



John F. Mendoza (Class of 1945)

John Mendoza was born and raised in Las Vegas. In his Senior year at Las Vegas High School, he was the captain of the 1944 football team. That team was undefeated and unscored upon, a feat that has never been matched. The team was written up in Ripley's Believe It Or Not.

John received his Juris Doctor degree from the University of Notre Dame in 1952. Upon returning to Las Vegas from law school, he was elected and/or selected to serve as District Attorney of Clark County, City Attorney of the City of North Las Vegas, and Justice of the Peace of Las Vegas Township. He was elected as District Court Judge of the State of Nevada and served for 24 years.

After retiring from the bench, he was appointed by Governor Bob Miller to serve as the Chairman of the State of Nevada Public Service Commission and thereafter as Chairman of the State of Nevada Transportation Services Authority. Since retiring from state government, he was appointed by the Nevada Supreme Court to serve as an Arbitrator and Supreme Court Settlement Judge. He was admitted to practice before all the Nevada courts, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, and the U.S. Supreme Court.

He also served as national president of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges where he was a speaker throughout the country and before Congress on various issues involving children. With his work with the National Council, he was also a faculty advisor and instructor and was involved in editing many of the materials which were published by the National Council.

He was awarded the Distinguished Nevadan Award by the Board of Regents of the University of Nevada and was honored with the naming of an elementary school in his honor by the Board of Trustees of the Clark County School District. He was named Notre Dame Man of the Year, Awarded for his Outstanding Juvenile Justice Programs by the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, named Hispanic of the Year by the Latin Chamber of Commerce, and had a day named in his honor by Governor Bob Miller.

These biographies are based on research and could contain discrepancies.
If there are any excerpts you feel should be changed please feel free to contact dave@lvhsaa.com

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