

# Distinguished Nevadan Nomination Form

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**Deadline: December 31**

**Please send all nominations to:**

**Scott G. Wasserman, CEO and Special Counsel to the Board of Regents  
2601 Enterprise Road, Reno, NV 89512  
e-mail: [Scott\\_Wasserman@nshe.nevada.edu](mailto:Scott_Wasserman@nshe.nevada.edu) Fax: (775) 327-5049**

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1. **Salutation:**  Mr.  Mrs.  Miss  Ms.  Dr.

2. **Nominee's Name** (*Please ensure correct spelling.*)

Chris Giunchigliani

3. **Nominee's Mailing Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

4. **Nominee's Phone Number:**      **Work:** \_\_\_\_\_

5. **Employment History** (*Attach additional material if necessary.*)

Please see biographical information (attached).

6. **Educational Background** (*Attach additional material if necessary.*)

Please see biographical information (attached).

7. **Reasons for Nomination** (*Please include outstanding accomplishments, achievements, and contributions to Nevada and its people. Please be specific and provide considerable detail. You may attach additional pages if necessary.*)

Please see biographical information (attached).

8. **Other NSHE Awards** *(Please list other awards this individual has received.)*

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9. **Nominated by\*:** Regent Jack Lund Schofield (District 5)

\* Candidates for the Distinguished Nevadan Award may only be nominated by a current member of the Nevada Board of Regents. (Added 6/05)

## **Clark County Commissioner Chris Giunchigliani**

Clark County Commissioner Chris Giunchigliani has lived in Clark County for more than 35 years. During her time here, Chris has become deeply involved in the community as a member of numerous boards, committees and organizations, as well as serving as a member of the State Assembly from 1990 until 2006.

Chris earned a BA degree in special education from Avila College in Kansas City, Mo. in 1976, and later attended UNLV where she earned a Master's degree in education with a special emphasis on the emotionally disturbed. She has also compiled more than 65 additional credit hours in post-graduate work.

Her teaching career began in the Shawnee Mission School District in Kansas, where she taught from 1976 to 1978, and then moved to Clark County to be a special education teacher. Chris was a special education teacher here from 1979 until the summer of 2007. During that time she served eight years as president of the state and local teachers association. She then spent about a year at the Community College of Southern Nevada in School District and Community Relations, before returning to the Clark County School District in 2005 as a special education facilitator and mentor to new teachers at Bridger Middle School. She then went back to teaching at Carroll Johnston Middle School until applying for an unpaid leave of absence in June 2007 after winning election to the Commission. She continues to be on unpaid leave of absence from Clark County School District.

Chris was sworn into a second term of office as County Commissioner for District "E" on January 3, 2011 to serve a four-year term. She was first elected to the Commission in 2007. Chris and her husband Gary Gray have been married since 1987 and live in Las Vegas with their newly rescued and adopted bulldog Otis.

### Accomplishments

Throughout the years, Chris has received numerous awards and recognition for her efforts, including:

- Pink Flamingo Award - Landscape Architects
- 2009 Human Rights Campaign – Community Ally Award
- 2004 Friend of Education Award, Nevada State Education Association
- 2003 Citizen of the Month, City of Las Vegas
- 2003 Freedom Fighter Award, Martin Luther King Committee
- 2003 100% Voting Record Award, Nevada Conservation League
- 2002 Profiles in Courage Award, Nevada Attorneys for Criminal Justice
- 2002 Best Role Model by Las Vegas Life magazine
- 2001 Legislator of the Year, Nevada Association of Social Workers
- 2001 Legislator of the Year, Nevada Council of Police and Sheriffs
- 2001 Legislator of the Year, Nevada Highway Patrol Association
- 2001 Profile in Courage Award, Nevada Attorneys for Criminal Justice

- 2001 Legislator of the Year for Commitment to Social Justice, Nevada Association of Social Workers
- 2000 Citizen of the Month, City of Las Vegas
- 2000 Community Access to Child Health Award, American Academy of Pediatrics
- 2000 Exemplary Civic Leadership Award, Clark County School District
- 2000 Leadership Award, Oral Health Consortium of Southern Nevada
- 1999 Outstanding Legislator Award, NOW
- 1997 Distinguished Alumnus Award, UNLV Alumni Association
- 1995 Award for "Efforts on Behalf of Women," Nevada NOW
- 1994 "Good Gal" Award, Southern Nevada Women's Political Caucus
- 1993 Legislator of the Year Award, Nevada Conference of Police and Sheriffs
- 1993 Award for "Outstanding Legislative Accomplishment on Behalf of Working Men and Women," Ironworkers Council
- "A Fighter and Advocate for the Little Guy" Proclamation by Governor Bob Miller declaring September 11, 1992 as Chris Giunchigliani Day
- Outstanding Service Award, Special Education Parent Advisory Committee
- UNLV Women's Center recognition
- Mike O'Callaghan Teamwork Award
- Certificate of Appreciation, Culinary Training Academy
- NSEA Member Rights Award
- Building and Construction Trades Council of Northern Nevada, Appreciation Award for "Support of Working Men and Women in Nevada"
- Legislator of the Year Award from the Nevada State AFL-CIO
- Legislator of the Year Award from the Chiropractors Association
- Women's Democratic Club Spotlight Award

## Responsibilities

Commissioner Giunchigliani was selected by her fellow commissioners to serve in the following capacities:

- Vice Chair – University Medical Center of Southern Nevada Board of Trustees
- Vice Chair - Liquor & Gaming Licensing Board
- Vice Chair – Kyle Canyon Water District Board of Trustees
- Member – Southern Nevada Regional Planning Coalition
- Member – Southern Nevada Board of Health
- Member - Regional Rapid Transit Authority Board
- Member – Regional Transportation Commission/Regional Flood Control District
- Alternate - Nevada Development Authority
- Alternate - Las Vegas Regional Economic Development Council

As a Clark County Commissioner, Chris also serves on the following boards:

- Greater Las Vegas After-School All-Stars
- State of Nevada Public Lands
- Southern Nevada elected Caucus

- Interim Committee to Study Higher Education Funding
- Clark County Water Reclamation District
- Indigent Accident Fund
- Green Chips
- Clark Towers Board of Directors

As a Clark County Commissioner, Chris has served in the following capacities:

- Chair – Redevelopment Agency
- Chair – Southern Nevada District Board of Health
- Member – Metropolitan Police Committee on Fiscal Affairs
- Member – Southern Nevada Water Authority Member
- Commission on Aging, State of Nevada
- Advisory Committee for Intergovernmental Relations (ACIR)
- Recycling Committee

Additionally Chris is a member of the following organizations:

- Member – Hispanics in Politics
- Member – Latin Chamber of Commerce
- Member – NAACP
- Member – American Association of University Women
- Member – AFAN
- Member – Seniors United
- Member – ACLU
- Member - Stonewall Democrats
- Member - Si Se Puede
- Member - Progressive Leadership Alliance of Nevada
- Member - Democratic Central Committee
- Member - National Organization for Women
- Member – Southern Nevada Society for Prevention of Animal Cruelty
- Member – Nevada Conservation League
- Life Member – Sierra Club
- Life Member - Nevada PTA

Chris' previous public and community service has also included:

- Neighborhood Watch Co-captain
- Former Member – Advisory Board for Maternal and Child Health, starting in 2003 - 2005
- Former Member – Department of Corrections Re-entry Steering Committee, starting in 2004 - 2005
- Former Member Circle Park Steering Committee, 2003-2004
- Appointed to serve on the University Council on Teacher Education 1987 - 1990
- Former Member Mount Charleston Volunteer Association, Inc.
- Former Member – National Youth Sports Program Board of Directors
- Former Member – United Way Review and Allocations Committee

- Former Member – Clark County Community Block Grant Committee
- Selected as a Young Political Leader to tour India and Pakistan and share ideas about American democracy 1997
- Elected as Nevada Delegate to the National Democratic Convention (1984 and 2008)
- Former Clark County deputy voter registrar
- Former Bell Ringer, Salvation Army Christmas Campaign
- Former State PTA Board of Managers, Consulting Member (Life Member of Nevada PTA)
- Former Member – National Women's Political Caucus
- Former Member – National Education Association
- Former Member – Nevada State Education Association
- Former Member – Clark County Education Association
- Former Member - Nevada Empowered Women's Project

Her elected and appointed positions include:

- Appointed – Committee to Study the Fiscal Affairs of State and Local Government by Governor Richard Bryan
- Appointed – Council on Narcotics Control and Drug Abuse by Governor Richard Bryan
- Appointed – Trust Fund for the Education of Pupils by Governor Richard Bryan
- Appointed – Governor's Commission on Excellence in Education by Governor Bob Miller
- Appointed – Task Force on Student Truancy by District Attorney Stewart Bell

Chris was first elected to the Nevada State Assembly in 1990, and while a legislator held the following positions between 1991 and 2006:

- Speaker Pro Tempore – Nevada State Assembly
- Vice-Chair – Ways and Means Committee
- Vice-Chair – Growth and Infrastructure Committee
- Member – Interim Finance Committee
- Member – Committee on Commerce and Labor
- Chair – Elections, Procedures and Ethics
- Chair – Labor and Management Committee for three terms
- Member – Taxation Committee
- Member – Ways and Means Committee
- Member – Legislative Commission (manages the legislature when not in session)