

## Monuments to Hypocrisy

As a result of my last letter I was contacted by a man who was prosecuted in Boulder City for doing business without a license. After two years of being unemployed the man took odd jobs to make ends me. On 6/17/10 he was found guilty by Judge Victor Miller and fined \$192. As he did not have the money to pay the fine he was sentenced to 19 hours of community service. The community service consisted of polishing the statues around town.

I have a collection of phone books, some going back over ten years, that carry ads for Judge Miller's private law practice and state: "Appointments in Boulder City available." The only record of a business license for Judge Miller is the one he applied for on 8/31/10. Similarly the city's \$100 per hour contract attorney/part time prosecutor, Gary Booker, worked for the city for five years before getting his business license last March. The mayor's wife, Alyson Tobler, ran a home based business as a music instructor for seven years before getting her home occupation permit in June. Let us not forget the "go to attorneys," Lionel, Sawyer & Collins, who took in many thousands of dollars from Boulder City's taxpayers before getting their license.

Doing business without a license is a crime, a misdemeanor, just like a traffic ticket. Can we trust public officials who commit the same acts for which they prosecute others? At the very least Miller, Booker, Tobler and Lionel need to pay the license fees for all the years they were in violation of the law. How about the sixteen unlicensed artists who have their work for sale downtown? How do you justify punishing someone who works to survive while taking no action against people who use public resources for personal gain?

Dick Farmer  
Boulder City Resident