

Yvonne Atkinson Gates

June 10, 1956-

Elected 1992, 1996 2000, 2004-Resigned March 2007

Yvonne Atkinson-Gates served the residents of District D for 14 years as a member of the County Commission. She worked for the opening of community centers in her district to improve educational and recreational opportunities for her constituents. She also is a member of Democratic National Committee's Black Caucus and was chosen to be a super-delegate to the 2008 Democratic Convention.



Atkinson-Gates is a native of Las Vegas and graduated from Clark High School. She attended the University of Nevada, Las Vegas and received a bachelor's degree in political science and journalism in 1978. She went on to earn a master's degree in public administration from UNLV in 1992. As of 2008, Atkinson-Gates was working on a PhD in public affairs, in the UNLV Public Administration Department.

From 1985 until 1992, Atkinson-Gates served as a member of the Clark County School District Board of Trustees and worked hard to ensure that school district officials heard the concerns of minority students. She resigned her seat in 1992 to allow her to run for the Clark County Commission against William "Doc" Pearson.

In 1992, Atkinson-Gates won her first term on the Clark County Commission for District D. She was then re-elected in 1996, 2000, and 2004. During her time on the commission, she remained active in the African-American community and served as a leader in the Democratic National Committee's Black Caucus. She is also a charter member of the Future PAC, a group dedicated to the election of more African-American women to public office. One of her main projects as a member of the County Commission was the development of three early childhood education centers within her district.

Atkinson-Gates is married to former Judge Lee Gates and has four children. Atkinson-Gates stated a desire to spend more time with her family, complete her doctorate and work on her growing construction business as her reasons for resigning from the Clark County Commission in March of 2007. City Councilman Lawrence Weekly was appointed to serve the remainder of her term.