



Matt Morris

Associate

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PRACTICES

Environmental
Energy Consumers, Developers, and
Public Utilities
Government
Environmental Transactions
State Government Affairs
Stadiums, Arenas, and Sports
State and Local Tax

INDUSTRIES

Energy and Resources

EDUCATION

William S. Boyd School of Law,
University of Nevada Las Vegas, J.D.,
2013

Nevada State College, B.A., 2009
Cum Laude

BAR ADMISSIONS

Nevada

COURT ADMISSIONS

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth
Circuit
U.S. District Court for the District of
Nevada

Matt counsels energy, corporate, and gaming clients on regulatory, litigation, and legislative matters.

Matt applies extensive state and local policy experience to help clients navigate the complex permitting, regulatory compliance matters, and litigation, their projects may face. He guides clients through legal and regulatory obstacles encountered when operating across jurisdictions in Nevada. Matt draws from more than ten years of experience in government service to counsel clients on a range of issues, including legislative affairs, workforce and infrastructure development, gaming issues, and energy policy. He also assists clients in developing and implementing effective strategic planning initiatives.

Prior to joining Holland & Hart, Matt worked at a prominent civil litigation defense firm in Nevada. His government experience includes serving as Legislative Director and Senior Policy Analyst for Nevada Governor Brian Sandoval and working as a staffer in the U.S. Senate and U.S. House of Representatives. Matt also served as a law clerk to Justice Ron Parraguirre at the Nevada Supreme Court.

EXPERIENCE

Matt provides practical representation to clients operating in Nevada on a range of matters including:

- Legislative affairs, strategic planning, and public policy initiatives
- Commercial litigation, including professional negligence and products liability defense
- Energy and administrative law and regulation

CLIENT RESULTS

- Led the team that designed, prepared, and completed Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada's 2022-2027 Strategic Plan "Transformative Mobility"
- Challenged and overturned State of Nevada Department of Taxation's denial of tax exemption status for a non-profit medical education association on judicial review.

- Successfully obtained state and local licensure and regulatory approvals for clients across a variety of industry sectors, including a professional sports entity, NRS 704B provider of new electric resources, and intrastate transportation service provider.
- Successfully drafted and advocated for passage and approval of state legislation to expand energy-savings performance contracting.
- Successfully drafted and advocated for passage and approval of state legislation to extend local government agency authorization to submit bill draft requests to Nevada Legislature.
- Lead attorney for drafting first-in-the-nation legislation authorizing licensure and regulation of earned wage access services (SB 290, Nev., 2023)

PUBLICATIONS

"The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act in Nevada: A Compelling Opportunity for Comprehensive Strategic Planning," *Nevada Lawyer Magazine*, April 2022

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

"Regional Legislative and Administrative Policy Developments," *20th Annual Energy in the Southwest Conference, Law Seminars International*, August 24, 2023

"Legislating During a Pandemic: Nevada's First Virtual Legislative Session," *Boyd School of Law C.L.E. Panel*, August 6, 2021

RECOGNITION

- 2nd Judicial District Court, Lawyer in the Library Pro Bono Lawyer of the Year Award, 2021, 2023
- UNLV Boyd School of Law, Young Alumni of the Year Award, 2017

PROFESSIONAL AND CIVIC AFFILIATIONS

- Nevada State Bar CLE Committee Member, January 2023-present
- UNLV Boyd School of Law
 - Alumni Board of Directors, President, 2023, 2024; Vice President, 2022, 2023; Member, 2018-present
 - Frank A. Schreck Gaming Law Moot Court Competition, Competition Judge, 2021, 2022
 - Policy and Legislation Society, Advisory Board Member, 2019-present
- Jobs for Nevada's Graduates, Board of Directors, 2016-present
- Clark County Bar Association Client Counseling Competition, Competition Judge, 2019-2022
- Reno Young Professionals Network, Member, 2016-present