

Quarterly Business Report

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Fourth Quarter 2009

Dear Business Leader:

Happy New Year to all. I'm hopeful that 2010 will be a year of economic renewal for all Nevada businesses, large and small. As we start a new decade, we can look for the positive signs we're seeing in the national economy to take hold in Nevada. Despite the challenges of declining state revenues and employee furloughs, I want to assure you that my office will continue to make business services a top priority in 2010 and beyond.

We've learned valuable lessons from our recent experiences in assuming responsibility for issuing the State Business License from the Taxation Department. We know what it's like to carry on and serve our customers under difficult conditions with no new resources to call on. Your patience in this transition is appreciated. We will continue to expand and improve our online business services in 2010. In the meantime, I strongly encourage all Nevada business to take full advantage of the online services already available. You may file your initial, amended, and annual lists of officers and apply for your state business license online.

Looking ahead, we are excited and confident about bringing you the new Nevada Business Portal as we start the new decade. We're making great progress that you can read more about in this newsletter.

2010 is also a Census year. In this edition, I am providing some important information on what an accurate count of Nevadans means to the State.

Again, Happy New Year and best wishes to you all.




My office has successfully launched the new agency web site. The site has a fresh new look and enhanced functions, including the ability for users to subscribe to notices, newsletters, and press releases. The new content management system allows staff to post information more timely and efficiently.

Remember! You may do these filings online at www.nvsos.gov:

- Initial Lists
- Amended Lists
- Annual Lists
- State Business License applications

Inside this issue:

Commercial Recordings	2
Business Portal	2
Notary News	2
Elections News	3
Securities	3
Census News	3

[View Past Editions:](#)

The Latest News from Commercial Recordings

New entity filings were down by more than 14% in the fiscal year that ended June 30 compared to FY 2008. There were 62,907 new entity filings in FY 2009 compared to 72,893 the year before.

In the first five months of FY2010 (July - Nov. 2009), the Division recorded 22,704 new entity filings, down 13.6% from the same period a year earlier. The decrease may be attributed in part to economic conditions and increased processing times due to the new influx of business license applications. There were 287,256 entities in good standing as of Nov. 30.

The Division issued 45,648 State Business License between Oct. 1 - Dec. 31. Currently, businesses who submit their application by mail should expect to receive their business license within five weeks of completing an application.

Did you know you can complete your Business License application online at www.nvsos.gov and your license will be issued upon checkout? It's simple, convenient and reduces your waiting time.

Customer Service

Despite a substantial increase in the number of inquiries, coupled with mandatory furlough days, our service representatives continue to do their very best to meet the needs of our business customers. At this time, response times may extend beyond 24 hours. The Secretary of State's website contains extensive answers to Frequently Asked Questions. If you cannot find your answer there, you may reach the customer service department in the following ways:

By phone

775-684-5708 or 800-450-8594

By email

sosmail@sos.nv.gov

By mail

Office of Secretary of State

202 N. Carson St.

Carson City, NV 89701-4201

Other Business-Related News

The Nevada Business Portal Update

As you know from previous editions of the Quarterly Business Report, the Secretary of State's Office has undertaken a major new project—development of the first-of-its-kind online transactional portal through which businesses can conduct most or all of their transactions with state government agencies.

In October 2009, this office took over the issuance of the State Business License. This is the first phase of the Portal. Businesses can now apply and receive their State Business License online.

The next step for the Portal is releasing a Request for Proposals (RFP) for development of the online service. The RFP should be available in early spring 2010. Questions about the RFP should be directed to Dave M. Jones with the State Purchasing Division at dmjones@purchasing.state.nv.us.

First Notary Classes for 2010

January 13, 1 pm – 5 pm

February 17, 1 pm - 5 pm

April 7, 1 pm – 5pm

All classes will be held at:

The Gold Coast

4000 W. Flamingo Rd

Las Vegas

Classes are limited to 200 people each.

For more information on becoming a Notary Public, visit the [Licensing Center](http://www.nvsos.gov) at www.nvsos.gov.

News from the **Securities Division**



Securities Division investigations led to 10 criminal convictions and charges filed against 20 individuals in FY 2009. The Division took another 20 separate enforcement actions ranging from license revocations to consent orders.

The Division collected nearly \$3 million in civil penalties and helped recover more than \$875 million in restitution for Nevada investors. Revenue from licensing, registration, inspection, and miscellaneous fees, which all goes to the state general fund, was down in FY 2009 due to the crisis in the financial services industry.



2010 Census Update

It's estimated that every person counted in the census is worth approximately \$917 per year in federal money being sent to Nevada. That's nearly \$24,000,000 in lost federal funding for every one-percent of Nevadans not counted, based on a current estimated population of Nevada of 2.6 million. Or it's an additional \$24,000,000 for every one-percent that is counted.

Secretary of State Ross Miller is the spokesperson for the state's census efforts, and the chair of the statewide Complete County Committee which is comprised of representatives of communities throughout the state. Recognizing the significant potential returns, the Secretary of State's office is taking a proactive role in working toward a complete count of Nevadans in the 2010 Census. A statewide outreach campaign is being implemented by two firms, The Ferraro Group of Nevada, and Minneapolis-based Weber-Shandwick which has extensive experience in census outreach. The firms will be working closely with Nevada communities to ensure the census in the Silver State includes as many people as possible.

At a time when state resources are stretched to their limits, a strong response in the U.S. Census is vital to maintaining and if possible, increasing the federal

News from the **Elections Division**



The 2010 election season is underway with candidates for judicial offices facing a January 15 deadline for filing their Declaration of Candidacy. The 15th is also the deadline for Political Action Committees and candidates to file Contribution and Expenditure reports.

Candidates for offices other than judicial offices will file their Declarations between March 1 and March 12. The period for filing and circulating initiative petitions is underway. You can get up-to-date information on initiative petitions by visiting the Election Center at www.nvsos.gov.

It's important for all voters to remember that the legislature moved the date of the primary election from August to the second Tuesday of June, which will be June 8 in 2010. New laws also make it easier for military personnel and civilians overseas to cast their ballots electronically.



Secretary Miller is interviewed by a Reno TV station at the opening of the Northern Nevada U.S. Census Bureau Office

money available to Nevada. But that's not the only advantage of a strong census response from Nevada. Our state is considered by most experts to be one of the states that will add a member to its congressional delegation as a result of population growth as determined by the Census. An additional congressional seat for Nevada, as well as additional votes in the federal electoral college, will further enhance the state's prominence.