

WHO'S INVOLVED

DON CHAIREZ

Raised by a military family, Don Chairez graduated from the University of Southern California's Law School in 1980. Judge Chairez was elected to the District Court of Nevada in 1994 and served four years as a District Court Judge, before resigning in order to run for Congress. While on the bench Judge Chairez's respect for property owners' rights was applauded by many. In June of 1995, the Las Vegas Review Journal hailed District Court Judge Don Chairez as the "Hero" of private property rights.



Around the mid 1980's, local governments across the country began abusing the power of eminent domain in order to facilitate redevelopment, arguing that such action was a valid public use. When the City of Las Vegas took the parking lot of the Aztec Inn Casino, to give it to the Stratosphere Casino, Judge Chairez ruled that the taking was not a valid public use. Judge Chairez's ruling was the first in Nevada, and one of the first in the nation to stop the government from using the power of eminent domain when the purpose was for redevelopment.

The following year in City of Las Vegas Redevelopment Agency v. Pappas, Judge Chairez again

protected property owners' rights, by issuing a landmark decision ruling that the City of Las Vegas was wrong to have declared the Pappas property as blighted, and wrong to claim the taking of the property was a valid public use.

In September, 2003, the Nevada Supreme Court reversed Judge Chairez and ruled that there was nothing wrong in allowing the City of Las Vegas to take the Pappas family property and to give it to the Fremont Street Experience.

KERMITT L. WATERS

Kermitt's appreciation for private property was ingrained at a young age. Born and raised in West Texas, the son of ranchers, Kermitt saw at a young age how important people's land was to their survival. His father, in addition to running the family ranch, also served as County Sheriff, often being called on to protect private property.



Leaving the family ranch, Kermitt joined the National Guard when he graduated high school, serving his country while attending college. He earned his law degrees from Texas Southern University in 1965.

Kermitt moved to Nevada in 1968 where he worked as a Deputy Attorney General. As a prosecutor, he fought the utility companies demands for fee increases during the early 1970's.

Flying planes since the age of sixteen, Kermitt was the first person from the Nevada National Guard to be invited to attend Helicopter Flight school in 1970.

Kermitt went into private practice in 1972 and has been defending landowners in Nevada and across the country for more than 30 years. He has witnessed first hand what lengths the government will go to in order take private property.

Practicing primarily in the areas of eminent domain and condemnation law, Kermitt has tried over fifty (50) condemnation trials in Nevada. His defense of landowners has resulted in

landmark opinions protecting landowners' rights. Kermitt's years of expertise defending landowners provided invaluable insight during the drafting of Nevada Property Owners' Bill of Right.

ENDORSERS

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