# COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL SELECTION APPLICATION

# EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT DEPARTMENT 11

# **By**Karl Wesley Armstrong



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

### **Personal Information**

- 1. Full Name: Karl Wesley Armstrong
- 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.

No

- 3. Work Address: 2200 South Rancho Drive, Suite 220, Las Vegas, Nevada 89102
- 4. How long have you been a continuous resident of Nevada?

31 Years

**5. Age:** 63

(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.

# **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.

Lindblom Technical High School 6130 South Wolcott Avenue Chicago, Illinois Attended from 1972 to 1976 Graduated top 5 % of Class

Northwestern University Evanston, Illinois Attended from 1976 to 1980-No degree Conferred University of Illinois at Chicago Chicago, Illinois Attended from 1981 to 1985 BA Criminal Justice Conferred

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

Lindblom Technical High School
Lindblom Honor Society
National Honor Society
Caduceus Club
German Club
National Achievement Scholarship Semifinalist
Senior Brothers Council
Lindblom Scholarship
Lindblom Leader Managing Editor

Northwestern University
Associated Student Government Treasurer
Student Activities Funding Board Chairman
Treasurer, For Members Only

University of Illinois at Chicago Chicago Circle Center Board Vice Chairman University of Illinois Student Leadership Award Student Government Treasurer

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.

University of Iowa College of Law Iowa City, Iowa 1988 Juris Doctor Degree Conferred Top ½ of Class

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.

Research Assistant, Law School Admissions

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

Black Law Students Association Managing Editor, *Journal of Corporation Law* Semi-Finalist, Van Oosterhaut Moot Court Competition

### **Law Practice**

- 12. State the year you were admitted to the Nevada Bar. 1993
- 13. Name states (other than Nevada) where you are or were admitted to practice law and your year of admission.

Illinois 1989

- 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. No
- 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.

100% practice in Administrative Law as an Appeals Officer adjudicating Worker's Compensation Appeals.

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

!00 % of Practice is adjudicating Administrative Appeals in Worker's Compensation. This includes conducting record hearings, deciding on evidentiary matters snd motions based on Statute and Nevada Rules of Civil Procedure, and deciding and providing decisions on the cases adjudicated. The position is Governor Appointed position.

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

All cases before me in the administrative context are non-jury in nature.

- 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. No jury trials during this period but at least 1000 administrative hearings.
- 19. List courts and counties in any state where you have practiced in the past 5 years.

Department of Administration, Hearings Division, State of Nevada. Clark County District Court

- 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.
  - Custom Floors v. PCL Construction Services, University of Nevada Las Vegas et.al.; 3/29/2000; Honorable Sally Loehrer, Presiding Judge, Eighth Judicial District Court, Department 15;opposing counsel Elissa Lavelle, Esq (PCL Construction) and; Karl W. Armstrong, Esq. (University of Nevada)

I was lead counsel for the University of Nevada and University System defendants in this case. This was a payment dispute over workmanship of the floors at one of the buildings at the University of Nevada Las Vegas. The University as well as the General Contractor was sued. We were dismissed from the lawsuit as the General Contractor was liable for all suits regarding this construction project and we were to be held harmless and were indemnified by the General Contractor, PCL. This case illustrated the importance of writing good contracts with indemnity provisions that were explicitly worded to cut down on needless litigation.

2. Walker v. Deeds, August 9, 1994, 50 F.3rd 670; Honorable William Norris, Circuit Judge, Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals; opposing counsel John Lambrose, Esq. (Walker) and Karl W. Armstrong, Esq. (State of Nevada)

Petitioner was charged in a criminal proceeding and convicted as a habitual criminal under the Nevada criminal statutes. Mr. Walker filed a Petition of Habeas Corpus to the United States District Court which was denied. fie appealed this denial to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. The above is the decision of that Court after the parties fully briefed the matter and argued the case before a three- judge panel of the Court. The Court found that the mere

fact of his being convicted of three predicate felonies does not automatically result in an adjudication as a habitual criminal subject to the criminal sentence enhancement of life in prison. The Court held that there must be a separate finding by the Court that the designation of someone as a habitual criminal was also "just and proper" under the circumstances. As the third predicate felony was of such a minor nature, the Court found that the habitual criminal sentence was too harsh when the third predicate felony was a grand larceny. I learned that there is now a discretionary standard that is imposed before imposition of a habitual criminal sentence enhancement. The State of Nevada can no longer prophylactically adjudicate a person a habitual criminal just because they meet the requirement of having three predicate felonies. I learned that there is discretion in imposing the habitual criminal enhancement and that judges do not have to enforce laws that seem automatic on their face.

3. Riley v. Deeds; April 7, 1995, 56 F. 3rd 1117, Honorable David R. Thompson, Circuit Judge, Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals; opposing counsel John Lambrose, Esq. (Riley) and; Karl W. Armstrong, Esq. (State of Nevada)

Petitioner filed a Writ of Habeas Corpus with the District Court which was denied. The appeal of that decision was heard by the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals, and this was their decision after full briefing and oral argument. Petitioner was convicted in State Court of Sexual Assault and First-Degree Kidnapping. During jury deliberations at his State Court trial, the jury asked for a read back of part of the victim's testimony. The presiding judge was not in the courthouse when this request was made by the jury. The State Court somehow allowed the read back and there was no objection interposed by counsel for Riley. The judge was not present in court when the read-back occurred. The 9th Circuit stated in its opinion that it found structural error in allowing the readback without the presence of the judge and rejected our "harmless error" analysis. The appellate court stated that the judge's unavailability and the presiding at the read-back of the judge's law clerk did not give the Petitioner a meaningful opportunity to object to this procedure and since the evidence read back was by the main complaining witness against the Petitioner, there was structural error rendering the trial fundamentally unfair. What I learned from this case is that the presiding judge must be present to rule on all aspects of a trial that will and could affect its outcome. The witness whose testimony was to be read back was critical in the conviction of the Petitioner.

4. Mays v. State of Nevada; August 24,1995, Per Curiam decision, Nevada Supreme Court; opposing counsel Terry Coffing, Esq. (Mays) and Karl W. Armstrong, Esq. (State of Nevada)

The decision revolved around the giving of good time credits to an inmate on resentencing. Petitioner Mays wanted credit for the time served on Parole from the original sentence. As there was nothing in the statutory scheme precluding good time credits being given for time spent on parole, the Supreme Court ordered the Department of Prisons to include these credits in May's prison calculation. The case was of concern in that it allowed additional credit not allowed by statute to be credited as good time credits. Parole time was not specifically enumerated in the definition of statutory good time credits. I learned that if the good time statute were strictly construed, The State of Nevada would have prevailed in this case.

5.
Reynolds v. Wolff, February 12, 1996, Honorable Edward C. Reed, U.S. District Court Judge, U.S. District Court of Nevada; opposing counsel Donald York Evans, Esq. (Reynolds), and; Karl W. Armstrong, Esq. (State of Nevada)

Inmates at a Nevada prison brought a civil rights action against prison officials alleging violations of constitutional rights in which good time credits were revoked. I filed a motion to dismiss the law suit. The District Court converted the motion to a Motion for Summary Judgment and granted that motion. The inmates lost their good time credits after a disciplinary hearing because of their alleged violation of prison rules. The good time credit statute that was the subject of this case granted day for day good time to prisoners as long as there was no serious misbehavior while in prison. The only issue in which to decide the motion was whether there was some evidence supporting the decision to revoke the good time credits, The testimony of the correctional officers and their written reports supported the "some evidence" standard enunciated by the Court and as such supported summary judgment in this case. I learned that minimal due process was required before a protected right can be impacted for prisoners under the civil rights statute regarding a state's actions.

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.

I presently serve as an Appeals Officer in the State of Nevada, Department of Administration, Hearings Division. This is a Gubernatorial appointment to hear Worker's Compensation Appeals.

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

I have provided pro bono services for Rebuilding Together Southern Nevada and the Southern Nevada Children's Advocacy Center Foundation as a Board Member.

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.

Las Vegas Chapter of the National Bar Association; National Bar Association

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?

I am in compliance with all Continuing Legal Education Requirements. I have attached the CLE Board report of classes taken and compliance over the last five years.

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

# **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.
- 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:had an
  - 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,
  - c. the terms of your service,
  - d. the percentage of your ownership.

I do not presently or in the past had an interest in a business.

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.

None

## **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.

I am presently an Appeals Officer for the Department of Administration, Hearings Division, State of Nevada. This is a position appointed by the Governor for two year terms subject to reappointment.

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

Legal Advisor, FAME Church 2004-2008 Legal Advisor- Stop the F Street Closure Coalition 2003-2007

**Boards and Commissions:** 

 Nevada Commission on Judicial Discipline Commissioner from 2001 to present

Appointed by the State Bar of Nevada to serve as one of two attorney members of this constitutionally established commission that has exclusive jurisdiction over conduct of all state

judicial officers as defined in the Canons of Judicial Ethics. Also enforces the canons of ethics. Sits as a court of judicial discipline in deciding whether to impose discipline on judicial officers alleged to have violated the canons of judicial conduct.

Standing Committee on Judicial Ethics and Election Standards

Member 2000 to 2001

Committee established by the Supreme Court to resolve ethical disputes between judges and judicial candidates during campaign season and also to render advisory opinions regarding the application of the Canons of Judicial Conduct to specific questions posed by members of the judiciary, judicial candidates, and the general public.

(FAME) Transportation, Inc.

• Member, Board of Directors and legal counsel, 2004 to 2008 Nonprofit organization providing transportation services to the handicapped and elderly throughout Clark County. The organization is a subsidiary of the First African Methodist Episcopal Church.

Southern Nevada Disciplinary Board,

matters.

• Member, 1993 to 2002; 2011 to 2014

Appointed by the State Bar of Nevada to serve as a member of the panel that screens and hears disciplinary cases against attorneys. This panel is charged with the responsibility for hearing cases involving lawyer violations of the Code of Professional Conduct. The panel conducted disciplinary hearings and made recommendations to the Nevada Supreme Court regarding attorney disciplinary

Las Vegas Chapter of the National Bar Association

- Treasurer, 2011to 2013
- Vice President, 1995to 1996
- Member, 1990 to present

#### Easter Seals of Southern

Nevada

- Secretary to Board of Directors, 2014 to present
- Chairman of Board of Directors, 2009 to 2013
- Member, Board of Directors, 2008 to present

100 Black

Men of Las

Vegas

- Member
- , 2012-13

# Big Brothers Big Sisters

of Nevada

• Member, Board of Directors, 1998to 2002

State Bar of Nevada

Member, Public

Lawyers Section, 1994

to 1996

Boulder Dam Area Council,

Boy Scouts of America

- Member, Board of Directors, 1994 to 1996
- 31. Describe any courses taught at law schools or continuing education programs. Describe any lectures delivered at bar association conferences.

None

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

I am presently an Adjunct Professor at the College of Southern Nevada starting this fall.

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

None

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.

I do not belong to any restrictive membership organizations

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

None

36. During the past 10 years, have you been registered to vote? Have you voted in the general elections held in those years?

Yes

37. List avocational interests and hobbies.

Reading

# 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.

No

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.

Any matters in which I have ruled as an Appeals Officer when the claimant is a party to the action before the court. Of course, I could still be impartial and would disclose the conflict. I understand I have a duty to sit on all cases unless there is a conflict.

# 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.

I applied to the Commission on Judicial Selection in 2000,2014,2015, 2019 and this application in 2021. I was selected as a finalist in the 2014 selection process. I was not selected in the other attempts.

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.)

I came to Las Vegas in 1990as a young attorney from Chicago. After graduating from University of Iowa Law School, I practiced criminal law in the Cook County Public Defender's Office.

Growing up on the south side of Chicago, I learned early on that those who could afford legal representation got a competent defense and those that could not usually went to jail Although I had the ability and education to enter corporate law, I saw this disparity and chose to begin my career serving indigent clients.

My first assignment was working in the Post-Conviction Unit. This unit reviewed prisoner petitions to determine whether error at trial occurred. The transcripts of their proceedings were analyzed and scrutinized for possible trial error. After the transcripts were reviewed, a meeting with the prisoner was arranged to listen to their side of the story. If an error of constitutional dimension were found, I was then tasked with writing the appellate brief supplementing their post-conviction petition to the trial court. The petition was then argued before the judge who rendered judgment on the particular prisoner after trial or other court proceedings.

I was transferred to the juvenile division of the Public Defender's Office

14
representing parents of abused and neglected children. It was my job to help

parents regain custody of their children. This position showed me how the law was meant to help people and that it should be interpreted with this goal in mind. My final assignment in that office was representing criminal defendants. The post-conviction, juvenile and criminal division experiences gave me an understanding of criminal law and procedure from the ground floor.

Before graduating from law school, I served as a staff member and then Managing Editor of the Journal of Corporation Law. The writing and editing done by serving on this scholarly journal taught me to write concise and clear briefs on behalf of my clients. Working in collaboration with my peers, the journal was released quarterly and circulated to law schools, libraries, and businesses across the county.

In 1989, I was invited by a friend to come to Las Vegas for a vacation.

While here, I was introduced to The Honorable Addeliar D. Guy, Ill

(deceased). Six months after I returned to Chicago, Judge Guy offered me a position as his law clerk. I had the pleasure of working for him and the Honorable Sally Loehrer. I learned from them the temperament needed to be an effective jurist. Their high ethical and professional standards pushed

me to hone my analytical skills when providing summaries of the cases before them. These jurists brought with them common sense and a passion for the law that they used in tandem to resolve disputes between the parties. They were always prepared and held those that appeared before them to these rigorous standards. They were keen on making decisions timely and not allowing litigants to wait too long for the decision in their matters. Their passion for the law and their professionalism in administering the same inspired me to want to become a jurist.

After working as a law clerk, I took a position with the Nevada Attorney General's Office. There I learned to be an effective appellate advocate in both the civil and criminal arenas as well as develop skills in trying civil cases. The practice in the attorney general's office was invaluable in teaching me to work on tight deadlines while putting out quality work that benefitted my clients. I also gained valuable insight into the mind of a prosecutor when I was tasked with prosecuting worker's compensation fraud cases. This assignment provided me a keen awareness of the intersection between the rights of the accused and the rights and responsibilities of the state. As a public defender, I learned first-hand that there is a fine line between zealous advocacy and prosecutorial overreach.

Now as a prosecutor, I had to balance fairness to the interests of the people of the State of Nevada versus the rights of the accused. As officers of the court we are responsible for the interest of all the people of the State of Nevada and notjust those that have the means to zealously advocate in our system of justice.

In 1997, I accepted an opportunity to work for the University and Community College System of Nevada (UCCSN). This position afforded me the opportunity to advise clients on a large range of issues and to conduct extensive civil trial work. There was no area of law that escaped my reach at UCCSN. The issues included but were not limited to intellectual property disputes, personnel, departmental policies and procedures, construction management, contract review and real estate purchases.

My work for State Farm Insurance and Travelers Insurance (2002 to present) has continued my experience in conducting varied civil trial assignments. It is imperative that an appellate jurist have knowledge of both criminal and civil matters as all would come before them for adjudication.

I believe the purpose of an appellate jurist is to carefully scrutinize the record, listen carefully to oral argument and compare and contrast the written arguments to the record on appeal. Judges are paid to resolve disputes that the parties cannot resolve themselves. Lawyers want and deserve timely decisions in their matters so that they may properly advise their clients. That is the role of an appellate court. It gives finality to disputes placed before it.

I have spent a career observing and participating in our justice system and have the varied experiences in my career to administer justice fairly and expeditiously. I know my way around a trial court as well as administrative tribunals. I have written and argued before both federal and state appellate courts. I have prosecuted criminal cases as well as represented the rights of the criminally accused. Ihave been a civil litigant and participated in civil trials and civil litigation. However, what is most important to me is that jurists are fair and expeditious in rendering their decisions. They are referees of disputes and not participants advocating for one party or another. They should respect all that come before them and be courteous to all as a jurist is first and foremost a public servant. They

should require all litigants, including attorneys, to be respectful and civil in

dealing with the court and each other. A jurist should have the patience of Job and never allow others to disturb their peace in their execution of their duties.

I learned the importance of these principles in my over a decade of service on judicial and lawyer discipline panels. A judge, based on my experience, should be a shining example of competence and integrity for the people that he or she serves. Delayed decisions in adjudicated matters can destroy the lives of civil litigants and criminal defendants. Justice delayed is justice denied.

- 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. See attached Curriculum Vitae
- 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.

# Attachment A Employment History

Please start with your current employment or most recent employment, self-employment, and periods of as

**Current or Last Employer:** State of Nevada, Department of Administration, Hearings Division

**Phone Number:** (702) 486-2527

Address: 2200 S. Rancho Drive, Suite 220, Las Vegas, Nevada 89102

From: July 1, 2016, To: Present

Supervisor's Name: Michelle Morgando, Esq.

Supervisor's Job Title: Senior Appeals Officer

Your Title: Appeals Officer

**Specific Duties:** Appeals Officers conduct appeals of Hearing Officer decisions, as well as direct appeals in a wide variety of administrative law matters. In addition to hearing appeals rom Hearing Officer decisions, the Appeals Officers hear State Purchasing Bid disputes, Medicaid appeals, Department of Business and Industry, Division of Industrial Insurance Regulation appeals, Financial Institution hearings, Purchasing Division bid award appeals, Department of Education teacher certification appeals, and other administrative law matters.

A person who disagrees with a Hearing Officer decision has 30 days to appeal the Hearing Officer decision to the Appeals Officer. Appeals Officer hearings are "on the record" and are digitally recorded for purposes of providing transcripts of the proceedings in case of further appeals. Appeals Officers review the Hearing Officer decision, but they will conduct an entirely separate hearing, and the parties must separately submit the evidence they want the Appeals Officer to consider. The Appeals Officer does not consider the evidence submitted to the Hearing Officer unless it is submitted in the Appeals Hearing. The Appeals Officer conducts a "de novo" review of the decision of the Hearing Officer. The Appeal Officer can Affirm, Reverse, or remand the Hearing Officer decision or enter other orders allowed by law.

**Reason for Leaving:** Still on the job.

**Previous Employer:** College of Southern Nevada

**Phone Number:** (702) 651-5909

Address: 6375 West Charleston Blvd. W2C

From: August 2021 To: Present

Eighth Judicial District, Dept. 11

Name

Supervisor's Name: Rene Rosich

Supervisor's Job Title: Head of Paralegal Studies, Department of Business Administration

Your Title: Adjunct Professor

**Specific Duties:** Teach entry level courses in the paralegal program at CSN

Reason for Leaving: Still there

# Attachment A **Employment History** (continuation sheet)

**Previous Employer:** Ray Lego & Associates

**Phone Number:** (702) 479-4350

Address: 7450 Arroyo Crossing Parkway, Suite 250, Las Vegas, Nevada 89113

**From:** July 2004 **To:** June 2016

Supervisor's Name: Ray Lego, Esq.

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

Your Title: Senior Counsel

**Specific Duties:** Senior litigation attorney in the Las Vegas Staff Counsel Office of Travelers Insurance. Handled Worker's Compensation cases, commercial litigation, auto litigation, subrogation, and personal liability defense. Duties included: Participation in arbitrations and mediations; Prepare and conduct jury trials when necessary; Advise clients on interpretation of Nevada Law; conduct claim seminars and presentations; interface with people inside and outside of Travelers to provide quality and time efficient legal representation.

**Reason for Leaving:** Appointed Appeals Officer

**Previous Employer:** Karl Armstrong, Esq.

**Phone Number:** (702) 245-7652

Eighth Judicial District, Dept. 11

Name

Address: 1931 Fair Ave.

From: October 2003 To: June 2004

Supervisor's Name: Karl Armstrong, Esq.

Supervisor's Job Title: Self Employed

Your Title: Attorney

**Specific Duties:** Independent contractor who did contract attorney duties for various attorneys in town.

Reason for Leaving: Obtained Staff Counsel employment at Travelers

Attachment A
Employment History
(continuation sheet)

**Previous Employer:** Sharon Gwin Immerman & Associates

**Phone Number:** Office is closed

Address: 10000 West Charleston Blvd. Suite 140, Las Vegas, Nevada

From: February 2001 To: September 2003

Supervisor's Name: Sharon Gwin Immerman, Esq.

Supervisor's Job Title: Managing Counsel

Your Title: Senior Staff Counsel

**Specific Duties:** Hired as a Senior Staff Attorney working in the areas of automobile and homeowner's insurance defense. Participated in arbitrations and mediations, prepared and litigated jury trials when necessary. Also advised clients on Nevada law requirements and conducted claims seminars as staff counsel for State Farm Insurance. Became interim Managing Counsel at the end of my tenure from January-September of 2003.

Reason for Leaving: Office closed.

# Nevada Board of Continuing Legal Education Unaudited CLE Transcript

Wednesday, September 29, 2021

Karl W. Armstrong

Compliance Group 1

2021 Compliance Period Ending:

Friday, December 31, 2021

**COMPLIANT** 

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.

C	Course		Total	Credits Applied by Year					
	Date	Course Name		Credits			CARRY	CARRY	Excess *
	Date			Orealts		2021	2022	2023	Ciedits
	8/23/2018	8th. Annual Nevada Workers' Compensation Educational Co	onference	1.00E	1.00E				
	8/23/2018	8th. Annual Nevada Workers' Compensation Educational Co	onference	8.00G	7.50G				
	9/1/2018	Fall 2018 TIP Mentor (090118-123118) Part 1		2.00G	2.00G				
	9/1/2018	2018 Spring TIP Mentor		4.00GD	0.50GD				3.50GD
	9/1/2018	2018 Spring TIP Mentor		1.00ED	1.00ED				
1	0/10/2018	Better Lawyering Through Mindfulness		1.00S	1.00S				
	1/1/2019	Fall 2018 TIP Mentor (1/1/19 033119) part 2		2.00G		2.00G			
	1/1/2019	Fall 2018 TIP Mentor (1/1/19 033119) part 2		1.00E		1.00E			
	5/16/2019	2019 District Court Conference		4.00G		4.00G			
	5/16/2019	2019 District Court Conference		1.00E		1.00E			
	5/16/2019	2019 District Court Conference		1.00S		1.00S			1
	8/22/2019	9th Annual Nevada Workers' Compensation Educational Co	nference	7.00G		4.00G			3.00G
1	7/25/2020	95th Annual Virtual Convention		1.00ED			1.00ED		
į.	7/25/2020	95th Annual Virtual Convention		7.50GD			7.50GD		
	5/25/2021	2021 District Court Conference		3.00GD			2.50GD	0.50GD	
	5/25/2021	2021 District Court Conference		1.00SD			1.00SD		
			Previous	Carry Forward	. 26 00	21.50			
	If you do not see a course posted to your record, please be advised credits are			Credits Taken	20.00				
	DEMINIDED	entered in the order they are received.	Total Cred	lits Applied Th	is	4.00			
	KEMINDER	Excess ethics and/or substance abuse credits can be used towards any general credit deficiency.		Period	13.00	13.00			
		general electric desirency.	Total (	Credits Carried		12.50			

Requirements Met or Waived: Y Y
Total Hours Required: 0 0

Hours Required By:12/31/2020 12/31/2021

★ SCR 210(2) Any attorney subject to these rules who completes more than thirteen (13) hours of accredited educational activity in any calendar year may carry forward up to twenty (20) hours of excess general credits, four (4) hours of excess ethics credits, and two (2) hours of excess substance abuse credits in any calendar year for the next two (2) calendar years.

	Posting Codes
E	= Ethics
G	= General
S	= Substance Abuse
Α	= Authorship
В	= Bridge the Gap
D	= Alternate Format
Н	= In-Home Study
F	= Faxed
Р	= Preparation Time
Т	= Teaching

#### **CURRICULUM VITAE**

Name:

Karl W. Armstrong 1931 Fair Avenue

Address:

Las Vegas, Nevada 89106

Telephone:

(702) 453-9372 - home

(702) 245-7664 - cell

Date of Birth:

December 29, 1957 Married since 1994

Martial Status:

to Shondra Summers-Armstrong

Children:

Brandon Summers, age 27 Dexter Summers, age 25

Kieran Armstrong, age 13



## **Employment History:**

Ray Lego & Associates 7450 Arroyo Crossing Parkway, Suite 250 Las Vegas, Nevada 89113 Senior Counsel, June 2004 to Present

Perform duties as staff counsel for Travelers' Insurance Company. I am a senior litigation attorney for the company and practice in the areas of commercial litigation, auto and personal liability defense, as well as Worker's Compensation defense for the company's insureds. My duties consist of the following: participate in arbitrations and mediations; prepare and conduct jury trials when necessary; advise clients on Nevada law requirements; conduct claim seminars and presentations; interface with persons inside and outside the company to provide quality and time efficient legal representation.

Karl Armstrong, Esq. 1931 Fair Avenue Las Vegas, Nevada 89106 Self-employed, Contract Attorney, November 2003 to June 2004

Independent contractor who performed legal research and trial preparation services for a number of legal offices. Provided legal consulting services in the areas of personal injury, employment, contract, medical malpractice and

criminal law. Conducted legal research using both LEXIS and WESTLAW. Drafted motions, pleadings and other documents as required. Performed mediation, arbitration and trial preparation.

Karl Armstrong and Associates
Sharon Gwin Immerman & Associates
State Farm Staff Counsel Office
10000 West Charleston Boulevard, Suite 140
Las Vegas, Nevada
Attorney/Interim Managing Attorney, February 2001 to September 2003

Hired as a senior staff attorney and then appointed Interim Managing Attorney for in-house insurance defense firm representing State Farm Insureds.

As senior staff attorney worked in the areas of automobile and homeowners insurance defense. Duties consisted of: participating in arbitrations and mediations; preparing and prosecuting jury trials when necessary; advising clients on Nevada law requirements; conducting claim seminars and presentations; interfacing with persons inside and outside the company to provide quality and time efficient legal representation.

After appointment to Interim Managing Attorney, duties included supervision of four staff attorneys, two paralegals, three legal secretaries and a receptionist. Counseled employees on employment and performance issues. Adhered to company policies concerning employee discipline. Approved all time sheets and leave requests for all employees. Conducted continuing education and employment seminars for employees. Managed office workflow and work quality issues. Approved all requisitions, purchase orders and requests for payment. In addition, managed an active litigation caseload of 50 automobile and homeowners cases.

University and Community College System of Nevada (Now known as Nevada System of Higher Education) 5550 West Flamingo Road, Suite C-1 Las Vegas, Nevada 89103

Assistant General Counsel, February 1997 to January 2001

Member of a five person legal staff that was responsible for representation on all legal matters of the institutions that comprise the Nevada Public Higher Education System. These institutions included: The Desert Research Institute; University of Nevada Las Vegas; University of Nevada Reno; Community College of Southern Nevada; Western Nevada Community College; Truckee Meadows Community College; and Great Basin Community College. Represented the entire system on several advisory committees i.e. computer use and student disciplinary code of conduct. Provided representation to the Chancellor's Office as well as the Board of Regents in

litigated matters. The areas of practice included: civil litigation; employment and personnel matters; contract review and interpretation; construction law and intellectual property. In addition to the above duties, managed an active litigation caseload of between 20 and 30 cases. Trial counsel on six matters that went to jury verdict in both federal and state court.

Office of the Attorney General, State of Nevada 555 East Washington Avenue, Suite 3900 Las Vegas, Nevada 89101 Deputy Attorney General, November 1993 to February 1997

Primary legal advisor to The Nevada Department of Prisons, The Nevada Parole Board and The Nevada Department of Parole and Probation. Responsible for contract review, personnel matters, policy implementation and litigation defense. Lead prosecutor in the Worker's Compensation Fraud Unit. Supervision of the Worker's Compensation Fraud Unit in Las Vegas and select cases for prosecution. Interact with public and business leaders regarding the Worker's Compensation Fraud Unit's public education efforts. Prepare and argue post conviction and Habeas Corpus Petition replies on behalf of the State of Nevada. Argued two cases with published opinions before the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. Lead trial counsel on three matters that went to jury verdict in federal court. Handled all aspects of litigation in the following areas on behalf of the State of Nevada: inmate civil rights; 1st, 8th and 14th Amendment; excessive force; failure to protect; medical deliberate indifference and medical and dental malpractice.

Eighth Judicial District Court
The Honorable Sally L. Loehrer
200 S. Third Street, Department XV
Las Vegas, Nevada 89155
Law Clerk, January 1993 to August 1993

Prepared case summaries on all pending matters. Briefed judge on all criminal and civil cases. Reviewed orders submitted by counsel for accuracy and form. Performed legal research as directed using WESTLAW and printed legal materials. Drafted for judge's review decisions on cases argued before the bench. Interacted with legal community as necessary regarding cases before the Court.

Eighth Judicial District Court
The Honorable Addeliar D. Guy, III
200 S. Third Street, Department XI
Las Vegas, Nevada 89155
Law Clerk, August 1991 to December 1992

Prepared case summaries on all pending matters. Briefed judge on all criminal and civil cases. Reviewed orders submitted by counsel for accuracy and form. Performed legal research as directed using WESTLAW and printed legal materials. Drafted for judge's review decisions on cases argued before the bench. Interacted with legal community as necessary regarding cases before the Court.

Office of the Cook County Public Defender 69 West Washington, Suite 1600 Chicago, Illinois Assistant Public Defender, June 1988 to August 1991

Began tenure in the Post Conviction Unit, which represented indigent defendants in investigating and filing post conviction petitions. Position involved reviewing the record and researching criminal issues to argue before the court to determine whether there was a basis to overturn a defendant's conviction. Subsequently posted to the Juvenile Division. Represented parents of abused and neglected children in juvenile court. Duties included: preparing protective orders; representation at termination of rights proceedings and custody determination hearings. Last posted to the 6th Judicial District Court in Markham, Illinois. Provided legal representation in felony and misdemeanor matters for indigent accused. Lead trial counsel on ten matters that went to jury verdict in state court.

#### Education:

Lindblom Technical High School 130 South Wolcott Avenue Chicago, Illinois 1972 to 1976, High School Diploma with Honors, Top 5% of Class

Northwestern University Evanston, Illinois 1976 to 1980, No degree conferred

University of Illinois at Chicago Chicago, Illinois 1981 to 1985, Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice University of Iowa College of Law Iowa City, Iowa Juris Doctor, May 1988, Top one half, C+/B- Average

## Significant high school, college and law school activities:

#### Lindblom High School

- Lindblom Honor Society, 1972 to 1976
- Junior Achievement (President of four companies), 1972 to 1976
- President, Caduceus Club, 1973 to 1974
- Student Government, Member, 1973 to 1976
- Junior Achievement, Student Speaker, "Future Unlimited" Banquet, 1974
- Junior Achievement, Finalist President of the Year, 1974
- Junior Achievement Leadership Award, 1974
- President, German Club, 1975 to 1976
- National Honor Society, 1975 to 1976
- National Achievement Scholarship Semifinalist, 1975 to 1976
- School Science Fair, Winner, 1976
- Senior Brothers Council, Member, 1976
- Recipient, Lindblom Leadership Scholarship, 1976
- Recipient, Top 10 outstanding Seniors Award, 1976
- Managing Editor, Lindblom Leader Newspaper, 1975 to 1976

#### Northwestern University

- Treasurer, For Members Only, 1978 to 1979
- Chair, Student Activities Funding Board, 1978 to 1979
- Treasurer, Associated Student Government, 1978 to 1980
- Member, Student Activities Funding Board, 1977 to 1980

#### University of Illinois at Chicago

- Vice Chair, Chicago Circle Center Board, 1984 to 1985
- Treasurer, Student Government, 1982 to 1984
- Chair, Recreation Committee, Chicago Circle Center Board, 1983 to 1984

#### University of Iowa College of Law

- Member, Black Law Students Association, 1985 to 1988,
- Vice President, Black Law Students Association, 1986 to 1987
- Semifinalist, Van Oosterhout Memorial Moot Court Competition, 1986 to 1987
- Staff Member, Volume 12 of The Journal of Corporation Law, 1986 to 1987
- Managing Editor, Volume 13 of The Journal of Corporation Law, 1987 to 1988

#### Bar Admittance:

State of Nevada, 1993 U.S. District Court of Nevada, 1993 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court of Appeals, 1993 Illinois State Courts, 1989

#### Boards and Commissions:

- Nevada Commission on Judicial Discipline
   Commissioner, 2001-Present
   Appointed by the State Bar of Nevada to serve as one of two attorney
   members of this constitutionally established commission that has
   exclusive jurisdiction over conduct of all state judicial officers as
   defined in the Canons of Judicial Ethics. Also enforces these canons of
   ethics. Sits as a court of judicial discipline in deciding whether to
   impose discipline on judicial officers alleged to have violated the
   canons of judicial conduct.
- Standing Committee on Judicial Ethics and Election Standards
   Member, 2000-2001
   Committee established by the Supreme Court to resolve ethical
   disputes between judges and judicial candidates during campaign
   season and also to render advisory opinions regarding the application
   of the Canons of Judicial Conduct to specific questions posed by
   members of the judiciary, judicial candidates, and the general public.
- FAME Transportation, Inc.
   Member, Board of Directors and Legal Counsel, 2004-2008
   Nonprofit organization providing transportation services to the handicapped and elderly throughout Clark County. The organization is a subsidiary of the First African Methodist Episcopal Church.
- Southern Nevada Disciplinary Board,
   Member, 1993-2002,2010-2013
   Appointed by the State Bar of Nevada to serve as a member of the panel that screens and hears disciplinary cases against attorneys. This panel is charged with the responsibility for hearing cases involving lawyer violations of the Code of Professional Conduct. The panel conducted disciplinary hearings and made recommendations to the Nevada Supreme Court regarding attorney disciplinary matters.

- Las Vegas Chapter of the National Bar Association Vice President, 1995-1996; Treasurer, 2011-2013
- State Bar of Nevada Member, Public Lawyer's Section, 1994 to 1996
- Big Brothers Big Sisters of Nevada Member, Board of Directors, 1998-2002
- Boulder Dam Area Council, Boy Scouts of America Member, Board of Directors, 1994 to 1996

Chairman, Easter Seals of Southern Nevada 2009-Present Member, Board of Directors, Easter Seals Southern Nevada 2008-Present

Member, 100 Black Men of Las Vegas, 2012-Present

#### Honors and Awards:

Outstanding Young Men of America Martindale Hubbell BV Rating Who's Who Among Students in Colleges and Universities University of Illinois at Chicago Alumni Association Student Leadership Award

# Jury Trial Statistics:

- Ten criminal jury trials to verdict
- Two juvenile adjudicatory trial proceedings
- Ten civil jury trials to verdict
- Three preliminary injunction hearings with full evidentiary presentations
- Two 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit Appellate cases with published opinions
  - o Walker v. Deeds, (50 F.3d 670)
  - o *Riley v. Deeds,* (56 F.3d 1117)