

RICHARD H. BRYAN – Democrat (Elected)
27th Nevada Attorney General
Term: January 1, 1979 – January 3, 1983

The Nevada Attorney General's Office extends a very special thank you to Senator Richard Bryan for providing first-hand details about his life.

Biography

Richard Hudson "Dick" Bryan was born on July 16, 1937 in Washington, D.C. His father Oscar W. Bryan, a 1932 graduate of the University of Nevada, was attending law school in the nation's capital. Bryan's mother, Lillie, a native of Alexandria, Virginia, worked in a federal agency in Washington and had met Bryan's father the previous year.

After graduating from law school, Bryan's father brought the family to Las Vegas, which had been his hometown since graduating from Las Vegas High School in 1927.

Bryan began his education at the historic 5th Street Grammar School and later transferred to John S. Park, where he graduated in 1951 as president of his 8th grade class. He already had decided he wanted to be a lawyer and pursue a political career like his father.

At Las Vegas High School (now the Las Vegas Academy) he was president of his sophomore and senior class and selected to attend Boy's State. Bryan was student manager of the State Championship Las Vegas High School Basketball team in 1953.

In the fall of 1955, Bryan enrolled at the University of Nevada and joined the Alpha Tau Omega (ATO) fraternity.

Growing up, "Bryan looked up to his dad . . . a high-profile guy in a 25,000-population town . . . and his son wanted that respect, that recognition and power . . . it made him want to be governor."¹ In a conversation with Keiko Weil at the University of Nevada, Reno, in June 2016, Bryan said:

. . . I wanted a career in public service that I hoped someday might enable me to be governor. The University's pre-legal major was tailor made for me because of the wide variety of pre-law courses. Among the courses I took and enjoyed were geology, philosophy, debate, and English literature. The diversity of courses helped to make me a better educated person. Although I never was interested in pursuing a career in geology or English literature, I learned to appreciate the work of the great writers who had a magnificent command of the English language, and traveling around the state, to better understand the geological events responsible for Nevada's topography.

. . .

The classes I took and the professors I had helped broaden my scope of interest and perspective on life. I wasn't a scholar in any of these areas, but my University experiences helped me to be able to carry on a conversation with people of all different backgrounds and interests."²

In 1958, Bryan ran for student body president at University of Nevada . . . "the race was a close one":

Bryan was a member of the ATO fraternity which enjoyed a very close relationship with the Delta Delta Delta (Tri Delt) sorority. The two previous ATO presidents had married Tri Delts and the current president would later marry one. The Tri Delts and the Kappa Alpha Theta (Theta) sorority were

¹ Grove, Benjamin. *Las Vegas Sun*. "Bryan Leaves Lasting Legacy." November 18, 2000. <https://lasvegassun.com/news/2000/nov/18/bryan-leaves-lasting-legacy/>. Accessed 6.11.18.

² Weil, Keiko. *Giving to Nevada, University of Nevada, Reno Foundation*. June 2016. <https://www.unr.edu/giving/bryan>. Accessed June 11, 2018.

arch revivals on campus and resented the Tri Delt – ATO alliance.

As Bryan described it, he had a Theta problem. It was decided that Bryan should invite a Theta pledge to a costume dance, “The Comstock Stomp,” in the spring prior to the student body president election. Bryan agreed and requested a list of Theta pledges. One name caught his eye – Bonnie Fairchild. That was the year that Bonanza Airlines replaced the WW II vintage DC-3’s with the Fairchild – F-27. Perhaps she was an aircraft heiress he thought. In fact, she was a dairyman’s daughter. The date was arranged. Bryan later recalled wearing a Civil War officer’s uniform and Bonnie selected a champagne-colored gown with a train so long that it had a loop which slipped over her wrist so neither of them would trip.

Bryan won the election and girl. “It was an event that changed my life forever” he said. “I could never have done what I did without her by my side.

At the University of Nevada, Reno “UNR”), Bryan was a member of the ROTC.

Because the University is a land grant institution, at that time every able bodied male under the age of 26 without prior military service was required to take two years of ROTC. At the end of my sophomore year, I joined a number of my close friends in applying for advanced ROTC. On graduation, I was commissioned as a second lieutenant. I enjoyed my tenure in the military, limited as it was. Being exposed to the military was an important influence on my life and something missing from our society today. The University provided me with that opportunity.”³

In 1959, Bryan graduated UNR with a Bachelor of Art’s degree and entered the United States Army as a Second Lieutenant and became a Captain in the Army Reserve.⁴ From 1960-1967, Bryan served in the United States Army Reserve in the Judge Advocate General Corps.

Following his military service, Bryan attended the University of California, Hastings College of Law. In 1963, Bryan graduated with honors and received his law degree (LL.B.) and the Order of the Coif.⁵ Founded in 1901 at the University of Illinois College of Law, the Order of the Coif is an honorary scholastic society [for U.S. law school graduates who graduate in the top 10 percent of their class] . . . “the purpose of which is to encourage excellence in legal education by fostering a spirit of careful study, recognizing those who as law students attained a high grade of scholarship, and honoring those who as lawyers, judges and teachers attained high distinction for their scholarly or professional accomplishments”.⁶

On September 1, 1962, Bryan married Bonnie Fairchild in Lodi, California.⁷ The Bryans have three children: Richard Bryan Jr., a cardiologist in Reno; daughters Leslie Bryan Hart, an attorney in Reno; and Blair Butler, an elementary school teacher in Minneapolis; and six grandchildren.⁸ During her husband’s political career, Bonnie “championed her own causes—children’s literacy, teen DUI prevention, to the creation

³ Weil, Keiko. *Giving to Nevada, University of Nevada, Reno Foundation*. June 2016. <https://www.unr.edu/giving/bryan>. Accessed June 11, 2018.

⁴ Nino, Leslie M. June 3, 2011. *Keeping It Clean: Richard H. Bryan and Nevada Gaming*. <http://scholars.law.unlv.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1017&context=glj>. June 3, 2011. Accessed June 11, 2018.

⁵ *Ibid.*

⁶ <http://www.orderofthecoif.org/>. Accessed June 11, 2018.

⁷ <http://www.nevadawomen.org/research-center/first-ladies/bonnie-fairchild-bryan/>. Accessed June 11, 2018.

⁸ Packer, Adrienne. *Las Vegas Review Journal*. April 29, 2013. <https://www.reviewjournal.com/local/local-las-vegas/half-century-in-public-life-has-given-richard-bryan-timeless-perspective/> and <https://www.unr.edu/giving/bryan>. Accessed June 11, 2018.

of Great Basin National Park Throughout her professional and personal life, Bonnie was known for her warmth and tireless service to our community.”⁹

At 26, Bryan was admitted to the state bar of Nevada on Wednesday, the 20th of November 1963 and joined one of Nevada’s most prominent legal families – the Foley Brothers Law Firm. Later that evening, he was handed a file and assigned to represent a client at the Boulder City Council. The issue was over a golf course and a fiery debate ensued. After that meeting, Bryan said, “No lawyer was less prepared than I . . . [but] neither of those two guys [City Attorney George Franklin Jr. and lawyer Don Winn] sought to embarrass me because of my lack of knowledge I escaped, but I never forgot that these are the guys that could have really embarrassed me in front of a lot of people and chose not to. I said to myself, ‘I’m always going to conduct myself like that.’”¹⁰

Two days later an alarming report from Dallas came over the radio – the President’s motorcade had been fired upon. Together, everyone in the office huddled around the radio awaiting an update. How grave was it? Is this really happening? Eventually, the crackling sounds over the radio made it clear – the President was dead and so, in Bryan’s mind, was an era of innocence.

Bryan followed in his father’s footsteps and became a Clark County Deputy DA. In 1966, at age 28, he was appointed to the newly created position of Clark County Public Defender, the youngest Public Defender in the nation.

In 1968, Bryan was elected to the State Assembly, re-elected in 1970 and two years later, to the first of two terms in the State Senate.

In 1974, based on his experience in law enforcement while serving as Clark County Deputy District Attorney, Bryan ran for Nevada Attorney General but lost to Robert List by 701 votes.¹¹ In 1978, Bryan again ran for Attorney General and was elected Nevada’s 27th Attorney General with a 106,744 vote majority.

As Attorney General, Bryan and his deputies successfully defended the principle “that gaming is a privilege, not a right”, in federal court cases against suspected mob affiliates, “thus helping gaming regulators win the war against organized crime and forcing casino operators with organized crime affiliations out of Nevada gaming.”¹²

Bryan advocated on behalf of the Nevada gaming industry and the Gaming Commission and helped guaranty that a licensee could not thwart regulators’ efforts to police Nevada’s most important industry. See *Aladdin Hotel Corp. v Nev. Gaming Comm’n*. 637 F.2d 582, 583 (9th Cir. 1980).

In the *UNLV Gaming Law Journal*, June 3, 2011, Leslie M. Niño in “Keeping it Clean: Richard H. Bryan and Nevada Gaming”, wrote:

Legalized gaming, especially in its infancy, was not considered a legitimate industry Rather, it was a haven for swindlers and cheaters. How did Nevada turn this negative perception into a positive one? Legislators and regulators resolved to create and enforce gaming regulations with the highest standards of ethics and integrity, and in doing so, they established the model jurisdiction for the gaming industry.

One Nevadan epitomized this integrity during his thirty years of public service: Richard H. Bryan Throughout his career, Bryan was a stalwart champion of the Nevada gaming industry against opposition within the state and in the federal government. By helping the gaming industry conquer obstacles and avoid the pitfalls of impropriety,

⁹ Weil, Keiko. *Giving to Nevada, University of Nevada, Reno Foundation*. June 2016. <https://www.unr.edu/giving/bonnie-bryan-2017>. Accessed June 11, 2018.

¹⁰ *Ibid.*

¹¹ *Ibid.* Accessed June 11, 2018.

¹² [https://nvcourts.gov/Conferences/Leadership/Biographies/Bryan, Senator Richard H. /](https://nvcourts.gov/Conferences/Leadership/Biographies/Bryan,_Senator_Richard_H./).

Bryan was keeping it clean Bryan set the gold standard of integrity for the Nevada gaming control system.¹³

When Bryan took office as Governor, two major issues “needed [his] attention: the decline in tourism resulting from the economic downturn and the increasing competition from Atlantic City gaming.” “Bryan dealt with these problems . . . using adept leadership and skillful regulatory appointments Bryan helped lay the groundwork . . . that changed Las Vegas’ target market and catapulted the Nevada gaming industry out of recession and into the twenty-first century.” He also wrote a pamphlet entitled “Gaming – and So Much More! Richard Bryan’s Tourism Agenda for the 80’s” to highlight the growing need for “aggressive and sophisticated marketing campaigns.”¹⁴

At the Nevada Taxpayers Association’s 90th Anniversary Luncheon in Las Vegas in March 2012, when asked to identify [his] proudest accomplishments, Bryan “pointed to the creation of an organized tourism outreach, establishment of the Ethics Commission¹⁵ and campaign contribution reporting rules, and economic diversification successes such as attracting bank card processing services to the state.”¹⁶

As Governor of Nevada, Bryan prioritized diversifying Nevada’s economy and attracting new businesses to the state.¹⁷

In 1988, Bryan was elected as a United States Senator; he served until 2001. He was the only Senate member to serve simultaneously on the following U.S. Senate Committees: Finance; Commerce, Science and Transportation; and Banks, Housing, and Urban Affairs. He was Vice-Chairman of the U.S. Senate Select Committee on Intelligence.¹⁸

Perhaps Bryan’s greatest victory on behalf of Nevada gaming, however, [were] his outstanding efforts to keep collegiate sports betting alive and well.¹⁹ Ms. Niño, in “Keeping it Clean: Richard H. Bryan and Nevada Gaming”, concluded:

The Nevada gaming industry holds a particular debt of gratitude to Senator Bryan for setting the gold standard of integrity in gaming regulation. His support for the gaming industry never wavered in the face of economic downturn or political opposition because he always understood that gaming is not just an ephemeral pastime in Nevada—it is a way of life that must be protected. Furthermore, Bryan knew gaming was the “engine that fueled the [Nevada] economy,” so he diligently worked to keep the gaming industry alive and healthy. As a result, Bryan’s resolute conduct established a lasting legacy for the gaming industry. Bryan’s reputation for integrity pales his list of political triumphs because his record demonstrates that pecuniary gain never motivated his political ambition. The Las Vegas Review Journal recognized that Senator Bryan “was never accused of using his office to help enrich himself, or his political pals.” Integrity is more than just a buzzword for the gaming industry. Without Bryan’s honor and commitment, the American people would not have learned to trust the veracity of the games or the independence of gaming regulators. Thus, Richard H. Bryan’s steadfast leadership and reputation for keeping it clean made it possible for the Nevada gaming industry to achieve exponential growth and international respect.

¹³ Nino, Leslie M. June 3, 2011. *Keeping It Clean: Richard H. Bryan and Nevada Gaming*. <http://scholars.law.unlv.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1017&context=glj>. June 3, 2011. See also <http://scholars.law.unlv.edu/glj/vol2/iss1/5>. Accessed June 11, 2018.

¹⁴ *Ibid.*

¹⁵ Bryan was Chairman of the Select Committee on Ethics in the One Hundred Third Congress.

¹⁶ *Tax Topics*. Issue 1-12. <http://www.nevadatxpayers.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/tax-topics-2012-05.pdf>. Electronic Edition, May 2012. Accessed June 11, 2018.

¹⁷ <https://www.newsreview.com/reno/office-politics/content?oid=13440160>. Accessed June 7, 2018.

¹⁸ Nevada Judicial Leadership, 2016 Summit. https://nvcourts.gov/Conferences/Leadership/Biographies/Bryan,Senator_Richard_H_/. Accessed June 7, 2018.

¹⁹ Packer, Adrienne. June 3, 2011. Page 102. <http://scholars.law.unlv.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1017&context=glj>. Accessed June 7, 2018.

Indeed, "Nevada may search long and hard to find another like him."²⁰

Bryan's most significant accomplishment as Senator was "passing the Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act. It established an auction system that has generate[d] more than 3 billion dollars for federal and local government projects in Nevada and allow[ed] local governments to acquire federal land for public purposes such as parks, trails and schools."²¹ Bryan also lead the fight against the Yucca Mountain nuclear waste dump; passed legislation against telemarketing fraud; and introduced legislation to increase vehicle fuel efficiency standards.²² He believed that the single best way to keep the economy going was to reduce the national debt.

When it came time for him to run for re-election in 2000, Bryan chose not to. He wanted to spend time with his grown children, teach a few college classes, and "likely serve in some capacity at a law firm or two."

At his retirement reception, Bryan "offered a goodbye. 'You can take the boy away from Nevada, but you can't take Nevada away from the boy', he said, his voice growing quieter. 'This is a chapter we will never forget.'"²³

Bryan has the distinction of being the only Nevadan to serve as a State Assemblyman and Senator, Attorney General, Governor, and U.S. Senator.²⁴

Awards and Honors

In 1995, Bryan was honored as University of Nevada's Alumnus of the Year. In 2001, he received the University of Nevada's Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters. Ten years later, in 2011, he was recognized by the Nevada System of Higher Education as a Distinguished Nevadan.

University to dedicate Richard H. Bryan statue and plaza on campus Public ceremony for acclaimed alumnus set for April 29



Acclaimed and admired alumnus, Richard H. Bryan '59 (prelegal), has given 60 years of his life to public service in Nevada. The University community wishes to honor Senator Bryan's service through dedicating a plaza and casting a statue to join the only other statue standing watch over the University's campus – that of University benefactor John Mackay.²⁵

At the dedication ceremony, University President Marc Johnson said: "We are proud to dedicate the plaza and the statue of Senator Bryan so that future generations can be inspired to the highest levels of their potential".²⁶

On Friday April 29, 2016, Bryan was joined by Governor Brian Sandoval and other dignitaries in the new plaza. Before Bryan's statue was unveiled,

²⁰ Nino, Leslie M. June 3, 2011. Pages 89-106.
<http://scholars.law.unlv.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1017&context=glj>. Accessed June 7, 2018.

²¹ Packer, Adrienne. *Las Vegas Review Journal*. April 29, 2013.
<https://www.reviewjournal.com/local/local-las-vegas/half-century-in-public-life-has-given-richard-bryan-timeless-perspective/>. Accessed May 29, 2018.

²² Quoting Leslie M. Nino. June 3, 2011. Pages 105. FN 156, Statement on Senator Richard H. Bryan's Decision Not to Seek Reelection, 1 PUB. PAPERS 206 (February 18, 1999) -
<http://scholars.law.unlv.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1017&context=glj>. Accessed on June 7, 2018.

²³ *Ibid.*

²⁴ <http://dewey.library.unr.edu/xtf/view?docId=ead/2003-01-ead.xml>. Accessed June 11, 2018.

²⁵ *Nevada Today, University of Nevada, Reno*. Staff Report. March 25, 2016.
<https://www.unr.edu/nevada-today/news/2016/richard-h-bryan-statue>. Accessed Jun 11, 2018.

²⁶ *Ibid.*

. . . only one other statue stood watch over the University's campus and that is of silver magnate and University benefactor John Mackay. Senator Bryan, class of 1959, is the only graduate of the University to have been elected student body president, elected to the Nevada State Assembly and the Nevada State Senate, elected Attorney General of Nevada, elected Governor of Nevada and elected U.S. Senator from Nevada.²⁷



Longtime former U.S. Senator and Nevada Gov. Richard Bryan, poses with his wife, Bonnie, and sculptor Benjamin Victor²⁸ on the campus of the University of Nevada, Reno, on Friday, April 29, 2016. (Scott Sonner/The Associated Press). Accessed on June 11, 2018.

The Richard H. Bryan Plaza will be at the heart of the campus in an area highly frequented by students, faculty, staff, and campus guests, located between Lincoln Hall and the Mackay Mines Building and in close proximity to the new student achievement center.²⁹

In 2015, Bryan began serving as a Director of Fennemore Craig law firm in Las Vegas, where he lives.³⁰ His practice focuses on government relations at the federal, state, and local levels, particularly in the area of public land use issues. Some of his clients have included Siegfried & Roy, illusionists, and various hotels on the Las Vegas Strip.

Bryan's professional and community activities include: Trustee of the National Judicial College in Reno; Board of Trustees, Las Vegas Metro Chamber of Commerce; Board Member, Great Basin National Park Foundation; Chairman of the Board for Preserve Nevada, a group whose priority is to preserve historical buildings, places, and historical artifacts in the State of Nevada; Board of Directors of the Mob Museum, and the Las Vegas Alumni Association.

On August 30, 2016, Bryan's wife, Bonnie Fairchild Bryan, passed away from leukemia at the age of 77.



Former Nevada first lady Bonnie Bryan dies at 77
Staff report: Published Aug. 30, 2016 | Updated 1:34 p.m. PT Aug. 31, 2016.
Photo: Lisa J. Tolda/RGJ file.

²⁷ *Ibid.*

²⁸ *Ibid.* The sculptor of this statue, Benjamin Victor, is the same sculptor who created the Sarah Winnemucca statue that represents Nevada in Statuary Hall in the United States Capitol.

²⁹ *Nevada Today, University of Nevada, Reno.* Staff Report. March 25, 2016.
<https://www.unr.edu/nevada-today/news/2016/richard-h-bryan-statue>. Accessed Jun 11, 2018.

³⁰ Biographical Directory of the United States Congress, 1774 – Present.”
<http://bioguide.congress.gov/scripts/biodisplay.pl?index=B000993>. Accessed June 7, 2018.

Bonnie Fairchild Bryan, 26th First Lady of Nevada and wife of former Gov. and Sen. Richard Bryan, died Tuesday, according to a statement from the Bryan family . . . she is survived by her husband, three children, and six grandchildren.³¹



Richard Bryan . . . recently honored for his 50 years as a member of the State Bar of Nevada. The lifelong Democrat has been a state senator, state attorney general, and Nevada governor for two terms, after which he served in the U.S. Senate from 1989-2001. Source: *Las Vegas Review-Journal*, "Half-century in public life has given Richard Bryan timeless perspective." Adrienne Packer. April 29, 2013. Accessed June 1, 2018.

General Election of 1968 - State Assembly District 4

On November 5, 1968, Bryan (Democrat) was one of 10 (out of a field of 18) candidates to win election to the State Assembly, District 4.³²

General Election of 1970 - State Assembly District 5

On November 3, 1970, Bryan (Democrat) retained an Assembly seat in District 5.³³

General Election of 1972 - State Senate District 3

On November 6, 1972, Bryan (Democrat) was elected to the State Senate in District 3. Of the 156,500 votes cast for the top four candidates (out of a field of eight), Bryan received 41,863 (19.88%) votes to Mahlon B. Brown's (Democrat) 41,547 (19.73%) votes; Floyd R. Lamb's (Democrat) 39,171 (18.60%) votes; and Helen E. Herr's (Democrat) 33,919 (16.10%) votes.³⁴

Primary Election of 1974 – Attorney General

On September 3, 1974, in the Democratic primary for Attorney General, Bryan beat Robert Van Wagoner by a majority of 12,244 votes. Of the 69,272 votes cast, Bryan received 40,758 votes (58.9%) to Robert Van Wagoner's 28,514 votes (41.2%).³⁵

General Election of 1974 – Attorney General

In the general election on November 5, 1974, Bryan (Democrat) lost to sitting Attorney General Robert List (Republican) by 701 votes. Of the 165,549 votes cast, List received 83,130 (50.2%) votes to Bryan's 82,419 (49.8%) votes.³⁶

General Election of 1976 – State Senate District 3

On November 11, 1976, Bryan (Democrat) was reelected to the State Senate in District 3. Of the 172,154 votes cast for the top four candidates (out of a field of 13), Bryan

³¹ *Reno Gazette Journal*, RGJ Staff. U.S. Representative Dina Titus. <https://titus.house.gov/in-the-news/former-nevada-first-lady-bonnie-bryan-dies-at-77>. Accessed June 18, 2018.

³² <http://www.clarkcountynv.gov/election/Pages/ElectionHistory.aspx>. Accessed June 13, 2018.

³³ *Id.* Accessed July 18, 2018.

³⁴ *Id.* Accessed June 13, 2018.

³⁵ *Political History of Nevada, 2006*. Issued by Dean Heller, Secretary of State. Page 446.

³⁶ *Id.* Page 398.

received 45,498 (17.26%) votes to K. Ashworth's (Democrat) 43,841 (16.63%) votes; Floyd R. Lamb's (Democrat) 42,710 (16.20%) votes; and B. Hernstadt's (Democrat) 40,105 (15.21%) votes.³⁷

Primary Election of 1978 – Attorney General

In the Democrat primary election on September 12, 1978, for Attorney General, Bryan won by a 57,776 majority of votes. Of the 82,590 votes cast, Bryan (Democrat) received 66,063 votes (80%) to “None of these Candidates” 8,287 (10%) votes; Joseph Kadans’ 4,469 (5.4%) votes; and Matia Melchizedek’s 3,771 (4.6%) votes.³⁸

General Election of 1978 – Attorney General

On November 7, 1978, Bryan (Democrat) was elected as the 27th Nevada Attorney General by a 106,744 majority of votes. Of the 187,805 votes cast, Bryan received 139,095 (74.1%) votes to Donald F. Robb’s (Republican) 32,351 (17.23%) votes; “None of these candidates” 9,710 (5.2%) votes; H.J. Mangrum’s (Libertarian) 3,670 (2%) votes; and Ike Yochum’s (Independent) 2,979 (1.58%) votes.³⁹

Primary Election of 1982 - Governor

In the Democratic Primary Election, on September 14, 1982, for Governor, Bryan won the primary by a 20,478 majority of votes. Of the 108,237 votes cast, Bryan received 55,262 (51.1%) votes to Lieutenant Governor Myron Leavitt’s (32.2%) 34,783 votes; State Treasurer’s Stan Colton’s 10,830 (10%) votes; “None of these Candidates” 4,418 (4.1%) votes; June Carr’s 1,771 (1.6%) votes; Cher Volin’s 621 (0.6%) votes; and Carl Hunt’s 552 (0.5%) votes.⁴⁰

General Election of 1982 - Governor

On November 2, 1982, Bryan (Democrat) was elected as the 25th Governor of the State of Nevada by a 28,028 majority of votes. Of the 239,751 votes cast, Bryan received 128,132 (53.44%) votes to the sitting Governor Robert List’s (Republican) 100,104 (41.8%) votes; “None of these candidates” 6,894 (23.2%) votes; and Dan Becan’s (Libertarian) 4,621 (1.93%) votes.⁴¹

Primary Election of 1986 - Governor

On September 2, 1986, Bryan, as an incumbent, won the primary for Governor by a 58,144 majority of votes. Of the 89,960 votes cast, Bryan received 71,920 votes (80%) to Herb Tobman’s 13,776 (15.3%) votes), and “None of these Candidates” 4,264 (4.7%) votes.⁴²

General Election of 1986 - Governor

On November 4, 1986, Bryan (Democrat) was reelected as Governor of the State of Nevada by a margin of 122,187 votes. Of the 260,375 votes cast, Bryan received 187,268 (71.92%) votes to Patty Cafferata’s⁴³ (Republican) 65,081 (25%) votes; “None of these candidates” 5,471 (2.1%) votes; and Lou Tomburello’s (Libertarian) 2,555 (1.0%) votes.⁴⁴

Primary Election of 1988 - United States Senate

On September 6, 1988, Bryan (Democrat) won the primary by a margin of 55,243 votes. Of the 78,345 votes cast, Bryan received 62,278 (79.4%) votes to “None of these Candidates” 7,035 (9.1%) votes; Patrick Fitzpatrick’s 4,721 (6%) votes; Manny Beals’

³⁷ <http://www.clarkcountynv.gov/election/Pages/ElectionHistory.aspx>. Accessed June 13, 2018.

³⁸ *Political History of Nevada, 2006*. Issued by Dean Heller, Secretary of State. Page 447.

³⁹ *Id.* Page 400.

⁴⁰ *Id.* Page 450.

⁴¹ *Id.* Page 403.

⁴² *Id.* Page 451.

⁴³ In the general election of 1986, Ms. Cafferata ran against Mr. Bryan—she received 25% of the votes to Bryan’s 71.9% of the votes. On June 13, 2018, when asked by this reporter about the 1988 General Election, Ms. Cafferata (currently a Special Assistant Attorney General for Law Enforcement, Counties and Municipalities at the Nevada Attorney General’s Office), said she had no regrets about losing to Mr. Bryan—it allowed her to go to law school and pursue her dream of becoming a lawyer, something women usually did not do when she graduated from college in 1963.

⁴⁴ *Political History of Nevada, 2006*. Page 408.

2,656 (3.4%) votes; Larry Kepler's 1,655 (2.1%) votes; and.⁴⁵

General Election of 1988

On November 8, 1988, Bryan (Democrat) was elected as a United States Senator by a 14,212 majority of votes. Of the 349,649 votes cast, Bryan received 175,548 (50.2%) votes to incumbent Chic Hecht's 161,336 (46.1%) votes; "None of these candidates" 7,242 (2.1%) votes; and James Frye's (Libertarian) 5,523 (1.6%) votes.⁴⁶

General Election of 1994 – United States Senator

On November 8, 1994, Bryan was reelected as a United States Senator by a 67,262 majority of votes. Of the 374,630 votes cast, Bryan received 193,804 (51.7%) votes to Hal Furman's (Republican) 156,020 (41.6%) votes; "None of these Candidates" 12,626 (3.4%) votes; Bob Days' (Libertarian) 5,964 (1.6%) votes; and Neal Grasteit's (Independent American) 5,450 (1.5%) votes; and Anna Nevenich (Independent) 666 (0.2%) votes.⁴⁷

Office Administration & Duties

The Nevada Attorney General's operating budgets for the 1979-1980, 1980-1981, 1981-1982, and 1982-1983 state bi-annual fiscal periods are as follows:

1979-1980 Fiscal Year General Budget

\$974,098	For the support of the Office of the Attorney General
Salaries: \$40,500	Nevada Attorney General Salary
\$36,715	Chief Deputy IV Attorney General
\$32,916	Chief – Civil Division
\$21,413	Chief Investigator

1980 – 1981 Fiscal Year

\$995,123	For the support of the Office of the Attorney General
Salaries: \$40,500	Nevada Attorney General Salary
\$36,715	Chief Deputy V Attorney General
\$32,916	Chief – Civil Division
\$21,413	Chief Investigator

1981 – 1982 Fiscal Year

\$1,247,271	For the support of the Office of the Attorney General
Salaries: \$40,500	Nevada Attorney General Salary
\$40,386	Chief Deputy V Attorney General
\$37,000	Chief – Civil Deputy IV
New Positions:	
\$13,000	Civil Deputy I (half time)
\$13,000	Prison Criminal Deputy (half time)
\$17,000	Criminal Legal Researcher

1982 – 1983 Fiscal Year

\$1,277,757	For the support of the Office of the Attorney General
Salaries: \$46,500	Nevada Attorney General Salary
\$40,386	Chief Deputy V Attorney General
\$37,000	Chief – Civil Deputy IV
\$25,000	Chief Investigator
New Positions:	
\$13,000	Civil Deputy I (half time)
\$13,000	Prison Criminal Deputy (half time)
\$17,000	Criminal Legal Researcher

The 1979-1981 Nevada State Legislature added add the following duties to the Nevada Attorney General's Office:

- Vehicles driven by the Nevada Attorney General's special investigators are not to have any special or identifying markings. (Statutes of Nevada 1979, Chapter 175, Page 254).

⁴⁵ *Id.* Page 452.

⁴⁶ *Political History of Nevada, 2006.* Page 409.

⁴⁷ *Id.* Page 414.

- The Nevada Attorney General is authorized to charge state agencies, not supported from the state's general fund, for legal services. Also the Attorney General state funding—whatever its source—must be accounted for. (Statutes of Nevada 1979, Chapter 182, Inclusive, Page 273–2750).
- The Nevada Attorney General is to be the legal counsel for the *Colorado River Commission* and maintain an office in Las Vegas. (Statutes of Nevada 1979, Chapter 182, Section 7, Page 275).
- The Nevada Attorney General is to be the legal counsel for the *Public Service Commission*. (Statutes of Nevada 1979, Chapter 199, Section 1, Page 199).
- Two additional Deputy Attorneys General are to be assigned to the Nevada Gaming Commission and the Nevada State Gaming Control Board. (Statutes of Nevada 1979, Chapter 374, Inclusive, Pages 648–649).
- A special fund will be created with the Nevada Attorney General to deposit into this fund all monies received related to private investigators and recoveries for unfair trade practices. (Statutes of Nevada 1979, Chapter 78, Sections 1, 2, Pages 99–100).
- The Nevada Attorney General is to “. . . provide for the defense, including the defense of cross-claims and counterclaims, of any officer or employee, former officer or employee, member of former member of any official board or commission of the state of political subdivision, or of any state legislator or former state legislator in any civil action brought against that person based on any alleged act or omission relation to his public duties . . .”. (Statutes of Nevada 1979, Chapter 678, Section 2.5, Page 1733).
- The Nevada Attorney General is to “. . . give his opinion in writing and without fee to the state board and the superintendent of public instruction on matters relating to the powers and duties of the [Department] of Education.” (Statutes of Nevada 1979, Chapter 667, Section 3, Page 1564).

The 1981-1983 Nevada State Legislature added the following duties to the Nevada Attorney General's Office:

- The office of Advocate for customers of public utilities (or consumer advocate) is hereby created within the office of the Attorney General, and shall be appointed for a term of four years. The Nevada Attorney General may remove the consumer's advocate from office for inefficiency, neglect of duty, or malfeasance in office. (Statutes of Nevada 1981, Chapter 692, Section 3, Page 1674).
- If the appropriate district attorney fails to do so, and upon recommendation of the Gaming Board or Commission, the Nevada Attorney General shall prosecute violations of gaming statutes NRS 463 or 464 or 465, and shall have exclusive charge of the prosecution. (Statutes of Nevada 1981, Chapter 692, Section 4, Page 1674).
- The Nevada Attorney General may appear before any grand jury, when in his opinion it is necessary, and present evidence of the commission of a crime or violation of any law of this state; examine witnesses before the grand jury, and draw indictments or presentments for the grand jury, and thereafter conduct the proceedings. (Statutes of Nevada 1981, Chapter 292, Section 3 and 4, Page 546).
- The Nevada Attorney General shall exercise supervisory powers over all district attorneys of the state in all matters pertaining to the duties of their offices, and from time to time require of them reports as to the condition of public business entrusted to their charge. (Statutes of Nevada 1981, Chapter 292, Section 3 and 4, Page 546).
- The Nevada Attorney General may appear in, take exclusive charge of, and conduct any prosecution in any court of this state for a violation of any law of this state, when in his opinion it is necessary, or when requested to do so by the governor. (Statutes of Nevada 1981, Chapter 292, Section 3 and 4, Page 546).
- The Nevada Attorney General shall cause appropriate legal action to be taken to enforce the provisions of NRS Chapter 645 relating to state aid to the medically indigent; providing penalties for fraud committed by providers of medical care, remedial care, and other services; and providing other matters properly relating thereto. (Statutes of Nevada 1981, Chapter 645, Section 1, Page 1541).

- NRS Chapter 328 enlarges the Nevada Attorney General’s authority to bring an action or intervene in any court or federal agency if the Federal Government’s use of public lands or water or roads on those lands impairs the sovereignty of the State of Nevada.⁴⁸ (Statutes of Nevada 1981, Chapter 359, Section 1, Page 663).
- The Nevada Attorney General may bring and maintain an action in any court or before any federal agency if an agency or instrumentality of the Federal Government denies the use of a public road located on public land in this state. (Statutes of Nevada 1981, Chapter 475, Section 18, Pages 920 and 923).
- The Nevada Attorney General shall, if the district attorney fails or refuses to do so, prosecute all violations of the laws of this state by public utilities and motor carriers under the jurisdiction of the commission and their officers, agents and employees. (Statutes of Nevada 1981, Chapter 692, Section 14, Page 1677-1678).
- The Nevada Attorney General has primary jurisdiction to investigate and prosecute criminal offenses committed by state officers or employees in the course of their duties or arising out of circumstances related to their positions. (Statutes of Nevada 1981, Chapter 584, Section 1, Page 1250).

⁴⁸ “Approved May 28, 1981 . . . Chapter 328 of NRS shall read as follows: 1. The legislature finds that more than 87 percent of the land in the State of Nevada is held by the Federal Government, of which 69 percent is public land, and the actions of federal agencies and instrumentalities involving the public lands and waters appurtenant to and public roads over those lands significantly affect the health, safety, welfare, and happiness of the citizens of this state and may interfere with the traditional sovereign functions of the State of Nevada with respect to those lands, waters and roads and their uses.