



# A Century of Service Centennial

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## TIMELINE

## CENTENNIAL MOMENTS

## VIDEO HISTORIES

## COMMISSIONER HISTORIES

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### HISTORY OF THE CLARK COUNTY CLERK

HARLEY A. HARMON WAS APPOINTED AS THE FIRST CLARK COUNTY CLERK BY THE FIRST BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ON JULY 3, 1909. HE WAS ELECTED AS COUNTY CLERK IN 1910, 1912, 1916 AND 1918. OTHER INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE SERVED THE CITIZENS OF CLARK COUNTY AS CLERK INCLUDE:

**FLORENCE S. DOHERTY**

**ELECTED 1920, 1922**

**WILLIAM L. SCOTT**

**ELECTED 1926, 1930**

**LLOYD S. PAYNE**

**ELECTED 1934, 1938, 1942; RESIGNED 4/11/46**

**THOMAS L. ADAMS**

**APPOINTED 4/27/46, EFFECTIVE 5/14/46  
(IT APPEARS MR. ADAMS NEVER SERVED AS CLERK.)**

**GERTRUDE MASSENGALE**

**APPOINTED 5/14/46; ELECTED 1946  
RESIGNED UNDER THE NAME OF GERTRUDE MOORE 6/18/48.**

**HELEN SCOTT REED**

**APPOINTED EFFECTIVE 7/1/48. ELECTED 1948, 1950, 1954, 1958, 1962;  
RESIGNED EFFECTIVE 6/30/65.**

**LORETTA BOWMAN**

**APPOINTED EFFECTIVE JUNE 1965;  
ELECTED 1966, 1970, 1974, 1978, 1982,  
1986, 1990, 1994**

**SHIRLEY B.  
PARRAGUIRRE**

**ELECTED 1998, 2002, 2006**

OVER THE YEARS THE COUNTY CLERK HAS SERVED IN MANY CAPACITIES, INCLUDING EX-OFFICIO MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, REGISTRAR OF VOTERS, COMMISSIONER OF CIVIL MARRIAGES, CLERK OF DISTRICT COURT, AND SECRETARY TO A VARIETY OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS.

IN 1965 THE STATE LEGISLATURE PASSED ASSEMBLY BILL 543 WHICH ENABLED COUNTIES HAVING A POPULATION OF 120,000 OR MORE TO CREATE THE OFFICE OF REGISTRAR OF VOTERS. THIS OFFICE WOULD ASSUME THE POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE COUNTY CLERK IN CONNECTION WITH ELECTIONS. ON JUNE 7, 1965, THE CLARK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ENACTED AN ORDINANCE CREATING THE OFFICE OF REGISTRAR OF VOTERS BASED ON THE NEEDS OF THE RAPIDLY GROWING POPULATION IN THIS PART OF THE STATE. THIS CHANGE ALLOWED THE CLERK TO FOCUS HER ENERGY ON THE MANY OTHER DUTIES MANDATED FOR THE CLERK BY STATUTE.

IN APRIL 2006, THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT ANNOUNCED THAT PURSUANT TO THE 2001 SUPREME COURT DECISION, HARVEY V. DISTRICT COURT, THE COURT PLANNED TO ASSUME CONTROL OF CLERK OF COURT OPERATIONS. THIS STEP WAS STRENUOUSLY OPPOSED BY THE COUNTY CLERK AS CONTRARY TO STATE STATUTE AND THE STATE CONSTITUTION AS WELL AS FISCALLY IRRESPONSIBLE. IN SPITE OF OPPOSITION, CLERK OF COURT OPERATIONS WERE TRANSITIONED TO THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT EFFECTIVE JANUARY 16, 2007.

LAS VEGAS IS CONSIDERED THE "MARRIAGE CAPITAL OF THE WORLD." OVER THE YEARS MANY CELEBRITIES HAVE PASSED THROUGH THE DOORS OF THE CLERK MARRIAGE LICENSE BUREAU MAKING IT AN EXCITING PLACE TO WORK. SOME MORE OF THE NOTABLE CUSTOMERS INCLUDE PAUL NEWMAN AND JOANNE WOODWARD, ELVIS AND PRISCILLA PRESLEY AND BRITNEY SPEARS.

- CURRENTLY THE CLARK COUNTY CLERK SERVES IN MANY CAPACITIES, INCLUDING:
- EX-OFFICIO MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

CIVIL COMMISSIONER OF MARRIAGES

- SECRETARY TO:

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

CLARK COUNTY BOARD OF EQUALIZATION

CLARK COUNTY LIQUOR & GAMING LICENSING BOARD

MT. CHARLESTON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

CLARK COUNTY WATER RECLAMATION DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES

CLARK COUNTY DEBT MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

BIG BEND WATER DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES

CLARK COUNTY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY

UMC OF SOUTHERN NEVADA BOARD OF TRUSTEES

THE COUNTY CLERK ALSO ACCEPTS PASSPORT APPLICATIONS, FILES FICTITIOUS FIRM NAME CERTIFICATES, ACCEPTS BONDS AND ADMINISTERS THE OATH TO NOTARY PUBLICS, ISSUES MARRIAGE LICENSES, LICENSES MINISTERS TO PERFORM MARRIAGES, DIRECTS DAILY OPERATIONS OF SEVEN SEPARATE LOCATIONS, AND OVERSEES A STAFF OF FIFTY EMPLOYEES.