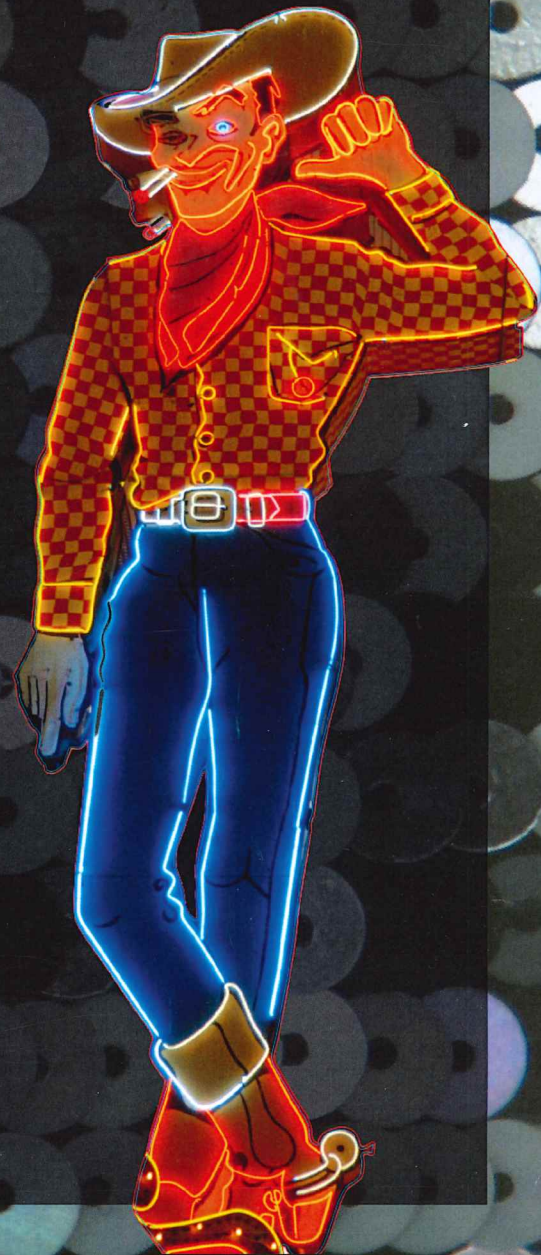


William S. Boyd School of Law  
Public Interest Law Association's  
*24th Annual*  
*Silver State Auction*

February 23, 2023







# *Public Interest Law Association*

The Public Interest Law Association (PILA) at UNLV William S. Boyd School of Law is a non-profit student organization. PILA works closely with students, faculty, and the community to raise awareness about public interest work and opportunities available to law students. PILA's annual Silver State Auction raises money to fund summer grants for students working in the public sector. Previous grant winners have worked for various non-profit organizations and government agencies throughout Nevada and the country, including Nevada Legal Services, the Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada, and the Nevada Department of Indigent Defense Services.

PILA is an organization that is committed to helping law students work and advocate for the communities that need it most. Your generosity has and continues to allow law students to work diligently to help provide justice throughout Nevada and the country. We are grateful for your support and look forward to a brighter tomorrow.

## **2022 - 2023 PILA Executive Board**

**Courtney Kinsella**, President

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# *Letter from Dean Grinvald*

**Alumni and Friends,**

Part of the mission of the William S. Boyd School of Law at UNLV is to serve our communities through public interest work. We are proud of our many public interest programs that allow our students and alumni to provide free legal education to the community through our Christine Smith Community Service Program, direct legal assistance through our Partners in Pro Bono Program, as well as student placements in government and nonprofit organizations through our Samuel S. Lionel Externship Program.

But at the heart of all of this great programming at Boyd Law is the student-led Public Interest Law Association (PILA). Each year, PILA makes it possible for students to explore careers in public interest by providing grants of \$2,500 or \$5,000 to several students to fund their summer public interest work. Without these grants, it is not likely that many of these students could afford to engage in this work, since most public interest positions are unpaid. Previous winners (some of whom featured in later pages) have used the grant to support their work for a variety of government agencies and non-profit organizations.

PILA is counting on your support to help us continue to provide students with the opportunity to engage in public interest work over the summer and help Boyd Law meet its mission of serving our communities. The main fundraising vehicle for PILA has been the annual PILA Auction. This year will mark the 24th annual Auction, which will be held on February 23rd, 2023, from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm at the Golden Nugget Las Vegas Hotel and Casino. In case you are not able to make it in-person, donations will also be accepted virtually.

The Auction is going to be a wonderful opportunity for all of us to come together (in-person!) as a community, celebrate the great work of our students and local leaders, provide networking opportunities for students, alumni and friends, as well as to raise money for PILA's public interest grants.

On behalf of Boyd Law and PILA, I would like to thank you for your continuing support and generosity. We look forward to seeing many of you at this year's Auction!

With warm regards,

**Leah Chan Grinvald**

*Dean and Richard J. Morgan Professor of Law*



# Silver Service Award *Ogonna Brown*

The Silver Service Award recognizes an individual who has made significant contributions to the public interest. Ogonna Brown is a partner at Lewis Roca in the firm's Litigation and Bankruptcy and Creditors' Rights practice groups. She is an active volunteer and mentor with the William S. School of Boyd, serves on the Legal Aid of Southern Nevada Pro Bono Advisory Council, and is on various committees for the American College of Bankruptcy. Ogonna is a brilliant attorney and works tirelessly to make Las Vegas a better place. We are so grateful for Ogonna's continued support, her countless contributions to the community, and her dedication to mentoring Boyd students.



# Silver Embrace Award *Nevada Department of Indigent Defense Services*

The Silver Embrace Award honors an unsung hero engaged in public interest work. The Nevada Department of Indigent Defense Services ("DIDS") assists Nevada counties in developing quality, equitable, and sustainable indigent defense systems that strengthen local communities and meet or exceed the state and federal constitutional guarantees that protect each of us. DIDS is working to create a pipeline program through Boyd to bring more qualified indigent defense attorneys into rural areas. We are incredibly grateful to DIDS for their relentless efforts in all areas of Nevada.



**Nevada Department of**  
*Indigent Defense Services*