

**COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL SELECTION
APPLICATION
EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT
DEPARTMENT 11**

By

Adam Ganz



**SECTION I: PUBLIC INFORMATION
(QUESTIONS 1 THROUGH 47)**

Personal Information

1. **Full Name:**

Adam Ganz

2. **Have you ever used or been known by any other legal name (including a maiden name)? If so, state name and reason for the name change and years used.**

Yes. Adam Ganz, Sr. My son is a Jr. and for clarity I use Sr. sometimes, although I have not formally changed my name.

3. **Work Address:**

H & P Law
8950 W. Tropicana, Suite #1
Las Vegas, Nevada 89147

4. **How long have you been a continuous resident of Nevada?**

Other than times away from Nevada for school in other states, I have lived in Nevada since 1974. I lived in Pennsylvania, California and Michigan while attending school as outlined in more detail below in Questions 7 & 9.

5. **Age:** 50

(NRS 3.060 states that a district judge must be at least 25 years old.)

Employment History

6. **Using the format provided in Attachment "A" please start with your current employment or most recent employment, self-employment, and periods of unemployment for the 20 years immediately preceding the filing of this Application.**

SEE ATTACHMENT A.

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Educational Background

7. **List names and addresses of high schools, colleges and graduate schools (other than law school) attended; dates of attendance; certificates or degrees awarded; reason for leaving.**

School	Dates of Attendance	Degree	Reason for Leaving
Bonanza High School, Las Vegas, NV	08/86-05/89	High School Diploma	Graduated
Penn State University, Behrend College	09/89-06/90	N/A	Wanted to move back west
UNLV	06/90-08/90	N/A	Moved to California for school
Pasadena City College	08/90-06/91	N/A	Transferred to Cal Poly
California State Polytechnic University, Pomona (Cal Poly Pomona)	1/91-08/93	Bachelor's Degree in Political Science	Graduated
UNLV – 40 Hour Mediation Training	2021	Certificate of Completion	Satisfied all requirements including a practicum

8. **Describe significant high school and college activities including extracurricular activities, positions of leadership, special projects that contributed to the learning experience.**

While in high school, I enjoyed a variety of activities that allowed me to interact with many diverse types of people and groups. I played baseball and football. I also participated in the forensic/debate team and starred as “Eagle Eye Fleagle” in our school’s performance of Lil Abner. I worked various jobs including a dairy clerk at Food 4 Less and delivery person for Metro Pizza. After living in Las Vegas the majority of my life, when I graduated high school and began college at the age of 17, I wanted a change of scenery. I went east for my first year of college. However, the cold weather and distance from home and family led me back to the West Coast where I worked full-time to put myself through undergraduate college without any significant debt. Throughout the spring and summer of 1993, I was a volunteer intern in California State Senator Bill Leonard’s District Office. Also, during this time, I became the store manager of a car audio store in Los Angeles, later a department head at a national electronic department named Silo Department Store, and lastly selling cellular phones for LA Cellular during the initial boom in the cell phone industry. Although very lucrative, working was a means-to-an-end for me; I left the cellular market to pursue my deep-rooted desire to attend law school.

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9. **List names and addresses of law schools attended; degree and date awarded; your rank in your graduating class; if more than one law school attended, explain reason for change.**

School	Dates of Attendance	Degree	Reason for Leaving
Thomas M. Cooley, Law School	01/95-04/96	N/A	Transferred to USD
University of San Diego, School of Law	09/96-05/98	Juris Doctorate	Graduated
Pepperdine Caruso School of Law, Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution	1/2021- Present	L.L.M. in Conflict and Dispute Resolution	Anticipated Summer 2022

10. **Indicate whether you were employed during law school, whether the employment was full-time or part-time, the nature of your employment, the name(s) of your employer(s), and dates of employment.**

Recently I returned to law school at Pepperdine University in pursuit of an LLM degree in Conflict and Dispute Resolution. Currently, I am working as Of Counsel at my former partner's firm, in addition to volunteering as a CAP attorney for the Southern Nevada Legal Aid Center, volunteering at the Neighborhood Justice Center as a mediator, and will soon begin teaching as an adjunct professor at UNLV.

Decades ago, while in my first year of law school, I worked part-time as a computer lab assistant and later as an instructor for Lexis and Westlaw. During the summer in between my first and second year of law school, I did an externship with Judge Lee Gates while working nearly full-time as a food server for Olive Garden. After my second year of law school, I came home to Las Vegas and worked as a summer law clerk for Vannah Costello Canepa Weise and Reidy. I did not work my second and third year of law school as I was focused on my studies.

11. **Describe significant law school activities including offices held, other leadership positions, clinics participated in, and extracurricular activities.**

Although I was doing well at law school in Michigan, making the Dean's list in 1996 and being selected to teach the Torts tutorial to all of the interested first-year students, my law school experience was altered when I met my wife. I decided to move back west again to be close to her, my family (and better weather). Once I transferred to California, I primarily focused on my studies, while regularly traveling back to Las Vegas. My plan was to move back to Las Vegas and start my career and family, so my activities in law school were limited. However, while in my third year of law school at USD, I was certified as a student practitioner and was allowed to appear a couple of times in a variety of California courts under the direct supervision of the programs directing attorney. The cases consisted of

child delinquency hearings and removal issues, in addition to working in the Juvenile Probation Department. This peaked my desire to be a litigation attorney.

Law Practice

12. State the year you were admitted to the Nevada Bar.

I was admitted to the Nevada bar in 1998.

13. Name states (other than Nevada) where you are or were admitted to practice law and your year of admission.

I was admitted to the Arizona bar in 2000.
I was admitted to the New Mexico bar in 2007.

14. Have you ever been suspended, disbarred, or voluntarily resigned from the practice of law in Nevada or any other state? If so, describe the circumstance, dates, and locations.

I have never been suspended or disbarred, but I am currently on inactive status in New Mexico as I have not used that license for years.

15. Estimate what percentage of your work over the last 5 years has involved litigation matters, distinguishing between trial and appellate courts. For judges, answer questions 16-20 for the 5 years directly preceding your appointment or election to the bench.

After the election in 2020, I have transitioned to being a neutral, so I don't currently have an active caseload. However, prior to running for judge, 95% of my practice focuses on litigated matters. While the firm did do pre-litigation, my primary role in the firm is in litigation. The other 5% of my cases are related to appeals that arose from our firms litigated matters.

16. Estimate percentage of time spent on (1) domestic/family and juvenile law matters, (2) civil litigation, (3) criminal matters, and (4) administrative litigation.

- (1) domestic/family and juvenile law matters - <1%
- (2) civil litigation - 99%
- (3) criminal matters - <1%
- (4) administrative litigation - <1%

17. In the past 5 years, what percentage of your litigation matters involved cases set for jury trials vs. non-jury trials?

Again, prior to my current position, nearly 100% of my cases had been set for a jury trial; only 2-3 cases were on a non-jury stack. I can only recall one bench trial going to trial in the last several years.

18. **Give the approximate number of jury cases tried to a conclusion during the past five years with you as lead counsel. Give the approximate number of non-jury cases tried to a decision in the same period.**

My prior firm focused on large, complex injury cases such as premises liability, products liability and commercial vehicle collisions. In the past 5 years prior to me running and COVID, I have been lead counsel on approximately 10 jury trials that have been tried to verdict, and one bench trial. In addition, I have been lead counsel on many other trials that resolve during trial or mis-tried. For example, in one year alone, I was involved in three trials where juries were either picked or close to being seated, but none of the three ultimately made it to a verdict. Sometimes, the cases that don't go to verdict provide insight and experience even beyond those that do.

19. **List courts and counties in any state where you have practiced in the past 5 years.**

Again, in the last 5 years prior to running and COVID, at the trial court level, nearly all of my cases have been in the Eighth Judicial District Court, Clark County Nevada. I tried one case in the Superior Court of Arizona, Pinal County, in those 5 years. I have also appeared in the Second Judicial District, Washoe County, Maricopa County (AZ), Mohave County (AZ) and Federal Court in Nevada and Arizona (the US District Court, District of Nevada and Arizona). Finally, I have appeared in Bankruptcy Court for clients related to State Court matters, in the US Bankruptcy Court's Nevada District.

At the appellate court level, I have appeared in front of the new Nevada Court of Appeals, the Nevada Supreme Court, the Court of Appeals in Arizona, the Arizona Supreme Court, and in the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, San Francisco, although not since the pandemic began.

20. **List by case name and date the five cases of most significance to you (not including cases pending in which you have been involved), and list or describe:**
- a. **case name and date,**
 - b. **court and presiding judge and all counsel**
 - c. **the importance of each case to you and the impact of each case on you,**
 - d. **your role in the case.**

CASE #1 - J.M. AND I.M. (MINORS), BY AND THROUGH THEIR NATURAL PARENT AND GUARDIAN, JESSICA HARDGROVE V. CLARK COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY SERVICES, ET. AL.

State Court Case No.: A14-700139-C, filed 05/01/14; removed to Federal Court on 07/22/14 Case No.: 2:14-cv-01197-JAD-NJK (The Honorable Jennifer Dorsey). Dismissed 10/05/16.

My partner, Marjorie Hauf, and I co-managed and were the primary attorneys on the file throughout the course of litigation. Attorneys for the Defendants were Walter Cannon, Felicia Galati, and Jonathan Blum.

This case was one of many in which our firm has represented either a family member or a child who had been subjected to conditions and services that we felt were inadequate within the

Department of Family Services (DFS). These cases are important because they expose the abuse, neglect and sometimes death of children in the foster care system that I believe to be caused by the problems with DFS. In this case, we originally represented a biological mother whose children were neglected and abused by licensed foster parents that were not being supervised correctly by DFS.

JM was placed in the Hernandez' foster home and on 06/01/13, DFS placed IM (newborn baby boy brother of JM) with the same foster family. At this time, the Hernandez foster family had three biological children, plus the two foster children, JM and IM.

In the summer 2013, the Hernandez' family moved to a trailer in Sandy Valley, even though the home that was licensed was in Las Vegas. They had enrolled their children in the school in Sandy Valley where they lived full-time. The family ran out of diapers and they were using bags for diapers for JM. The Hernandez's autistic biological son, a teenager, was left in charge of JM and IM. He was trying to find a place to change JM and the only place he could find was a black mini refrigerator that had been sitting outside, in the sun, in the middle of the scorching desert heat. Apparently, he was completely naked when JM was put on top of the refrigerator. JM was screaming, but the bag was placed around his buttocks as a substitute diaper anyway and JM's buttocks and arm were burned.

To compound matters, the foster parents learned of the burns and chose not to take JM for medical treatment and instead chose to treat the burns themselves. They cleaned JM's burns with peroxide and then applied Neosporin and a bandage on the affected areas. A doctor indicated that the treatment JM got for the burns was akin to torture; putting peroxide on a burn would have been inflicting unconscionable pain on this child. It wasn't until several months later that DFS realized the family had actually moved to Sandy Valley. JM and IM were removed and transported directly to Child Haven, where they were examined by the intake nurse. Both children were "filthy."

Throughout discovery, many county violations had been identified and discovery was conducted for an extended period of time. Unfortunately, as is with many of the cases, the biological mother of the boys became non-cooperative and would not allow an institutional guardian to be substituted. She therefore wanted the case dismissed and ultimately, although her parental rights were being terminated, the Court did in fact dismiss the case.

Although we were not able to obtain a money judgment for these boys, this result did not extinguish my desire to fight for abused kids; it fueled it even more. These cases mean so much to me and our community. I believe that our judicial system, by holding people accountable for their actions, is an affective quality assurance for all of our rights.

CASE #2 - MITCH WILSON V. SCOTT YANCEY

Case No.: A680635, filed 04/23/13 (The Honorable Timothy Williams).

My partner, Marjorie Hauf, and I co-managed and were the primary attorneys on the file throughout the course of litigation. I did the majority of the appearances and took most of the depositions in the case. I also second chaired the evidentiary hearing after I asked Robert Eglet to be lead counsel for that specific hearing. The matter resolved on the eve of trial and I was intending to be lead counsel at the jury trial. Stacy Upson was the lead defense counsel for the main

defendant in the matter. Also involved for various defendants were Roger Croteau and Boone Cragun.

This case stemmed from an injury my client suffered when he was thrown off the back of a golf cart that had been “souped-up.” But really, the importance of the case began for me a few years earlier when I felt as though Rule 35 was being used and abused to *justify* defense doctor’s opinions by some law firms, rather than what it was intended for – to allow for a fair exam when a medical condition was at issue.

Defendants in this case requested that Plaintiff, Mitch Wilson, submit to a Rule 35 examination at the hands of their chosen doctor, Dr. Derek Duke. Plaintiff responded that Mr. Wilson is perfectly willing to undergo a Rule 35 examination, but not with Dr. Duke. The Rule provided that an exam is not guaranteed and must be agreed to or ordered by the court. The Defendant sought a court order to compel an exam by Dr. Duke.

Commissioner Bulla hinted towards the over-use of Rule 35 when she started prohibiting doctors who wrote a records review from doing a subsequent exam, because, since the doctor’s opinions were already formed, the medical condition was no longer at issue. I saw an opportunity to hopefully limit the over-use of Rule 35 in this case.

The Commissioner reviewed hundreds of Dr. Duke’s reports for any indication of what she perceived to be potentially “inflammatory issues” such as (1) secondary gain, and (2) suggestion of a psychological issue/underlay. Because the substantial majority of Dr. Duke’s reports referenced these potentially inflammatory issues without a medical basis, she allowed him to be an expert, but did not allow him to perform a Rule 35 exam.

This did not resolve the issue; the Defendant filed an Objection, placing the matter in front of Judge Williams. Knowing this was an important issue in the community, I first asked for, and was granted, an evidentiary hearing. After the hearing was set, I then asked Robert Eglet to get involved to conduct the hearing as there were some other personal issues with Dr. Duke that I had outlined for the Court and the Commissioner. I wanted to have an outside attorney conduct the hearing just in case I became a witness. Mr. Eglet’s office and my office worked together in preparing for and conducting the hearing. The hearing was originally set for one day, and ultimately lasted 11 days over several months, with Dr. Duke on the witness stand for a large majority of it. We showed that, out of the approximately 371 distinct reports Dr. Duke authored between 2011-2015: (1) Dr. Duke disagrees with the treating doctor approximately 95% of the time, (2) Dr. Duke found no objective findings of injury in 263 cases, or approximately 71% of the time, (3) Dr. Duke gives a sprain/strain injury or no injury diagnosis when the treating doctor’s diagnosis was injury or more than a sprain/strain injury in approximately 319 cases, or approximately 86% of the time, and (4) Dr. Duke agreed with the past treatment rendered by the treating doctor in only 15 cases, or 4.04% of the time. Judge Williams ultimately held that Dr. Duke was precluded from performing Rule 35 exams as he not only had a history of personal bias towards some treating physicians, but because of his “extreme bias” resulting in prejudice against people who file lawsuits. This, he found, was a bias that permeates the entire proceeding, not just Dr. Duke’s examinations.

This case was important to me for three reasons. First, the opportunity to work with Robert Eglet was priceless, even more so because he did it voluntarily, for no fee. His presence and command

of the courtroom, as well as his slow and deliberate litigation style, taught me how important it is not to rush when making a point; to never feel pressured to finish an argument if it will take away from the power of the argument. Second, I saw the importance of thoroughness and fairness in Judge Williams. The length and time he took to ensure that both sides had a full opportunity to be heard was like nothing I had seen before. His patience and purposeful inclusion of details for the record was eye opening to me. His rulings were thought out, well organized and directly to the point. If I am honored with an appointment to sit as a judge for this community, I will surely seek his advice and mentoring as often as I can. Lastly, it was important to me to even the playing field with regards to Rule 35 examinations. Cases like this make the legal community conscious of appropriate objections to Rule 35 examiners and can even lead to rule changes. The changes help ensure that Rule 35 will not be used as a litigation bullying tactic, as it was never intended for that.

CASE #3 - MARCO CENTENO-ALVAREZ V. CURTIS COE

Case No. A460727, filed 09/16/05 (The Honorable James Bixler).

Judge Bixler was the trial Judge for the first trial (08/14/07 to 08/21/07) and the second trial (10/04/10 to 10/14/07). In addition, it also went to the Nevada Supreme Court first in 2009 (Supreme Court No.: 51216) and again in 2013 (Supreme Court No.: 57724).

My partner, Marjorie Hauf, and I co-managed and were the primary attorneys on the file throughout the course of litigation. I had served as lead counsel on the case throughout its existence, including the first trial; however, I did bring Robert Vannah, Esq., in to litigate and try the second case with me. George M. Rinalli, Esq., was trial counsel for the defense at both trials, and Robert Eisenberg, Esq., was involved in the appeals for the defense.

This case was probably the most career shaping case for me for many reasons. It was one of the first complex cases that was scheduled to go to trial after opening my own firm in 2006, although I had already tried a few cases to verdict before it. It was a case that seemed to have no flaws. I had a great client who immigrated to the United States and was a permanent resident for many years prior to being hit by a drowsy driver on the way to work. The driver had fallen asleep and ran a stop sign. My client was a heavy equipment operator for a construction company. He was married to an American woman who had children when they met. He had accepted and raised his wife's children as his own.

After the crash, my client's life changed dramatically. Ultimately, he had neck and low back fusion surgeries and could no longer work in his well-paying job in construction. His education was minimal and the ability to be retrained was not a good option. The defense performed a Rule 35 exam, and the examining doctor testified at his deposition that he agreed that all my client's injuries, past and future, were related.

Things changed a month or so before trial. Defense counsel obtained video surveillance of my client at a backyard barbecue. The video captured him playing around with his friends kicking a soccer ball up in the air. Because the video was generated way past discovery was closed, we moved to exclude the video. Our motion was granted. Meanwhile, in violation of the Court's order, the defense counsel showed the excluded video to his expert. The defense's expert changed all his opinions solely based on this video. We then moved to exclude the expert as being tainted; the motion was denied and the matter proceed to trial, without the ability to be able to ask the

expert “why did you change your opinions.” Also, defense counsel was allowed to act out his interpretation of the video in front of the jury. Ultimately, the jury thought we were trying to pull a fast one over them as they eventually asked, “where is the video?” In addition, defense counsel used the pretrial rulings against us to paint a picture of deceit on the part of the plaintiff and his counsel. For instance, although the plaintiff spoke perfect English and was a permanent resident, he was asked questions that implied that he was here illegally. Defense counsel was amazing at taking all of the biases jurors have against immigrant plaintiffs and fueling the fire. The jury bought it, and awarded the plaintiff about \$36,000, even though his medical bills were near \$400,000 and future wages and medical near a million.

The client was devastated after being beaten up in court, and he attempted to kill himself within a couple weeks of the verdict.

Judge Bixler granted a new trial. The Nevada Supreme Court upheld the granting of the new trial and the matter was tried again, with a different and more favorable result. While the client ultimately got compensated and is now living comfortably out of state with his family, this was a learning experience for me as a litigation attorney.

First, it was humbling. Defense counsel passed me a post-it note on the first day of trial offering a million dollars; the client turned it down after consulting with me. We felt the case to be worth three times that amount and didn’t give the post-it note offer much consideration. I never did that again in my career; I felt as though my ego got the best of me at that point. I felt like the time was right for me to obtain complete justice and this was the case to do it. I was wrong in not taking into consideration what was best for the client in that moment. I don’t think he would have ever taken the post-it note offer, but it could have led to a discussion that may have resolved the case shortly thereafter for an amount that he could have lived with to avoid the trial.

Second, it was the beginning, in my mind, of tactics that attorneys use to sway a jury outside of the facts. Ultimately, our Supreme Court has addressed many of these tactics in opinions like *Lioce* and *DeJesus*, regarding attorney misconduct. The focus should not be on people in general who file or defend lawsuits, but on the specific facts regarding the parties’ claims or defenses, and nothing else.

Third, the system worked. Now mind you, it took years to get there and two trials and two successful appeals, but the system got it right.

Equally important was a Judge who had the fortitude and humility to be able to grant a new trial because of what he believed to be an injustice that occurred.

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CASE #4 - JOHN BERRY V. MOSHE ELAZAR; AND JOHN BERRY V. ELIAHU ELEZRA AND PINI LABOUZ

Case No. A11-526936, filed 08/22/06 (The Honorable Susan Johnson); companion Case No.: A12-670436-C (The Honorable Linda Bell).

Judge Susan Johnson was the trial Judge for the first jury trial (2011) and Judge Bell the second bench trial (2016). In addition, the case went to the Nevada Supreme Court in 2013 (Supreme Court No.: 58724).

My partner, Marjorie Hauf, and I co-managed and were the primary attorneys on the file throughout the course of litigation. I had served as lead counsel on the case throughout its existence, including the first jury trial, the second bench trial and the argument in front of the Nevada Supreme Court. Lon Burke and James Murphy, of Laxalt and Nomura, were trial counsel for the defense at the first trial, and Dan Polsenberg, was involved in the appeal for the defense. A third-party defendant was brought in by the defense and David Creasy, Gary Logan and Kristopher Rath were involved for a short period of time while the third-party complaint for malpractice had been litigated in the first case. Lastly, Sigal Chattah and Mark Bailus were trial counsel for the defendants in the bench trial in 2016.

John Berry walked into my office with \$400,000 in medical bills from a horrific car crash. He was on his way to drop off a friend when a car turned in front of him and changed his life. It was a huge crash with huge injuries to a young man who was a pipe-fitter earning a significant wage for his age. By the time he saw me, he had neck surgery and needed a back surgery. The problem was the person who hit him only had \$500,000 in coverage. However, an asset check showed the at fault driver had a Rolls Royce on the same policy, lived in a mansion, and seemed to have significant assets available. He was underinsured. I vowed to pursue John's case and hold the driver accountable for his negligence. Never would I have imagined it would take three separate lawsuits, two judgments, a bankruptcy proceeding and two trials over a 14-year period.

On the eve of trial and after several years in litigation, in 2009, the defendant Moshe Elazar filed bankruptcy, thus shutting down our ability to obtain a judgment from him in state court. We fought the bankruptcy for a couple years. Ultimately, we obtained a finding that Mr. Elazar could not discharge John's debt and lifting the bankruptcy stay in District Court. We proceeded to the first trial, where we obtained a jury verdict that exceeded \$1.5 million, and later a cost, fee and interest award for a total judgment that later ballooned to over \$4 million.

Unbeknownst to us, while the matter was stalling in Bankruptcy Court, Mr. Elazar was getting rid of all his assets. We learned that his ownership interests in many assets were given away for no value, mainly to his brother, famous professional poker player Eli Elezra.

We believed these transfers of assets were fraudulent, and we filed suit against Eli Elezra. That matter proceeded to a bench trial in front of Chief Judge Linda Bell. Ultimately, we obtained a judgment against Eli for about \$5.4 million. We again began the process to collect, including executing on Eli's home and safety deposit boxes around town.

Unfortunately, the Defendant, as is all too often the case, did not have enough insurance coverage to compensate our client for this loss. Even worse, in this case, the Defendant had taken

extraordinary steps to elude taking responsibility for this loss; in essence thumbing his nose at our judgment, and in turn, our judicial system. In the end, we collected all of the tortfeasor's insurance and a significant sum from the fraudulent transfer cases. Although the client may never be made whole, he recently purchased a home and is doing as well as can be expected after a decade long battle.

This case is important to me because I learned that just obtaining a judgment for a client may not mean anything. Clearly, collections are difficult, and the client was well aware of the impediments from day one, but nonetheless, that long a period of time for a client is frustrating and draining on him. You have to absolutely know that it is the only option and that the client is aware of the time it may take to collect from a wrongdoer.

CASE #5 - NICHOLAS GULLI AND MADISON GULLI V. HENDERSON SADDLE ASSOCIATION AND JACKIE VOHS

Case No. A10-621479-C, filed 07/22/10 (The Honorable Mark Denton); subsequently submitted to a three-panel binding arbitration with Mitch Cobeaga, Brian Harris and Joseph Bongiovi presiding.

My partner, Marjorie Hauf, and I co-managed and were the primary attorneys on the file throughout the course of litigation. I had served as lead counsel on the case throughout its existence. The clients divorced before the arbitration, however, so I brought Robert Vannah, Esq., in to represent the wife on her loss of consortium claim. I was lead counsel for Mr. Gulli at the Arbitration of the matter and took the majority of the witnesses during the three-day proceeding. Richard Engleman, Esq., represented the defendant driver; Elaine Fresch, Esq., and Bernadette Rigo, Esq., both of Selman Breitman, represented the defendant Henderson Saddle Association.

This case arose out of an incident that occurred on October 25, 2009, when Nicholas Gulli, a Metro Officer and member of Henderson Saddle Association ("HSA"), was walking a horse in a roping arena. On the date of the incident, another member, Jackie Vohs, watered the arena using a water truck. Mrs. Vohs turned off the sprayers when she saw Mr. Gulli directly in front of her, walking towards her with his horse, Outlaw. After Mr. Gulli passed her on the left side of the water truck, Mrs. Vohs turned on the rear sprayer, sprayed his horse with water, and caused Outlaw to rear up and stomp on Mr. Gulli's chest and head, fracturing his skull.

This was a case that was challenging to say the least. First, Vohs didn't work for HSA. Second, Mr. Gulli was engaged in a "dangerous" activity and knew that he could be injured. Third, the lawsuit fractured the close-knit horsing community in which it took place and caused people to take sides; either you were for the HSA or you were for Mr. Gulli. In the end, we determined that a three-panel binding arbitration would be best for the client as there were legal issues that were complex and that we felt the panel members would understand. The panel consisted of the late Mitch Cobeaga, Joe Bongiovi and Brian Harris. The arbitration took place over three days and we obtained a judgment in Mr. Gulli's favor. I have engaged in binding arbitrations many times over the last 20 years and feel that the benefit of no appeal and lower costs to both sides can be an advantage over a jury trial, which has many uncertainties. Alternative dispute resolution programs have proven to be beneficial in some instances.

This case was important to me because of the challenges I faced, and the amazing group of people involved in the arbitration, including skilled counsel on the other side. But really, it was important to me because I had an amazing client who was badly injured and while liability was not a slam dunk, it was rewarding to get him an outcome that was a positive referendum on his actions. I remain friends with Mr. Gulli who is very active in the Injured Police Officer Fund. I was proud to represent him.

21. Do you now serve or have you previously served as a mediator, an arbitrator, a part-time or full-time judicial officer, or a quasi-judicial officer? To the extent possible, explain each experience.

As indicated above, I am currently transitioning from being an advocate to being a neutral. Since the sale of my practice to my former partner, I have completed a 40-hour certification program at UNLV in mediation and am nearly halfway complete with my LLM in Conflict and Dispute Resolution from The Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution at Pepperdine Caruso Law School.

Besides acting as a private mediator, I currently serve as a court-appointed arbitrator and have done so for many years. I also volunteer as a mediator for the Neighborhood Justice Center about 2-3 times a month.

I have also been on the panel and certified, and re-certified as a Judge *Pro Tem* in Justice Court, and sat for Justice of the Peace Melissa Saragossa, including presiding over a number of Domestic Violence cases, preliminary hearings, sentencings, and trials; although I have only sat as a *Pro Tem* a handful of times.

Lastly, I was also recently certified to serve as a Short Trial Judge and have been assigned about 5-10 cases and went to trial on a few.

22. Describe any pro bono or public interest work as an attorney.

Early in my career I became involved with the Children's Advocacy Project. I currently serve as a CAP volunteer attorney for two wards of the foster care system. As indicated above, I also volunteer for the Neighborhood Justice Center as a mediator. In addition, for years, much of my pro-bono work has been focused on handling cases at a reduced fee for individuals who needed help. I often don't charge clients or consistently provide free consultations to people who are looking for direction or someone to listen to them. More recently, I have been teaching continuing education courses at a trial college throughout the United States. Although my expenses for travel are covered, my time teaching is volunteered. Lastly, I currently, and have for years, volunteered to be on several boards of directors for various non-profit companies.

23. List all bar associations and professional societies of which you are or have been a member. Give titles and dates of offices held. List chairs or committees in such groups you believe to be of significance. Exclude information regarding your political affiliation.

Nevada Bar Association, 1998
 Arizona Bar Association, 2000
 New Mexico Bar Association, 2007
 Nevada Justice Association, 1998
 American Bar Association, 2015

I haven't held any offices in any of these associations.

24. List all courses, seminars, or institutes you have attended relating to continuing legal education during the past 5 years. Are you in compliance with the continuing legal education requirements applicable to you as a lawyer or judge?

Yes, I am compliance with my continuing legal education requirements.

Wednesday, September 29, 2021		Adam Ganz		Needed for Compliance:			
Compliance Group 1		2021 Compliance Period Ending : Friday, December 31, 2021		Credits: General: 0 Ethics: 0 Substance Abuse: 1			
This course transcript indicates the courses and distribution of CLE credits for the compliance periods displayed as well as carry over to the next year. The Excess Credits column includes credits exceeding the carry over limit.							
Course Date	Course Name	Total Credits	Credits Applied by Year				Excess Credits *
			2020	2021	CARRY 2022	CARRY 2023	
11/8/2018	Yellow Cones-Power of Live Focus Groups, Virtual Groups & Shadow Juries	2.00G	2.00G				
1/7/2019	Short Trial Pro Tempore Judge Training & Refresher	3.50GD	3.50GD				
4/2/2019	Combatting Plaintiff's Reptilian Tactics in Commercial Vehicle, Premises Liability	1.50GD	1.50GD				
8/28/2019	How to Win Friends & Influence People (in Litigation & Within the Rules)	1.00G	1.00G				
10/3/2019	NJA 43rd Annual Convention	2.50E	1.50E				
10/3/2019	NJA 43rd Annual Convention	9.00G	2.00G	7.00G			
10/14/2019	Judicial Academy: A Course for Aspiring Judges	3.00E	0.50E	2.00E			0.50E
10/14/2019	Judicial Academy: A Course for Aspiring Judges	22.00G	3.00G				19.00G
1/9/2020	Substance Abuse (42927)	1.00S	1.00S				
4/9/2020	Zoom Conferences: How to Successfully Operate a Remote Deposition & Make Your Remote Deposition	1.00GD		1.00GD			
7/16/2020	Balancing Art & Science in Jury Selection, Prod Date 7/16/20	1.00GD		1.00GD			
7/30/2020	Attacking the Defense Witnesses	1.00GD		1.00GD			
12/30/2020	2020 Pro Bono Credits	4.00GD		4.00GD			
2/25/2021	2021 State Mock Trial Competition - Volunteer	2.00GD		2.00GD			
If you do not see a course posted to your record, please be advised credits are entered in the order they are received. REMINDER: Excess ethics and/or substance abuse credits can be used towards any general credit deficiency.		Previous Carry Forward: 24.00		19.00			
		Total Credits Taken: 8.00		2.00			
		Total Credits Applied This Period: 13.00		12.00			
		Total Credits Carried: 19.00		9.00			
		Requirements Met or Waived: Y N					
		Total Hours Required: 0 1					
		Hours Required By: 12/31/2020 12/31/2021					

LAWYER: 6650, Ganz, Adam

PROV ID	COURSE NAME	HOURS	TYPE	TAKEN DATE
65	10 TIPS TO UNDERSTAND & ETHICALLY CAPITALIZING ON THE EVOLVING LEGAL MARKET (2018 FAMILY LAW CONF)	2.00	Eth	11/20/2018*
65	COMPULSIVE BEHAVIOR & MENTAL WELL-BEING	1.00	Sub	11/20/2018*
54	YELLOW CONES-POWER OF LIVE FOCUS GROUPS, VIRTUAL GROUPS & SHADOW JURIES	2.00	Gen	11/08/2018
5625	#529-ETHICS: LEGAL ETHICS & STATE MARIJUANA LAWS	1.00	Eth	12/04/2017*
5625	#535 - SA: DON'T GIVE UP FIVE MINUTES BEFORE THE MIRACLE	1.00	Sub	12/04/2017*
2185	KBC #3 FOCUS GROUP	16.00	Gen	10/18/2017
2185	KBC #4 VOIR DIRE	16.00	Gen	10/16/2017
7225	DEFENSE MEDICAL EXPERTS: MILD TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURIES, PHYSICAL EXAMS, DEPOSITIONS & DEFENSES	5.50	Gen	01/05/2017
54	40TH ANNUAL CONVENTION	2.00	Eth	09/29/2016
54	ENTERTAINING ETHICS WITH OSCAR B. GOODMAN	1.50	Eth	02/23/2016
54	AVOID BEING HIGH & DRY DURING VOIR DIRE (FROM 39TH ANNUAL MEETING)	0.50	Sub	
		2.00	Gen	10/09/2015*
2865	TRAINING FOR TRAFFIC REFEREES, SMALL CLAIMS REFEREES AND PRO TEM JUDGES	1.50	Eth	11/14/2014
2185	COURSE 4: VOIR DIRE	2.00	Gen	
2185	COURSE 3: FOCUS GROUPS	17.00	Gen	11/05/2014
2185	COURSE 2: OPENINGS & ORDER OF PROOF	16.00	Gen	08/20/2014
2185	COURSE 1: RULES & CASE SELECTIONS	15.50	Gen	06/26/2014
54	DISCOVERY COMMISSIONER RULE - AN ANALYSIS OF THE LAW & NRCP	14.00	Gen	06/24/2014
		1.50	Gen	06/05/2014

25. Do you have Professional Liability Insurance, or do you work for a governmental agency?

Yes, I have professional Liability Insurance.

Business and Occupational Experience

26. Have you ever been engaged in any occupation, business, or profession other than a judicial officer or the practice of law? If yes, please list, including the dates of your involvement with the occupation, business, or profession.

Other than those listed in Question 27 below, I cannot remember any other occupation or business that I have been involved in since becoming an attorney in 1998.

27. Do you currently serve or have you in the past served as a manager, officer, or director of any business enterprise, including a law practice? If so, please provide details as to:

- a. the nature of the business,
- b. the nature of your duties,
- c. the extent of your involvement in the administration or management of the business,
- d. the terms of your service,
- e. the percentage of your ownership.

Throughout my professional career, I have been involved as a director or member of a variety of companies or non-profit organizations. I have outlined my involvement into three categories. Specifically, those companies that I was: (1) a Board Member and/or Volunteer, (2) an Owner, and (3) a Past Owner or Member, with no current affiliation.

1. BOARD MEMBER AND/OR VOLUNTEER

a. SPANISH PARK OWNERS ASSOCIATION

Spanish Park Owners Association is the “HOA” for my office building. Our building is one of seven in the association. I am one of three board members who are tasked with the administration and management of the association. Quarterly meetings are held, and typical association business is handled such as maintenance of the common areas, owner complaints and compliance with our CC&Rs. I am also tasked with approval and submission of invoices to the management company. I became a board member 02/05/15.

b. GOT CORE VALUES

Got Core Values is a non-profit company of which I own 0%. I have been a board member since it was established in 2016. Got Core Values was established to bring positive cultures to children in public schools. It does this by surveying all members of a school’s

community (students, their families, teachers, administrators, and the school's support staff) regarding *their* core values and then through corporate culture coaching help to achieve an environment that fosters those values. I am on the board of directors and currently sit as the Treasurer of the company and have been for the last few years.

c. SUMMERLIN SOUTH LITTLE LEAGUE

Summerlin South Little League is a non-profit company of which I own 0%. I was a board member from 2008-2014. I held various officer positions, including President and Secretary. During my tenure on the board, the league grew from one of the smallest leagues with 270 players, to nearly 700 players. It is currently one of the most successful leagues in the valley. Although I am close to many current board members and families that had been involved in the league, I have not been a part of the organization since 2015.

2. CURRENT OWNER

a. 8950 W. TROPICANA AVE. LLC

8950 W. Tropicana Ave., LLC., is a company that is owned in partnership with Marjorie Hauf, my business partner. It owns the building in which we operated our law practice, Ganz & Hauf, Chtd. We started the company in 2014 when we bought the building and am I currently a managing member. I have 50% ownership in the company.

b. ADAM GANZ, CHARTERED

Adam Ganz, Chtd., is my personal S-Corporation. I do legal consulting outside of my main law practice which is done separate from my partnership with Marjorie Hauf. I started the company in 2002. I am currently the sole owner and hold all officer positions, including President of the company. I have 100% ownership in the company.

c. G&H PROPERTIES, LLC.

G&H Properties, LLC., is a company that is owned in partnership with Marjorie Hauf, my business partner. It owns a building in San Diego. We started the company in 2020 when we transferred ownership from Ganz & Hauf, CHTD., to a separate entity. I am currently a managing member. I have 50% ownership in the company.

3. PAST OWNER/MEMBER – NO CURRENT AFFILIATION

Throughout my professional life, I have been involved in several companies. Some of which were established to buy a building or land for my law practice, but the purchase never went through. Many of them never actually got up and running, however, in full disclosure I have listed everything that I was involved in, even if the company never operated.

a. GANZ & HAUF, CHARTERED

Ganz & Hauf, Chtd., is an S-Corporation where my business partner, Marjorie Hauf and I each own 50%. I currently own 0% and Marjorie owns 100%. This company was our main law practice for our firm Ganz & Hauf. We started the company in 2005.

b. GANZ HAUF CHURCHILL & ANDERSON, LLC.

Ganz Hauf Churchill & Anderson is a company that was established to form a new partnership that never materialized. The company's charter will expire in 2019 and will not be renewed. It never actually operated as a company.

c. GANZ & HAUF, RENO

Ganz & Hauf, Reno was a company that was established in 2012 to open a Reno office of Ganz & Hauf. We did business for a couple years as Ganz Hauf Carpenter in Reno, Nevada. The company's charter expired in 2016. Although I believe operations ceased in 2014, it took a couple years to wrap up and fully dissolve the company.

d. ZNAG, LLC

Znag, LLC., was an investment company that my wife, Prudence Ganz and I established in 2011. I do not believe the company actually invested in anything and the charter was revoked in 2012, as it was never renewed.

e. ZNAG FAUH INVESTMENTS LLC

Znag Fauh Investments, LLC., was an investment company that my partner Marjorie Hauf and I established in 2014 to invest in a start-up business that never materialized. Marjorie and I divested our interest in the company on February 25, 2018.

f. JAM LV, LLC

JAM LV LLC., was an investment company that my father, Jake Ganz, Marjorie Hauf and I established in 2016 to invest in a start-up business that never showed a profit. I divested my interest in the company on April 3, 2017.

g. JAG INVESTMENTS, LLC

JAG Investments, LLC., was an investment company that my father, Jake Ganz, and I established in 2014 to invest in a start-up business. I divested my interest in the company very shortly after it was formed in 2014.

h. ON THE VERGE, LLC

On The Verge, LLC., was an investment company that Marjorie Hauf and I established in 2017, to invest in a condo downtown that never materialized.

i. 6847 PONDEROSA, LLC

6847 Ponderosa, LLC., was an investment company that Marjorie Hauf and I established in 2017, to invest in a building that never materialized.

j. GET BILL, LLC

Get Bill, LLC., was a company that was established in 2007 to form a second law practice that was doing business for a couple years as Get Bill. The company's charter expired in 2009. Although I believe operations ceased in 2008, it took a couple years to wrap up and fully dissolve the company.

28. List experience as an executor, trustee, or in any other fiduciary capacity. Give name, address, position title, nature of your duties, terms of service and, if any, the percentage of your ownership.

My mother passed away in 2013, and I served as the executor in the summary probate proceeding. The process included the sale of her home and distribution per the intestate statute of some assets. I am also the co-trustee of the Ganz Family Trust, a revocable family trust.

Civic, Professional and Community Involvement

29. Have you ever held an elective or appointive public office in this or any other state? Have you been a candidate for such an office? If so, give details, including the offices involved, whether initially appointed or elected, and the length of service. Exclude political affiliation.

None.

30. State significant activities in which you have taken part, giving dates and offices or leadership positions.

Our community's Little League was and is a huge foundation for everything I have done for the last decade plus. Little League Baseball and Softball is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization founded in 1939, originally with three teams. It now is an avenue for more than 2.5 million kids every year to learn and practice its three core values: CHARACTER, COURAGE and LOYALTY. I proudly served our community's Little League program from 2008 to 2014. If you speak to anyone I came in contact with during those years they will tell you how I used the Little League as a platform to instill life lessons to thousands of kids coming through the program. If you didn't make an all-star team, it taught you to work harder next time. If you made a mistake on the field, you needed to have a short memory and put it behind you as you can't change the past, but you can use it to improve on next time. If you were winning big on the field, you never gloated or disrespected your opponent. I never once took advantage of my position in the league, although there were opportunities to, for the betterment of my own son. My own son would tell you I was harder on him than anyone else in the league. He did not receive special treatment and I am proud

he earned every benefit he got from Little League. I wore those values on my chest for many years and still do as I am still active in youth sports, and likely will be for the rest of my life.

Specifically, I have participated as a coach, manager, board member and President of the little league in Summerlin South. I held just about every position on the Board for the league and grew the league from 300 participants to nearly 700 by the time I left. It now flourishes as one of the largest and most successful little leagues in our community. I have also served various teams within the Nevada Youth Sports organization as a soccer coach, and most recently managing a girls' volleyball team. I also, for several years, have managed and participated in an adult men's baseball league.

As mentioned above, I served on the Board of Directors for a non-profit called Got Core Values. The program is making a difference in various public schools that choose to use the program. It is a program that uses culture coaches to change the environment the school. The idea for the company began when the founder worked for Tony Hsieh; the company was established to expand Mr. Hsieh's Delivering Happiness concept to public schools.

31. Describe any courses taught at law schools or continuing education programs. Describe any lectures delivered at bar association conferences.

I have substituted as an instructor at UNLV in its paralegal program. More recently, I have been asked to become an adjunct professor for this program.

I formerly was a faculty member for the Keenan Trial Institute. KTI was established to provide an opportunity for Trial Lawyers to learn and practice different aspects of litigation. As a faculty member, I have taught classes related to Voir Dire and Focus Groups as well as speak on many other areas of trial practice over a dozen times throughout the country and in Costa Rica. This experience has allowed me to meet and work with some of the most experienced and also up-and-coming trial lawyers in our country. I have also found that by teaching, I am continuing to refine my skills and that it also allows me to practice many of the trial techniques I use on a daily basis.

32. List educational, military service, service to your country, charitable, fraternal and church activities you deem significant. Indicate leadership positions.

I have not served in the military, but I have served our community in a variety of board positions. As discussed, I was involved in the little league community for years. Besides financial support, I also dedicated thousands of hours over the years I was involved with the league. I was the President for two years and held other officer positions on the board of directors. I have also volunteered as a manager/coach in several youth sports including baseball, soccer, and volleyball.

Lastly, I have opened our firm to dozens of high school, college and law students to intern or work in entry level positions throughout the past decade.

33. List honors, prizes, awards, or other forms of recognition.

I have been rated AV Preeminent by Martindale-Hubbell for several years; the rating represents strong legal ability and high ethical standards, as rated by local lawyers and judges.

In addition, I am one of a select few that are Board Certified in Personal Injury, by the State Bar of Nevada.

34. Have you at any time in the last 12 months belonged to, or do you currently belong to, any club or organization that in practice or policy restricts (or restricted during the time of your membership) its membership on the basis of race, religion, creed, national origin or sex? If so, detail the name and nature of the club(s) or organization(s), relevant policies and practices, and whether you intend to continue as a member if you are selected for this vacancy.

No.

35. List books, articles, speeches and public statements published, or examples of opinions rendered, with citations and dates.

None.

36. During the past ten years, have you been registered to vote? Have you voted in the general elections held in those years?

I have been registered to vote and I believe I have voted in every general election in the last 10 years.

37. List avocational interests and hobbies.

I have a significant interest in health and fitness. I have run a half marathon, cycled in a 100-mile race and played men's adult baseball for many years. More recently, I have taken up golfing. My entire family and I have been gluten and dairy free for several years. When I am not working, I am almost always spending time with my wife and kids. I enjoy reading, watching movies, working out, going to a Rebel game or watching baseball (I am a San Diego Padre season ticket holder for years and been a fan since the Las Vegas Stars were affiliated with them). Most recently, I have become a Vegas Golden Knights, Las Vegas Aviator, and Las Vegas Raiders season ticket holder, and fanatic. I am a Vegas "team" fanatic.

Conduct

38. Have you read the Nevada Code of Judicial Conduct and are you able to comply if appointed?

Yes.

- 39. Have you ever been convicted of or formally found to be in violation of federal, state or local law, ordinance or regulation? Provide details of circumstances, charges, and dispositions.**

Nearly 30 years ago, in September 1989, at age 17, as a freshman on my first day at my undergraduate college, I was issued a citation for underage drinking with my roommates (whom I knew for about two hours at that time). A group of us were headed to an orientation party, when we were stopped on a public road by a Pennsylvania State Trooper. We were subsequently cited for violating Pennsylvania's underage drinking statute because the group had alcohol in their possession. I submitted to the magistrate's proposed informal program and the charges were handled informally. In doing so, I paid a \$350 fine and agreed to having my Nevada driver's license suspended, for I believe, six months. After the fine was paid, the charges were reduced to a disorderly conduct. I cannot recall any other violations of any federal, state or local law or ordinance or regulation other than this one and few minor traffic violations.

- 40. Have you ever been sanctioned, disciplined, reprimanded, found to have breached an ethics rule or to have acted unprofessionally by any judicial or bar association discipline commission, other professional organization or administrative body or military tribunal? If yes, explain. If the disciplinary action is confidential, please respond to question 73.**

No.

- 41. Have you ever been dropped, suspended, disqualified, expelled, dismissed from, or placed on probation at any college, university, professional school or law school for any reason including scholastic, criminal, or moral? If yes, explain.**

No.

- 42. Have you ever been refused admission to or been released from any of the armed services for reasons other than honorable discharge? If yes, explain.**

No.

- 43. Has a lien ever been asserted against you or any property of yours that was not discharged within 30 days? If yes, explain.**

No.

- 44. Has any Bankruptcy Court in a case where you are or were the debtor, entered an order providing a creditor automatic relief from the bankruptcy stay (providing in rem relief) in any present or future bankruptcy case, related to property in which you have an interest?**

No.

45. **Are you aware of anything that may require you to recuse or disqualify yourself from hearing a case if you are appointed to serve as a member of the judiciary? If so, please describe the circumstances where you may be required to recuse or disqualify yourself.**

I don't anticipate anything or anyone that would require me to recuse, other than my former law firm and law partner who I have had a business relationship with for years. I would also likely recuse if any of the organizations that I am a board member of, were ever assigned to me, but the likelihood of any of them being involved in litigation is extremely low.

Other

46. **If you have previously submitted a questionnaire or Application to this or any other judicial nominating commission, please provide the name of the commission, the approximate date(s) of submission, and the result.**

Yes. I applied for the Eight Judicial District Court, Department 6, in February 2019. Later that year, I also applied for Department 8. I was not selected as a finalist to be submitted to the Governor for consideration.

47. **In no more than three pages (double spaced) attached to this Application, provide a statement describing what you believe sets you apart from your peers, and explains what particular education, experience, personality or character traits you possess or have acquired that you feel qualify you as a good district court judge. In so doing, address both the civil (including family law matters) and criminal processes (including criminal sentencing.)**

SEE ATTACHMENT B.

48. **Detail any further information relative to your judicial candidacy that you desire to call to the attention of the members of the Commission on Judicial Selection.**

Growing up in Vegas, attending elementary, junior, and high school here, in addition to running a successful business for over a decade, I have met and kept in contact with many people who make up our community. This has aided me in developing a large clientele from a grass roots base without advertising. In addition, I will likely have many opportunities from a variety of different business groups that I have been involved in over the years to garner support in a judicial election. My point being, if appointed, I believe retention would be likely, thus securing the Governor's selection for years to come.

49. **Attach a sample of no more than 10 pages of your original writing in the form of a decision, "points and authorities," or appellate brief generated within the past 5 years, which demonstrates your ability to write in a logical, cohesive, concise, organized, and persuasive fashion.**

SEE ATTACHMENT C.

Attachment A
Employment History

Please start with your current employment or most recent employment, self-employment, and periods of unemployment for the last 20 years preceding the filing of this Application.

Current or Last Employer: H&P Law

Phone Number: (702) 598-4529

Address: 8950 W. Tropicana, Suite #1, Las Vegas, NV 89147

From: 01/01/2021 to Present

Supervisor's Name: Marjorie Hauf & Matt Pfau

Supervisor's Job Title: Owners/Managing Partners

Your Title: Of Counsel

Specific Duties: Of Counsel attorney in civil litigation law practice with a focus on injury law. I currently cover court appearances and coordinate and participate with the partners about the firm's trials.

Reason for Leaving: N/A

Previous Employer: GANZ & HAUF, CHTD.

Phone Number: (702) 598-4529

Address: 8950 W. Tropicana, Suite #1, Las Vegas, NV 89147

From: 2006 to 12/31/2021

Supervisor's Name: N/A

Supervisor's Job Title:

Your Title: Owner/Managing Partner

Specific Duties: Owner of civil litigation law practice with a focus on injury law.

Reason for Leaving: I ran for Judge in Dept. 3, then decided to go back to school and take some time off.

Previous Employer: VANNAH COSTELLO VANNAH & GANZ

Phone Number: (702) 369-4161

Address: 400 S 7th St, Las Vegas, NV 89101

From: 1998 to 2006

Supervisor's Name: Robert Vannah, Esq.

Supervisor's Job Title: **Managing Partner**

Your Title: Non-equity partner/Associate Attorney

Specific Duties: Trial attorney in civil litigation law practice with a focus on injury law.

Reason for Leaving: Started my own firm.

Attachment B
Question 45

Question 45. In no more than three pages (double spaced) attached to this Application, provide a statement describing what you believe sets you apart from your peers, and explains what particular education, experience, personality or character traits you possess or have acquired that you feel qualify you as a good district court judge. In so doing, address both the civil (including family law matters) and criminal processes (including criminal sentencing.)

Walt Disney once said, “The difference in winning and losing is most often not quitting.” Presidents Biden and Regan both had two failed attempts before becoming President. I come before you having unsuccessfully applying twice for an appointment and running once for a District Court Judge position. This previous election taught me so much about the process that I know I can do better next time. More important, it gave me clarity and an opportunity to turn a chapter in my life. Since the last election, I have sold my litigation practice and began, despite losing the election, to transition to being a neutral. I went back to school. First to UNLV and becoming certified as a mediator. Then, Pepperdine Law School, where I am more than halfway done with my LLM degree in Dispute Resolution. The time back at school, training to be a neutral, has allowed me to better my active listening skills and become more patient and empathetic. I am a better person for having the time after the election to reflect on what is important to me and where I want to go in the future.

My passion for making our community safer has led to my accomplishments, and it would also serve me well as a judge. I am guided by the simple principle that our community cannot be safe unless all litigants have a fair and impartial trial. Fairness for all is not an option; it is required.

Being a judge is something I have dreamed of for a long time, and I come from a family of dreamers. My Dad is a first-generation American. He talks about his journey to America at an age when most are playing Little League or going to dance recitals. He tells us how he doesn’t know where he was born, just that he traveled through Nazi Germany at age seven. He traveled to America on a boat like a piece of cattle, and he stood in lines for days at Ellis Island being poked and prodded before being allowed to enter the country. Recently, we took a cruise as a family, the

first I ever did with my father; he told us that to this day, he still smells the stench of the voyage to America every time he goes near a boat. But yet he dreamed.

His family came to America to give him a better life, and my parents came to Las Vegas in 1974, when I was three, to give us a better life. The Casino industry gave my parents this opportunity, as neither of them had gone to college.

I left home at about 15 ½. Couch surfed for a short time while still going to high school and working the graveyard shift at Food 4 Less. I put myself through college and law school by working a variety of jobs, and it was this time in my life that I started to put myself in leadership positions. I realized early that I felt comfortable in that role.

After undergrad, I left a successful job, even though I was making a lot of money, to go to law school; but it was never about the money. It was about that dream of being a lawyer and returning to our community to work in the judicial system.

That is why I believe my litigation experience separates me from the other candidates. I have had the pleasure of trying cases as either the lead attorney or as second chair with and against some of the best lawyers in our community. I have tried cases in front of almost all the jurists in this community. I have also tried a handful of cases in Arizona over the last two decades. I have argued in multiple appellate courts, including the Nevada Supreme Court, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, the Arizona Court of Appeals, and the Arizona Supreme Court. In total, I have argued three or four times at the 9th Circuit; I have also argued in front of the Nevada and Arizona Appellate courts. I have tried over 50 jury trials in my career, nearly all of them complex commercial litigation cases. If you think trial experience is important, I have that experience, and I am ready immediately to jump into this open position.

Since the last election, I have volunteered as a mediator at the Neighborhood Justice Center and privately began mediating commercial litigation cases. In addition, I have acted as a fact-finder for decades, as an arbitrator in the court-annexed arbitration program and as a Justice Court Pro Tem, and more recently as a Judge Pro Tem in the short trial program.

My career has spanned 22 years, most in the civil litigation area representing thousands of clients over the years, fighting for 22 years for people's rights. Giving a voice to the voiceless and trying to make our community safer, one case at a time. I have a passion for representing children, having been certified as a CAP attorney for nearly 20 years and taking on two more cases since the last election. I have also argued in front of the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco a couple of times on behalf of children.

The most recent was an infant, about nine months old, who I will call Mary, who was taken from her home because her family could not afford to care for all the kids they had. The Department of Family Services removed all the kids and placed them in several different foster homes. Mary was put into a home that she should have never been placed into. These foster parents were overwhelmed, on high-dose narcotics, unstable, and they asked on many occasions for help from DFS. So, DFS pulled Mary from a loving home, where Mary was with her parents and siblings because her mom left some of the children unattended while she went to the store for groceries. DFS then placed her in an unstable foster home with people who never had kids before and could not properly care for her. Mary was found shortly after placement, murdered by suffocation, in her crib by one of her foster parents who admitted he killed her. I litigated civil cases for decades, trying to make our community safer and better for everyone, not just for the Marys of the past, but for the Marys and Mickeys and everyone else to follow.

This is why becoming a judge is my dream - to give back to the profession I care so much about and want to be a part of forever and try to make it just a little bit better. To give back to our community that I grew up in and try to make it just a little bit better. I will take with me to the bench this same passion for justice and fairness for all. I am not asking for this appointment for a pay raise; to me, being a judge is the cornerstone to a career, not a stepping-stone, and I am ready to give back in that role.

Thank you for your time and consideration.