

NOMINATION JUSTIFICATION—SAMUEL S. LIONEL

AFFILIATION WITH UNLV AND NSHE

Sam Lionel is a partner at Lionel Sawyer & Collins, one of the largest law firms in Nevada. The firm was founded in 1967 when Grant Sawyer ended his term as Governor of Nevada and joined with Lionel, a well-known litigator and business lawyer. In 1972, Jon Collins, a former Chief Justice of the Nevada Supreme Court joined the firm. In addition to being a founder of the firm, Lionel serves as President and is a member of the executive committee and the chairman of the litigation department.

Lionel earned battle commendations with the Army in North Africa and Italy in World War II. He went on to become a judge advocate general and to teach at West Point. He moved to Las Vegas on the advice of Emily Wanderer, Southern Nevada's first female attorney and made his mark in gaming law, corporate governance and litigation.

He is a long-time, major donor to the William S. Boyd School of Law, supporting student scholarships. He has been giving at President's Associate's level to the Annual Fund since 1988. To date, his gifts total more than \$754,000. He serves as a member of UNLV's Law School Dean's Executive Council. He served as legal counsel for Jerry Tarkanian during "the troubles" in the late 1980s.

CAREER BACKGROUND

Sam Lionel is a founder of the Lionel Sawyer & Collins. He serves as President of the Firm, is a member of the Executive Committee, and is Chairman of the Litigation Department. He is one of the most respected and well-known trial attorneys in Nevada. His depth of experience and long record of success at trial continues to serve the Firm's prestigious clients.

Lionel is a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers. He is listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* for Bet-the-Company Litigation, Commercial Litigation and Corporate Law, and was named to "The Top 75" by *Mountain States Super Lawyers*. He has an AV rating in the *Martindale-Hubbell* directory. Most recently, *Best Lawyers*, the oldest and most respected peer-review publication in the legal profession, named him as the "Las Vegas Best Lawyers Lawyer of the Year" for 2013 for Bet-the-Company Litigation and in 2010 for Corporate Law.

Lionel was born in New York in 1919. He earned a law degree from St. John's University School of Law in 1940, and was awarded an honorary LL.D. by California Western School of Law in 1985 and an honorary Doctor of Laws from St. John's University in 2010. He was an instructor in the law department at the United States Military Academy. He is a retired lieutenant colonel JAG.

Professional and Civic Affiliations

- Member and Chairman (for eighteen years), Board of Bar Examiners of Nevada
- Member, Ninth Circuit Senior Advisory Board, 1990-1996
- Fellow, American College of Trial Lawyers
- Member, State Bar of Nevada

- Member, Clark County Bar Association
- Member, American Bar Association

Bar/Court Admissions

- New York State Bar
- State Bar of Nevada
- U.S. Supreme Court
- Nevada and U.S. District Court, District of Nevada
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit

NOTABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Along with Irwin Molasky, Sam Lionel received the 2012 Liberty Bell award. The award recognizes individuals in the community who uphold the rule of law, contribute to good government within the community, stimulate a sense of civic responsibility, and encourage respect for the law in the courts. Mr. Molasky and Mr. Lionel founded Project REAL in 2005 to meet the challenge of teaching Nevada grade school students the importance of the law and its contribution to the American way of life. Project REAL educates K-12 students about the principles of democracy, law and the responsibilities of citizenship. Through a variety of programs, students have the opportunity to explore our judicial system, examine current controversial issues and become involved, participating citizens who understand their social responsibilities and rights.
- Sam Lionel is a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers and is listed in “Best Lawyers in America” for business litigation and corporate law.