

STATE BAR OF NEW MEXICO
MEMBER SERVICES DEPARTMENT



SECTION AND COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORTS

REPORTS FOR 2020

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TO: Richard Spinello, Executive Director
Board of Bar Commissioners
State Bar of New Mexico

FROM: Mateo Page, 2020 Chair

SUBJECT: 2020 Annual Report

DATE: January 20, 2021

Greetings! As the 2020 chair of the Alternative Methods of Dispute Resolution Committee, it is my great honor to submit the Committee's annual report to you. As you are aware, 2020 was not a typical year for anyone. By March, many of the daily professional and personal activities that were commonplace just a month prior came to a halt. We had to big decision to make in response to the public health emergency caused by the spread of the COVID-19 virus. We could have allowed fear to paralyze us, or we could choose to adapt to the situation and continue to do great things for our families, communities, and professions. I am pleased to say that the ADR Committee chose the latter.

The Committee's executive board decided to continue to hold scheduled meetings and educational events via online platforms. In addition, we sponsored educational events specifically designed to assist ADR professionals perform their craft virtually. And despite the pandemic, we held our annual ADR Institute in the fall, even though the event had been canceled the previous year. We also participated in the State Bar's podcast series by inviting David Levin (longtime member of New Mexico's ADR Community) to discuss the history of ADR in New Mexico. I am excited to see what the ADR Committee can accomplish in 2021!

The Alternative Methods of Dispute Resolution Committee conducted and accomplished the following in 2020:

1. Board of Directors:
 - a. Mateo Page, chair
 - b. Executive Steering Committee
 - i. Peter Merrill
 - ii. Brandon Ilgen
 - iii. Jaclyn Page
 - iv. Laura Bassein
 - v. Jessie Lawrence
 - vi. Rachel Donovan
 - vii. G. Stanley
 - viii. April McClellan
 - ix. Hon. Jeff McElroy
 - x. Judith James
 - xi. Josh Pando
2. Meetings
 - a. The Committee held meetings on:
 - i. January 30th (regular meeting)
 - ii. April 16th (steering committee meeting)
 - iii. May 7th (regular meeting)
 - iv. July 30th (steering committee meeting)
 - v. August 13th (steering committee meeting)
 - vi. August 20th (steering committee meeting)
 - vii. September 15th (steering committee meeting)
 - viii. September 29th (steering committee meeting)
 - ix. October 29th (regular meeting committee meeting)
 - x. November 5th and 6th (annual meeting)
3. Continuing Education Presentations:
 - a. **May 7th: “Making the Shift to Online” by the Hon. Jeff McElroy**
 - i. Presentation Description: In a ninety-minute brown bag session, you will learn how to securely and safely conduct your online mediation or settlement conference online keeping you and your clients safe from exposure to the novel coronavirus. Presenter Hon. Jeff Foster McElroy (ret.) will provide insight on how to schedule sessions, do pre-mediation meetings, and make sure all is prepared for a virtual session. Judge McElroy will discuss the important settings you need to make to keep your session secure and how to use breakout rooms, screen sharing, and chat to allow for clear communication among the parties involved. You need not be face-to-face to reach resolution.

- b. October 29th: “Stuck in Neutral: Ethical Concerns for the Attorney as Arbitrator or Mediator” by Sidney Barrett, Esq.**
 - i. Presentation Description: This presentation will acquaint you with the ethical responsibilities of a licensed attorney who serves as a neutral in the alternative dispute resolution context, either as a mediator or an arbitrator. It will also touch on codes of ethics that have been published by the New Mexico Supreme Court and by private ADR associations.
- 4. Annual Meeting
 - a. November 5th and 6th : ADR Cultural Sensitively Institute**
 - i. Minimizing "Cultural Errors" in Professional Practice by Dr. Rex Swanda**
 - 1. Presentation Description: Professional interactions can be improved when we assume that cultural factors are ever-present, and that it is our professional responsibility to improve our ability to identify and question the assumptions we bring to all of our professional interactions. In this session, Dr. Swanda will focus on a model for improving professional sensitivity to cultural diversity with the goal for minimizing “cultural errors” in professional practice. Jessie Lawrence, Esq. will moderate the discussion.
 - ii. Implicit Bias: Moving Beyond Awareness to Specific Skills in Mediation by Nina Meierding**
 - 1. Presentation Description: Recognizing and understanding our implicit (unconscious) biases is a good first step in changing our unintentional thoughts and behavior that can stereotype or discriminate against others. However, awareness and good intentions do not necessarily lead to specific action. In this session, we will explore techniques and practical skills to use in mediation that will both assist us and challenge us to provide a more culturally sensitive, bias-aware process.
 - iii. Mediation, Restorative Justice, and Race by Tonya Covington**
 - 1. Presentation Description: Very few ADR courses discuss race, culture or racism. Restorative justice is an ancient process developed by indigenous cultures. As Fania Davis states, "The lack of racial justice consciousness within the restorative justice community is the direct result of structural and institutional racism ...". During this three-hour interactive workshop, we will discuss this development, in addition to defining terms and exploring how beliefs influence our practice. Mateo Page, Esq. will moderate the discussion.
- 5. Media (includes website and/or social media):
 - a. SBNM Is Hear, Episode 11: Hear All About It: History of ADR in New Mexico; David Levin interviewed by Mateo Page**
 - i. Episode Description: In this episode, we'll hear from one of the formative figures, David Levin, in the development of ADR (Alternative Methods of Dispute Resolution) in New Mexico. Tune in to hear about the rich history of how ADR

came to be, some of its key players, and where ADR may be heading in the future. You may even learn how ADR had an indirect impact on your career or practice area!

6. Ongoing Committee Items:

a. For 2021, the Committee intends to:

- i. Elect a new chair
- ii. Conduct outreach at UNM including the Law School and graduate schools

Conclusion: While I will not continue on as chair in this new year, I look forward to assisting the Committee with its initiatives in 2021 (to be established at its February meeting). I am confident that the Committee will continue to offer valuable programming for its 30 members, the ADR Community, and the State Bar.



Mateo Page

2020 Chair

Alternative Methods of Dispute Resolution Committee



**COMMITTEE ON DIVERSITY IN THE LEGAL PROFESSION
OF THE STATE BAR OF NEW MEXICO
2019 ANNUAL REPORT**

TO: Richard Spinello, Executive Director
Board of Bar Commissioners
State Bar of New Mexico

FROM: Denise M. Chanez & Leon F. Howard

SUBJECT: 2020 Annual Report Committee on Diversity in the Legal Profession

DATE: January 21, 2021

The Committee on Diversity in the Legal Profession conducted and accomplished the following in 2019:

1. Board of Directors (if applicable)
 - a. N/A – The CDLP has two co-chairs and a number of members from various diversity organizations, the UNM School of Law, and the general bar membership, but not a board of directors.
2. Meetings
 - a. March 2, 2020
 - b. June 5, 2020
 - c. September 11, 2020
 - d. December 6, 2020
3. Continuing Education Presentation(s) (if applicable)
 - a. 6th Annual Symposium on Diversity & Inclusion – October 30, 2020
 - b. Two Implicit Bias/Cultural Competency Presentations/CLEs at Bridge the Gap CLE for Incoming Attorneys (Spring & Fall 2020)
 - c. Wellness and Racial Trauma, Co-Host (partnered committees and JLAP) – September 9, 2020
 - d. 2020 Annual Meeting – Presentation on 2019 Decennial “Status of Minority Attorneys in New Mexico.”
4. Committee Outreach/Initiatives/Events
 - a. 2019 Decennial “Status of Minority Attorneys in New Mexico.” (survey completed and report released in 2020)

- b. Art Jaramillo Clerkship Program – 19 students paired with legal employers for this year’s program
 - c. Bar Exam Coaching Program – continued pairing bar applicants with attorney coaches for support during bar exam
 - d. CDLP/YLD Diversity Collaboration Event (lunch with law school and bar diversity groups to share information on diversity-related projects and discuss opportunities for collaboration)
 - e. Joint effort with YLD and Justice Thomson, New Mexico Supreme Court, to establish a judicial clerkship program for second year, diverse law students. Program launched in 2020.
5. Scholarships
- a. We were able to pool excess funds from partnered committees and offer bar exam awards for July 2020 examinees who faced financial hardship amid the global pandemic. We raised \$10,750 for this effort.
6. Media (includes website and/or social media if applicable)
- a. CDLP has a page on the State Bar’s website with information about CDLP’s initiatives.
 - b. Participation in State Bar podcast for the judicial clerkship program.
 - c. ABA Article on judicial clerkship program:
https://www.americanbar.org/groups/judicial/publications/judicial_division_record_home/2020/vol24-1/nm-diversityc-clerkship-program/
7. Ongoing Section/Committee Items:
- a. For 2020, the CDLP intends to continue its programs identified in Sections 3 and 5 above.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Denise M. Chanez & /s/ Leon F Howard – Electronically Signed

Denise M. Chanez & Leon F. Howard

Co-Chairs, State Bar of New Mexico Committee on Diversity in the Legal Profession

**COMMITTEE ON WOMEN AND THE LEGAL PROFESSION
OF THE STATE BAR OF NEW MEXICO**

2020 Annual Report

To: Richard Spinello, Executive Director
Board of Bar Commissioners, State Bar of New Mexico

Via: Morgan Pettit and Chelsea Canon

From: Patricia Galindo and Jeffrey H. Albright, 2020 Co-Chairs

Subject: 2020 Annual Report – Committee on Women and the Legal Profession

Date: January 1, 2020 – December 31, 2020 (Submitted January 20, 2021)

Introduction:

The year 2020 was the 29th year of the State Bar’s standing Committee on Women and the Legal Profession (“CWLP”). It was a year marked by many unique challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic that restricted in-person meetings and required tremendous coordination among Committee members, the New Mexico State Bar and Staff, the Board of Bar Commissioners, other State Bar standing committees, and both the state and federal judiciary. Despite the challenges, the year was extremely successful with many past programs successfully being continued and updated, and new initiatives being initiated for 2020-2021. Future projects and initiatives by the CWLP will address issues raised by the Gender Diversity Report and Executive Summary survey and analysis that was performed by American Decisions and to support the Supreme Court’s Commission on Equity and Justice. Additional areas of concern that were not included in the survey will also be tackled by the CWLP as the Committee celebrates its 30th year of service to women in the legal profession in New Mexico in 2021 – recognizing that considerable work remains to be done to eliminate gender and diversity bias in our legal community.

Meetings:

The CWLP met bimonthly during 2020 and held an end of year meeting in December 2020. For the most part, these meetings were held virtually or telephonically, thanks in large part to coordination by Morgan Pettit and Chelsea Canon at the State Bar.

Regular Attendees: (Telephonically or virtually - - listed in no particular order)

Jeanne Hamrick, Jensen Wallace, Jocelyn Castillo, Laura Fashing, Elizabeth Garcia, Patricia Galindo, Jeff Albright, Sheryl Saavedra, Zoe Lees, Kara Shair-Rosenfield, Quiana Salazar-King, Samantha Kelly, Rebecca Mulcahy, Ann Baecker, Erin Marshall, Ann Washburn, Cari Neill, Morgan Pettit; Chelsea Canon. A complete list of CWLP members may be found at cwlp@nmba.org.

Committee Planned Initiatives for 2020 (Per CWLP Minutes of January 14, 2020)

The following initiatives were planned for 2020 (pre-COVID pandemic)

- CLE (Annual Conference)
- Justice Pamela B. Minzner Award
- Professional Clothing Closet
- Quarterly Speaker Series
- 2020 Diversity Survey and Sub-Committees
- Gender Equality Handbook
- Ask Pat Articles
- DV Resource Cards
- Membership/Social
- Golf – Networking

The Covid-19 pandemic perturbed several of these initiatives, but most of these initiatives were restructured or other substitute initiatives were created:

- CLE (See separate discussion below on December 10, 2020 CLE and Attachment)
- Justice Pamela B. Minzner Award (deferred for 2020 to 2021)
- Professional Clothing Closet (continued)
- Quarterly Speaker Series (see below for “Law Moms Discussion”)
- 2020 Diversity Survey and Sub – Committees /Recommendations to Board of Bar Commissioners and NM Supreme Court (See below and attachments.)
- Gender Equality Handbook – (Under final review in December of 2020 and update and printing through UNM School of Law and State Bar pending)
- Ask Pat Articles (deferred for 2021)
- DV Resource Cards (reformatted, updated, and approaching printing for 2021 distribution)
- Membership/Social - See “#LawMom” discussion below
- Golf – Networking (postponed)

CWLP member and U.S. Magistrate Judge Laura Fashing made a presentation on August 12, 2020 to the New Mexico Supreme Court on the CWLP recommendations on the Gender Bias and Diversity Report. The presentation included areas needing additional analysis that the

CWLP had identified during its review of the study. Judge Fashing also participated in the virtual Bench and Bar Conference held by the New Mexico Supreme Court later in the year.

The CWLP co-chairs participated with the Committee on Diversity in a CLE held October 30, 2020 on that committee's discussion of the Gender and Diversity Survey results performed by American Decisions (Professor Gabe Sanchez).

#LawMom:

Executive Orders from the Governor of New Mexico were put in place in early March 2020 to stem the spread of the COVID-19 virus. This resulted in stay-at-home orders, work from home requirements, and a change for how the legal community conducted day-to-day business. The #LawMom hashtag was resurrected to help promote #LawMom Mondays with lunchtime chats where panelists shared their working and parenting experiences. These chats were twenty minutes in length, similar to pod casts, and were recorded for future viewing. The following are the lunchtime chats and subjects discussed by CWLP members:

- July 6 – A Quarantine Bubble: The Secret to a #LawMom's sanity?;
- July 20 – Managing Your Workload as a #LawMom with a Busy Law Practice;
- August 6 – Is Working from Home Working for You?; and
- August 17 – What to do When Your Coworker is a Baby: Returning from Maternity Leave During COVID-19.

Jensen Wallace, CWLP co-chair for 2021, has volunteered to continue holding the #LawMom lunchtime chats with an emphasis on attorneys with small children and the unique challenges they face. Once the Executive Orders are lifted, the #LawMom events will move to in-person family-centered events.

Gender Diversity Report and CWLP Sub-committees and Recommendations to the Board of Bar Commissioners and New Mexico Supreme Court

The CWLP formed a sub-committee to review the Gender Diversity Survey that was performed by American Decisions under the direction of UNM Professor Gabe Sanchez. Although the report was received several months later than initially projected, the CWLP subcommittee analyzed the results, and provided a report with recommendations to the Board of Bar Commissioners and the Supreme Court. On July 29, 2020, President Ernestina R. Cruz sent a letter to the Honorable Chief Justice Michael E. Vigil that provided the CWLP report and executive summary complete with report recommendations from the CWLP. That letter and the attached report recommendations is provided as Attachment A. The recommendations were endorsed by the Supreme Court. Those recommendations formed the basis for the CWLP CLE (discussed below) and additional focus groups during 2020 in the following areas:

- Challenges with Professional and Personal Obligations (including the “sandwich generation” – those faced with caring for both younger family members and adults)
- Gender and Racial Bias and Discrimination
- Mentorship and Leadership Opportunities
- Barriers to Employment Opportunity (inclusion and retention)
- Income Inequality
- Alternative Licensing Options for Attorneys with Health or Personal Issues
- Intersectionality of Gender and Race
- Discrimination and Bias in the Workplace

Those initiatives served as the basis for key elements of the December 10, 2020 CLE, discussed below. At the end of 2020 and in our initial meeting in January 2021, individual sub-committees have been formed within the CWLP, but inclusive of non CWLP members, to address these issues. Statewide focus groups are planned to gather information and to come up with recommendations that may need changes at the Legislature, the State Bar, the Judiciary (state and federal), the UNM School of Law, and in both public and private practice.

Continuing Legal Education

On December 10, 2020, the CWLP conducted its First Annual Women in the Law Symposium: “Where We’ve Been. Where We Are. Where We’re Going. A Forty Year Retrospective of Women and the Legal Profession in New Mexico.” Under the leadership of Committee Co-Chair Patricia Galindo, the full day CLE provided an overview of both progress and shortfalls since the late Judge Sarah M. Singleton first organized the Task Force on Women and the Legal Profession in December of 1987, along with the results of the American Decisions survey and report from 2019-2020. Participation included three national speakers, a panel discussion with members from various decades since the CWLP began, and discussion by Magistrate Judge Laura Fashing and Justice Shannon Bacon. A copy of the agenda from the December CLE is provided as Attachment B.

A similar CLE will be planned for the latter part of 2021. The goal will be to review the progress that has been made since December 2020 in the aforementioned areas, with the ultimate goal will be to make both systemic and cultural changes toward eliminating gender bias and diversity bias within the New Mexico legal community.

**ETHICS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
2020 Annual Report**

Division/Section/Committee Title: Ethics Advisory Committee

Date: 12/16/2020

Chair: James Reist

Activities Undertaken Since Last Report:

- **Held eight monthly meetings of the committee in 2020;**
- **Received and reviewed six new requests for ethics assistance and responded to same;**
- **Completed all outstanding 2019 informal ethics opinions;**
- **Issued one formal opinion 2020-01 on local counsel / PHV**
- **Continued working with sub-committee;**
 - **The Formal Opinions sub-committee created a list of topics for consideration for formal opinion topics and will issue a formal opinion in 2020 on the responsibilities of local counsel in the *pro hac vice* setting. Staff is reviewing the listing of formal opinions on the State Bar website for listing as historical vs. current opinions.**
- **The Committee planned and conducted an Ethics Mock Meeting CLE for the New Mexico State Bar Foundation in December 2020.**
- **Assisted several members with ethics assistance outside of the formal requests and reviewed some of the ethics issues presented by the pandemic;**
- **The annual ABA Center for Professional Responsibility conference was cancelled due to the pandemic;**
- **Reviewed proposed revisions to several formal ABA ethics opinions;**

Ongoing Activities:

- **Chair contacts members with immediate need requests;**
- **Regular meetings of the Committee;**
- **Email discussions in-between monthly meetings;**
- **Research and review of rules and opinions affecting lawyers ethics in New Mexico and Nationally.**

Issues Requiring Board of Bar Commissioner Action:

- **Request to continue to send a representative of the committee to the annual meeting of the ABA Center for Professional Responsibility Conference or conference of the Association of Professional Responsibility Lawyers when in person meetings resume. In lieu of in-person meetings, registration for any virtual meetings held for these conferences.**



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November 10, 2020

Morgan Pettit
Member Services Coordinator
State Bar of New Mexico
5121 Masthead NE, ABQ, NM 87109 | PO Box 92860, Albuquerque, NM 87199
Email only: mpettit@nmbar.org

Re: Sunset Provision

Dear Ms. Pettit:

As you know, Fred Federici and I, are the co-Chairs of the State Bar Historical Committee. There are no other officers. You have the current membership list. We spent not a penny of our budget.

As we previously discussed months ago, we concluded that our annual State Bar Historical Committee presentation at the State Bar center would be imprudent amidst the ongoing pandemic. Thus, in substitution, we agreed to submit my book review published in the October 28, 2020 Bar Bulletin entitled Historical Committee: Spain and the Independence of the United States. So far as I know, the article was well received.

The bad news is that the Spanish flu lasted from February 1918 to April 1920, infecting 500 million people, about 1/3 of the world's population at the time- in four successive waves. The good news is the epidemic ended in April 1920, despite the fact then world's scientists knew very little about vaccines. Let us hope the scientists and our fellow humans have better luck this time.

If you require any more information from us, please let us know.

Sincerely,

Eric Sedillo Jeffries

cc: Fred Federici by email only



**Lawyers Professional Liability Insurance Committee
OF THE STATE BAR OF NEW MEXICO
2020 ANNUAL REPORT**

TO: Richard Spinello, Executive Director
Board of Bar Commissioners
State Bar of New Mexico

FROM: Jerry Dixon/Stormy Ralstin

SUBJECT: Annual Report from the LPLI Committee

DATE: 11/13/2020

The LPLI Committee conducted and accomplished the following in 2020:

1. Committee Chair: Jerry Dixon; SBNM Staff Liaison: Stormy Ralstin
2. Meetings
 - a. The Committee held 10 regular meetings and several subcommittee meetings to develop CLE programming presented by the Committee.
3. Continuing Education Presentation(s) (if applicable)
 - a. The Committee will present 1 CLE on December 15, 2020 titled **Keeping Your Tail Covered: Tips on Maintaining Malpractice Coverage When Changing Jobs, Going into Government Work, or Retiring.**
4. Section/committee Outreach/Initiatives/Events
 - a. The Committee edited and prepared to republish its "Good Signs to Look for When Choosing a Professional Liability Insurance Company"
 - b. The Committee also updated the list of Insurance Carriers for the State Bar Licensing online forms
5. Media (includes website and/or social media if applicable)
 - a. N/A

6. Ongoing Section/Committee Items:

- a. In the coming year, the Committee will: work to provide Bar members with tools to help them easily and effectively assess PLI policies and carriers; continue to assess the possible benefits of closer relationships between the Bar and PLI carriers; and continue other efforts to assist Attorneys including presenting CLEs, articles in the Bar Bulletin, and information on the SBNM website.



LEGAL SERVICES AND PROGRAMS COMMITTEE
OF THE STATE BAR OF NEW MEXICO
2020 ANNUAL REPORT

TO: Richard Spinello, Executive Director
Board of Bar Commissioners
State Bar of New Mexico

FROM: Judge Frank Sedillo, Chair

SUBJECT: Legal Services and Programs Committee

DATE: January 21, 2021

The Legal Services & Programs Committee (LS&P) conducted and accomplished the following in 2020:

1. Board of Directors (if applicable)
 - a. Committee members: Frank Sedillo, Mary H. Smith, Juan Flores, Bob St. John, Susan Page, Grace Spulak, Renee Valdez, Aja Brooks, Melanie Fritzsche, Lewis Creekmore, Gary Housepian, Morgan Pettit
2. Meetings
 - a. Every other month in conjunction with Access to Justice Commission
3. Continuing Education Presentation(s) (if applicable)
 - a. Debt Collection video translated into Spanish. NM Legal Aid working on video on Domestic Violence forms. Podcasts on landlord/tenant evictions and Unemployment Insurance.
4. Section/committee Outreach/Initiatives/Events
 - a. Funding for remote services educational videos on a variety of pressing legal subjects
 - b. Civil Legal Clinics at the Metropolitan Court
 - c. iPads available to assist with cyber Legal Fairs allow access to citizens in rural areas to obtain legal help
 - d. Collaboration with public libraries sharing legal resources
5. Scholarships (if applicable)
 - a. Equal Justice Conference stipend
6. Media (includes website and/or social media if applicable)
 - a. https://www.nmbar.org/Nmstatebar/About_Us/LSP/LSP_Committee.aspx
7. Ongoing Section/Committee Items:

- a. For 2021, the LS&P Committee intends to: recruit more members, expand projects to support legal aid providers

Conclusion:

Frank Sedillo, Chair
Bernalillo County Metropolitan Court
P.O. Box 133
Albuquerque, NM 87103
2020/LS&P Committee Chair



TO: Richard Spinello, Executive Director
Board of Bar Commissioners
State Bar of New Mexico

FROM: Carla Martinez, Chair, SBNM Well-Being Committee

**Pam Moore, Director, NM Judges and Lawyers Assistance Program
Co-Chair, SBNM Well-Being Committee**

SUBJECT: SBNM Well-Being Committee Annual Report, 2020

DATE: January 26, 2020

The Well-Being Committee conducted and accomplished the following in 2020.

In an effort to encourage health and wellness among New Mexico lawyers, the State Bar of New Mexico created the New Mexico Well-Being Committee. This committee was created with the intention of following the steps laid out by the National Task Force on Lawyer Well-Being. The NM Well-Being Committee is comprised of representatives from the bar, the law school, and the Judiciary. Senior Justice Vigil participates as a representative of this Court.

The Well-Being Committee met in January and early March 2020 (Pre-COVID) to identify wellness problem areas that needed attention in our local legal community. The Committee discussed creating a survey to go out to the membership to pinpoint their needs.

When the NM Well-Being Committee reconvened later in the summer, it was clear that the New Mexico legal community was struggling with increased levels of stress, anxiety, depression, and addiction due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the restrictive lifestyle changes it had imposed. In response, the Committee determined that it should take immediate action by offering self-care education, mental health resources, and services to all subgroups of our legal community.

To adequately serve all subgroups of our legal community, the NM Well-Being Committee divided into three subcommittees, the Judicial Wellness Subcommittee, the Long Term Well-Being Subcommittee, and the Short Term Well-Being Subcommittee. Below are the initiatives, actions and goals of each subcommittee as of Nov. 13, 2020.

Long Term Well Being Subcommittee

Goal: CULTURE CHANGE! To increase awareness and education for NM lawyers regarding their personal well-being. To acknowledge and eliminate the stigma a lawyer feels regarding reaching out and asking for resources or services for themselves or a colleague. To identify areas of legal education where we can bolster or bake in a culture change of wellness. Essentially “taking care of ourselves” and being civil to each other is mandatory and the way we lawyer in NM.

- Identified a 2021 Campaign – What A Healthy Lawyer Looks Like
 - Message – Aspirational, Positive, emphasis on civility, highlight resources, address stigma. Decrease “doom and gloom” and harping on lawyers on what they are doing wrong. Real lawyers have struggles and they have tools and strengths to manage – we are going to talk about that and offer it through many vehicles.
 - “There’s no one right way to “lawyer”. Being a lawyer is one part of who you are, but not ALL of you. At the end of the day, you are a HUMAN BEING.”
 - Podcasts – one/month, topics such as civility, depression, sleep, etc.
 - Promote and distribute the ABA CoLAP anti-stigma video.
 - Well-Being article/info. in Bar Bulletin, first of the month – 12 issues
 - Education, stories, facts, tools, signs/symptoms
 - Keep it positive, educational, interesting, and also humorous
 - CLE Presentations/Town Hall Meetings – will target one/quarter
 - Law School – continue to support, provide resources and services, outreach to students and staff.

Judicial Wellness Subcommittee – Actions divided into three phases.

Goal: To increase awareness and education for NM judges regarding their personal well-being. To acknowledge and eliminate the stigma a judge feels regarding reaching out and asking for resources or services for themselves or a colleague. To identify areas of judicial education and mentoring where we can bolster or bake in a culture change of wellness. Essentially “taking care of ourselves” is the way we do business, not something we do if we have time.

Funding was approved the end of 2020 to hire a part-time person in 2021 to continue efforts in creating a Judicial Wellness Program for New Mexico. This part-time hire will report to the NMJLAP Director.

- Phase I
 - Created JWell Now, the proactive and educational part of an overall Judicial Wellness Program for judges for NM.
 - Short Intro Video featuring Justice Chavez and Pam talking about bringing a much-needed well-being effort, JWell Now, to the NM Judicial Community, aired on Oct. 30, 2020.

- Monthly 1st Monday Well-Being Email blast featuring an article, a thought-provoking element, an inspirational quote/saying, something funny, self-care scorecard, and a reminder to live, free, guided mindfulness meditation from 12-12:30 every Monday. First e-blast to all NM judges sent out on Nov. 2, 2020.
- Connection to a national judicial wellness coordinator meeting. Pam attended first meeting in October, 2020, and continues to attend monthly.
- Phase II
 - Judicial Roundtables started on weekly basis for all 67 Magistrate Judges September, 2020.
 - Judicial Roundtables proliferated to District, Appellate, and Metro in 2021.
 - Judicial Well-Being Website – will be created in 2021 and will be a repository of well-being resources, services, and information for judges.
 - Mental Health First Aid Classes – free classes offered now. The subcommittee will decide how to proliferate to all judges and staff in 2021.
 - Judicial Coaching/Mentoring Program improvement – research is being done in late 2020 on what other states are doing and a plan will be created in 2021.
- Phase III
 - Confidential Assistance Program for Judges called JCall Now will be explored and created in 2021 as part of a larger Judicial Wellness Program for judges.
 - Judicial Standards Committee Collaboration – started in Oct. 2020 to address the stigma judges feel when thinking about reaching out for help and decrease the

Short Term Well-Being Subcommittee

Goal: To create and foster events related to well-being that are relevant to mental health, emotional health, and physical health for the NM legal community. In the 10/21/2020 NM Well-Being Committee meeting, it was decided that this particular subcommittee would refocus its new goal towards creating and developing programs/events that would focus on COVID-related relief.

In October, the short term subcommittee in conjunction with the Young Lawyers Division held a virtual yoga session. There was also an announcement from the Well-Being Committee Chair prior to the virtual yoga session promoting wellness and indicating future events. In November, in conjunction with the Young Lawyers Division, the short term subcommittee held a virtual 5K “Turkey Trot” Now in 2021, the subcommittee is working on roundtables for “Parenting/Caregiving During Covid”. Others topics the subcommittee is discussing includes ‘Lawyering by Video’, Civility Presentation/CLE with Justice Thompson and Financial Literacy CLE w/ Prof. Martin from UNM.

1. Board of Directors (if applicable)
 - a. Not Applicable
2. Meetings
 - a. Well-Being Committee met 5 times in 2020.

- b. Long Term Well-Being Subcommittee met 3 times between Aug-Nov., 2020.
 - c. Judicial Wellness Subcommittee met 6 times between Aug-Nov., 2020.
 - d. Short Term Well-Being Subcommittee met 3 times between Sept-Nov., 2020.
3. Continuing Education Presentation(s)
 - a. Diversity and Inclusion presentation in Aug. 2020.
4. Section/committee Annual Meeting
 - a. We met 5 times in 2020.
5. Section/committee Outreach/Initiatives/Events
 - a. Please see initiatives and efforts above that include what has been accomplished in 2020 and goals/plans for 2021.
6. Scholarships (if applicable)
 - a. Not Applicable
7. Media (includes website and/or social media if applicable)
 - a. A website was created for the Well-Being Committee:
https://nmbar.org/Nmstatebar/About_Us/Well-Being_Committee/Nm%20Wellness_Committee.aspx
8. Ongoing Section/Committee Items:
 - a. For 2021, the Well-Being Committee will continue the efforts in the three subcommittees. See goals/plans above.

Conclusion:

The Well-Being Committee was established in December 2019 and was quickly at work starting in January 2020. The Committee is made up of judges, lawyers and law students. The Committee also has representation from several regulatory boards and attorneys in various areas of practice and geographical areas. The Committee's initial plan was to issue a survey to the membership to get a sense of their needs. However, when COVID emerged, the Committee quickly changed its focus and divided into the three subcommittees as discussed above. In a year's time the Committee has done incredible work to promote the wellbeing of judges, lawyers and law students.

Best Regards,



Carla Martinez
2020 Well-Being Committee

2020 Animal Law Section Annual Report

2020 proved to be a very challenging year, indeed...we did not reach our usual high level of accomplishments, but we still managed to get a few things done, and I am proud of our Board for its good work!

- Hosted Animal Law Institute: *Ethical Considerations for Lobbyists, Litigators (and Lovers)*: in November with three national speakers.
- Co-Hosted and Presented with the NREEL Section of UNM Law School free CLEs in November: *Rollbacks to Wildlife Protection under the Trump Administration, and the Way Forward* and *Change in the Air: The Election, The Supreme Court and Their Implications for Environmental Law*.
- Planned the Animal Talk series, CLE Legislative Preview and Roundup, and talk on animal trusts and estate planning, but Covid 19 caused cancellations
- Contributed to the August 2020 issue of New Mexico Lawyer on the state of animal law pre- and post-administration (teaming with NREEL)
- Co-sponsor of the Link Between Animal Abuse and Human Violence Conference
- Supported UNM School of Law SALDF, Student Animal Legal Defense Fund
- Updated and maintained a Facebook page and website to inform attorneys and members of the public about animal law issues
- Maintained an “Animal Law Locator” of bills introduced during the legislative session with impacts on animals
- Sent alerts to members about current animal law issues
- Not really our accomplishment, but we are proud that through his Animal Law Section, connections, Past Chair and Future Guy Dicharry gave a presentation to the ABA Animal Law Committee, and spoke at an Illinois Bar Association Animal Law Conference pre-lockdown

Virtual Continuing Legal Education Program

Rollbacks to Wildlife Protection under the Trump Administration, and the Way Forward

This program will present an overview of the policies and rule changes related to wildlife under the Trump Administration and the implications for years to come

Tuesday, November 17, 2020
1:00-3:15pm
Via Zoom

Register:
https://unm.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_TS1n81ZiSaKb_VFa4IsCIQ

This program has been approved by NM MCLE for 2.0 General CLE credits
Sponsored by the UNM School of Law in cooperation with the Animal Law Section of the NM State Bar



Animal Law Institute: Ethical Considerations for Animal Lobbyists, Litigators (and Lovers)



Explore ethical issues in representation of animal interests from lobbying legislation impacting animals through civil and criminal enforcement actions. Timely and thought-provoking considerations for those in diverse areas of law and public service.

9 a.m. Welcome and Introduction to Presentation

Judith Durzo, Chair of Animal Law Section

9 a.m. Criminal Law and Animals: Ethical Considerations in the Investigation and Prosecution of Crimes Against Animals

Diane Balkin, Esq.

10 a.m. Break

10:10 a.m. Ethical Dilemmas in Civil Animal Cases...In Whose Best Interest?

Yolanda Eisenstein, University of New Mexico School of Law; Randall Turner, Law Offices of Randall Turner PLLC

11:10 a.m. Break

11:20 a.m. Ethics of Lobbying for Animals

Jessica Johnson, Chief Legislative Officer, Animal Protection Voters

11:50 a.m. Break

12 p.m. Roundtable Discussion & Questions from Audience

All Speakers for Course

12:30 p.m. Adjournment



**APPELLATE PRACTICE SECTION
OF THE STATE BAR OF NEW MEXICO
2020 ANNUAL REPORT**

TO: Richard Spinello, Executive Director
Board of Bar Commissioners
State Bar of New Mexico

FROM: Nicholas T. Hart, Chair
Appellate Practice Section
State Bar of New Mexico

SUBJECT: 2020 Annual Report

DATE: December 15, 2020

The Appellate Practice Section conducted and accomplished the following in 2020:

1. Board of Directors
 - a. Nicholas T. Hart, Chair
 - b. Anastasia S. Stevens, Chair-Elect & Secretary
 - c. Rosalind Bell Bienvenu, Budget Officer
 - d. John L. Sullivan
 - e. Jocelyn C. Drennan
 - f. Larry J. Montano
 - g. Karen Owen
 - h. Jazmine J. Johnston
 - i. Edward R. Ricco
 - j. Mark Standridge, Past Chair
2. Meetings
 - a. January 14, 2020
 - b. February 11, 2020
 - c. March 10, 2020
 - d. April 14, 2020

- e. May 12, 2020
 - f. June 9, 2020
 - g. July 14, 2020
 - h. August 11, 2020
 - i. October 13, 2020 (Annual Meeting for Section Membership)
 - j. November 10, 2020
 - k. December 8, 2020
3. Continuing Education Presentation(s)
 - a. The Section conducted the 31st Annual Appellate Practice Institute. The Appellate Practice Section has become well-known for this annual, full-day CLE program which is devoted to appellate practice subjects and related issues of ethics and professionalism. The Section was able to hold the API this year despite scheduling difficulties because of COVID-19, hosting a full-day virtual CLE. This year's API featured speakers from the New Mexico Court of Appeals, the Law Office of the Public Defender, and private practitioners. Justice David Thompson also gave a presentation on virtual advocacy and presentations, and Mark Standridge and Todd Coberly presented on preparing and arguing a case before the Supreme Court of the United States.
 4. Section/committee Annual Meeting
 - a. The Section's Annual Meeting was held virtually on October 13, 2020.
 5. Section/committee Outreach/Initiatives/Events
 - a. Brown Bag Lunches with NM Appellate Court Judges, in which the Section invites appellate judges to meet with Section members and other interested participants to discuss a wide range of topics. The section had brown bag lunches with Judge Shammara Henderson and Judge Zachary Ives this year.
 - b. Volunteer Attorney Program's Appellate Pro Bono Program: this program is designed to provide pro bono representation to self-represented, low-income civil litigants in appeals assigned to the Court of Appeals general calendar. The Section's Board of Directors encourages section members to volunteer to serve on a panel of lawyers who are willing to receive information about and consider accepting appeals through the pro bono program.
 - c. Donation/support to UNM School of Law in support of the school's moot court program
 - d. Donation/support to State Bar Committee of Diversity COVID-19 relief fund
 6. Scholarships (if applicable)
 - a. N/A. The Section did, however, make a contribution towards scholarship funds as discussed above.
 7. Media (includes website and/or social media if applicable)
 - a. The Section is in the process of preparing a newsletter to the Section members.
 8. Ongoing Section/Committee Items:
 - a. For 2021, the Section intends to:
 - i. Continue its Brown Bag Lunches
 - ii. Hold the 32nd Annual Appellate Practice Institute
 - iii. Continue to support appellate-related programs in the state.

Conclusion: The Section remains a very active group that provides important services to its members, to the New Mexico bar in general, and to the law students who will be the future members of both. Please feel free to contact me or any other Section Board member with any questions regarding this report.

Sincerely,

/s/ Nicholas T. Hart

Nicholas T. Hart
2020 Appellate Practice Section Chair



**Bankruptcy Law Section
OF THE STATE BAR OF NEW MEXICO
2020 ANNUAL REPORT**

TO: Richard Spinello, Executive Director
Board of Bar Commissioners
State Bar of New Mexico

FROM: Bankruptcy Section

SUBJECT: 2020 Annual Report

DATE: 8/12/2020

The Bankruptcy Law Section conducted and accomplished the following in 2020:

1. Board of Directors
 - a. Michael Daniels, Karen Bradley, Shay Meagle, Thomas Walker, Samuel Roybal, Jacqueline Ortiz, Chris Pierce, Gerald Velarde, Ron Holmes, Joel Gaffney, Spencer Edelman, Daniel White, Leslie Maxwell, Kevin Cartwright (YLD Liaison).
 - b. In addition to formal board members the monthly meetings are ordinarily attended by the Bankruptcy Court Clerk, the Assistant United States Trustee, the Standing Chapter 12 and Chapter 13 Trustee for New Mexico and both federal Bankruptcy Judges.
2. Meetings
 - a. Monthly (March was conducted at the Year in Review seminar)
3. Continuing Education Presentation(s)
 - a. Annual Year in Review seminar
 - b. Virtual Brown bag mini seminars on Cares Act, Financing of Chapter 7 fees, and Subchapter 5 of Chapter 11 reorganization cases.
4. Section/committee Annual Meeting
 - a. Held March 6, 2020 with the Annual Year in Review seminar.
5. Section/committee Outreach/Initiatives/Events
 - a. Joint presentation with Tax Law section on the intersection between bankruptcy and tax law issues.
6. Ongoing Section/Committee Items:

- a. For (2021), the (section/committee) intends to continue operating, and hopes that the pandemic will permit many more activities than we were able to conduct during 2020

Conclusion:

Michael K. Daniels, Section Chair



**BUSINESS LAW SECTION
OF THE STATE BAR OF NEW MEXICO
2020 ANNUAL REPORT**

TO: Richard Spinello, Executive Director
Board of Bar Commissioners
State Bar of New Mexico

FROM: Elizabeth Friedenstein

SUBJECT: Business Law Section Annual Report

DATE: December 9, 2020

The Business Law Section conducted and accomplished the following in 2020:

1. Board of Directors
 - a. Elizabeth V. Friedenstein Chair 1/1/2020 12/31/2020
 - b. Shavon Mere Ayala Chair-elect 1/1/2020 12/31/2020
 - c. Karl H. Sommer Budget Officer 1/1/2020 12/31/2020
 - d. Clara Ann Padilla-Silver Secretary 1/1/2020 12/31/2020
 - e. Karl H. Sommer Director 1/1/2020 12/31/2022
 - f. Clara Ann Padilla-Silver Director 1/1/2020 12/31/2022
 - g. Joaquin Sanchez-Leal Director 1/1/2019 12/31/2021
 - h. Katherine L. McCarthy Director 1/1/2020 12/31/2022
 - i. Christopher D. Jaramillo Director 1/1/2018 12/31/2020
 - j. Shavon Mere Ayala Director 1/1/2018 12/31/2020
 - k. Chad F. Worthen Director 1/1/2020 12/31/2020
 - l. Moses B. Winston, V Director 1/1/2019 12/31/2021
 - m. Laurence S. Donahue, Jr. Past Chair 1/1/2020 12/31/2020
2. Meetings: 12 meetings
3. Continuing Education Presentation
 - a. Annual Business Law Institute on November 4, 2020 from 9am-3pm
4. Annual Meeting
 - a. Our Annual Meeting was held on December 9, 2020 at 4pm at the time of the regular last meeting of the year.

5. Ongoing Section/Committee Items:

- a. For 2021, the section intends to: issue two newsletters working with UNM students to prepare case notes on relevant case law, we also discussed either a blog, or a brown bag lunch series.

Conclusion: The national pandemic had a severe impact on the participation and availability of our directors to participate this year. It is anticipated that our section will be more productive in the coming year.

Sincerely,

/s/ Elizabeth V. Friedenstein

Elizabeth V. Friedenstein

2020, Business Law Section Chair



2020 ANNUAL REPORT

TO: Richard Spinello, Executive Director
Board of Bar Commissioners
State Bar of New Mexico

FROM: Patricia M. Monaghan
Chair Cannabis Law Section

SUBJECT: Annual Report 2020

DATE: December 18, 2020

The Cannabis Law Section conducted and accomplished the following in 2020:

1. Board of Directors
 - a. Patricia Monaghan
 - b. Carlos N. Martinez
 - c. McKenzie St. Denis
 - d. Diana Martwick
 - e. Dr. Terrance Jones
 - f. Ramona Martinez-Salopek
 - g. Christina Muscarella Gooch
 - h. Joel Krukar
 - i. Brett Phelps - YLD Appointee

2. Meetings

The Cannabis Legal Section held monthly board meetings to conduct business and discuss current issues and events;

- i. January 31, 2020
- ii. February 28, 2020
- iii. March 27, 2020
- iv. April 24, 2020

- v. May 29, 2020
- vi. June 25, 2020
- vii. July 31, 2020
- viii. August 28, 2020
- ix. September 25, 2020
- x. October 20, 2020
- xi. November 13, 2020 – CLE & Annual Meeting
- xii. November 20, 2020
- xiii. December 18, 2020

3. Continuing Education Presentations

The Section sponsored the 2020 Cannabis Law Institute: Wake & Bake - Cannabis Law in New Mexico on November 13th, with 2 CLE presentations of 1.5 hours each by experts and 3 CLE presentations 1 hour each by local professionals. The topics included:

- i. Legalization in New Mexico in 2020 – 2021 by Joel Krukar, a medical cannabis licensed manufacturer, Mountaintop Wellness, Inc. and Mountaintop Extracts and Ben Lewinger, Executive Director of the NM Cannabis Chamber of Commerce.
- ii. Cannabis Legalization: Impact on Health & Safety: The Evidence to Date by Paul Armentano, Deputy Director of NORML, Chair of Science/Faculty at Oaksterdam University, Author of various books and peer-reviewed papers on cannabis and cannabis policy, including Marijuana is Safer: So Why Are We Driving People to Drink?
- iii. A Regenerative Farmer Perspective on Cannabis/Hemp Policy by Doug Fine, a comedic investigative journalist and pioneer voice in cannabis/hemp and regenerative farming. He’s also the New Mexico based bestselling author of Farewell My Subaru and American Hemp Farmer among other books.
- iv. An interactive, entertaining Ethics Panel on New Mexico Cannabis Law by our engaging Board Members Brett Phelps, Esq., Ramona Martiez-Salopek, Esq., and Christina Muscarella Gooch, Esq.
- v. New Mexico Tax Law, 280(e), and discussions of current state audits by Tracy Ahr, Esq., LL.M. Taxation from University of Florida. Frequent speaker on the unique taxation issues faced by cannabis businesses.

4. Section/committee Annual Meeting

The 2nd Cannabis Law Section Annual Meeting was conducted virtually during the lunch break of the 2020 Cannabis Law Institute on November 13th.

5. Section/committee Outreach/Initiatives/Events

- a. Wrote a letter to Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham regarding putting Recreational Cannabis on the Agenda for Special Session;
- b. Invited cannabis business stakeholders to the table.

- c. Provided updates via Web and contacts on pending cannabis legislation, litigation, and cannabis business industry news.

6. Scholarships

The Section paid for a couple of Board members to attend our CLE.

7. Media

Board members regularly post relevant articles on the Cannabis Law Section Web page including:

- i. Pertinent Legislative updates
- ii. Relevant Litigation updates
- iii. Cannabis business Industry updates

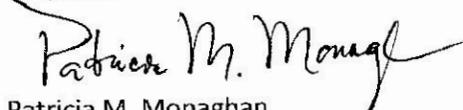
8. Ongoing Section/Committee Items:

For 2021, the Cannabis Law Section intends to continue to focus on education by consistently providing continuing legal and cannabis industrial education opportunities, including but not limited to the full day Cannabis Law Institute and mini, or brown-bag seminars. Additionally, this Section will continue to develop plans for and work towards establishing a legal Specialization in Cannabis law. Further it will expand its charitable contributions, and increase participation and membership in the Cannabis Law Section.

Conclusion:

Thank you for your continued support. We appreciate your recognition and facilitation of the Cannabis Law Section and its endeavors. Looking forward to 2021 . . .

Respectfully submitted,



Patricia M. Monaghan

2020 Cannabis Law Section Chair



TO: Richard Spinello, Executive Director
Board of Bar Commissioners
State Bar of New Mexico

FROM: Peter Klages, outgoing Section Chair

SUBJECT: **2020 CLS ANNUAL REPORT**

DATE: December 18, 2020

The CLS conducted and accomplished the following in 2020:

1. Board of Directors

Please see attached list.

2. Meetings

We held meetings every month on the second Wednesday of every month, except for our Annual meeting, which was held in conjunction with the Children's Law Institute and took place on January 9, 2020.

3. Continuing Education Presentations

We contributed to the presentation of two CLE events. The Section contributed funds to the Children's Law Institute, an annual CLE that is held specifically to address issues related to Child Welfare and Juvenile Delinquency, as well as ancillary proceedings that impact children in those systems. We also contributed funds to the NM Institute of Public Law which presented a CLE on December 13, 2020 on the topic of the new extended foster care for young adults.

We also arranged and conducted three non CLE trainings for section members. We have done these for years and call them "Noon Knowledge". The topics this year were 1) the role of the respondent's attorney; 2) the roles of the Guardian ad Litem and Youth Attorney; and 3) Introduction to the filings and procedures for extended foster care for young adults. We have arranged for these to be recorded, since they are done virtually and to be available to the bar on our bar web page.

4. Section Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting was held on January 9, 2020.

5. Section Outreach/Initiatives/Events

The Section held its annual Art Contest, which we make available as widely as possible to children who are in the foster care or delinquency systems. This year we had to conduct the contest virtually, which proved challenging. We

6. Scholarships (if applicable)

None

7. Media (includes website and/or social media if applicable)

None

8. Ongoing Section/Committee Items:

For 2021, CLS intends to:

- a. continue to conduct the Art Contest for children
- b. continue to support the Children's Law Institute
- c. continue to present Noon Knowledge programs
- d. continue to work with the UNM Institute of Public Law to provide at least one CLE specifically geared to issues that impact section members.



Peter Klages

2020 Children's Law Section Chair



**ELDER LAW SECTION
OF THE STATE BAR OF NEW MEXICO
2020 ANNUAL REPORT**

TO: Richard Spinello, Executive Director
Board of Bar Commissioners
State Bar of New Mexico

FROM: Marina A. Tapia Cansino, Chair in 2020

SUBJECT: Elder Law Section 2020 Annual Report

DATE: January 20, 2021

The Elder Law Section (ELS) conducted and accomplished the following in 2020:

1. ELS Board of Directors:
Marina A. Tapia Cansino, Chair and past Chair
Julia Catron, Budget Officer
Katie Gwartney Roehlk, Secretary
Lora Church, Board Member, Student Liaison
Ami Jaeger, Board Member
Ellen Leitzer, Board Member
Mary Ann Green, Board Member
Stephanie Townsend Allaia, Board Member
Carlos Martinez, Board Member
Cari Neill, Board Member
2. Meetings:
 - a. In 2020, the ELS Board continued with the previous year's schedule to hold Board Meetings beginning in January on the fourth Thursday of every other month. Due to Covid-19 Board Meetings were held via GoToMeet.com with some Board Members participating via video and some members participated by calling in. ELS Board meetings were held January 23, 2020; March 26, 2020, May 28, 2020, July 23, 2020, October 23, 2020 (annual meeting). The availability of video and telephone access to meetings made it possible for our Section Board Member in Roswell, NM to serve and participate on the Board.

- b. During the July 23, 2020 Board Meeting the Section's By-Laws were revised and approved in conformance to the State Bar's proposed revisions.
- 3. 2020 ELS Continuing Legal Education (CLE) Presentations and Collaborations:
 - a. October 23, 2020, ELS sponsored the Elder Law Institute: Critical Issues Impacting Vulnerable Adults completely online through live webcast. The Institute was an all-day Continuing Legal Education (CLE) program for attorneys, and continuing education (CEU) credits for guardians and conservators held 8:30 A.M. to 3:15 P.M. See Community and Outreach Events below.
 - b. The Board plans as proposed 2021 CLE topics, a presentation regarding Veterans benefits and legislation proposed to prevent the financial exploitation of older and vulnerable persons.
- 4. ELS Section Community and Outreach Events:
 - a. October 23, 2020, the Elder Law Institute: Critical Issues Impacting Vulnerable Adults. ELS sponsored scholarships and invited members of the public, advocates, guardians, and conservators, to attend the Institute for only \$20.00. The Institute was interactive and engaged the audience by allowing the audience to ask questions and have their questions answered in real time. Attorney Laurie Hedrich provided an introductory overview of the very complex federal SECURE Act which was passed January 2020. Regulations were released just prior to the Institute. Numerous SECURE Act provisions were intended to strengthen retirement security across the country and it was imperative estate planning attorneys are familiar with how it will effect their clients. The increase of financial exploitation of older persons called for a presentation by Jennifer Weber, Certified Forensic Examiner, Special Agent in Charge at the New Mexico Office of the Attorney General. Ms. Weber provided an introductory overview of options to obtain evidence, how to identify financial exploitation, and criminal and civil causes of action. Attorney Susan Tomita presented regarding the Stephen Beck Achieving a Better Life Experience Act (ABLE) regarding provisions of the Act permitting eligible individuals with disabilities to open an ABLE Investment account. Financial advisor Pam Davis presented planning for Medicaid complaint annuities and how important it is to plan ahead for retirement.
 - b. Due to Covid-19 ELS postponed the annual Health Care Decisions Day (HCDD) and proposed brown bag lunches at UNM School of Law. ELS usually has HCDD approximately the same day as the national Health Care Decisions Day in March of every year.
- 5. ELS Section Annual Meeting:

- a. The Annual Meeting was held during the lunch hour on the same day of the October 23, 2020 Elder Law Institute. An update was provided regarding the status of the Financial Exploitation of Elders and Adults with Disabilities Task Force; and the New Mexico Guardianship Association Symposium held in 2020. Board Member Ami Jaeger announced to Board Members a virtual platform for persons with dementia to have collaborative artistic projects.
6. Scholarships:
 - a. See Community Events, Elder Law Institute above.
 7. Media (includes website and/or social media if applicable)
 - a. ELS web site address <https://www.nmbar.org/elderlaw>. The ELS web site has elder law resources and contacts for members of the public such as the DDPC state guardianship program; New Mexico Guardianship Association; link to the courts and divorce court web site; Adult Protective Services and other resources. The section web site provides an advanced directive in English and Spanish, advanced directive for mental health treatment, link to the NM Uniform Health Care Decisions Act, link to the Mental Health Care Treatment Decisions Act.
 8. Ongoing Section/Committee Items:
 - a. The ELS Board has a committee that will work on creating a comprehensive brochure specific to the laws and unique needs of New Mexico's population similar to the brochure utilized by the State Bar of Wisconsin entitled "A Gift to Your Family: Planning Ahead for Future Health Needs." Producing and distributing the brochure will require funds. Katie Roehlk, Ami Jaeger, and Julia Catron are members of the Brochure Committee.
 - b. ELS has the following subcommittees which are ongoing and report during every Board meetings: CLE Committee; Brochure Committee; Legislative Committee. The Nominating Committee nominates at the end of each year.
 - c. The Legislative Committee regularly discussed the activities of the New Mexico Guardianship Steering Committee and when the next known meeting date was so that Board Members may attend and observe if interested.
 - d. January 2020, House Memorial 10 was proposed in the state legislature for the Senior Citizens Law Office (SCLO) to convene a task force to study and make recommendations to combat the financial abuse of senior citizens and adults with disabilities. Although the memorial did not pass, Ellen Leitzer, Director of SCLO and ELS Board Member organized the Financial Exploitation of Elder and Adults with Disabilities Task Force. The undersigned Chair participated in the task force in a personal capacity but to also keep ELS informed and involved. A bill is proposed to possibly be introduced during the 2021 legislative sessions.

- e. January 2020, House Memorial 23 was proposed in the state legislature for the State of New Mexico Developmental Disabilities Planning Council's (DDPC) to create and lead a task force to study and create a strategic plan regarding supported decision making as an alternative to guardianships and conservatorships in New Mexico. However, Board Members have not received a response for DDPC's Director Alice Liu McCoy or other staff whether DDPC will commence this task force.

It has been a privilege to serve as the Chair of the Elder Law Section during 2019 and 2020.

Sincerely,

/s/ Marina A. Tapia Cansino

Marina A. Tapia Cansino, Esq., Chair
Elder Law Section of the State Bar of New Mexico



**Employment and Labor Law Section
OF THE STATE BAR OF NEW MEXICO
2020 ANNUAL REPORT**

TO: Richard Spinello, Executive Director
Board of Bar Commissioners
State Bar of New Mexico

FROM: Stephen Curtice

SUBJECT: Annual Report

DATE: January 12, 2021

The Employment and Labor Law Section conducted and accomplished the following in 2020:

1. Board of Directors

Position	Last	First	Term
Director	Curtice	Stephen	2019-2020
Director	Finston	Felicia	2019-2020
Director	Hults	Samantha	2019-2020
Director	Olmos	Lorena	2020-2021
Director	De Young	Alana	2020-2021
Director	Carson	Caryn	2020-2021
Director	Kittleson	Jennifer	2020-2021
Director	Downey	Sarah	2020-2021
Past Chair	Muirhead	Megan	2019-2020
UNM Student	Vacant		2020-2020
YLD Liaison	Kafka	Jacqueline	2019-2020

2. Meetings

- a. We met (telephonically) the first Wednesday of each month (save December, having finished all annual business at the November meeting).

3. Continuing Education Presentation(s)

- a. Our (Virtual) annual institute was held on October 2, 2020. The Agenda:
 - 9 a.m. 2020 EEOC Update
Anne Noel Occhialino, EEOC
 - 10:15 a.m. TBD
Paul Armentano, National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Law (NORML)
 - 11 a.m. Break
 - 11:15 a.m. Labor Law Update - Updates: NM Public Employee Bargaining
Stephen Curtice, Youtz & Valdez PC
 - 12:15 p.m. Employment and Labor Law Section Annual Meeting and Lunch Break
 - 1 p.m. Workplace Violence/Mental Health Crisis
William Foote; Sarah Renfro, Sandia National Laboratories; Lorena Olmos, Presbyterian Healthcare Services; Ryan Randall, University of New Mexico Hospital
 - 2:15 p.m. Break
 - 2:30 p.m. Information Security Awareness while Working from Home
Mark Fidel, Applied Records Management
 - 3:15 p.m. TBD (1.0 EP)
Christine Long, The Disciplinary Board of the New Mexico Supreme Court

4:15 p.m. Adjournment

4. Section/committee Annual Meeting

- a. Our annual meeting was held during the lunch break of the CLE (October 2, 2020).

5. Section/committee Outreach/Initiatives/Events

- a. Our hope had been to start an (recurring?) group volunteer day at Roadrunner Food Bank. That was scheduled but, like many things, had to be cancelled due to COVID-19.

6. Scholarships (if applicable)

We awarded the scholarship to Jacques Chouinard. See below.

2020-2021 SCHOLARSHIP AWARDEE PROFILE



For the 2020-2021 Academic Year, Jacques Chouinard received your scholarship. Jacques is from Albuquerque and is part of the Class of 2021.

What are three words that describe you?

Driven, assertive, loyal

What is your proudest accomplishment?

In law school, staying in the top 10% of my class every semester. More broadly, successfully resuscitating a number of cardiac arrest and trauma patients as a paramedic.

What are your extracurricular activities and/or community service projects that you are involved in?

I served as the president of UNM's ACLU student chapter for the 2019-20 academic year. I am a senior editor for Volume 51 of the New Mexico Law Review. I am currently on staff with the New Mexico Civil Rights Commission where I assist the Commissioners to plan and analyze new civil rights laws.

Why did you choose to attend UNM School of Law?

New Mexico is home for me. I grew up here, and after spending my twenties in other states, I came back to build a life with my wife, who is a physician at UNMH. I hope to serve the people of New Mexico in meaningful ways, and an education from the UNM School of Law is an excellent way to do so.

Additional Message:

Thank you so much for your financial assistance. Without it, I would not be able to achieve my dream of practicing law in New Mexico.

7. Media (includes website and/or social media if applicable)
 - a. We have nothing to report.
8. Ongoing Section/Committee Items:
 - a. For next year, the section intends to continue with its volunteer and outreach goals.

Conclusion: This was a trying year, but we were able to meet (telephonically) as needed, award the scholarship, hold the annual institute and accomplish what we could given the circumstances.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen Curtice
2019-20 Section Chair
Employment and Labor Law Section



**FAMILY LAW SECTION
OF THE STATE BAR OF NEW MEXICO
2020 ANNUAL REPORT**

TO: Richard Spinello, Executive Director
Board of Bar Commissioners
State Bar of New Mexico

FROM: Sarah M. Armstrong
Chair of the Family Law Section

SUBJECT: Family Law Section 2020 Annual Report

DATE: January 22, 2021

The Family Law Section conducted and accomplished the following in 2020:

1. 2020 Board of Directors

- a. Sarah M. Armstrong (chair); James Bristol (secretary); Carlos Martinez (treasurer); Amber Macias-Mayo (chair-elect); Lauren Riley (YLD liaison); Lucy Sinkular; Dorene Kuffer; Dorie Briganti-Smith; Allison Pieroni; Kymberleigh Dougherty; Larry Heyek; Randy Powers; and, Gretchen Walther.

2. Meetings

- a. Board meetings conducted via video/teleconference on the 3rd Thursday of each month.

3. Continuing Education

- a. The Family Law Institute (initially scheduled for March, 2020, and reset due to COVID-19 concerns) was held virtually in six (6) sessions of two (2) hours each between October 6th and November 10th, which provided ten (10) hours of general and two (2) hours of ethics/professionalism credits. Psychologist Mindy Mitnick EdM, MA, president-elect of the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts presented on child custody and timesharing issues. William Slease, Esq. (former) Chief Disciplinary Counsel for the Disciplinary Board of the New Mexico Supreme Court presented on ethical and professionalism issues.

- b. Worked with members of the judiciary and family law practitioners to begin development of standardized guardian *ad litem* trainings to be held statewide.

4. Section Annual Meeting

- a. Held on October 16, 2020, via video/teleconference.

5. Section Outreach/Initiatives/Events

- a. Contributed to the fund created to support University of New Mexico School of Law students who could not take the July, 2020, Bar Exam due to COVID-19 concerns.
- b. Provided input to the Board of Bar Commissioners in support of a legal specialization program in New Mexico and worked with State Bar staff toward development of the specialization program.
- c. Monitored family-law related legislation.

6. Scholarships

- a. Provided scholarships to the judiciary and court services employees for attendance at the Family Law Institute
- b. Provided scholarships to students from University of New Mexico School of Law to assist with payment of educational expenses.

7. Media (includes website and/or social media, if applicable):

- a. Fully activated a member e-mail list-serv.
- b. Committed to publication of a family law NM Lawyer insert in the Bar Bulletin in 2021

8. Ongoing Section Items/For 2021, the Section intends to:

- a. Continue to hold monthly meetings and provide updates from those meetings to Section members.
- b. Hold the annual Family Law Institute virtually providing the full yearly requirement of CLE credits.
- c. Provide scholarships for the judiciary to attend the Family Law Institute
- d. Provide scholarship funds to a University of New Mexico School of Law student to assist in payment of education assistance.
- e. Continue planning and creation of additional continuing education and/or trainings throughout the year statewide, including guardian *ad litem* trainings.
- f. Foster inclusivity within the Section for family law practitioners throughout the state
- g. Continued monitoring of family-law related legislation.
- h. Lobby for or against family-law related legislation, if necessary and with the permission of the State Bar
- i. Continue outreach with other sections to collaborate in providing additional education and/or services to all State Bar members across practice area(s) and throughout the state.

- j. Complete and publish the family law New Lawyer insert in the Bar Bulletin in the second or third quarter of 2021.
- k. Work to improve the Section website.
- l. Provide content and/or speakers for podcasts through the State Bar of New Mexico
- m. Continue to work toward establishment of the legal specialization program in New Mexico.
- n. Complete review and revision, if necessary, of the Section by-laws previously modified in May, 2020.

Conclusion:

I have been honored to serve as the chair of the Family Law Section for the past two (2) years and wish to extend our sincerest gratitude to the State Bar for all of the support and guidance you provide to us. Without your amazing staff and resources, we as a Section would not be able to provide nearly as much education and support to our members. I know that my successor, Amber Macias Mayo, will continue to work hard to provide value to our members and to foster our Section's positive working relationship with the State Bar.

Sincerely,

Sarah M. Armstrong

Family Law Section Chair 2020



**HEALTH LAW SECTION
OF THE STATE BAR OF NEW MEXICO
ANNUAL REPORT**

TO: Richard Spinello, Executive Director
Board of Bar Commissioners
State Bar of New Mexico

FROM: Anne Eley , Chair - Health Law Section

SUBJECT: 2020 Annual Report

DATE: January 15, 2020

The Health Law Section conducted and accomplished the following in 2020:

1. Board of Directors
 - a. Anne Eley, Chair
 - b. Erica Chavez, Chair-Elect
 - c. Rosalyn Nguyen, Past Chair 1
 - d. Stefan Chacon, Past Chair 2
 - e. Breanna Gaytan, Budget Officer
 - f. Katy DelBene, Secretary
 - g. Dan Akenhead, Director
 - h. Martin Guerrero, Director
 - i. Quincy Perales, Director
 - j. Lou Branch, Director
 - k. Yvonne Chicoine, Director,
 - l. David Kaufman, Director
 - m. vacant, YLD Liaison
 - n. Sun Vega, Law Student
 - o. Erin Marshall, Law Student
2. Meetings
 - a. Monthly meetings, every 1st Tuesday of the month, from 9:00-10:00AM via teleconference
3. Continuing Education Presentation(s)

- a. [2020 Health Law Legislative Update](#)
 - i. May 1, 2020- Virtual Webinar via State Bar Go to Meeting
 - ii. Presented by Brenna Gaytan, HLS Director, Attorney for BCBS New Mexico; Speakers: Russel Toal, Office of the Superintendent of Insurance, Abuko Estrada, Coverage Innovation Officer, HSD NM; Rep. Deborah Armstrong, NM House of Representatives; and Nicole Comeaux, HS.D
 - b. 2020 Health Law Symposium (see attached PDF agenda): [Primers, Updates and Practical Advice in the Current Health Law Environment](#)
 - i. October 9, 2019 at the State Bar hosted via Go To Meeting
4. Health Law Section Annual Meeting
 - a. Friday, October 9th, 2019 at 12:00-1:00pm at the State Bar via Go To Meeting
5. Section/committee Outreach/Initiatives/Events
Postponed UNM outreach due to CVOID 19, hope to do more in 2021.
6. Scholarships
[Sponsored 2020 Health Law Scholarship Award](#)
➤ **All Deferred due to COVID-19**
7. Media (includes website and/or social media if applicable)
[Health Law Section Resource Website Share](#)
 - One of our Directors reached out to the American Health Lawyers Association (AHLA) and found out that we can share conference materials and presentations from those conferences onto our Health Law Section website so long as it is for educational purposes, and not for commercial/profit purposes.
 - Morgan has been helping us develop our Health Law Section website to include a tab that posts PDFs of conference materials from Directors attending various CLEs.
 - This is still an active, ongoing project.
8. Ongoing Section/Committee Items:
 - a. For 2020, the Health Law Section intends to:
 - Monitor the Health Law Specialization Certification
Our Board has been particularly interested in this certification, and we look forward to the State Bar's committee to finalize this program so that we can inform our Section members.
 - Annual Legislative Update following the 60-day Session, Spring 2021
 - Annual Fall HLS Symposium, Fall 2021
 - Continue to support another scholarship for a UNM Law student to attend the ABA Health Law conference in 2021. Again, this would be in conjunction with the UNM Law School. The Health Law Section Board of Directors voted to donate \$1000 to support this opportunity.

- The Health Law Section Board of Directors has been interested in the opportunity to obtain a Health Law Specialization Certificate once the BBC Regulatory Committee has been developed and has clear guidelines to allow our Section to apply and pursue this opportunity.
- Ongoing Efforts with the American Bar Association: New Mexico Opioid Task Force
 - For the Board and Section, HLS Chair - Anne Eley, Esq. (San Juan Regional Medical Center, Farmington, NM) and Sun Vega, Director HLS.
 - Section member: David Johnson, Esq. (Sutin Thayer Browne, ABQ)

Anne and David are involved in the ABA Opioid Task Force, which includes an ABA-sponsored resolution that different states' Health Law Sections has endorsed, which is currently being explored by the HLS. This Opioid Task Force initiative is also open to any interested Section members to be able to participate in.

Conclusion:

We survived, was our motto for 2020. We had no idea what we were in for in January 2020. I am very impressed with our ability to put on 2 successful CLEs in light of COVID-19. The Health Law Section Board of Directors successfully sponsored 2 health law education CLEs this year for the Health Law Section—focusing on health law legislative matters and general health law matters. These appeal to the broad Section audience and provide the opportunity to educate and update their knowledge. Each of these CLEs had a large number of attendees with overall positive feedback, which met our Board's goal in terms of being successful. The Health Law Section would participate in State Bar events such as Section Open House, UNM Law Student Speed Networking, and other similar events. Due to COVID-19 we were unable to support outreach and efforts with the law students. We look forward to 2021, and Erica Chavez, 2021 Chair, has some great ideas for more Health Law Sections lunch and learns, collaboration with the law students, and our annual Legislative CLE following the 60-day session and the Annual Fall Symposium.

We have appreciated the support of the State Bar in 2020, specifically Morgan Pettit, I could NOT have survived the year as chair without Morgan's support, she is amazing! I also want to give a big thank you and shout out to Erica Candelaria from the CLE department, she was also an amazing support to us during 2020. Many thanks to all those behind the scenes at the State Bar who helped us "survive" 2020.

Respectfully,

Anne Eley, Esq.

2020 Health Law Section Chair



TO: Richard Spinello, Executive Director
Board of Bar Commissioners
State Bar of New Mexico

FROM: Roxie P. Rawls-De Santiago

SUBJECT: Annual Report for Immigration Law Section

DATE: January 23, 2021

The Immigration Law Section conducted and accomplished the following in (year):

1. Board of Directors
 - a. Quiana Salazar-King
 - b. James Owens, Treasurer
 - c. Tania Silva
 - d. Gabriela Ibanez-Guzman, CLE Coordinador
 - e. Estrella Cedillo, Secretary
 - f. Roxie De Santiago, Chair
 - g. Lauren Armstrong, Past-Chair
 - h. Anna Trillo, UNM-Student Liaison
 - i. Anna Becker, YLD Liaison

For the coming year, the section has selected James Owens to serve as Chair.

2. Meetings

The Section met on a monthly basis, usually on the last Friday of each month at noon via the State Bar's conferencing program. The section has normally met only telephonically and meeting over the conferencing program was a significant improvement and increased participation by those present.

3. Continuing Education Presentation(s)

Gabriela Ibanez-Guzman was the CLE Coordinator for the Section. Through her efforts, the Section organized a series of lunch time CLE's aimed directly at immigration practitioners. The section opted for smaller CLE's rather than a full day event as was done in years past as most practitioners already spend significant amounts of time in front of conferencing programs. They were moderately successful given the limitations imposed by the pandemic.

4. Section/committee Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting was held on December 18, 2020. In addition to Board Members, the Annual Meeting was also attended by members of the section. Again, this meeting was held via video conferencing.

5. Section/committee Outreach/Initiatives/Events

Plans which were created at the start of the year for outreach to law students and other practitioners, as well as coordinated events with affiliated organizations were all postponed due to the pandemic. The Section did sponsor a lunch event through the UNM School of Law for 1L students.

6. Scholarships (if applicable)

The Section did provide 1 Bar Scholarship of \$500.00 to a 3L UNM student and two Book Scholarships of \$250.00 to two 2L students. The Section began discussions to expand fund raising for this item alone and requested assistance from the State Bar in these efforts.

7. Media (includes website and/or social media if applicable)

The Section has begun discussions to create a list serve where information among local practitioners can be shared.

8. Ongoing Section/Committee Items:

For 2021, the Section intends to continue its CLE programing and hopes to be able to expand and collaborate with affiliated organizations like the American Immigration Lawyers Assoc. The Section would also like to expand its scholarship program and related fundraising. Finally, the Section would like to increase collaboration and communication with affiliated entities.

Conclusion:

2020 was certainly a different year. Particularly in immigration where the only constant in the practice was change, most practitioners were overwhelmed with dealing with the pandemic, the changes imposed by the administration on a nearly daily basis, and life itself. I am hopeful the Section will be able to accomplish more in the coming years.

Roxie P. Rawls-De Santiago
Immigration Law Section Chair
2020 Section Chair



STATE BAR
of NEW MEXICO
INDIAN LAW SECTION

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Justin J. Solimon
2020 Chair

**BOARD OF
DIRECTORS**

James M. Burson

Tracy Canard Goodluck

Alyssa Mercado

Jannette Alicia Mondragon

Josett Monette

Nadine Padilla

Thomas J. Peckham

Alan Taradash

Dominique Oliver
YLD Liaison

Prof. John P. LaVelle
*UNM School of Law
Liaison*

Cody Jeff/Alma Buena
*UNM School of Law
Student Liaison*

Kathryn S. Becker
Past Chair

TO: Richard Spinello, Executive Director
Board of Bar Commissioners
State Bar of New Mexico

FROM: Justin J. Solimon

SUBJECT: 2020 Annual Report

DATE: January 8, 2021

The Indian Law Section (ILS) of the State Bar of New Mexico enjoyed another productive year in 2020, despite the constraints imposed by restrictions on in-person meetings and events. The Section enjoys its reputation of being one of the most active, productive and charitable sections in the State Bar. As discussed in this Annual Report, ILS significantly expanded its scholarship and donation activities this year by awarding \$14,000 in scholarships and continued its contributions to continuing legal education, through our annual CLE and through sponsorships of other CLE events. Our goal remains to build up our roster and collaborate with more sections and committees to offer both education and social opportunities for our membership.

As part of this Annual Report, we want to acknowledge our Section members and their families who have been at the forefront of the fight against COVID-19 and ongoing recovery efforts. In particular, Indian Country has been and continues to be particularly affected by this tragedy. Many of our Section members have dedicated their time and effort in 2020 as Indian law practitioners, educators, and as community members to help guide us out of these adverse times.

1. Board of Directors

The 2020 Board of Directors and Officers were:

1. Justin J. Solimon, 2020 Chair
2. Kathryn Becker, Past-Chair and Co-Secretary
3. Nadine Padilla, Co-Secretary
4. James M. Burson, Budget Officer
5. Alyssa Mercado, Chair-Elect
6. Tracy Canard Goodluck
7. Jannette Alicia Mondragon
8. Josett Monette
9. Thomas J. Peckham
10. Alan Taradash
11. Dominique Oliver, YLD Liaison

12. Prof. John P. LaVelle, UNM School of Law Liaison
13. Cody Jeff(Spring)/Alma Buena(Fall), UNM School of Law Student Liaison

2. Board and Annual Meetings

The Board typically meets on the third Friday of most months. In 2020, the Board met on the following dates:

1. January 24
2. February 21
3. March 20
4. April 17
5. June 19
6. July 17
7. August 21
8. October 16
9. November 5 (Annual Meeting)
10. December 18

In addition, the Board convened electronically to hold votes on certain matters that required Board action outside of its regularly scheduled meetings.

3. Committees and Committee Reports

ILS performs its major activities through the following Committees, which met outside of Board meetings throughout the year: CLE, Media, Outreach & Recruiting, Scholarship, and Mentorship. A summary of Committee activities follows:

CLE Committee:

Alyssa Mercado chaired the CLE Committee, with assistance from Tracy Goodluck, Josett Monette, and Thomas Peckham. The Committee strives to provide the Indian Law Section members and the Indian Law Community with relevant, practical, and up-to-date information on evolving Indian law topics and matters. Additionally, the Committee strives to inform the broader legal community about important aspects of Indian Law to the extent practicable.

On the mornings of Thursday, November 5 and Friday, November 6, the Indian Law Section held its annual Indian Law Symposium. Because of the pandemic, participation was by live webcast only. The Committee is grateful to all of the speakers who agreed to participate. Below was the final agenda from the CLE:

AGENDA – DAY 1: NOVEMBER 5, 2020	
8:30-10 a.m.	Covid-19 Impact on Indigenous Communities <i>U.S. Representative Deb Haaland, (D-NM 1st District); Governor J. Michael Chavarria of the Pueblo of Santa Clara; other tribal leaders TBD</i>
10-10:05 a.m.	Break/Transition
10:05-11:05 a.m.	State and Federal Indian Law Update (including discussion of the recent Supreme Court decision in <i>McGirt v. Oklahoma</i>) <i>Prof. Jeanette Wolfley, UNM School of Law</i>
11:05-11:10 a.m.	Break/Transition

11:10 a.m.-12:10 p.m.	Discovery and Evidentiary Issues in Litigation Against State and Federal Governments <i>Tierra Marks, Esq., Barnhouse Keegan Solimon & West LLP and Michelle Miano, Esq., Barnhouse Keegan Solimon & West LLP</i>
12:10 p.m.	Adjourn CLE
12:10-1 p.m.	Annual Indian Law Section Meeting
1 p.m.	Adjourn Section Activities

AGENDA – DAY 2: NOVEMBER 6, 2020	
8:30-9:30 a.m.	Tribal Jurisdiction – Can’t give it away <i>Christina West, Esq., Barnhouse Keegan Solimon & West LLP</i>
9:30-9:35 a.m.	Break/Transition
9:35-11:05 a.m.	Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women Coalition to Stop Violence Against Native Women, Southwest Women’s Law Center, and the New Mexico Indian Affairs Department
11:05-11:10 a.m.	Break/Transition
11:10 a.m.-12:10 p.m.	Compare and Contrast Navajo and New Mexico Ethical Rules <i>Katherine Belzowski Esq., Acting Assistant Attorney General and Principal Attorney, and Lillian Schwalles, Esq., Economic and Community Development Unit, Navajo Nation Dept. of Justice</i>
12:10 p.m.	Adjourn

The Committee also co-sponsored the Committee on Diversity’s annual symposium, held on October 30, 2020.

In 2021, the CLE Committee hopes to have another full-day CLE. If you have suggestions for CLE topics, please send to ilsboard@nmba.org. We also hope to be selected for the State Bench and Bar Conference. This year, ILS was not selected to host a panel at the State Bench and Bar Conference. In previous years, ILS has been selected and hosted a panel.

Media Committee:

Thomas Peckham chaired the Media Committee, with assistance from Kathryn Becker, Tracy Goodluck, John LaVelle, and Justin Solimon. This year, the Media Committee published one newsletter and established a Facebook page (@NMIndianLawSection) as a way to try to keep in more direct contact with Section membership.

A major emphasis each year is on the solicitation by peers of the ILS Attorney Achievement Award. This year we were very pleased to award Richard Hughes with the Attorney Achievement Award. Mr. Hughes has a career of advancing the field of Indian law in New Mexico and has been at the forefront of significant Indian law cases. Recently, he secured a major victory for Pueblo water rights in the *Abousleman* case. Mr. Hughes will receive a beautiful ceramic plate in his honor.

Outreach & Recruiting Committee:

Cody Jeff, Thomas Peckham, Alyssa Mercado, Janette Mondragon, Josett Monette, and Justin Solimon served on the Outreach & Recruiting Committee. The Committee typically schedules one or more events, such as mixers, for its members with the goal of encouraging fellowship and recruiting new members. Unfortunately, before any Committee events could occur in 2020, statewide shut

down orders took affect and the Section determined that it would not attempt to hold any in-person events until further notice.

Notwithstanding these limitations, the Section donated \$500 to the UNM School of Law as part of an ongoing campaign to provide financial support for a part-time mental health counselor at the law school. The Section also donated \$600 to provide gifts for the 2020 NALSA graduating class, which was used to purchase blankets to honor those graduates.

Scholarship Committee:

Justin Solimon chaired the Scholarship Committee, with assistance from members Nadine Padilla and James Burson. ILS awarded a total of \$14,000 in scholarships directly benefiting students and graduates with a desire to practice Indian law. Moreover, due to successful fundraising, ILS was able to roll over a healthy balance in its foundation account for these scholarships in 2021.

Specifically, in 2020, the Section awarded a total of \$6,000 of Bar Prep Scholarships, each in the amount of \$1,500 to four recipients: Naomie Droll, Amber Holland, Jordan Oglesby, and Heather Tanner. Each recipient demonstrated their passion in Indian law and their commitment to serving tribal communities. Although ILS could not present the scholarships in person, it announced the awards in its Newsletter and included short write-ups of the recipients. The Bar Prep Scholarship is intended to assist new graduates with the costs associated with taking the bar exam.

Additionally, the Scholarship Committee has established the Karl E. Johnson Indian Law Scholarship. The Karl E. Johnson Indian Law Scholarship is established in honor of Mr. Johnson’s many contributions to Indian Law, including his dedication to the Indian Law Section. The Scholarship is open to class of 2021 and class of 2022 students currently enrolled at the UNM School of Law with demonstrated interest in practicing Indian law and financial need. This year, the Section awarded a total of \$8,000 of Karl E. Johnson Indian Law Scholarships, each in the amount of \$2,000 to four recipients: Cody Jeff, Damian Padilla, Navalyn Platero, and Krista Thompson.

Mentorship Committee:

This year, ILS formed the Mentorship Committee with a mission statement “[t]o mentor, facilitate, and support native students in bar preparation and bar passage.” Jannette Mondragón chaired the Mentorship Committee, along with Kathryn Becker, John LaVelle, Josett Monette, Rodina Parnell, Justin Solimon, and Alan Taradash. The goal in forming this Committee is to provide support and guidance as a Section to native students to increase bar exam passage. The Committee is working on identifying any gaps that may exist and looking for solutions to fill them in order to help native students be successful.

The Committee has identified a need for the recruitment of attorney coaches for native students and will continue to advocate for and support native students to ensure their success while navigating the bar exam.

4. Conclusion

Thanks to our Budget Officer James Burson and Committee Chairs we have a healthy financial statement and funds to roll over and aid us in the next year. And thanks to the State Bar staff, Morgan Pettit and Chelsea Canon, we functioned

smoothly and communicated with our membership. We so appreciate Morgan and Chelsea's assistance, reminders and good humor.

Looking ahead to 2021, ILS plans to continue to develop its Mentorship Committee, in particular to help recent law school graduates with an offer of assistance with test taking preparations and planning. We expect to continue to offer great CLEs, award even more scholarships, and once again hold in person events and functions.

We want to thank you all for your support of the Indian Law Section. We welcome any input you may have. Please feel free to contact our Committee Chairs or Board Members if you have any questions, comments, or concerns.



**INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW SECTION
OF THE STATE BAR OF NEW MEXICO
2020 SUNSET PETITION**

TO: Richard Spinello, Executive Director
Board of Bar Commissioners
State Bar of New Mexico

FROM: Svitlana Anderson, the Chair of the Intellectual Property Law Section

SUBJECT: Petition to Avoid Sunset of NM Intellectual Property Law Section

DATE: December 15, 2020

As the Chair of the Intellectual Property Law Section, this petition is written on behalf of the Intellectual Property Law Section, pursuant to Section 9.4 of the State Bar's bylaws, to petition the Board of Bar Commissioners to continue the Intellectual Property Law Section for an additional five years. The reasons why the Committee should be continued are as follows:

1. 2020 Board of Directors

- a. Svitlana Anderson (Chair)
- b. Helen Baca (Chair-Elect)
- c. Ian Bezpalko (Treasurer)
- d. Justin Muehlmeier (Secretary)
- e. Jeff Albright
- f. Breanna Contreras
- g. Beate Boudro
- h. Jose Garcia
- i. Talia Kosh
- j. Kevin Soules (Immediate Past Chair)
- k. Savannah Hoover (Student Liaison)

2. Activities/Action Items Undertaken 2020

- a. Continued efforts to update and keep current Section's information on the page of the State Bar's website

- b. Prepared and successfully conducted first virtual IP Fair serving creatives, artists, and entrepreneurs from local and remote communities; provided opportunity to UNMSOL students to shadow IP practitioners during the initial consultations
- c. Organized and presented first virtual CLE (Jose Garcia) with 6 speakers on various IP topics and about 50 participants
- d. Continued collaboration with Young Lawyers Division
- e. Reviewed and implemented Global Bylaws

3. Upcoming Activities/Action Items for 2021

- a. Organize and conduct annual virtual IP Fair; with possibility of conducting more than one IP Fair per year, serving entrepreneurs from remote communities in New Mexico
- b. Continued efforts to provide shadowing opportunity to UNMSOL students so the students can gain experience in intellectual property counseling
- c. Organize at least one remote Continued Legal Education event for the bar membership
- d. Annual Meeting of the NM IP Law Section
- e. Bi-Annual publication in the NM Lawyer magazine on current intellectual property issues
- f. Encourage Section members to participate in Bridge the Gap Mentorship Program
- g. Record Podcast for New Mexico State Bar

Pending or Previous Issues Requiring the Board of Bar Commissioners: none

Activities/Action Items from Previous Years

Annual Activities/Action Items

- Pro-Bono IP Fair
- Intellectual Property Continuing Legal Education seminar
- Fall mixer in conjunction with students at the University of New Mexico School of Law
- Bi-Annual publication in the NM Lawyer magazine on current intellectual property issues

Year 2018

- Intellectual Property Continuing Legal Education seminar
- Pro-Bono IP Fair
- Publication of intellectual property insert in NM Layer magazine
- Career panel and mixer event for UNM Law Students

Year 2017

- Intellectual Property Continuing Legal Education presented in conjunction with the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office

Year 2016

- Intellectual Property Continuing Legal Education seminar

Year 2015

- Intellectual Property Continuing Legal Education seminar

Year 2014

- Intellectual Property Continuing Legal Education seminar

For these reasons, the IP Law Section of the State Bar of New Mexico respectfully requests that the Board of Bar Commissioners continue the Section for another five years.

Regards,



Svitlana Anderson

2020 Chair IP Law Section



**NATURAL RESOURCES, ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL LAW SECTION
OF THE STATE BAR OF NEW MEXICO
2020 ANNUAL REPORT**

TO: Richard Spinello, Executive Director
Board of Bar Commissioners
State Bar of New Mexico

FROM: Louis W. Rose
Montgomery & Andrews

SUBJECT: 2020 Natural Resources, Energy and Environmental Law Section Annual Report

DATE: January 8, 2021

The Natural Resources, Energy and Environmental Law Section conducted and accomplished the following in 2020:

1. Board of Directors
 - a. Louis W. Rose, Chair;
 - b. Mark Rosebrough, Chair Elect;
 - c. Bradford Moody;
 - d. Haley Adams, Treasurer;
 - e. Logan Glasenapp, Secretary;
 - f. Marcos D. Martinez;
 - g. Thomas W. Paterson;
 - h. Steven Hernandez;
 - i. Chris Shaw;
 - j. Laura Sanchez, Past Chair;
 - k. Gabriel Pacyniak, UNM School of Law Liaison;
 - l. Sarah McLain, UNM Law Student Liaison
2. Meetings
The Board met monthly, except for December 2020.
3. Continuing Education Presentation(s)

The Section's annual continuing education presentation was held on December 18, 2020. The seminar, entitled Zooming in on New Mexico Energy & Natural Resources, was attended by over 75 Bar members and included presentations from faculty at the UNM School of Law, public sector lawyers, and private practitioners.

4. Section/committee Annual Meeting

The Section's annual meeting was held on Friday, December 18, 2020, during the lunch break of the Section's annual CLE. The Section awarded its 2020 Lawyer of the Year Award to co-recipients: Charles F. Noble and Jeffrey J. Wechsler.

5. Section/committee Outreach/Initiatives/Events

a. The Section's 2020 outreach, initiatives and events was extremely curtailed as a result of the Covid 19 Pandemic.

b. In keeping with previous practice, the Section planned to conduct Spring and Fall mixers. The Fall mixer is conducted in conjunction with the UNM Law School's Environmental Law Society. Because of the Pandemic, the mixers were cancelled.

c. The Section planned on co-sponsoring and funding several speaker events with the UNM Law School. Because of Covid 19 and the Public Health Orders, the speaking engagements were conducted remotely and the Section funding support was unnecessary.

e. For a second year, the Section organized a mentorship event to facilitate the assignment of experienced natural resource, energy, and environmental lawyers with young or inexperienced practitioners. This year, because of the Pandemic, the event was conducted virtually.

f. Two section board members, Mark Rosebrough and Logan Glasenapp, submitted articles to the New Mexico Lawyer that were published in October 14, 2020 Bar Bulletin.

6. Ongoing Section/Committee Items:

For 2021, the Section intends to continue its involvement with the UNM School of Law, cosponsoring speakers and providing funding for the environmental law moot court competitors. Additionally, the Section plans to re-institute its usual social events, depending on the status of the Pandemic. Specific event planning will await direction from the 2021 Board.

Conclusion: 2020 was an unusual year; much of the Section's planned events were cancelled or reduced as a result of the Pandemic. Even with constraints, the Section accomplished a number of milestones, including submitting written articles to the New Mexico Lawyer, organizing and presenting the annual CLE, awarding the 2020 Co-Lawyers of the Year, and conducting an annual meeting. The Section looks forward to returning to a more normal schedule some time in 2021. In the meantime, it continues to explore ways to provide value to its members.

If you have any questions, please let me know. I can be contacted at (505) 986-2506 or lrose@montand.com.



**Prosecutors Section
OF THE STATE BAR OF NEW MEXICO
2020 ANNUAL REPORT**

TO: Richard Spinello, Executive Director
Board of Bar Commissioners
State Bar of New Mexico

FROM: Nicholas McDonnell
Former Chair of Prosecutor Section Board

SUBJECT: 2020 Annual Report

DATE: January 11, 2021

The Prosecutor Section Board conducted and accomplished the following in (year):

1. Board of Directors

	Name	Position
1	Nicholas McDonnell	Chair
2	Devin Chapman	Past Chair
3	Sarah Ebbers	Treasurer
4	Nora Wilson	Secretary
5	Armand Velez	
6	Ken Fladager	
7	Russell Warren	
8	Mandana Shoushtari	
9	Brianne Bigej	

2. Meetings

We meet the second Friday of every month at noon unless a reschedule is needed. The board met on the following dates in 2020:

- a. January 17, 2020
- b. February 14, 2020
- c. March 13, 2020

- d. April 10, 2020
 - e. May 15, 2020
 - f. June 12, 2020
 - g. July 10, 2020
 - h. August 14, 2020
 - i. September 11, 2020
 - j. October 9, 2020
 - k. November 13, 2020 (Annual Meeting)
 - l. December 11, 2020
 - m. Continuing Education Presentation(s)
3. Section/committee Annual Meeting
- a. Our annual meeting was conducted on November 13, 2020.
4. Section/committee Outreach/Initiatives/Events
- Unfortunately, COVID significantly limited our opportunities this year. However we did continue our Annual Awards at the AODA Fall Conference..
- We solicited applications for three board vacancies that arose at the end of th year, and appointed three new members beginning in the 2021 year.
- We additionally updated our website, passed our new bylaws, and provided our sunset letter for the continuation of our board.
- We had 2 articles submitted for publishing to the New Mexico Lawyer from our board members.
5. Ongoing Section/Committee Items:
- a. We are welcoming our new YLD Liaison to our monthly board meetings.
 - b. Increase our CLE involvement for board members particularly remote options
 - c. Increase our outreach to law schools for membership.

/s/ Nicholas McDonnell
Nicholas McDonnell
2020, Prosecutor Section Board 2020 Chair



**Public Law Section
OF THE STATE BAR OF NEW MEXICO
2020 ANNUAL REPORT**

TO: Richard Spinello, Executive Director
Board of Bar Commissioners
State Bar of New Mexico

FROM: Joseph Dworak, Chair
Public Law Section

SUBJECT: PLS 2020 Annual Report

DATE: January 13, 2021

The Public Law Section conducted and accomplished the following in 2020:

1. Board of Directors
 - a. Joseph Dworak Chair
 - b. Geraldine Garduno Chair-Elect
 - c. Andrea Salazar Past Chair
 - d. Jonas Armstrong Budget Officer
 - e. Felicia Orth Secretary
 - f. Nathan Eckberg Director
 - g. Romona Martinez Director
 - h. Erin McSherry Director
 - i. Kevin Sanders Director
 - j. Cristella Valdez Director
 - k. Mahlon Wigton Director
 - l. Cady Sartorius YLD Liaison
 - m. Emma Stahl/Emy White UNM Student

2. Meetings

The Board of Directors held a meeting every month, typically on the third Thursday at 12:00 noon unless a conflict in scheduling arose

3. Continuing Education Presentation(s)

Annual CLE Program: 2020 Administrative Law Institute (October 16, 2020)

- a. Governmental Powers During a Public Health Emergency (Matthew Garcia, General Counsel to Governor Michele Lujan Grisham)
- b. Open Government During a Pandemic (John Kreienkamp, Assistant Attorney General)
- c. Public Employee Bargaining Act Updates (Diana Holcomb, Holcomb Law Office)
- d. Elections in Pandemic + the Hatch Act (Gretchen Elsner, Elsner Law & Policy)
- e. Who is Your Client? (Bill Slease, Chief Disciplinary Counsel, New Mexico Supreme Court)
- f. Ethics Commission Rules of Procedure (Jeremy Farris, Executive Director, State Ethics Commission)

4. Section Annual Meeting

The Public Law Section held its annual meeting, as usual, during the lunch break of the annual CLE program on October 16. In addition to the Board's business meeting agenda, the following items were included on the agenda for the annual meeting:

Annual Meeting

- a. Introduction of Membership Present and Guests
- b. Overview of the Public Law Section
 - i. Scholarship – Othmer Award
 - ii. Recognition – Public Lawyer of the Year Award
 - iii. Legal Education – Annual CLE
 - iv. Events (social, networking, brownbags)
 - v. Outreach (law school panels)
 - vi. Communication (website resources, e-blasts)
- c. Board of Director Recruitment and Nominations
- d. Open Discussion on Next Year's Calendar of Events and Strategic Plan
- e. Comments/Questions

5. Section Outreach/Initiatives/Events

This year for everyone was a challenge to plan and implement activities that we often incorporate annually. At the start of the year we had begun to plan for more outreach with the law school, in-person brownbag lunch discussions, social activities, and a presence at the Bench and Bar Conference. Most of these were delayed and then canceled all together with the exception of a brownbag lunch discussion on the topic of PERA changes. We also maintained better communication with the law school and our student reps, and hope that 2021 and 2022 we will be able to implement some of our ideas for outreach with in person events.

6. Scholarships

Every year the Public Law Section matches a \$1500 scholarship in honor of Craig Othmer, whose family contribution creates a \$3,000 scholarship for a student working in an unpaid public service summer position.

2020 Othmer Scholarship Recipient:

Anna Trillo is a current second year student, soon to be entering her final year at UNM School of Law. This summer she will be working in a Human Trafficking summer internship at the New Mexico Immigrant Law Center (“NMILC”). During the summer she will be responsible for conducting outreach and training partners on how to screen and refer potential human-trafficking survivors to NMILC. It will focus on building relationships with community organizations and health clinics throughout rural New Mexico. Anna will also represent human-trafficking survivors in their T-Visa applications and in other processes involved in seeking immigration relief. Anna is very grateful for the opportunity and support from NMILC and the Othmer Fellowship.

7. Media

The Public Law Section is thankful for the efforts by the State Bar to update the webpages, making them easier to navigate and more useful for members. Our page has had several updates this year but, most significant, has been the addition of a COVID-19 Resource Page that has compiled various resources and information regarding the effect of the pandemic from related public health orders and other legal impacts. This pages has been periodically updated throughout the year as needed and will be available with updates through the terminus of the health crisis.

8. Ongoing Section Items:

- a. For 2021, the Section intends to:
 - i. revisit the opportunity to hold brownbag lunch discussions on topics of importance and interest to its membership;
 - ii. implement communication to membership in a campaign to increase annual membership registrations;
 - iii. discuss with the law school and the Association of Public Interest Law (APIL) a annual event to hold with the school to highlight public interest work, promote the Othmer Scholarship, and provide professional networking for students; and
 - iv. continue to plan and implement our annual programs and help ensure that the Section is a relevant and useful organization for our membership and the State Bar.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Joseph Dworak
Joseph Dworak, 2020 Chair
Public Law Section



**REAL PROPERTY, TRUST, AND ESTATE SECTION
OF THE STATE BAR OF NEW MEXICO
2020 ANNUAL REPORT**

TO: Richard Spinello, Executive Director
Board of Bar Commissioners
State Bar of New Mexico

FROM: Vincent M. Haslam

SUBJECT: 2020 Annual Report

DATE: January 22, 2021

As the Chair of the Real Property, Trust, and Estate (“RPTE”) Section, this petition is written on behalf of the RPTE Section pursuant to Section 9.4 of the State Bar’s bylaws, to petition the Board of Bar Commissioners to continue the RPTE Section for an additional five years. The reasons why the RPTE Section should be continued are as follows:

1. 2020 Board of Directors

Denise Snyder
Scott Aaron
Charles Spence
Vincent Haslam
Elisabeth Millich
Joshua Dwyer
Ron Taylor
Travis White
Toby Lutenegger
Gregory Mackenzie

2. Activities/Action Items Undertaken in 2020

- a. 2020 Probate Institute – this was a virtual CLE that was very well attended and received generally positive reviews.
- b. 2020 Real Property Institute – this will be a virtual CLE and will be held on January 28, 2021.
- c. Donation to scholarship to the UNM School of Law.

- d. All other activities for 2020 were cancelled due to Covid.

3. Upcoming Activities/Action Items for 2021

- a. Section retreat/CLE at Ghost Ranch – this was originally scheduled for April 2020 but was cancelled due to Covid. This will be an overnight retreat at Ghost Ranch and will not only give attendees the chance to attend a CLE but will give them a chance to connect with other practitioners in a relaxed social setting.
- b. 2021 Probate Institute
- c. 2021 Real Property Institute

/s/ Vincent M. Haslam
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Albuquerque, NM 87109
(505) 888-1188
haslam@hurleyfirm.com
RPTE Section
2020 RPTE Section Chair



**SOLO AND SMALL FIRM SECTION
OF THE STATE BAR OF NEW MEXICO
2020 ANNUAL REPORT**

TO: Richard Spinello, Executive Director
Board of Bar Commissioners
State Bar of New Mexico

FROM: Isaac Emmanuel, Chair
Solo and Small Firm Section

SUBJECT: 2020 Annual Report

DATE: 12/31/2020

As Chair of the Solo and Small Firm Section (“Section”), I am providing the following Annual Report pursuant to Section 9.3 of the State Bar’s bylaws.

1. 2020 Board of Directors

	Name	Position
1	Isaac S. Emmanuel	Director, Chair
2	Charles B. Gurd	Director, Past Chair
3	Ian Bezpalko	Director, Budget Officer
4	Brian Gaddy	Director
5	Deian McBryde	Director, Chair-Elect
6	Rebecca S. Mulcahy	Director
7	John F. Samore	Director
8	Lucinda R. Silva	Director, Secretary
9	Brian T. Smith	Director
10	George W. Weeth	Director
11	Krista Garcia	YLD Liaison (resigned 10/5)

2. Board Meetings and Annual Meeting

Section board meetings were held every month of 2020, at 10:30 AM on the third Tuesday of every month. The Section's Annual Meeting for its membership was held at 9:45 AM on November 13. Nearly all meetings this year, including the annual meeting, were held virtually through the State Bar's GoToMeeting platform.

3. Committees

The Section currently has the following committees:

- New Firms Committee (2020 chair Isaac Emmanuel)
- Interaction Committee (2020 co-chairs Deian McBryde and Cindy Silva)
- CLE Committee (2020 chair Rebecca Mulcahy)
- Succession Committee (2020 chair Charles Gurd)

Each Section committee coordinates a different aspect of Section activities, outreach, and programming.

4. 2020 Section Activities

The Section focused much of 2020 on virtualizing its programs and member benefits in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Section continued ongoing programs as well as engaged in new initiatives.

a. Proposal to Become Division

The Section continued to pursue its proposal to become a Division of the Bar, based on its strong belief that the solo and small firm practitioners of New Mexico (which constitute a significant majority of the Bar's membership) deserve the increased resources and improved representation within the Bar that Division status would provide. The Section's proposal was denied by the BBC at its June 2020 meeting.

b. Listserv

The Section's listserv continued to see regular use by Section members to ask questions, network, and assist each other.

c. "Roundtable" Networking Events

The Section's Interaction Committee moved its "roundtable" networking events online. Roundtables are currently being held through GoToMeeting on at least one Friday morning every month. Topics for 2020 have included marketing for solo/small firms, choice of entity structure and tax planning, and pro bono representation. Guest speakers have included the Honorable Justice Shannon Bacon and CPA Michael Matsko.

d. CLEs

The Section held its 2020 Solo and Small Firm Institute on September 11. Presentations included "Employee Benefits: An Overview for the Solo and Small Firm Practitioner," "Retirement and Succession Planning for Solo and Small Firms," and "Ethics of Billing Practices." Attendees earned a maximum of 3.5 G and 1.5 E CLE credits.

The Section also developed a brief self-study series for 0.5 G credits called "[Remote Tech Series: Cellphones for Business, Email Faxing, and Document Management](#)." The series is intended to assist attorneys in modernizing and virtualizing important aspects of their practice.

e. Lunch Speakers

The Section moved its monthly lunch speaker series online through GoToMeeting. Speakers for 2020 included retired US Bankruptcy Court Judge Jim Starzynski regarding the effects of COVID-19 on small businesses, as well as Jerry Pacheco, President of the Border Industrial Association, regarding New Mexico's international trade situation and border activities.

f. Podcast

The Section sponsored and developed programming for two episodes of the Bar's new podcast, SBNM is Hear: "Let's Talk About Leveraging Culture in a Solo or Small Firm" and "Let's Talk About Your Client Funnel in a Solo or Small Firm." The podcast speakers were Section members George Weeth, Cindy Silva, and Chris Templeman, and the discussion was moderated by Deian McBryde.

5. Plans for 2021

The Section will continue its current programming, as well as continue to explore additional ways to provide value to its membership, under the leadership of incoming chair Deian McBryde.

6. Acknowledgments

Special thanks to Charles B. Gurd, Rebecca Mulcahy, Cindy Silva, and Deian McBryde for their hard work and involvement as committee chairs; Ian Bezpalko and Cindy Silva for serving as Budget Officer and Secretary respectively; and John Samore for coordinating the lunch speaker series and finding excellent speakers.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Isaac Emmanuel". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "I" and a long, sweeping underline.

Isaac Emmanuel
2020 Chair, Solo and Small Firm Section



**TRIAL PRACTICE SECTION
OF THE STATE BAR OF NEW MEXICO
2020 ANNUAL REPORT**

TO: Richard Spinello, Executive Director
Board of Bar Commissioners
State Bar of New Mexico

FROM: Carter B. Harrison IV
Chairperson of the Trial Practice Section

SUBJECT: Annual Report

DATE: November 19, 2020

As the Chair of the Section, this report is written on behalf of the Section, pursuant to Section 9.4 of the State Bar's bylaws, to petition the Board of Bar Commissioners to continue the section for an additional five years. The reasons why the Committee should be continued are as follows:

1. 2020 Board of Directors

As Chair, I have worked diligently to fill vacancies in the Board and update the Board's Bylaws to promote greater involvement in the Section by the board members and thereby create more programming for Section members and interest in non-members in joining the Section. The Board consists of the following persons, who represent multiple practice areas and live in various areas of the State:

- a. Carter Harrison, Chairman
- b. Breanna Contreras, Chairwoman-Elect
- c. Arlyn Crow, Past Chair
- d. Brock Benjamin, Treasurer
- e. Komal Stiver
- f. Tiffany Roach-Martin
- g. Leah Stevens-Black
- h. Jonathan Gardner
- i. Nicholas Hart

2. Activities/Action Items Undertaken

- a. Creation of a unique comprehensive Trial Database using newly available information from the Administrative Office of the Courts which provides detailed information concerning over 4,200 jury trials in civil and criminal jury cases in New Mexico's state courts since July 1, 2017, and gives information concerning claims/charges, presiding judge, and case outcomes for Trial Practice Section's membership to utilize information in their own practices. The Trial Database is available on the State Bar's website for its membership to easily access: <https://www.nmbar.org/Nmstatebar/About Us/Trial Practice/New Mexico Trial Database.aspx> It is the goal of the Section to continue to update this database to allow our membership to learn and benefit from additional information concerning its courts and judges.
- b. Working with the UNM Law School to facilitate smaller CLEs, brown-bag lunches, and social events (ultimately postponed due to COVID-19)
- c. Sponsoring the Gene Franchini N.M. High School Mock Trial Program's annual competition and travel to the nation competition (canceled at the last minute due to COVID-19)

3. Upcoming Activities/Action Items

- a. The Board has a December meeting to plan activities for next year, including pro bono service, creating a membership questionnaire to see how the Section can better serve its members, and to begin planning interesting CLE programming with one or more national speakers and state and federal judges.
- b. Incoming Board Chairwoman Breanna Contreras has previously partnered with Boards of other Sections to create dynamic CLE programming, including in December 2019 when she organized and facilitated a CLE program on behalf of the Young Lawyers Division and the Intellectual Property Law Section in Santa Fe, New Mexico called "Craft Brews and Creatives: The Hipster Side of Intellectual Property Law." The CLE presentations addressed the intersection of business and IP law associated with the craft brewery industry and was attended by more than 50 attorneys and non-attorney industry leaders in the craft brewing world. Chairwoman Contreras is looking forward to developing new CLE programming for the Trial Practice Section that speaks to the needs and desires of the Section's membership.

Pending or Previous Issues Requiring the Board of Bar Commissioners:

None

Activities/Action Items from Previous Years

Year 2019

- Daylong trial-practice CLE (expert witnesses)
- Brown-bag lunches

Year 2018

- Daylong trial-practice CLE (Gerry Spence's Trial College)
- Evening social events (3-4 in Albuquerque and 1 in Las Cruces)

Year 2017

- Daylong trial-practice CLE
- Supported the N.M. Bar Foundations First Annual Gold Classic Tournament
- Held Open House at the State Bar Center

Year 2016

- Daylong trial-practice CLE
- Organized barbeque at the UNM Law School
- Donated \$1,000 to the Gene Franchini New Mexico High School Mock Trial Program

Year 2015

- Conducted member survey
- Daylong trial-practice CLE
- CLE on "Whistleblower Suits: Theory & Practice" at Bench & Bar Conference in Colorado Springs

Respectfully submitted,

By: 

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Chairman, Trial Practice Section