International Masters of Gaming Law
- Member, International Association of Gaming Advisors
- General Counsel, Global Gaming Women (term began January 1, 2024)

- Member, Global Gaming Women: (1) Moderator of a Mentorship/Career Development Lean-In Circle and (2) Communications and Content Liaison for the Marketing Committee
- Member, Northern Nevada Women Lawyers Association
- Member, Washoe County Bar Association
- Member, Clark County Bar Association
- Member, State Bar of Nevada
- Member, State Bar of California

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