

Guide to the Cherina Kleven Papers

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Summary Information

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| Repository: | University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives. |
| Creator: | Kleven, Cherina, 1958- |
| Title: | Cherina Kleven Papers |
| ID: | MS-01092 |
| Date [inclusive]: | approximately 1988 to 2014 |
| Physical Description: | 0.56 Cubic Feet (1 box, 1 oversized box, 1 flat file (shared box)) |
| Physical Description: | 2.82 Linear Feet |
| Physical Description: | 6 Digital Files (3.100 GB) PDF, TIF |
| Language of the Material: | English |
| Abstract: | The Cherina Kleven Papers (approximately 1988-2014) document the career of Cherina Kleven who was the first Asian-American appointed as Assistant Fire Chief for Las Vegas Fire & Rescue. The materials primarily include physical and digitized photographs of Kleven in her capacity as Assistant Fire Chief, magazine and newspaper articles featuring Kleven, and event programs. Also included are campaign fliers from 2010 when Kleven ran for office to represent Assembly District 15 in the Nevada Legislature as well as two commemorative books celebrating the history of Las Vegas Fire & Rescue. |

Preferred Citation

Cherina Kleven Papers, 1989-2014. MS-01092. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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Biographical Note

Cherina Kleven is a retired City of Las Vegas Fire Chief. Kleven was born in Taiwan in 1958 as the fifth of seven children and the family immigrated to the United States in 1970. The family settled in Las Vegas, Nevada where Kleven's father used his training as an electrician to work with

air conditioners. Kleven attended Roy W. Martin Junior High School and Las Vegas High School. She graduated from the Las Vegas Fire & Rescue recruit academy in 1989 and was promoted to Assistant Fire Chief. Kleven was the first Asian American Assistant Fire Chief for the Las Vegas Fire & Rescue and served in her position for twenty years until retiring in 2009.

Sources:

Cherina Kleven, email message to Stefani Evans, March 9, 2022.

Cherina Kleven oral history interview, 2021 June 09. OH-03776. Oral History Research Center, Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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Scope and Contents Note

The Cherina Kleven Papers (approximately 1988-2014) document the career of Cherina Kleven who was the first Asian-American appointed as Assistant Fire Chief for Las Vegas Fire & Rescue. The materials primarily include physical and digitized photographs of Kleven in her capacity as Assistant Fire Chief, magazine and newspaper articles featuring Kleven, and event programs. Also included are campaign fliers from 2010 when Kleven ran for office to represent Assembly District 15 in the Nevada Legislature as well as two commemorative books celebrating the history of Las Vegas Fire & Rescue.

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Arrangement

Materials remain as they were received.

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Administrative Information

Access Note

Collection is open for research. Some collection material has been digitized and is [available online](#).

Publication Rights

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Acquisition Note

Materials were donated by Cherina Kleven in 2022; accession number 2022-013.

Processing Note

In 2022, Tammi Kim and Jose Andre Guevara processed the collection during accessioning and created the finding aid in ArchivesSpace.

Existence and Location of Originals

Some items in this collection are digital surrogates. The donor retained the original items.

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Related Materials

Related Collections

Cherina Kleven oral history interview, 2021 June 09. OH-03776. Oral History Research Center, Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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Names and Subjects

- Fire chiefs
- Fire fighters
- Taiwanese
- Women labor union members
- Asian American women

Collection Inventory

| Title/Description | Containers |
|--|------------|
| Recruitment color photos featuring Station 2 firefighters Abdus Salaam, Cherina Kleven, Richard Garcia, Ellen Goldsmith, and George Goldbaum (identified from left to right): photographic prints, approximately 1992 to 1993 Physical Description: 2 Photographic Prints | box 01 |
| Official Las Vegas Fire Department color headshot: photographic print, approximately 1990 | box 01 |
| Cherina Kleven with visiting delegation from China color publicity shots: photographic prints, approximately 1990 Physical Description: 4 Photographic Prints | box 01 |
| Clark County Fire & Rescue and Las Vegas Fire Department, joint dinner: photographic prints, approximately 1997 Physical Description: 3 Photographic Prints | box 01 |
| Las Vegas Fire Station 5, engineer Charles Smith, firefighters Cherina Kleven, Tom Kozlowski, and Anthony Burton: photographic print, approximately 1990 | box 01 |
| Cherina Kleven official Las Vegas Fire Department black-and-white headshot: photographic print, approximately 1990 | box 01 |
| Publicity shot, Cherina Kleven, engineer, in Engine 2 (Station 2), Las Vegas Fire Department: photographic print, approximately 1994 | box 01 |
| Training officer pinning: photographic print, approximately 1997 to 1998 | box 01 |
| Advanced Driver Training Instructor's Course certificate, 1998 October 01 | box 01 |
| United Blood Services, "Images of Life" fundraiser program, 2004 March 20 | box 01 |
| Various event programs: "OCA Mentorship Graduation Luncheon program" (2014), "The Asian Community Achievement Awards" (2005), and "Las Vegas Fire Department Recruit Graduation Fire Training Academy" (2004), 2004 to 2014 | box 01 |
| "The Fair Sex Unleashed: Women in non-traditional roles" featuring Cherina Kleven in <i>Nevada Woman</i> magazine, 1997 | box 01 |
| Women Chief Fire Officers Leadership Conference, Schaumburg, Illinois: photographic prints, 2002 Physical Description: 2 Photographic Prints | box 01 |
| Three greeting cards for Kleven signed by Las Vegas Fire Department colleagues, approximately 1990 | box 01 |
| Cherina Kleven for Assembly District 15 campaign fliers, 2010 | box 01 |
| <i>Las Vegas Review-Journal</i> article and insert featuring Kleven, 2001, 2007 | box 01 |

| | |
|---|---------------------|
| <i>Coyote Press</i> "Women in Fire Science" seminar article featuring photograph of Kleven, 2006 | box 01 |
| Letter to Coach Tony Kyriacou at Vo Tech High School regarding Las Vegas Fire & Rescue donation to the Mike Hartwell Fund, 2005 | box 01 |
| Las Vegas Asian American Chamber of Commerce press release Kleven receiving Government Employee of the Year award, 2005 | box 01 |
| Las Vegas Fire & Rescue newsletters featuring articles written by Kleven, 1998 to 2007 | box 01 |
| <i>Las Vegas Fire & Rescue History, 1905-2005</i> commemorative book, approximately 2005 (sod2022-003) (view online) Physical Description: 1 Digital Files (1.030 GB) PDF | digital file 00 |
| <i>Las Vegas Fire & Rescue 65th Anniversary</i> commemorative book, 2008 (sod2022-004) (view online) Physical Description: 1 Digital Files (1.770 GB) PDF | digital file 00 |
| Photograph of Cherina Kleven after fighting the May 29, 2003 fire at the Moulin Rouge, 2003 May 29 (sod2022-005) (view online) Physical Description: 1 Digital Files (0.211 GB) TIF | digital file 00 |
| Polaroid photograph of Cherina Kleven and her daughter Stephanie, approximately 1980 to 1990 (sod2022-006) (view online) Physical Description: 1 Digital Files (0.017 GB) TIF | digital file 00 |
| Photograph of Cherina Kleven with four Las Vegas Fire & Rescue colleagues with Jackie Chan during filming of <i>Rush Hour 2</i> , 2001 (sod2022-007) (view online) Physical Description: 1 Digital Files (0.039 GB) TIF | digital file 00 |
| Photograph of Cherina Kleven with five Las Vegas Fire & Rescue colleagues: Frank Sams, Tom DeLamonte, Ian Adams, Captain Ken Brewster (identified from left to right, back row); Cherina Kleven and Erik Saxon (identified from left to right, front row), approximately 1989 to 1994 (sod2022-008) (view online) Physical Description: 1 Digital Files (0.039 GB) TIF | digital file 00 |
| Drawing of firefighters Ed Bellinger and Cherina Kleven created by Allan Albaitis, approximately 2000 to 2009 | box 01 |
| Kleven Assistant Fire Chief stationary pad, 1989 to 2009 | box 01 |
| 9-11 Las Vegas Fire Department/Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department T-shirt, 2001 | oversized box 02 |
| Vegas Grand Prix operations badge and lanyard, 2007 | oversized box 02 |
| Assistant Fire Chief Cherina Kleven name plates, approximately 1989 to 2009 | oversized box 02 |
| "Feeling the Heat: Women struggle up career ladder" featuring Kleven from the <i>Las Vegas Sun</i> , 1988 September 25 | |

oversized flat file
box 03
SH-082

Las Vegas Fire & Rescue recruitment posters featuring images of Cherina
Kleven, 1993 to 2003

Physical Description: 5 Items

oversized flat file
box 03
SH-082