

John J. Entsminger  
1001 S. Valley View Blvd.  
Las Vegas, NV 89153  
(702) 875-7080  
[John.entsminger@snwa.com](mailto:John.entsminger@snwa.com)

---

#### **LEGAL EDUCATION:**

**University of Colorado School of Law, Boulder, CO**  
Juris Doctor degree, May 1999  
Honors: Recipient of Charles N. Woodruff Natural Resources Law Fellowship

#### **UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION:**

**University of Northern Colorado, Greeley, CO**  
Bachelor of Arts in History with minor in Legal Studies, December 1995

#### **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:**

*Assistant General Manager* *2010 - Present*  
**Southern Nevada Water Authority, Las Vegas, NV**  
Assistant General Manager responsible for overseeing SNWA's programs related to the Colorado River, including negotiations with the other six states that share the river, and the federal government. Coordinates SNWA's in-state resource development activities, which include the Groundwater Development Project and activities on the Virgin and Muddy rivers.

*Deputy General Counsel* *1999 – 2010*  
**Southern Nevada Water Authority, Las Vegas, NV**  
Deputy General Counsel directly responsible for overseeing and coordinating legal and policy issues primarily related to water resources and environmental compliance. Have represented the SNWA before the Nevada Supreme Court, various federal courts and multiple state and federal administrative agencies, including the Nevada State Engineer. Practice areas include water law, environmental law, constitutional law, municipal corporations, utilities law and real property.

*Legal Externship* *June, 1998 – August, 1998*  
**United States Department of Justice, Environment and Natural Resources Division, Denver, CO**  
Work primarily entailed research and writing of memos in the areas of Western Water Law and the Doctrine of Reserved Rights. Specifically, research projects included determining the validity of various methodologies for the quantification of in-stream flows under both state and federal evidentiary standards and the ability of Indian Tribes to use "stored" water to satisfy reserved water rights.

*Law Clerk* *May, 1997 – March, 1998*  
**Patterson & Karpel, P.C., Attorneys at Law, Denver, CO**  
Researched and wrote memos on various contract, tort, property, evidentiary and corporate issues in preparation for litigation. Drafted complaints, answers, and demand letters.