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Secretary-Treasurer
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Immediate Past President

State Bar of New Mexico
Est. 1886

Richard B. Spinello
Executive Director
richard.spinello@sbnm.org

2027 Budget Disclosure

October 30, 2026
Dear New Mexico Licensed Attorneys:

The Board of Bar Commissioners (BBC) approved the budget for the 2027 calendar year on October 23, 2026. The budget is available in its entirety on the State Bar website at www.sbnm.org. Members wishing to receive a printed copy may do so by calling the State Bar at (505) 797-6000 or (800) 876-6227. The deadline for challenging any expenditure is December 1, 2026. Instructions for challenges appear on the last page of this document.

The 2027 approved budget projects total revenue of $4,225,000 and total operating expenses of $4,294,512, resulting in a planned operating deficit of $69,512 before debt service, capital outlay and reserves. The deficit is covered by 2026 funds allocated for the succession planning program that were not expended. This budget supports development of a new State Bar website and succession planning program, and includes increased expenses associated with the Joint Bench & Bar Conference (Annual Meeting). The schedules that follow provide the chargeable summary and departmental detail.

The BBC has determined that all proposed expenditures for 2027 are necessarily or reasonably incurred for the purpose of regulating the legal profession or improving the quality of legal services in New Mexico and that no proposed expenditures relate to political or ideological activities. The BBC therefore determined that all proposed expenditures may be charged to member licensing fees. The State Bar receives revenue from attorney licensing fees and from other sources. The first page of the disclosure and the details in the Description of Categories show the revenue from each source and the general categories for which the revenue will be used.

Deadline to challenge expenditures: Using the form provided on the last page of the budget document, submit written challenges on or before 12:00 pm MST, Dec. 1, 2026 to: Richard B. Spinello, Executive Director, State Bar of New Mexico, PO Box 92860, Albuquerque, NM 87199. Challenges may also be delivered in person to the State Bar at 5121 Masthead NE, Albuquerque, NM or emailed to info@sbnm.org.

Sincerely,



Tomas J. Garcia, Secretary-Treasurer
State Bar of New Mexico

State Bar of New Mexico Budget Disclosure: Year Ending December 31, 2027

Projected Licensing & Regulatory Revenue:	**$ 3,495,000**
Projected Non-Licensing Revenue:	**$ 730,000**
Projected Total Revenue:	**$ 4,225,000**

Projected Expenses:

	Total Expenses (Chargeable)	Chargeable Expenses Funded By Licensing Revenue	Chargeable Expenses Funded By Non-Licensing Revenue	% of Total Expenses
I. State Bar Governance				
Board of Bar Commissioners	$ 129,500	$ 79,500	$ 50,000	3%
II. State Bar Organization				
Office of the General Counsel and Regulatory Programs	$ 443,133	$ 443,133	$ 0.00	10%
Client Protection Fund *Ethics Helpline* *Fee Arbitration Program* *Mentorship* *Pro Hac Vice* *Succession Planning Program*				
Operations / Attorney Services	$ 2,503,035	$ 1,989,406	$ 513,629	59%
Accounting *Attorney Support* *Committees, Sections & Divisions* *Facilities & Front Desk* *IOLTA Program Administration* *Information Technology, WEB, AI* *Licensing & MCLE* *Online Legal Research*				
Attorney Wellbeing	$ 177,771	$ 90,400	$ 87,371	4%
Attorney Wellbeing Committee *Judicial Wellness Program* *Lawyer Assistance Program* *Equity In Justice Program*				
Communications	$ 265,415	$ 209,415	$ 56,000	6%
Bar Bulletin *Resource Deskbook* *Marketing & Development*				
Administration and Executive Office	$ 775,658	$ 752,658	$ 23,000	18%
Executive Director *Board Administration* *Human Resources*				
III. Legislative Activity	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0	0%
TOTAL	**$ 4,294,512**	**$ 3,564,512**	**$ 730,000**	**100.00%**

*Licensing-funded expenditures include $69,512 supported by unexpended funds from the 2026 succession planning allocation

Summary of Significant Assumptions and Accounting Policies

Budget Year Ending December 31, 2027

Nature of Business

The State Bar of New Mexico (State Bar) was originally organized in 1886 as a voluntary Bar Association for the New Mexico Territory. On March 17, 1925, it was included in the state statutes as a mandatory bar association. Currently, the State Bar is authorized by New Mexico Supreme Court Rule 24-101(a) NMRA. The State Bar was incorporated under the laws of the State of New Mexico in 1978. NMSA 1978, Section 36-2-9.1 (1979), identifies the Board of Bar Commissioners of the State Bar as a body of the judicial department and not a state agency. The purposes of the State Bar are to aid the courts in the administration of justice, to preserve the rule of law and to foster a high standard of integrity and competence within the legal profession. The State Bar develops and promotes programs such as legal research, attorney support programs, public education and information, and law practice management and technology. The State Bar's regulated activities include collection of licensing fees; administration of pro hac vice attorneys; collection of pro bono hours reported and associated contributions; collection of professional liability insurance information pursuant to Rule 16-104(C)(7) NMRA; administration of the IOLTA program; administration of the Minimum Continuing Legal Education program; administration of the Client Protection Fund and Commission; and publication of the *Bar Bulletin*, the *Digital Resource Deskbook, and other publications*.

Nature of Presentation

This budget disclosure presents, to the best of management's knowledge and belief, the State Bar's expected statement of chargeable expenses/expenditures by functional category. The statement identifies the major functional categories of the State Bar and includes amounts for activities that are germane to advancing the State Bar's regulatory functions and improving legal services (chargeable). No portion of the expenses are considered not to be reasonably related to regulating the profession or improving the quality of legal services (non-chargeable). Accordingly, the budget presents management's judgement of the expected conditions and expected course of action as of the date of Board of Bar Commissioners' approval of the 2027 budget on October 23, 2026. Management does not intend to update this budget. The assumptions disclosed herein are those that management believes are significant to the budget and may not be all inclusive. There will be differences between budgeted and actual results because events and circumstances frequently do not occur as expected. Those differences may or may not be material.

The budget document has been designed to provide all members of the State Bar the anticipated costs, by functional category, of the 2027 activities which will be funded by both mandatory licensing fees and non-licensing revenues. Accordingly, this document may not be useful for other purposes.

Deferred Revenues

Licensing fees, subscriptions, and advertising are recognized as revenue in the period to which they relate. Amounts collected in advance are recorded as liabilities until earned.

State Bar and Bar Foundation Relationship

In 1991, the State Bar formed a 501(c)(3) corporation, the State Bar of New Mexico Special Projects, Inc. (Special Projects) for the purpose of receiving grant awards from other 501(c)(3) entities for programs approved by the Board of Bar Commissioners and for accepting contributions to construct a general office building (State Bar Center). In 2003 Special Projects was renamed the New Mexico State Bar Foundation (Bar Foundation). At the end of 2020 the interlocking boards of the State Bar and Bar Foundation voted on bylaw amendments for the Bar Foundation which changed the structure of the Bar Foundation Board to include a majority of Board of Bar Commissioner (BBC) members, a minority of non-BBC members, and a public member. The new Bar Foundation Board began service January 2021.

Property and Equipment

Property and equipment are recorded at cost for purchased items and fair market value at the date of contribution for donated items.

Depreciation/Amortization

This statement has been prepared without regard to depreciation or amortization since the issues of chargeable and non-chargeable are considered in the year of purchase or, in the event of debt-financed acquisitions, the period in which the commitment to make principal payments has been made.

Basis of Presentation

To ensure observance of limitations and restrictions placed on the use of resources available to the State Bar, accounts are maintained in accordance with the principles of the Accounting Standards Codification Section, "Financial Statements for Non-Profit Organizations." Under these standards, the State Bar is required to report information regarding its financial position and accounting activities under two classes of net assets, net assets with donor restrictions and net assets without donor restrictions. This budget covers both classes of assets. In addition, the State Bar's accounts are maintained on a functional basis, which retains activity detail on a program-by-program basis.

Income Taxes

The State Bar is exempt from income taxes under Section 501(c)(6) of the Internal Revenue Code. However, the State Bar is subject to income tax on activities that are unrelated to its exempt purpose as a 501(c)(6) membership association.

Building Occupancy Costs

In August 1996, the State Bar moved into the newly constructed State Bar Center. As joint owner with the Bar Foundation, the State Bar is responsible for a portion of the expenses incurred in operating and maintaining the building.

Description of Categories

I. State Bar Governance

Board of Bar Commissioners

The Board of Bar Commissioners (BBC) is established by Supreme Court Rule 24-101(C) as the governing board of the State Bar. The BBC is responsible for overseeing the executive director and making decisions to fulfill the mission of the State Bar. The BBC will meet five times in 2027. While BBC members receive no compensation, they do receive mileage and per diem allowances for travel in accordance with the Supreme Court rule and the State of New Mexico travel policies.

The expenses for BBC meetings are based on the assumptions that during 2027, three Board meetings will be held at the State Bar Center in Albuquerque, one will be held in conjunction with the Annual Meeting, and one will be held in Santa Fe. BBC committees may also conduct business virtually or in person throughout the year. Travel and conference expenses include travel for officers to attend various State Bar-related activities, conferences, and professional development programs. The 2027 travel for the officers assumes that they may attend national conferences. The president may attend the annual meetings of the state bars of Texas, Oklahoma, Utah, and Arizona. BBC expenses also include funding for an event held during the Annual Meeting, member outreach events in the judicial districts outside of Albuquerque; and donation requests for law-related programs or activities received by the BBC.

Expenses - BBC	Chargeable Expenses Funded By Licensing Fees	Chargeable Expenses Funded By Non-Licensing Revenue	Total
Annual Meeting BBC Event		15,000	15,000
Commissioner District Events	12,000		12,000
Meetings & Governance	62,500		62,500
Law Related Funding Requests	5,000		5,000
Travel & Conferences		35,000	35,000
Total Expenses	**79,500**	**50,000**	**$ 129,500**

II. State Bar Organization

A. Office of the General Counsel and Regulatory Programs

The Office of the General Counsel and Regulatory Programs expenses include: insurance policies for fire, crime, cyber attacks, directors & officers, errors & omissions, workers compensation, and professional liability; CLE fees for the Bridge the Gap Mentorship program; Expenses for the Risk Management Ethics Helpline and the new Succession Planning Program.

1. Office of the General Counsel

The Office of the General Counsel (OGC) is a professional office that assists the State Bar and the Bar Foundation with policy and regulatory functions of an integrated bar. Specifically, its functions are to protect the legal and policy interests of the State Bar; governance of certain regulatory programs; provide a professional legal resource for leadership, volunteers, and staff; assist with outreach to the judiciary; and advise in the areas of legislative, executive and judicial processes.

2. Client Protection Fund

OGC administers the State Bar's Client Protection Fund (CPF) Commission and, in conjunction with the Disciplinary Board, assists the Commission with its work. The CPF investigates claims against lawyers on issues regarding reimbursable losses caused by a lawyer's misappropriation of client funds or other dishonest conduct. Expenses of the Client Protection Fund are paid by the fund.

3. Ethics/Risk Management Assistance

Ethics Advisory Helpline - (1-800-326-8155) assists New Mexico attorneys with questions regarding legal ethics.
Ethics Advisory Committee - Assists lawyers with questions regarding the attorney's own conduct in relation to the New Mexico Rules of Professional Conduct. The committee provides written formal and informal responses to inquiries from New Mexico attorneys. Opinions are archived and searchable by date of issue or by topical index on the State Bar's website at www.sbnm.org.

4. Fee Arbitration Program

Provides fee arbitration to resolve fee disputes between attorneys and their clients or disputes between attorneys. This free program is designed to provide an efficient and confidential alternative to litigation.

5. Bridge the Gap Mentorship Program

The Supreme Court requires all attorneys newly licensed in New Mexico, who have not been licensed elsewhere for at least two years, to participate in a one-year mentorship program implemented by the State Bar. New attorneys pay tuition of $300 for the program and obtain CLE for their first year of practice.

6. Pro Hac Vice

The State Bar processes registrations for non-admitted lawyers wishing to perform legal services in New Mexico. The Office of the General Counsel receives and tracks all registration certificates and provides information to applicants upon request. Pursuant to Rule 24-106(E) NMRA, a disciplinary fee assessment and client protection assessment are collected from the first annual Pro Hac Vice filing fee and an administrative fee is collected from each filing. The balance of the fee is utilized to support the delivery of civil legal services to people of modest means in New Mexico.

7. Succession Planning Program

The Office of General Counsel is reviewing existing succession planning rules and reporting processes and developing plans to strengthen and enhance the succession planning framework for New Mexico attorneys.

Expenses – Reg & OGC	Chargeable Expenses Funded By Licensing Fees	Chargeable Expenses Funded By Non-Licensing Revenue	Total
Dues & Subscriptions	615		615
Insurance	65,000		65,000
Mentorship CLE Fees	10,000		10,000
Office Supplies	1,000		1,000
Payroll	268,768		268,768
Professional Development	2,750		2,750
Risk Management Helpline	15,000		15,000
Succession Planning Program	80,000		80,000
Total Expenses	**443,133**	**0.00**	**$ 443,133**

B. Operations and Attorney Services

Operations and Attorney Support expenses include: Annual Meeting expenses; capital lease costs for printing, postage, and security system equipment; supplies for the professional development center to support rental of the facility; IT costs such as server hosting, backups, disaster recovery, security applications, member database and content management system (website), and other operational software subscriptions, advertising and marketing costs for the rental of the State Bar Professional Development Center; support for the Senior Lawyers Division and Young Lawyers Division and BBC Standing Committees; travel costs for member services staff to attend Bar Commissioner district events throughout the state; building maintenance costs such as janitorial, landscaping, and repairs; building service contracts such as pest control, elevator maintenance, and alarm service; property taxes; and utilities.

1. Accounting

The accounting department keeps the State Bar compliant with policies, procedures, practices, and the law with regard to finances and generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). Accounting functions are performed for the State Bar as well as associated law-related entities such as the Access to Justice Grant Fund, the New Mexico State Bar Foundation, and Client Protection Fund. Separate accounting and reporting functions are also performed for internal departments, including sections; committees; divisions; and the Lawyers Assistance and Judicial Wellness Programs. In late 2025, management of the Accounting Department was outsourced to CliftonLarsonAllen.

2. Attorney Support

Services provided include special events, assistance to sections, committees and divisions, law student members, and voluntary bar associations; administration of association agreements for discounts on products and services provided by third-party vendors; administration of annual awards to recognize those who have made exemplary contributions to the legal profession; support of Judicial Pipeline projects such as the Judicial Clerkship Program; and member outreach. Other attorney services include:

Online Legal Research

The Board of Bar Commissioners contracts with Fastcase to provide free online legal research for New Mexico attorneys. Fastcase provides research for case law, statutes, court rules, regulations, and attorney general opinions, etc. Fastcase contains databases covering New Mexico, all state libraries, and all federal and bankruptcy jurisdictions.

Committees and Divisions

Direct expenses are charged to the Senior Lawyers Division, the Young Lawyers Division, and standing BBC Committees. The total budget for committees does not exceed the gross budget approved by the Board.

Sections

The State Bar encourages attorneys to become actively involved in programs that explore substantive issues related to specific practice areas. Members may join sections specifically devoted to these issues by paying dues. Separate ledger accounts are maintained for the operations of each section. Section revenue is derived from voluntary fees paid by members requesting to join particular sections. The direct expenses of sections have been projected to equal forecasted revenues.

3. Facilities Operations

The State Bar Center is used primarily to support the licensees of the State Bar and offers a variety of meeting spaces, including an auditorium, three classrooms, nine small/medium sized conference rooms, and a boardroom. All the meeting space is available for licensees to rent at a reduced rate for mediations, depositions, arbitrations, settlement facilitations, and law-related and non-profit organization meetings and events. No fees are charged for client meetings, court-ordered arbitrations, court meetings, and State Bar section, committee, and division meetings. Meeting space is also rented to various outside entities. The front desk assists State Bar members, renters, and other members of the public who visit the State Bar Center or who call in by phone. They refer members of the public to State Bar programs or other civil legal service providers for assistance. The facilities department is responsible for maintenance and security of the State Bar Center.

4. Interest on Lawyer Trust Accounts (IOLTA) Administration

Effective January 1, 2015, the New Mexico Supreme Court named the State Bar the IOLTA program administrator for New Mexico. An IOLTA account is a pooled, interest-bearing demand deposit account used by lawyers to hold client funds. The current rules require all New Mexico attorneys who hold eligible funds to participate in IOLTA and that the funds be held at eligible financial institutions. The interest generated by the client funds held in pooled, interest-bearing trust accounts are remitted to the State Bar, which holds the funds in a separate Access to Justice Grant Fund (ATJ Fund) and distributes all funds at the direction of the State

Bar's ATJ Fund Grant Commission. The funds are used to provide civil legal assistance to people of modest means, legal education, and improvements to the administration of justice in New Mexico.

5. Information Technology (IT), WEB and AI

The IT department assists with the State Bar database, AV and technology needs of the State Bar and Bar Foundation. The department also explores new and emerging technologies, provide updates and maintain the State Bar website. The State Bar's website at www.sbnm.org provides information for attorneys and the public regarding State Bar and its professional activities. This budget provides for a new website and AI upgrade in 2027.

6. License Renewal and Minimum Continuing Legal Education

The State Bar collects annual attorney licensing fees, tracks attorney compliance with annual MCLE requirements as defined by Court rule and collects other compliance data in both electronic and paper formats. The licensing department also processes attorney status changes, and addresses attorney questions. The MCLE department also certifies CLE courses on relevant legal topics and emerging areas of law practice management for credit in New Mexico and evaluates CLE course providers for accreditation. The MCLE department offers attorney CLE transcripts through the State Bar's website.

Revenue - Operations	
Licensing Revenue	**2,875,000**
Other Regulatory Fees & Revenue	620,000
Non-Regulatory Revenue	380,000
Total Revenue	**$ 3,875,000**

Expenses - Operations	**Chargeable Expenses Funded By Licensing Fees**	**Chargeable Expenses Funded By Non-Licensing Revenue**	**Total**
Advertising & Marketing	3,000		$ 3,000
Annual Meeting	50,000	130,000	180,000
Awards	3,000		3,000
Committees	25,000		25,000
Direct Supplies – PDC		8,000	8,000
Divisions (SLD & YLD)	104,150		104,150
Dues & Subscriptions	1,700		1,700
Furniture & Equipment	30,000		30,000
In-Kind Support of Foundation	250,100		250,100
IT Expenses	300,000	80,500	380,500
Interest Expense	50,000		50,000
Janitorial & Supplies	34,700		34,700
Judicial Pipeline Projects	50,000		50,000
Landscape Maintenance	17,000		17,000
Office Supplies	1,000		1,000
Outreach - Membership	7,000		7,000
Payroll	876,156	215,129	1,091,285
Repairs & Maintenance	20,000		20,000
Sections		80,000	80,000
Service Contracts	37,500		37,500
Staff Education/Morale/Travel	20,000		20,000
Supreme Court Comms & Meetings	8,000		8,000

Taxes & Fees	33,000		33,000
Utilities	68,100		68,100
Total Expenses	**1,989,406**	**513,629**	**$ 2,503,035**

C. Attorney Wellbeing

Attorney Wellbeing services proactively educate and assist the NM legal community in creating and maintaining a healthy standard for practicing law. Services include education, resources and assistance with any type of issue or struggle by a member. Attorney Wellbeing is made up of the Lawyer Assistance Program, the Judicial Wellness Program, the Wellbeing Committee and the work of the Equity in Justice program.

1. Judicial Wellness Program

The Judicial Wellness Program aids in focusing on the short-term and long-term needs of the N.M. Judicial Community. The New Mexico Judicial Wellness Program was created to promote health and wellness among New Mexico Judges by creating and facilitating educational programs, events, services, and practices that encourage a supportive environment for the restoration and maintenance of overall mental, emotional, physical, and spiritual health of judges.

2. Lawyers Assistance Program

The Lawyer Assistance Program (LAP) focuses on confidential, professional and peer assistance to help individuals identify and address problems with alcohol and other drugs, depression, and other mental health/emotional disorders. NM LAP endeavors to improve the well-being of lawyers, law students, paralegals, law clerks and all other legal staff through support, education and early intervention with the goal of ensuring every legal professional is healthy and fit to practice. Direct costs paid are for counseling fees through an Employee Assistance Program free for the NM legal community.

3. Equity in Justice Program

The Equity in Justice Program was established in 2021 to address the recommendations from the 2020 reports by the BBC Standing Committee on Women and the Legal Profession and the Committee on Diversity in the Legal Profession. The mission of this Program is to aid in developing a legal profession in New Mexico that is both representative of and reflective of the people of New Mexico. The Program does this by focusing on three areas: First, by working with the Committee on Women and the Legal Profession and the Committee on Diversity in the Legal Profession to assist with the goals of the committees. Second, by developing tools and resources around the Program's mission for the legal profession in New Mexico. And third, by working internally with SBNM staff and resources to support the Program's mission.

Expenses – Attorney Wellbeing	Chargeable Expenses Funded By Licensing Fees	Chargeable Expenses Funded By Non-Licensing Revenues	Total
Advertising & Marketing	1,000		$ 1,000
Dues & Subscriptions	500		500
LAP/JWP Support	80,000		80,000
Office Supplies	1,000		1,000
Outreach - Membership	4,000		4,000
Payroll		87,371	87,371
Staff Education & Travel	3,900		3,900
Total Expenses	**90,400**	**87,371**	**$ 177,771**

D. Communications

Services provided by the Communications department include writing, editing, and designing State Bar and New Mexico State Bar Foundation publications and marketing materials, dissemination of information to New Mexico attorneys in the form of emails, e-newsletters, and social media posting, dissemination of media releases, and responding to media requests. The Communications department is also responsible for the State Bar's website updates, content and design.

1. Bar Bulletin

The *Bar Bulletin* is a digital publication published 22 times per year, containing advance opinions of the New Mexico Supreme Court and the Court of Appeals as well as rules, notices, featured articles, announcements, and classified advertising.

2. Weekly Enews

The Weekly Enews is a weekly publication with timely information for the legal community on information, events and opportunities.

3. Resource Deskbook

The *Resource Deskbook* is an annual digital publication which includes important information about the State Bar of New Mexico, New Mexico State Bar Foundation, New Mexico Courts, and the New Mexico legal community.

Revenue - Comm	
Advertising – All Publications	$ 280,000
Attorney Benefits Program	30,000
Total Revenue	**$ 310,000**

Expenses - Comm	**Chargeable Expenses Funded By Licensing Fees**	**Chargeable Expenses Funded By Non-Licensing Revenue**	**Total**
Dues & Subscriptions	150		$ 150
Office Supplies	1,000		1,000
Payroll	205,515		205,515
Professional Fees – Ad Sales		56,000	56,000
Staff Education & Travel	2,750		2,750
Total Expenses	**209,415**	**56,000**	**$ 265,415**

E. Administration and Executive Office

Administration expenses include credit card merchant service fees and other taxes and bank fees of the corporation; State Bar outreach to the NM Supreme Court, Civil Legal Service Providers, and Board members; professional service fees for accounting office management, the annual financial audit and preparation of annual tax returns; and federal and state taxes resulting from unrelated business activities.

1. Administration and Executive Office

General administration and the Executive Office has overall responsibilities related to the management, policies, planning and mission implementation of the State Bar and the Bar Foundation, including administrative support for the Board of Bar Commissioners. The State Bar is reimbursed by the Bar Foundation for labor expenses and collects administrative fees from local and voluntary bars choosing to collect their dues through the licensing process.

2. Human Resources

Human Resources directs and implements all HR functions and operations including talent acquisition and onboarding, compensation and benefits, staff learning and development, performance management, enforcement of organization's policies and practices, and terminations.

Revenue - Admin	
Administrative Fees & Transfers	$ 30,000
Interest Earned	10,000
Total Revenue	**$ 40,000**

Expenses - Admin	Chargeable Expenses Funded By Licensing Fees	Chargeable Expenses Funded By Non-Licensing Revenue	Total
Dues & Subscriptions	2,825		2,825
Merchant Service/Bank Fees	22,000		22,000
Office Supplies	2,000		2,000
Outreach – Administrative & Staff		13,000	13,000
Payroll	525,833		525,833
Professional Services	170,000		170,000
Staff Education & Travel		10,000	10,000
Taxes & Fees	30,000		30,000
Total Expenses	**752,658**	**23,000**	**$ 775,658**

III. Legislative Activity

A. Lobbying Considered by the Board of Bar Commissioners

The Board has determined that it may undertake necessary lobbying activities with the State Legislature in 2027 that are necessarily or reasonably incurred for the purpose of regulating the legal profession or improving the quality of legal services in New Mexico and no expenditures relate to political or ideological activities; however no specific efforts have been identified. Any efforts will be reported to the New Mexico Legal Community if lobbying activities are approved by the Board, consistent with Bylaws, Article XI. No mandatory licensing fees have been allocated for lobbying activities in 2027 and no specific lobbying activities have been approved. As in the past, the Board may communicate with the congressional delegation in support of legal services funding. A copy of the bylaws are available on our website at www.sbnm.org.

B. Section Lobbying Activities

Sections are funded by voluntary dues. At this time, Section lobbying activities have been suspended by the Board of Bar Commissioners.

IV. 2025 Non-Budgeted Expenditures

There were no material 2025 non-budgeted expenditures approved by the Board to be reported in the 2027 Budget Disclosure Document.

V. 2026 Non-Budgeted Expenditures

Any material 2026 non-budgeted expenditures determined to be germane and approved by the Board will be reported in the 2028 Budget Disclosure Document, at which time any such expenditures will have been audited as part of the 2026 annual financial statement audit.

Challenges to the State Bar of New Mexico 2027 Budget

TO: Richard Spinello, Executive Director
State Bar of New Mexico
PO Box 92860
Albuquerque, NM 87199-2860

FROM: _____
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_____

I challenge the following expenditures (use additional paper as necessary):

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Upon receipt of the properly and timely submitted challenge, the Board of Bar Commissioners shall decide whether to honor the challenge by eliminating the expenditure from the budget, refunding the challenged portion of the licensing fees, or submitting the dispute to the impartial decision maker, who will be designated by the New Mexico Supreme Court to hear challenges to the 2027 approved budget.

_____

Signature Date

Must be received at the State Bar on or before 12:00 pm MST, December 1, 2026.

Mail to PO Box 92860, Albuquerque, NM 87199-2860;
deliver to 5121 Masthead NE, Albuquerque, NM 87109; or email to info@sbnm.org