



# Honorary Degree

# Nomination Form

1. Degree to be Awarded:

X  Honorary Doctorate      \_\_\_ Honorary Baccalaureate \_\_\_ Honorary Associate

2. Please state the name and address of your nominee for an Honorary Degree.

Joseph W. Brown, Esq.  
Fennemore Craig Jones Vargas  
300 S. Fourth Street, Suite 1400  
Las Vegas, NV 89101

3. Honorary degrees shall be awarded to persons who have made significant contributions to the improvement of the quality of academic programs and academic life at one of the NSHE's institutions. Persons currently holding public elected office are not eligible for the degree except in extraordinary circumstances.

What are your reasons for nominating this person? (Attach additional pages, if necessary.)

See attached  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Institution **University of Nevada, Las Vegas**

(B/R 3/03; Added 6/05)



## **HONORARY DOCTORATE NOMINATION JUSTIFICATION - JOSEPH W. BROWN**

Joseph W. Brown is being nominated for an Honorary Doctorate for his decades-long support of UNLV and our community. Mr. Brown has made immense contributions as an advocate for UNLV through his contacts with legislators and other elected officials to share our story. During the last legislative session, he accompanied President Smatresk to Carson City in support of the university. He also has actively participated in advocacy tours on campus over the last several years.

Mr. Brown hosts a weekly radio program on UNLV's radio station, KNUV. The show connects members of the community with the campus, and hosts speakers who talk about their experiences in Las Vegas, the changes they have seen, and how they impact our region. He also hosts a monthly discussion group of community leaders in his First Wednesday luncheon series, covering a variety of topics from education, politics, finance, water, security, etc. He serves as a Fellow of the Desert Research Institute Foundation.

His service to UNLV is far-reaching and spans a number of colleges and schools. He has served on the William S. Boyd School of Law Dean's Advisory Board for well over a decade. He and his company have supported student scholarships in both law and athletics. In 2011, Mr. Brown worked closely with UNLV staff to honor former Nevada governor, Kenny Guinn, creator of the Millennium Scholarship and a huge advocate for education.

### **NEVADA COMMUNITY SERVICE**

- Nevada Development Authority - Chairman of the Board, 1987-1989, and member of the Executive Committee since 1984. A non-profit, privately-funded group of local business and governmental leaders organized for the purpose of diversifying the Southern Nevada economy by attracting new business growth.
- Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce - Member of the Board of Trustees, 1988-2001. Co-Chairman of Statewide Committee to Study Tax Structure of Nevada, 1984-1986.
- Nevada Test Site Development Corporation - Chairman, 1998-2000. A public/private partnership organized by Senator Harry Reid to find alternative uses for the Nevada Test Site, taking advantage of its unique physical characteristics to promote economic development and employment opportunities for a highly-skilled workforce.
- Citizens Advisory Committee on Downtown Re-development - Past member. Appointed by Mayor and Las Vegas City Council. The goals of this committee were to diversify and redevelop the downtown sector of Las Vegas.
- Nevada Foreign Trade Zone Authority - One of six of the Statewide Board of Directors which oversees the Foreign Trade Zones in Las Vegas and Reno-Sparks.
- The Nature Conservancy - Founding Board Member and first Nevada State Co-Chairman
- Western Folklife Center (Elko, Nevada) - Board Member

## PUBLIC SERVICE

- Republican National Committeeman - Nevada, 2002 – 2009.
- Foreign Claims Settlement Commission of the United States - Commissioner. Appointed by President Ronald Reagan to two terms commencing in October of 1981, expiring in September of 1986. This Commission is responsible for handling claims of U.S. citizens and corporations against foreign governments.
- State Justice Institute - Member of the Board of Directors, 1987-1990. Served under Presidents Reagan and George H.W. Bush. The State Justice Institute was created by federal legislation in 1985 to improve operation of this Country's state court systems.
- Nevada Department of Wildlife - Commissioner, 1979-1985. Responsibility of this Commission is to "establish policies and adopt regulations necessary to the preservation, protection, management and restoration of wildlife and its habitat."
- Nevada State Athletic Commission - Commissioner, 2003-2007. This Commission regulates all professional boxing, and mixed martial arts activities conducted in Nevada.
- Nevada Gaming Commission - Commissioner, May 2009-Present. This Commission regulates all aspects of the gaming industry in the State of Nevada.

## FORMER MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS

- United Way of Clark County
- Boys and Girls Clubs of Clark County
- Nevada Catholic Community Services - Chair
- HELP of Southern Nevada - Chair
- UNLV Boxing Club - Founding Board Member
- Speedway Children's Charities - Board Member

## CAREER BACKGROUND

Joe Brown is a director at Fennemore Craig Jones Vargas and former President of Jones Vargas, Southern Nevada's oldest and most prestigious law firm. Mr. Brown has spent more than 30 years as a member of the firm. His practice areas include government affairs, administrative law and gaming.

Mr. Brown serves as an officer or director of many businesses, civic, and charitable organizations. He is AV-rated by Martindale Hubbell Law Directory and is listed as one of The Best Lawyers in America in the field of government relations law. He also was recognized in the 2008 issue of *Super Lawyers* magazine as one of the top business and corporate lawyers in the five-state mountain region.

Mr. Brown holds a Bachelor of Law degree from Washington & Lee University and a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Virginia. He is admitted to practice before the state and federal courts of Nevada and the District of Columbia. He is a member of the Clark County and American Bar Associations.

## NOTABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- 2001 Community Achievement Award - Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce
- 2008 Golden Elephant Award - Clark County Republican Party