

PARTNER

Richard J. Pocker

Las Vegas

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PROFILE

Rick is the administrative partner for the firm's Nevada office, practicing civil and criminal litigation. One of the firm's most experienced and successful trial lawyers, he is a first chair veteran of scores of federal and state jury trials in his years of government service and private practice. He has been rated "AV" by Martindale Hubbell for 22 years.

Following service in the U.S. Army JAG Corps with the Seventh Infantry Division, Rick joined the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Nevada. Beginning as an Assistant U.S. Attorney, he later became the Chief Assistant U.S. Attorney, and ultimately the United States Attorney. Rick received the Chief Postal Inspector's Special Award for Excellence of Performance in the Administration of Justice, and the Director's Special Commendation Award from the U.S. Department of Justice.

Rick entered private practice in 1991, and joined Boies Schiller Flexner in 2005.

In 1996, he was appointed Chief Counsel to the Select Subcommittee on the United States Role in the Iranian Arms Transfers to Croatia and Bosnia, chaired by the Hon. Henry Hyde of Illinois, leading a congressional investigation of national security, intelligence and foreign policy issues on behalf of the United States House of Representatives. Rick is a former President of the Nevada State Bar, and has served on its Board of Governors since 2011.

In October 2015, Rick joined other present and former high level law enforcement officials from across the nation as a founding member of the Law Enforcement Leaders to Reduce Crime and Incarceration, a group dedicated to advancing criminal sentencing reform.



PRACTICES

Global Investigations and White Collar Defense
Sports and Gaming
Employment Disputes
Intellectual Property
Commercial Disputes

EDUCATION

University of Virginia School of Law, J.D.; Jefferson Literary and Debating Society

University of Virginia, B.A., *highest distinction*, Economics; Phi Beta Kappa; Walter L. Smith Citizen Soldier Award; Distinguished Military Graduate; Jefferson Literary and Debating Society; U.S. Army R.O.T.C.

ADMISSIONS

Bars

Nevada
New York
California
Ohio
Arizona

U.S. Court of Appeals: Ninth Circuit
U.S. District Court: District of Nevada
U.S. District Court: District of Arizona
U.S. District Court: Northern District of Ohio

EXPERIENCE

Among the significant trials Rick has conducted in his long career are:

- Successfully defending the Las Vegas Convention Authority against a \$43 million breach-of-contract claim
- Successfully defending the President of Wiltel Communications against claims of sexual harassment and defamation
- Successfully defending the estate of Artemus Ham, Jr., a generous and prominent educational philanthropist, against efforts to contest Mr. Ham’s will and disposition of property
- Obtaining the complete dismissal of sexual harassment claims against a Las Vegas Teamsters local and its officers
- Prosecuting and convicting William Potter Gale and members of the Committee of the States, one of America’s most aggressive anti-government White Supremacist groups

PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

Will This New Iran Bring Peace to Bosnia?, *Los Angeles Times* (June 28, 1998)

Why The Iqbal and Twombly Decisions Are Steps in the Right Direction, *The Federal Lawyer*, May 2010 (Volume 57, Number 4)

U.S. District Court: Central District of California

U.S. District Court: Northern District of California

AWARDS AND ASSOCIATIONS

President of the Nevada State Bar (2018-2019), Board of Governors (2011 to present)

Best Lawyers in America (2010-2025)

Mountain States Super Lawyers 2009-2019

Seventh Infantry Division Association

Treasurer, Nevada Bar Foundation (2014 to 2016)

Chair, Federal Litigation Section of the Federal Bar Association (2007-2010)

Ninth Circuit Lawyer Representative for the District of Nevada (2004-2007)

Member of the Community Advisory Board for the Nevada Test Site (2000 to 2002)

National Association of Former United States Attorneys (1991 to present)

Master, Nevada Howard McKibben Inn of Court (1997 to present)

Nevada State Bar, Southern Nevada Disciplinary Board (1993-2002) Chair (1999-2002)

U.S. Magistrate Judge Merit Selection Panel, District of Nevada (2012)

U.S. Magistrate Judge Merit Selection Panel, District of Nevada (2013)

Recipient of the State Bar of Nevada’s 2015 Medal of Justice Award (2015)

Member of Nevada State Attorney General Adam Laxalt’s Advisory Commission on Military Legal Assistance (2015)

A Founding Member of Law Enforcement Leaders to Reduce Crime and Incarceration (2015 to Present)

GOVERNMENT SERVICE

Chief Counsel, United States House of Representatives' Select Subcommittee of United States House International Relations Committee on Iranian Arms Transfers to Bosnia and Croatia

United States Attorney, United States Attorney's Office for the District of Nevada

Chief Assistant United States Attorney, United States Attorney's Office for the District of Nevada

Assistant United States Attorney, United States Attorney's
Office for the District of Nevada

U.S. Army Judge Advocate General's Corps., Seventh Infantry
Division

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