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Viva Las Vegas

Bricker delves into developer deals, motherhood out west

Christine Bricker
Bricker Alum (1997-2005)

The City of Sin brought Christine Bricker a lifestyle of billion dollar real estate deals, midnight dinners at the city's finest steakhouse and world-class entertainment on the Las Vegas Strip. Excitement in Ohio may pale by comparison, but Bricker's 'life of the party' legacy actually dates back to her days in Columbus.

Bricker, who has no relation to the firm's founder, began to work in Bricker & Eckler's real estate department in 1997, after she graduated from Moritz College of Law at The Ohio State University. In 2005, the Salem, Ohio native left the firm to join Gordon & Silver, LTD., a 28-attorney law firm located two blocks from Caesar's Palace.

For years, the 'work hard, play hard' scene suited Bricker and her husband Rob, a superintendent for a general contractor, but then the couple decided they were ready to trade 80-hour workweeks and nights on the town for parenthood. Bricker's daughter Logan Nicole, now 7-months-old, has "changed their lives 100 percent," she said.

"Our blackjack and craps days are dwindling and our days of hiking in the mountains are growing," she said.

Bricker's legal practice is expanding too. The size and complexity of the deals, compared to her previous work in Columbus, are "on a completely different level," she said. Working with a wide variety of clients on large developer deals, both in Las Vegas and internationally, broadens her practice on a daily basis, she said.

"I love what I'm doing out here," she said. "It's just very different day-to-day. It keeps me on my toes."

Though billion-dollar deals tend to keep Bricker quite busy, she has tried to achieve more of a balance in Las Vegas from her once "workaholic lifestyle," she said. Since moving out west, Bricker and her husband, who live 15 minutes from the Strip in an area called Henderson, have taken on lots of new hobbies and activities.

"The thing that people probably don't realize (about Las Vegas) is that it's beautiful when you're off the Strip," she said. "We have gone kayaking on the Colorado River,

rode ATVs in the desert, and are able to go hiking and skiing, and drive to Arizona, California and Utah on the weekends. We do things that people don't think about doing when in Las Vegas."

As much as Bricker enjoys life out west, she does miss Bricker & Eckler's recreational activities such as kickball, basketball games at the Schott, the Christmas Party and holiday card signing with the real estate group. The friendships, however, are the fondest memories, she said.

"Gordon & Silver is a smaller firm," she said, "but like Bricker & Eckler, their attorneys are known for their integrity and as being the top lawyers in their field. It's nice to be in that same setting in a different city."