

## Equal Rights Nevada Collection

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English

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

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**University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections  
Division.**

Box 457010  
4505 S. Maryland Parkway  
Las Vegas, Nevada 89154-7010  
(702) 895-2234  
[special.collections@unlv.edu](mailto:special.collections@unlv.edu)

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## Summary Information

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|----------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Repository:</b>               | University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections Division.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Creator:</b>                  | Equal Rights Nevada                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Title:</b>                    | Equal Rights Nevada Collection                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>ID:</b>                       | MS-00607                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Date [inclusive]:</b>         | 2000-2002                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Physical Description:</b>     | 2 Linear Feet 2 boxes                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Language of the Material:</b> | English                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Abstract:</b>                 | The Equal Rights Nevada (2000-2002) collection is comprised of organizational records documenting the group's unsuccessful fight against Question 2, a referendum voted upon in 2000 and 2002 to amend Nevada's state constitution to forbid same-sex marriage. It includes campaign files, financial records, publicity, correspondence, ephemera, and other supporting documentation from national and regional marriage equality organizations. |

### Preferred Citation Note

Equal Rights Nevada Collection, 2000-2002. MS-00607. Special Collections, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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## Organizational History

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Equal Rights Nevada, an organization founded in 2000 by the Nevada gay community, fought the Question 2 referendum voted upon in 2000 and 2002 to amend the Nevada state constitution to forbid same-sex marriage. In spring of 2000 Bob Fulkerson, director of the Progressive Leadership Alliance of Nevada (PLAN), founded the Campaign for Unity in Northern Nevada to fight the anti-same-sex marriage initiative. In July 2000 the Campaign for Unity became Equal Rights Nevada (ERN), however, Question 2 passed in 2000, and again in 2002, becoming a Nevada constitutional amendment.

The Nevada gay community enjoyed a string of political victories in the 1990s: repeal of the state's sodomy law in 1993, repudiation of the Minority Status and Child Protection Act in 1994, and the

1999 passage of employment non-discrimination legislation which included sexual orientation. In 1996, the same year Congress passed the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA), Christina Sealander and Royce Kohler established the Equal Right to Marry Project in Las Vegas through the Gay and Lesbian Community Center. Even more unprecedented was the support shown by Las Vegas mayor Jan Laverty Jones who issued a proclamation declaring Thursday, February 12, 1998 to be National Freedom to Marry Day in Las Vegas. Equal marriage rights became the Nevada gay community’s next political fight.

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## Scope and Contents Note

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The Equal Rights Nevada collection (2000-2002) is comprised of organizational records documenting the group’s unsuccessful fight against Question 2, a referendum voted upon in 2000 and 2002 to amend Nevada’s state constitution to forbid same-sex marriage. Materials include campaign files, financial records, publicity, correspondence, ephemera, and other supporting documentation from national and regional marriage equality organizations.

| <b>Chronology</b> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|-------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1993              | Repeal of Nevada’s sodomy law                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 1994              | Repudiation of the Minority Status and Child Protection Act in Nevada                                                                                                                                                |
| 1996              | Congress passes the Defense of Marriage Act                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 1998              | Las Vegas declares February 12th National Freedom to Marry Day<br>National Coalition for the Protection of Marriage founded                                                                                          |
| 1999              | Passage of employment non-discrimination legislation which included sexual orientation in Nevada<br>National Coalition for the Protection of Marriage announced its referendum in Nevada (to be known as Question 2) |
| 2000              | Campaign for Unity founded in Northern Nevada<br>Campaign for Unity became Equal Rights Nevada                                                                                                                       |

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## Arrangement Note

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Material is arranged by subject.

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Statement

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### Revision Description

The finding aid was revised by Hannah Robinson to bring it into compliance with DACS. June 2014

### Access

Collection is open for research.

### Publication Rights

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### Acquisition Note

Material donated by Dennis McBride in 2006; accession number 2006-014.

## Processing Note

Material was processed by Dennis McBride in 2006. In 2014, as part of a legacy finding aid conversion project, Hannah Robinson revised and enhanced the collection description to bring it into compliance with current professional standards.

## Appraisal Note

The collection contained a number of envelopes that were returned as undeliverable to the organization and these were subsequently discarded by SKC in summer 2006.

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## Controlled Access Headings

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- Equal Rights Nevada -- Nevada -- 21st century
- Same-sex marriage -- Law and legislation -- Nevada
- Gay rights -- Nevada
- Homophobia -- Nevada
- Coalition for the Protection of Marriage in Nevada
- Human rights campaign foundation
- Equal Rights Nevada

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## Collection Inventory

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| Title/Description                                  | Instances |           |
|----------------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Equal Rights Nevada endorsements, 2000-2002        | Box 01    | Folder 01 |
| Equal Rights Nevada faith, 2000-2002               | Box 01    | Folder 02 |
| Equal Rights Nevada clergy, 2000-2002              | Box 01    | Folder 03 |
| Bishops' letter, 2000-2002                         | Box 01    | Folder 04 |
| Nevada revised statute 123.020, 2000-2002          | Box 01    | Folder 05 |
| Sue Burnside (Human Rights Campaign), 2000-2002    | Box 01    | Folder 06 |
| Conover Millar Group (public relations), 2000-2002 | Box 01    | Folder 07 |
| Thank you letters, 2000-2002                       | Box 01    | Folder 08 |
| Yard signs, 2000-2002                              | Box 01    | Folder 09 |
| Signs, 2000-2002                                   | Box 01    | Folder 10 |

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|                                                                                      |        |           |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|-----------|
| House party tracking sheets, 2000-2002                                               | Box 01 | Folder 11 |
| Data entry, 2000-2002                                                                | Box 01 | Folder 12 |
| PB W25-35 (folder of miscellaneous forms, brochures, fliers, notes), 2000-2002       | Box 01 | Folder 13 |
| Equal Rights Nevada meeting notes and work agreements, 2000-2002                     | Box 01 | Folder 14 |
| Financial reports, 2000-2002                                                         | Box 01 | Folder 15 |
| Northern Nevada, 2000-2002                                                           | Box 01 | Folder 16 |
| Action, 2000-2002                                                                    | Box 01 | Folder 17 |
| Phone bank results, 2000-2002                                                        | Box 01 | Folder 18 |
| Press kit of labor union campaign materials, 2000-2002                               | Box 01 | Folder 19 |
| Phone tally sheets, 2000-2002                                                        | Box 01 | Folder 20 |
| EN 501c4 application, 2000-2002                                                      | Box 01 | Folder 21 |
| Phone bank material, 2000-2002                                                       | Box 01 | Folder 22 |
| SOS-2002 (2002 PAC disclosure forms), 2000-2002                                      | Box 01 | Folder 23 |
| Coalition for the Protection of Marriage in Nevada (ephemera), 2000-2002             | Box 01 | Folder 24 |
| Phone bank volunteer sheets, 2000-2002                                               | Box 01 | Folder 25 |
| Equal Rights Nevada memos to staff, 2000-2002                                        | Box 01 | Folder 26 |
| Hospital visitation issue, 2000-2002                                                 | Box 01 | Folder 27 |
| HRC (Human Rights Campaign) initiative manual, 2000-2002                             | Box 01 | Folder 28 |
| We Are Family (Las Vegas organization), 2000-2002                                    | Box 01 | Folder 29 |
| HP (house party) overview, 2000-2002                                                 | Box 01 | Folder 30 |
| Equal Rights Nevada media releases, 2002                                             | Box 01 | Folder 31 |
| Equal Rights Nevada board nomination forms, 2000-2002                                | Box 01 | Folder 32 |
| R and R Partners: media releases; memos; financial, 2000-2002                        | Box 01 | Folder 33 |
| Las Vegas Gay Pride celebration, 2000-2002                                           | Box 01 | Folder 34 |
| Treasurer, 2000-2002                                                                 | Box 01 | Folder 35 |
| Equal Rights Nevada advisory council, 2000-2002                                      | Box 01 | Folder 36 |
| Equal Rights Nevada brochures, fliers, signs, 2000-2002                              | Box 01 | Folder 37 |
| Brochure design and mocks, 2000-2002                                                 | Box 01 | Folder 38 |
| Spanish language fact sheet, 2000-2002                                               | Box 01 | Folder 39 |
| Speech (sheets with talking points, campaign and fundraising suggestions), 2000-2002 | Box 01 | Folder 40 |

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|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|-----------|
| Blank volunteer sign-up sheets, 2000-2002                                                                                 | Box 01 | Folder 41 |
| F and F fliers and brochures, 2000-2002                                                                                   | Box 01 | Folder 42 |
| Speakers bureau, 2000-2002                                                                                                | Box 01 | Folder 43 |
| Speaking engagements, 2000-2002                                                                                           | Box 01 | Folder 44 |
| Phone bank, 2000-2002                                                                                                     | Box 01 | Folder 45 |
| Letter from Jack Levin, October 16, 2000                                                                                  | Box 01 | Folder 46 |
| Friend to Friend campaign, 2000-2002                                                                                      | Box 01 | Folder 47 |
| Campaign message and development, 2000-2002                                                                               | Box 01 | Folder 48 |
| Target information, 2000-2002                                                                                             | Box 01 | Folder 49 |
| Equal Rights Nevada polling (Lake, Snell & Perry), 2000                                                                   | Box 01 | Folder 50 |
| Equality Colorado, 2000-2002                                                                                              | Box 01 | Folder 51 |
| Victory Fund, 2000-2002                                                                                                   | Box 01 | Folder 52 |
| HRC (Human Rights Campaign), 2000-2002                                                                                    | Box 01 | Folder 53 |
| NGLTF (National Gay and Lesbian Task Force), 2000-2002                                                                    | Box 01 | Folder 54 |
| Lois Tarkanian (includes right-wing Nevada voting guides), 2000                                                           | Box 01 | Folder 55 |
| Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, 2000-2002                                                                        | Box 01 | Folder 56 |
| Nebraska, 2000-2002                                                                                                       | Box 01 | Folder 57 |
| Vermont, 2000-2002                                                                                                        | Box 01 | Folder 58 |
| PAC disclosure forms, organizational chart, brochures, 2000-2002                                                          | Box 01 | Folder 59 |
| Campaign manager resumes and job description, 2000-2002                                                                   | Box 01 | Folder 60 |
| PLAN (Progressive Leadership Alliance of Nevada) survey and loose stack of Equal Rights Nevada bumper stickers, 2000-2002 | Box 01 | Folder 61 |
| Financial records: bank statements, 2000-2002                                                                             | Box 02 | Folder 01 |
| Nevada voter turnout statistics, 2002                                                                                     | Box 02 | Folder 02 |
| Candidate questionnaires, 2000-2002                                                                                       | Box 02 | Folder 03 |
| Equal Rights Nevada volunteer forms and logs, 2002                                                                        | Box 02 | Folder 04 |
| Equal Rights Nevada volunteer and GOTV (Get Out the Vote) contact lists, 2002                                             | Box 02 | Folder 05 |
| Voter phone lists, 2002                                                                                                   | Box 02 | Folder 06 |