

## Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck Adds Top Players to Litigation Lineup

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Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck has bolstered its litigation group by adding three of Las Vegas' premier commercial litigation attorneys, **Kirk B. Lenhard**, previously co-chair of Jones Vargas' litigation group, **Tamara Beatty Peterson**, and **Clark V. Vellis**. With them, they will bring associates **Adam K. Bult** and **Anthony J. DiRaimondo**.

"While Brownstein's reputation as one of the leading law firms in Las Vegas and its footprint of offices across the western U.S. were a big factor in the move, it was the firm's entrepreneurial nature that was the most attractive to me," said Lenhard. "Joining Brownstein offers the opportunity to not only continue the growth of my litigation practice but also provide a platform to my team to build upon this foundation and further their own careers."

**Lenhard, Peterson, Vellis, Bult** and **DiRaimondo** will join Brownstein's litigation group. Working in tandem with legal practitioners in the corporate and business, gaming, natural resources, government relations and real estate groups, they will provide counsel, advice and litigation support for the business challenges and issues faced by the firm's clients.

"Kirk is one of the best commercial litigators in Nevada," said Ellen Schulhofer, managing shareholder of Brownstein's Las Vegas office. "Kirk, Tammy and Clark are known for their incredible legal talent, dedication and track record of achieving results for clients. Yet, they make it a priority to foster the talent of younger team members, offering their experience and guidance and encouraging everyone within the group to flourish and develop their legal careers. They are assets to our firm and we look forward to the successes they will undoubtedly have."

**Lenhard** spent twenty years with Jones Vargas working in its commercial and real estate litigation group, eventually becoming co-chair of the group. Serving clients that have included Clark County, McCarran Airport, Republic Services and Shuffle Master, he has defined himself as a fixture in the Las Vegas legal community. In 2005, Lenhard was recognized by *The Best Lawyers in America* as one of the top commercial litigators in Las Vegas. In addition, he was selected by his peers as one of the top 75 lawyers in the five-state mountain region in the 2008 edition of *Super Lawyers* magazine. Lenhard was also selected as a fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers, an organization comprised only of those lawyers demonstrating unparalleled skill in their practices. Active in the legal community, Lenhard is a member of the National Trial Lawyers Association and the Association of Trial Lawyers of America. He received his law degree from the University of Tulsa and his bachelor's degree from the University of Northern Colorado.

**Peterson** joined Jones Vargas in 2002 after a distinguished career as a prosecutor in the Clark County District Attorney's office, where she worked in the Special Victim's Unit handling the prosecution of child abuse and sexual assault cases. While at Jones Vargas, her practice focused on commercial, real estate and construction litigation. Balancing a full-time practice with her desire to give back to the community, Peterson maintains an active role in the Las Vegas community, serving on the board of directors and the executive committee for the Better Business Bureau of Southern Nevada. In 2008, she was recognized by *Super*

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Lawyers magazine as a "rising star" in the five-state mountain region. Peterson earned her law degree from the University of Arizona and her bachelor's degree from the University of California, Los Angeles.

With a background in employment law, product liability litigation, commercial litigation and franchise law and litigation in both federal and state courts across multiple states, **Vellis** possesses extensive litigation experience. He is an arbitrator for the Nevada State Bar Fee Dispute Committee and was recently appointed to the Nevada State Bar Northern Nevada Disciplinary Board. During Vellis' tenure at Jones Vargas, he coordinated, supervised and litigated industry-wide claims on behalf of multiple Fortune 500 companies, as well as writing and preparing seminar materials on subjects that include taking and defending effective depositions, state and federal personnel laws in Nevada, managing complex litigation and preparing witnesses for trial. He has been a speaker at the National Judicial College programs for foreign judges and lawyers and served as a Peace Corp volunteer in Medellin, Colombia. Vellis earned his law degree from Santa Clara University and his bachelor's degree from George Washington University.

"The high-caliber talent that Kirk and his team bring will elevate the firm to the next level in the Las Vegas market," said Bruce James, managing partner and CEO of Brownstein. "As the firm grows, in Las Vegas and other offices, we hope to continue to attract lawyers as gifted in their respective practice areas as these five."

Working in the areas of commercial, real estate, and construction litigation, **Bult** was previously a senior associate in the Jones Vargas litigation group. Before that, he was a judicial clerk for Judge Jackie Glass of the Eighth Judicial District Court. Bult earned his law degree at the William S. Boyd School of Law at the University of Nevada and his bachelor's degree at Cornell University. Bult has been recognized as a "rising star" in *Super Lawyers* magazine for the past three years.

**DiRaimondo** was also a member of Jones Vargas' litigation group where his practice focused on commercial and real estate litigation. DiRaimondo was previously a clerk for the Honorable James C. Mahan, United States District Judge for the District of Nevada in Las Vegas. He earned his law degree at Emory University School of Law and his bachelor's degree at Cornell University.

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**Meet The Team**

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