



## ALINA M. SHELL

### OF COUNSEL

Las Vegas, NV

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Alina Shell is a skilled litigator with more than a decade of experience representing clients in state and federal civil and criminal matters, as well as in appellate court.

She has deep experience handling matters involving civil rights, prisoner rights, public records and court access, employment law, complex commercial, state and federal appeals, sex offender registration, state cannabis law and state post-conviction proceedings.

Alina often participates in local and national training seminars for criminal defense attorneys and civil practitioners, instructing attorneys on issues such as persuasive legal writing, persuasive sentencing advocacy, public records litigation and civil rights litigation.

### BACKGROUND

Prior to joining Armstrong Teasdale, Alina served as a senior attorney at another Las Vegas area law firm. She spent the past several years in private practice, and before that served in various roles for the Federal Public Defenders for the District of Nevada (FPD), most recently as assistant federal defender. While at the FPD, Alina participated in trials and worked on direct appeals, briefing and arguing numerous cases before the Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. She tackled a broad range of issues, including challenges to sentencing decisions, fighting prosecutorial misconduct, and challenging the constitutionality of criminal statutes (including by raising First Amendment issues). Alina also developed experience in defending white-collar criminal cases, trial work and pornography cases.

Alina also previously worked as officer manager and program coordinator for the ACLU of Nevada, working alongside attorneys on a variety of issues, including advocating for the rights of homeless people, the First Amendment rights of pamphleteers and prisoners' rights.

### EDUCATION

- William S. Boyd School of Law - University of Nevada, Las Vegas (J.D., 2009)
- University of Nevada, Las Vegas (B.A., 2002)

### PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

- State Bar of Nevada

### SERVICES AND INDUSTRIES

Appellate

Cannabis and Hemp Law

Employment and Labor

Litigation

Sports, Media and

Entertainment

### ADMISSIONS

Nevada

U.S. Court of Appeals, Ninth

Circuit

U.S. District Court, District of

Nevada

- Nevada Attorneys for Criminal Justice
- Clark County Bar Association
- Clark County Racial and Ethnic Disparity Working Group
- Southern Nevada Association of Women Attorneys

#### **ACCOLADES**

- Legal Aid of Southern Nevada Pro Bono Project 100 Hours Club (2020)
- Legal Aid of Southern Nevada Pro Bono Project 50 Hours Club (2018)

#### **LANGUAGES**

- Spanish (conversational)

## **EXPERIENCE**

#### **Pro Bono Counsel in Class Action Lawsuit Involving Medical Care for Inmates with Hepatitis C**

Served as pro bono co-counsel for class representatives in a class action lawsuit challenging the failure of the Nevada Department of Corrections (NDOC) to provide medical care to inmates with chronic Hepatitis C virus (HCV) consistent with national standards. Pursuant to consent decree, the NDOC will now provide adequate medical care to all inmates with HCV.

#### **Pro Bono Counsel to Transgender Inmate Challenging NDOC Policies Relating to Medical Treatment**

Served as pro bono counsel for a transgender inmate challenging Nevada Department of Corrections (NDOC) policies limiting medical treatment for inmates with gender dysphoria. Negotiated settlement with NDOC which now ensures medical care for inmates with gender dysphoria consistent with national standards.

#### **Counsel to Large-Circulation Newspaper in Records Request and School Board Investigation**

Served as counsel to Nevada's largest-circulation newspaper in public records litigation to obtain records pertaining to the investigation of an elected school board trustee accused of harassment.

#### **Counsel to Large-Circulation Newspaper in Records Request and Access to Autopsy Records**

Served as counsel to Nevada's largest-circulation newspaper in public records litigation to obtain access to autopsy records.

#### **Counsel for Disabled Street Artist Cited by Police in Violation of the First Amendment**

Served as counsel in state justice court and federal district court for a disabled artist who taught himself to draw with his mouth after he was repeatedly cited for obstructing the sidewalks on the Las Vegas Strip, and obtained a significant settlement for the client.