



## Vegas PR News

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### "Open the Doors and Let the Sun Shine in: Legal issues affecting PR"

Tackling legal issues is an important part of any PR pro's job description. Check out local and national news and it's not hard to find a landmark case that's likely to impact how you do your job. Some of the headlines include:

- Journalists going to jail to protect their sources
- Bloggers seeking media status to gain access to meetings and records
- High school seizes newspapers with controversial content

Join us for the January 27 luncheon seminar and hear from some of the area's leading voices in legal issues affecting media relations, government affairs, and community relations. Our panel will feature:

- Mark Hinueber, Vice President and General Counsel of Stephens Media Group
- Allen Lichtenstein, attorney for the American Civil Liberties Union of Nevada

The luncheon will be held at Lawry's The Prime Rib, 4043 Howard Hughes Pkwy. The cost is \$25 for PRSA/PRSSA members before the deadline; \$30 for non-members before the deadline; \$35 after the deadline for members and non-members, and at the door. Register on-line at [www.prsalasvegas.com](http://www.prsalasvegas.com).

### 2006 PRSA-LVVC Board of Directors elected

In recently completed voting, the members of the PRSA-Las Vegas Valley Chapter elected a new Board of Directors for 2006. New board members are:

- Tom Bradley Jr., president
- Nancy Syzdek, APR, president-elect
- Pete Codella, APR, past-president
- Melody Cannon, vice president of administration
- Shaun Sewell, vice president of finance
- Jack Chappell, vice president of membership
- Regina Bacolas, vice president of professional development
- Debby Ackerman, APR, universal accreditation co-chair
- Gael Hancock, APR, universal accreditation co-chair
- Lori Bachand, APR, assembly delegate
- Kirsten Cannon, APR, assembly delegate
- Catherine Levy, director-at-large, ethics
- Fred deSousa, APR., director-at-large, Internet
- Kassi Belz, director-at-large, job bank
- Diane Lancaster-Gibes, director-at-large, Pinnacle Awards
- Patricia Galas, PRSSA/ASC president
- John Naccarato, PRSSA/ASC Faculty Liaison

In early 2006, the board will begin forming committees for the Pinnacle Awards, monthly luncheon seminars, and professional development, among other topics. Stay tuned to the Vegas PR News and your e-mail for these and other volunteer opportunities throughout the year.

### Job Bank Policy Highlights

This year has brought about many changes to the Las Vegas chapter, including the new subscription-based Job Bank. As we move into the New Year, we want to highlight the Job Bank's 6-month membership policy. As stated on the [website](#), the Job Bank membership will be purged every six months.

As a member benefit, Las Vegas Valley Chapter members may subscribe to the Job Bank free of charge. This member benefit is only available to LVVC members, regardless of PRSA membership.

Each January and July the Job Bank email notification list is purged. Therefore, to continue to receive email notices each time an employment opportunity is posted, you'll need to re-subscribe every six months. However, regardless of email notification, the online Job Bank is accessible at any time.

Consequently, both PRSA Members and non-members will need to re-subscribe in January. If you have questions

about this policy, please contact the Job Bank director at [jobbank@prsalasvegas.com](mailto:jobbank@prsalasvegas.com).

### **2005 PRSA Assembly Summary**

The 2005 PRSA Assembly was held in Chicago the first weekend in December. It had been scheduled for October in Florida, but the hurricane season forced a schedule change. There are 308 PRSA delegates and 159 attended the Assembly. There were 81 proxies. About 24 chapters were not represented in any capacity.

- The Las Vegas Valley Chapter bylaw change was defeated 55% to 44%. (66% is required to pass a bylaw.)
- A bylaw to increase number of members needed to start chapter from 10 to 20 and a bylaw to grant a reciprocal delegate to the Global Alliance for Public Relations and Communications Management were defeated.
- Bylaws to limit Board of Director terms to two years, eliminate the PRSA Body of Knowledge, formalize the responsibilities of the executive committee, and change the criteria for board nominations from the assembly floor were approved.

### **New Members**

Allison Alexander  
International Game Technology

Dawn Sousa  
Thomas & Mack Center

David B. Marciniak  
Katz & Associates, Inc.

### **The President's Report**

As 2005 draws to a close and we consider chapter accomplishments this year, there's much to be grateful for.

The 17 board members and dozens of committee members donated many hours to advancing the cause of PRSA-LVVC. From a solid commitment to enhancing the chapter's financial stability, to producing quality, well-attended events, the chapter has built on its firm foundation.

We express gratitude to the many chapter presidents and leaders dating back to 1975 when the chapter was originally chartered. Without our predecessors we wouldn't be where we are today.

We also welcome with open arms the dozens of professionals who have joined our ranks this year. Our membership is at its highest point ever, 150 members.

The chapter is well on its way to meeting one of the long-term goals set by this year's board, to establish a reserve fund that could keep the chapter operating for at least one year. A successful Western District Conference and numerous chapter events have contributed to our financial strength.

Like each of you, we look forward to 2006 and the opportunities and challenges that next year will bring.

Thank you all for your commitment to the practice of public relations and your support of PRSA and the Las Vegas Valley Chapter. It has been a pleasure serving as chapter president this year.

Sincerely,  
~Pete Codella, APR  
PRSA-Las Vegas Valley Chapter President  
[president@prsalasvegas.com](mailto:president@prsalasvegas.com)