

Smoke-free Nevada casinos?

By Ray Hagar, Reno Gazette-Journal

Perhaps no executive understands the dilemma the Nevada gaming industry is facing over smoking in casinos better than Jeff Siri, CEO and president of the Club Cal Neva in downtown Reno.

A few years ago, cancerous tumors were removed from his bladder. Siri, a nonsmoker, thinks they were caused by the second-hand smoke he had been exposed to during his career.

"I am the only person in my family who has ever had cancer," Siri said. "So, it has to be something in the environment and not something hereditary."

Yet, Siri takes a firm pro-smoking stance when it comes to Nevada's Clean Indoor Air Act of 2006, which allows smoking in casinos but bans it in almost all other locations.

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