



State Bar *of*
New Mexico

Est. 1886

2026 | Board of Bar Commissioners

2026 OFFICERS



President

Allison H. Block-Chavez

505-266-8787

ablockchavez@abqlawnm.com

Allison H. Block-Chavez, is passionate about service through the State Bar and advancing a strong, ethical, and inclusive legal profession. She is dedicated to supporting lawyers and strengthening access to justice for communities throughout New Mexico. She is a partner and attorney at Aldridge, Hammar & Wexler, P.A., in Albuquerque, where her practice focuses on estate planning, trust administration, probate matters, real estate, and creditors' rights. She previously served as Chair of the Young Lawyers Division of the State Bar of New Mexico and as the Young Lawyer Delegate to the American Bar Association House of Delegates. Allison is a graduate of the University of New Mexico School of Law and the Anderson School of Management, and she served as a judicial law clerk to Chief Judge Michael E. Vigil of the New Mexico Court of Appeals. In her free time, Allison embraces the joyful chaos of life with twin toddlers, traveling, and indulging her love of trivia.



President-Elect

Lucy H. Sinkular

505-795-7117

lucys@maciasvalleylaw.com

Lucy H. Sinkular is Of Counsel at Macias & Valley, P.C. Admitted to practice in 1994, Lucy comes from a family of lawyers and loves the law. Lucy is passionate about New Mexicans' access to justice and maintains an active pro bono case load in addition to her regular practice. Lucy enjoys her service on the board of the Family Law Section and the Domestic Relations Rules Committee. Her immediate family includes her husband Scott who is a scientist at NNSA, their daughter who is conducting post-doctoral research and their son who is a CPA. Lucy and Scott are also parents to two very spoiled black labs. Lucy serves as the Senior Warden for her Episcopal Church in Albuquerque. When not practicing law or volunteering for the Bar, Lucy can frequently be found pursuing outdoor hobbies of camping, running, cycling and hiking.

2026 OFFICERS



Secretary-Treasurer

Tomas J. Garcia

505-848-1892
tjg@modrall.com

Tomas J. Garcia is a shareholder at Modrall Sperling in Albuquerque, where he practices commercial, healthcare, torts/personal injury, and transportation litigation. Tomas is a past chair and board member of the State Bar of New Mexico Young Lawyers Division and he is an active leader with the American Bar Association, currently serving as the New Mexico Membership Chair. Tomas also serves on the board of directors for the New Mexico Defense Lawyers Association. An Albuquerque native, Tomas received his law degree from Georgetown University Law Center.



Immediate Past President

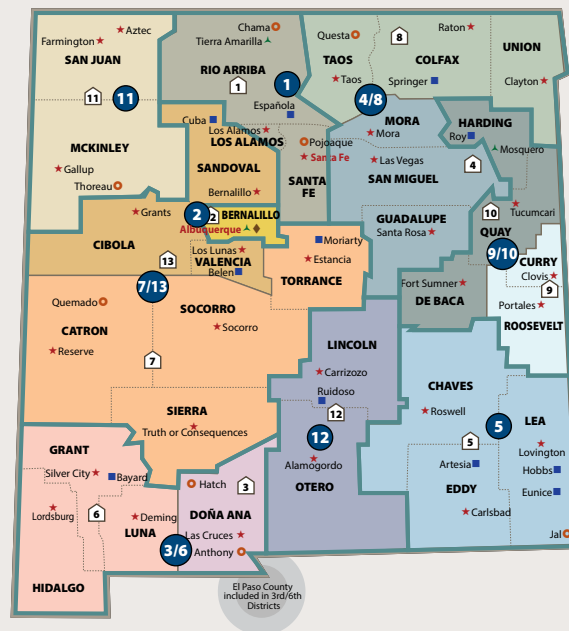
Aja N. Brooks

505-649-3777
aocanb@nmcourts.gov

Aja Nicole Brooks is a native New Mexican, born in Hobbs. She is a graduate of Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, where she received her Bachelor of Arts in English and Spanish. She attended the University of New Mexico School of Law and graduated with her juris doctorate in 2008. She currently works as the Statewide Rural Justice Program Coordinator for the New Mexico Administrative Office of the Courts, and previously served as the Executive Assistant United States Attorney for the District of New Mexico. Prior to that, she was employed as the Director of the Second Judicial District Court's Center for Self-Help and Dispute Resolution. She is involved in many legal groups and activities, including serving as a mentor in the Bridge the Gap Mentorship Program and as a member of the Committee on Diversity in the Legal Profession. She is a member of the New Mexico Black Lawyers Association, a past President of the State Bar of New Mexico and the Bar Foundation, and a member of the Iota Xi Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated. She enjoys exploring and traveling near and far with her husband, Johnn and her son, Emerson.

Board of Bar Commissioners District Map

-  Judicial District
-  District and Magistrate Courts
-  District Courts Only
-  Metropolitan Courts
-  Magistrate Full Courts
-  Magistrate Circuit Courts



1st JUDICIAL DISTRICT (Los Alamos, Rio Arriba, and Santa Fe Counties)



Andr a Salazar

505-827-1261 • asalazar@nmslo.gov

Andr a Salazar is a native New Mexican raised in Santa Fe. She graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Fine Art from the University of California, Santa Cruz. After working as a photographer for several years, she attended law school at UNM. She is a proud second generation UNM School of Law graduate. She currently works at the New Mexico State Land Office as an Associate General Counsel. She has previously served as the Santa Fe City Clerk and Director of Community Engagement as well as the General Counsel for the State Auditor. In her free time she loves hiking with her husband and dog, camping, photographing, and reading.



Olga Serafimova

505-954-3676 • omserafimova@hollandhart.com

Olga Serafimova is Of Counsel in the Santa Fe office of Holland & Hart, LLP, where she is a member of the Environmental, Energy, and Natural Resources practice group. She previously served as the Senior Civil Counsel to Attorney General Hector Balderas, the General Counsel for the Department of Information Technology, and the Tobacco Bureau Chief at the Attorney General's Office. Ms. Serafimova is the State Bar liaison for the New Mexico Appellate Rules Committee, and the pro bono General Counsel of STEM Santa Fe, a non-profit organization providing free STEM programming to middle and high school aged children in Northern New Mexico. She is licensed to practice law in New Mexico, California, and Massachusetts.



Elizabeth J. Travis (she/her)

505-216-6399 • EJTravislaw@gmail.com

Elizabeth J. Travis is a solo practitioner providing services in the 1st Judicial District as a neutral, settlement facilitator and mediator, and as counsel for various civil clients including small business, nonprofits and boards. In addition to her role on the BBC, Ms. Travis serves on the State Bar Foundation Board (President), the State Bar's Ethics Advisory Committee and ADR Steering Committee, and on the Supreme Court's Disciplinary Board and Client Protection Fund Committee. She is an active member of the ABA, participating in the dispute resolution and professional responsibility sections and the construction industry forum. Liz is licensed to practice in state and federal court in New Mexico and California.

2nd JUDICIAL DISTRICT

(Bernalillo County)



Allison H. Block-Chavez

President

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Aja N. Brooks

Immediate Past President

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Sean M. FitzPatrick

505-400-0420 • sfitzpatrick@fitzpatricklawllc.com

A trial lawyer at heart, FitzPatrick started his career trying felony and misdemeanor criminal cases as a prosecutor in Farmington, New Mexico. After about 30 of those trials, FitzPatrick began representing injured New Mexicans through his firm FitzPatrick Law, LLC in 2016. Outside of running his own firm where he primarily represents plaintiffs in insurance and injury cases, FitzPatrick has a history of service in New Mexico including his current positions on the Board of Bar Commissioners, The New Mexico State Bar Foundation, The New Mexico Trial Lawyers Board, The New Mexico Trial Lawyers Foundation, The Uniform Civil Jury Instruction Committee, liaison to the Board of Bar Examiners, and chairing the New Mexico State Bar Well Being Committee. Previously FitzPatrick served on the Young Lawyers Division Board, Cannabis Law Section Board, and the Natural Resources Energy and Environmental Law Section Board. In addition to his love of being a lawyer, FitzPatrick loves being a dad and spending time with his son Liam.



Tomas J. Garcia

Secretary-Treasurer

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Steven S. Scholl

505-244-3890 • sscholl@dsc-law.com

Steven Scholl is a founding member of Dixon Scholl [Bailey] Carrillo, P.A. He does civil trials, but occasionally helps-out behind the scenes with criminal trials. He is a past president of the UNMSOL Alumni Board and the Albuquerque Bar Association. Serving on the Board of Bar Commissioners is another and different way that Steve serves the members of the Bar. Since graduating from UNMSOL in 1989, he spent a lot of free time “paying it forward” by teaching trial practice, evidence and deposition skills classes and coaching mock trial teams. Steve and Chris raised their two kids here, and they are raising theirs here as well. In addition to doing law stuff, they restored and use two vintage ‘50s camp trailers, drive a 1929 Model A Roadster and boat-camp. Life is Good.



Lucy H. Sinkular

President-Elect

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3rd and 6th JUDICIAL DISTRICTS

(Dona Ana, Grant, Hidalgo, and Luna Counties)



Amy B. Bailey

575-339-2100 • abailey@newmexicolegalgroup.com

Amy B. Bailey is a graduate of the New Mexico School of Law and brings nearly 20 years of experience to the practice of divorce and family law. Amy is a qualified mediator and accomplished litigator. She primarily handles cases in southern New Mexico in the areas of divorce, custody, property division, retirement benefits, alimony and spousal support, and all other areas of divorce and family law. She also serves the 3rd judicial district on their pro bono committee and previously on the Southern New Mexico Bar Association. Amy also serves the court as a Guardian ad Litem in family, probate, guardianship, and mental health proceedings, as well as a special master in various areas of litigation.



Connie J. Flores

575-303-9999 • cflores@floresmendez.com

Connie J. Flores is a partner at Flores Mendez, P.C., specializing in personal injury law, including death cases, semi-truck and automobile accidents, workplace injuries, premises liability, and Dram Shop actions. She is driven by a passion for advocating for clients who have been unjustly treated by insurance companies, ensuring they receive fair representation. Fluent in Spanish, Ms. Flores is particularly focused on assisting clients with language barriers, empowering them to effectively communicate their legal issues.

She graduated from the University of Denver and the University of New Mexico School of Law (UNMSOL) in 2008, gaining admission to practice in New Mexico, Texas, and Arizona in subsequent years. In addition to her legal work, Ms. Flores is committed to community involvement and mentorship. As a teenage mother, she speaks at local high schools about teenage pregnancy, encouraging young parents to continue their education and pursue higher learning. Her community service illustrates her belief in the importance of giving back and uplifting those around her.



Chrystian J. Gonzalez

575-373-6490 • chrystian@cjgonzalezlaw.com

Chrystian J. Gonzalez is a Children's Court Attorney for the New Mexico Children, Youth, and Families Department's Las Cruces office. He previously worked as a mediator, social security disability representative, and Assistant District Attorney, before moving on to private practice as a family and civil law attorney. He also currently serves as Treasurer for the Southern New Mexico Bar Association and has been recognized for his contributions to pro bono work in the southern New Mexico region. Chrystian is a graduate of the Texas Tech University School of Law and the University of Texas at Austin. Prior to his studies, he also served as an enlisted member of the United States Air Force, where he supported various post-9/11 military operations overseas. In his off-time, Chrystian devotes his time to his family, completing DIY home projects, and serving as vice president of his local International Lions Club chapter. Chrystian brings his diligence, determination, and tenacity to every matter, while also striving to uphold the integrity of the legal profession.

4th and 8th JUDICIAL DISTRICT

(Guadalupe, Mora, San Miguel, Colfax, Taos, and Union Counties)



Brett Phelps

505-425-5129 • phelpslawoffice@gmail.com

Brett Phelps became a lawyer to help legalize cannabis and end the drug war, and he is now the owner of the Phelps Law Office in Las Vegas, New Mexico. His practice now focuses primarily on criminal defense. Brett previously served on the Board of the Cannabis Law Section and currently serves as the Secretary of the New Mexico Criminal Defense Lawyer's Association. He also acts as General Counsel for Students for Sensible Drug Policy, where he is fighting the DEA in the scheduling of research chemicals. Outside the courtroom he advocates for criminal justice reform and psychedelic policy. In his spare time, Brett enjoys alpine skiing, backpacking, and tending his organic garden.

5th JUDICIAL DISTRICT

(Chaves, Eddy, and Lea Counties)



Parker B. Folse

575-622-6510 • pfolse@hinklelawfirm.com

Parker Folse is a partner in the Roswell office of Hinkle Shanor LLP. He is a graduate of University of Texas at Dallas, B.A. Political Science, and the University of Oklahoma School of Law, J.D. Parker primarily assists commercial clients in litigation matters in both State and Federal Courts at both the district and appellate levels. Parker was admitted to practice law in New Mexico in 2011 and is a member of the Chaves County Bar Association, the New Mexico Defense Lawyer's Association, and the Defense Research Institute. Parker also serves on the Roswell Museum and Art Center Foundation Board, the Roswell-Chaves County Economic Development Corporation Board, and the Immanuel Lutheran Church Council. He enjoys exploring New Mexico's mountains with his wife, Robin, and daughter, Evelyn.

7th and 13th JUDICIAL DISTRICT

(Catron, Cibola, Sandoval, Sierra, Socorro, Torrance, and Valencia Counties)



Joshua Rubin

505-896-8385 • jrubin@rrnm.gov

Josh Rubin is the Rio Rancho City Attorney. Together with the other members of the City Attorney's Office, he provides legal advice and representation in a variety of legal matters and is part of the city's senior leadership team. Prior to working for the City of Rio Rancho, he was a felony prosecutor at the Second Judicial District Attorney's Office prosecuting a wide range of crimes on behalf of the State. Josh is a graduate of the University of New Mexico, with a B.B.A in finance from the Anderson School of Management and a J.D from the UNM School of Law. Recently, he took on a new challenge becoming an adjunct law professor at the UNMSOL co-teaching a class focused on New Mexico transparency laws and 1st Amendment protected activity. He has served as the president of the New Mexico Municipal Attorneys' Association for the past two years and volunteers as an "attorney coach" for a high school mock trial team. Outside of work, Josh enjoys spending time with his wife (who is also an attorney) and son, traveling, and watching/playing sports.



Simone M. Seiler

505-287-8831 x3112 • berdsms@nmcourts.gov

Simone M. Seiler is the special commissioner for the Thirteenth Judicial District Court in Cibola County. She is a 2006 graduate of the University of New Mexico School of Law. In 2007, she passed the patent bar and began representing clients before the United States Patent & Trademark Office. Simone spent the first half of her legal career working for a private civil and intellectual property law firm, and the second half working for the Human Services Department and the Thirteenth Judicial District Court. She is past chair of the State Bar of New Mexico Intellectual Property Section and served on the boards of the Animal Law Section and the New Mexico Women's Bar Association.

9th and 10th JUDICIAL DISTRICT

(Curry, Roosevelt, DeBaca, Harding, and Quay Counties)



Mitchell L. Mender

575-265-5333 • Mitch@larsenandmender.com

Mitchell L. Mender is a founding partner of The Law Offices of Larsen and Mender P.C., located in Clovis, NM. His practice focuses primarily on criminal law, family law, and personal injury. Mitch is a graduate of Brigham Young University. He graduated from Vermont Law School in their accelerated Juris Doctorate program. He started his career as a prosecutor with the Ninth Judicial District Attorney's Office, where he was awarded prosecutor of the year for the District in 2018 and 2019. Subsequently, he worked at the New Mexico Law Offices of the Public Defender where he represented indigent clients. Additionally, he sits on the Board of Directors for the Hartley House, the local domestic violence shelter. He and his wife, Robyn, enjoy traveling and spending time with their three children.

11th JUDICIAL DISTRICT

(McKinley and San Juan Counties)



Felisha Adams

505-303-0139 • businesslawpolicy@gmail.com

Felisha Adams is a licensed attorney within New Mexico and the Navajo Nation. Felisha earned her JD from the University of New Mexico School of Law and graduated with honors from Diné College with a BA in Business Administration and Tribal Economic Development. She is a member of the Navajo Nation. Ms. Adams established and manages Business Law & Policy Advisors and I Am The Biz, both dedicated to her passion to help improve the quality of life through business, culture, education, family, and law.

12th JUDICIAL DISTRICT

(Lincoln and Otero Counties)



Sarah Patterson

575-378-3788 • sarah@truitlegalgroup.com

Sarah Patterson is managing attorney at Lauren E.A. Truitt, P.C. in Ruidoso, New Mexico where she practices family, landlord/tenant, domestic violence, estate planning, probate, criminal (specifically traffic tickets), and contract law. Sarah was born and raised as a fifth-generation cattle rancher before she decided to attend Texas Tech University School of Law. She is a three-time published author for the Progressive Cattle magazine and a previous legal researcher for the National Agricultural Law Center. Outside of the law office Sarah enjoys spending time with her family, working on the ranch, and (in the summer months) tending to her flowers or garden.

OUT-OF-STATE DISTRICT



Dylan O'Reilly

505-898-9614 • doreilly@mstlaw.com

Dylan O'Reilly is a shareholder/director at Miller Stratvert, P.A. where he handles transactions, real estate matters and commercial litigation. A New Mexico native, Mr. O'Reilly practiced in Farmington and Albuquerque before settling in Santa Fe in 2015. Mr. O'Reilly earned his J.D. from the University of New Mexico School of Law after attending Oberlin College. Mr. O'Reilly is a former chair of the state bar's business law section, and was the section's Business Lawyer of the Year in 2013. In 2021 he was appointed by the Supreme Court to the New Mexico Board of Bar Examiners.

YOUNG LAWYERS DIVISION CHAIR

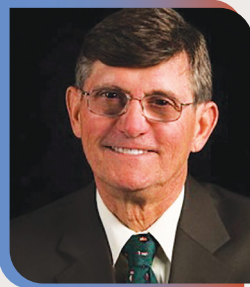


Taylor K. Duffney

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Taylor K. Duffney was born and raised in Albuquerque, New Mexico. She is an Associate Attorney at Briones Business Law Consulting, P.C. Taylor received her undergraduate degree from Arizona State University but chose to return home to attend law school and practice law in New Mexico. While attending law school, Taylor recognized her love for business law early on and joined the student chapter of the Business Law Section of the New Mexico Bar. Taylor joined Briones Business Law Consulting P.C. as a law clerk during her 3L year of law school and joined as an Associate Attorney after passing the New Mexico Bar. She is also licensed to practice in Arizona.

SENIOR LAWYERS DIVISION DELEGATE



Daniel J. Behles

505-238-0208 • djbehles@gmail.com

Dan Behles has been a New Mexico attorney since 1970, and is now semi-retired. He graduated from the University of Notre Dame, and received his J.D. degree from the University of New Mexico. He has practiced in New Mexico for over 50 years, concentrating in bankruptcy. He has represented debtors, creditors, trustees and committees, and has been a Chapter 7 and Chapter 11 Trustee. He is a member of the Subchapter V panel of trustees for small business reorganizations, and currently limits his practice to serving as a trustee. He sits on the board of directors of the Senior Lawyer's Division, and has been a Southwest Superlawyer for over 10 years.

PARALEGAL DIVISION LIAISON



Ellice Goldstein

505-273-3113 • ellice@lpmfamilylaw.com

Ellice Goldstein is a family law paralegal with approximately 28 years of experience as a paralegal. Ellice graduated with Honors from Albuquerque Technical Vocational Institute with an Associate Degree in Legal Assistant Studies in 1998 and Cum Laude from Austin Peay State University with a Bachelor of Science in Political Science. Ellice has been a member in good standing with the NM State Bar Paralegal Division on and off since 1998. In her current role with Larkin Padilla McDougall Family Law, she assists clients with all phases of their domestic relations cases. She is currently the Chair of the NM State Bar Paralegal Division. Ellice enjoys volunteering at community legal fairs like Law-La-Palooza and Peter H. Johnstone Day. When not working, you can find Ellice at the gym, walking her two dachshunds or with her grandchildren.

Get involved with the State Bar of New Mexico!

Are you looking for a way to be more involved with the State Bar and gain leadership experience?

Consider applying for an appointment to serve on one of the many N.M. Supreme Court boards, committees and commissions to which the Board of Bar Commissioners makes appointments. Look for notices regarding vacancies in the *Bar Bulletin* and in *ENews* throughout the year. In the fall, look for information about the commissioner elections. For more information about the Board, contact your district bar commissioner or the State Bar of New Mexico.

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