

Official Publication of the State Bar of New Mexico

DIGITAL BAR BULLETIN

May 27, 2026 • Volume 65, No. 10



Untitled, by Jonathan Miller (see page 3)

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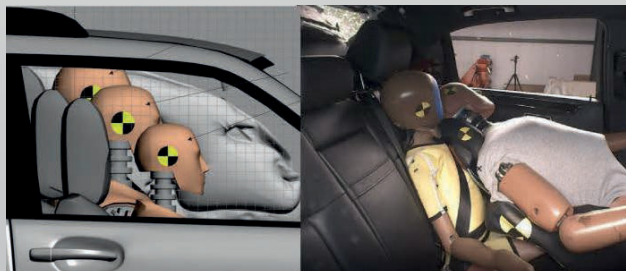
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DIGITAL BAR BULLETIN



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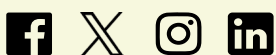
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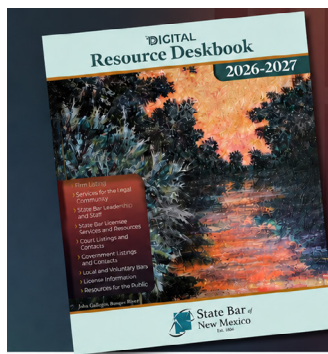
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About Cover Image and Artist: Jonathan Miller has been a member of the State Bar of New Mexico since 1988. Based in Albuquerque, he travels all over New Mexico and has appeared in every judicial district. He started taking pictures as a way to stretch to and from his travels to court. Jonathan is a graduate of Albuquerque Academy, Cornell University and the University of Colorado Law School. He does have an MFA through the American Film Institute. He recently took his first professional photography class through Cornell's online program. His photos have been displayed on Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn.

Spring 2026

New Attorney Swearing-In Ceremony



State Bar of New Mexico President Allison H. Block-Chavez congratulates and welcomes the newest admittees into the State Bar while stressing the importance that attorneys uphold the U.S. Constitution and the Rule of Law.



State Bar of New Mexico Young Lawyers Division Chair Taylor Duffney provided the newest admittees into the State Bar of New Mexico with more information about upcoming YLD initiatives and events.



The new attorneys raise their hands to officially be sworn into the State Bar of New Mexico.



Another view of the latest admittees to the State Bar of New Mexico as they recite the Attorney's Oath.

The Spring 2026 Swearing-In Ceremony was held on April 27 at the University of New Mexico Continuing Education Conference Center, where 67 new attorneys were sworn in as the newest licensees of the State Bar of New Mexico (“State Bar”). The ceremony was well attended by guests and distinguished members of New Mexico’s legal community.

Several legal programs and organizations, including the New Mexico Lawyers Assistance Program, hosted informational booths outside the main auditorium to provide attendees with resources and information about services available to members of the legal profession.

Featured speakers included New Mexico Supreme Court Chief Justice Julie J. Vargas, Senior Justice Michael E. Vigil, Justice C. Shannon Bacon, Justice David K. Thomson and Justice Briana H. Zamora. Additional remarks were given by State Bar of New Mexico President Allison H. Block-Chavez, State Bar of New Mexico Young Lawyers Division (“YLD”) Chair Taylor Duffney and State Bar of New Mexico Past President Benjamin I. Sherman.

During her remarks, State Bar President Allison H. Block-Chavez congratulated the new admittees, welcomed them into the legal profession and emphasized the importance of upholding the U.S. Constitution and the Rule of Law as they begin their careers. She stated: “Each of you came to the law for your own reasons - intellectual curiosity, a desire to advocate, a commitment to justice or a calling to serve. Regardless of the reason, what binds us all together across practice areas, backgrounds and generations is something larger: a shared commitment to uphold and defend the Constitution and the Rule of Law.”

President Block-Chavez also highlighted the importance of pro bono service and discussed the impact of the New Mexico State Bar Foundation’s Modest Means Helpline and Legal Resources for the Elderly Program on communities throughout New Mexico. She encouraged new attorneys to become involved with the State Bar through its committees and sections and invited attendees to participate in the 2026 Annual Meeting, which will be held Aug. 13–15 in Ignacio, Colorado.

State Bar of New Mexico

Annual Meeting 2026

**Aug. 13 – 15 • Sky Ute Casino Resort
Ignacio, Colorado (Only 20 minutes from Durango!)**

The Rule of Law: Protecting and Preserving Democracy

EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

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Introducing Our Distinguished National Speaker: Rashmi Airan



RASHMI AIRAN is a transformation expert, keynote speaker and unapologetic truth-teller who helps leaders confront the invisible prisons that keep them stuck. She shows how orthodoxies, unwritten ground rules, cultural norms and limiting beliefs quietly trap people in cycles of fear and uncertainty. Through her Rise Through It™ framework, Rashmi equips individuals and organizations to turn struggle into growth, clarity and freedom.

Her own journey from Ivy League lawyer and Wall Street deal maker to serving time in federal prison revealed the cost of ignoring blind spots and following unexamined rules. That experience became the blueprint for her work today. Rashmi has spoken to leaders at Coca-Cola, Comcast, Merck, Cardinal Health, Sotheby's and Hershey's, and her story has been featured by ABC, PBS, The Washington Post and The Wall Street Journal.

Beyond the stage, she is a proud mother of two college students, a community leader and an adventurer who believes that breaking free from both external and internal prisons opens the door to possibility.

REGISTER NOW at www.sbnm.org/AnnualMeeting2026



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BBC Teaser

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THE COVER IS HERE

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BAR BULLETIN

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We the People

**Tune In
to Part 2
on June 9!**



Season 6, Episode 1: *Trauma-Informed Care for the Legal Profession – Part 1*

In Part 1 of this episode, our speakers explore the critical role of trauma-informed care within the legal profession. Featuring Scott Patterson-Alatorre, Judge Mateo Page and Tenessa Eakins, the conversation examines how routine exposure to traumatic material can impact legal professionals' decision-making, emotional well-being and overall performance.

The speakers highlight a pervasive gap in recognition and support, noting that many in the legal field navigate the psychological weight of their work sometimes without adequate resources or acknowledgment. They discuss how cumulative exposure to trauma can contribute to decision fatigue, diminished empathy and burnout—ultimately affecting both practitioners and the clients they serve.

The episode also offers practical, actionable strategies, encouraging professionals to develop greater self-awareness of their emotional responses, implement containment techniques and establish clear boundaries between their professional and personal lives.

Listen for **FREE** at www.sbnm.org/LWBApodcast



Please email notices desired for publication to notices@sbnm.org.

COURT NEWS New Mexico Supreme Court Rule-Making Activity

To view recent Supreme Court rule-making activity, visit the Court's website at <https://supremecourt.nmcourts.gov>. To view all New Mexico Rules Annotated, visit New Mexico OneSource at <https://bit.ly/NM-Rules>.

Supreme Court Law Library

The Supreme Court Law Library is open to the legal community and public at large. The Library has an extensive legal research collection of resources. The Law Library is located in the Supreme Court Building at 237 Don Gaspar in Santa Fe. Building hours: Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m. (MT). Library Hours: Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-noon and 1-5 p.m. (MT). For more information call: 505-827-4850, email: libref@nmcourts.gov or visit: <https://lawlibrary.nmcourts.gov>.

First Judicial District Judicial Nominating Commission Announcement of Applications

Eight applications were received by the Judicial Selection Office as of 5 p.m. (MT) on May 20 for the First Judicial District Court vacancy due to the creation of an additional judgeship by the New Mexico Legislature. The First Judicial District Court Judicial Nominating Commission will reconvene on May 29, 9 a.m. (MT) at the First Judicial District Court, jury assembly room, located at 225 Montezuma Ave. Santa Fe, N.M. The Commission meeting will be open to the public. The applicants include **Christina L. G. Brennan, Lysette Romero Cordova, Phillip R. Livingston, Marc Mitchell Lowry, Brian Ernest McMath, Michael Nunez, Mel Dylan O'Reilly and Timothy Vasque.**

Bernalillo County Metropolitan Court Court Closure Notice

The Bernalillo County Metropolitan Court will be closed June 9 for the Court's Annual Training Conference. Misdemeanor Custody Arraignment Hearings

Professionalism Tip

With respect to parties, lawyers, jurors and witnesses:

I will give all cases deliberate, impartial and studied analysis and consideration.

will be held virtually starting at 9 a.m. (MT) with Felony First Appearance Hearings immediately following. The courthouse will reopen June 10.

STATE BAR NEWS Board of Bar Commissioners Appointment to NM Risk Management Advisory Board Vacancy

Pursuant to Section 15-7-4 NMSA 1978, the President of the Board of Bar Commissioners makes one appointment to the Risk Management Advisory Board. The appointment is for a four-year term, which starts on July 1, 2026. The Advisory Board is charged with, among other duties, reviewing insurance policies to be purchased by the Risk Management Division, professional services and consulting contracts and agreements, companies and agents that submit proposals, rules and regulations promulgated by the division, certificates of coverage to be issued by the division, and investments to be made by the division. Applicants must be licensed to practice law in New Mexico. Members who wish to apply to serve on the Board should send a letter of interest and brief resume to bbc@sbnm.org by June 24.

Historical Committee Presentation on Teddy Roosevelt and the Rough Riders

The Historical Committee of the State Bar of New Mexico will host a presentation on Teddy Roosevelt, the Rough Riders, and New Mexico statehood by Paul Hutton, Distinguished Professor Emeritus, Dept. of history, University of New Mexico, on July 15 from noon to 1 p.m. (MT). The presentation is available in-person at the State Bar Center or virtually, via Zoom (link to be sent the day prior to event). Lunch will be provided to those attending in-person. RSVP required.

<https://bit.ly/SBNMHistoricalCommittee71526>

Legal Well-Being New Mexico Lawyer Assistance Program (NM LAP)

Started in 1987, the New Mexico Lawyer Assistance Program focuses on confidential, professional and peer assistance to help individuals identify and address concerns related to alcohol and other drugs, depression, and other mental health or emotional challenges. NM LAP endeavors to improve the well-being of judges, lawyers, law students, paralegals, law clerks, and other legal staff through support, education and early intervention, with the goal of ensuring every legal professional is healthy and fit to practice.

Contact Us:

Phone/Text: 505-228-1948 | 505-420-8179
Email: nmlap@sbnm.org

NM LAP Committee Meetings

The NM LAP Committee's intention is to assist lawyers and judges who experience addiction and mental health issues that interfere with their personal lives and/or their ability to serve professionally in the legal field. Struggles include substance use/abuse, depression, anxiety, and other mental and emotional issues. This committee is a network of over 30 diverse state-wide New Mexico judges, attorneys, and law students. The NM LAP Committee has regular quarterly meetings to discuss the improvement of current efforts and initiatives and the expansion of well-being education, resources and services. The hybrid meeting schedule (in-person in Albuquerque and via Zoom online) is below.

2026/2027 NM LAP Committee Meetings:

- July 9, 3:30 to 5 p.m. (MT)
- Oct. 1, 3:30 to 5 p.m. (MT)
- Jan. 7, 2027, 3:30 to 5 p.m. (MT)

NM LAP Support Groups Off the Record Support Group

The Off the Record Support Group meets at 5:30 p.m. (MT) on Mondays by Zoom. The intention of this support group is the sharing of anything you are feeling, trying to manage or struggling with. It is intended as a way to connect with colleagues and to know you are not in this alone. Join the meeting via Zoom at <https://bit.ly/attorneysupportgroup>.

The Other NM Bar Meeting

The Other NM Bar Meeting is a CONFIDENTIAL traditional 12-step meeting for legal professionals who want to stop drinking and/or using other drugs. The meeting is open to all lawyers, law students, judges and others who work in the legal profession. All who are struggling with alcohol or drugs – whether you presently identify as being “in recovery” or not – are welcome to attend. The purpose of the meeting is to provide a safe and confidential space for people to support one another in our desire to stop drinking and using. We meet every Thursday night from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. (MT) at the First Unitarian Church on the SW corner of Comanche and Carlisle (3701 Carlisle Blvd NE, Albuquerque, N.M., 87110). The Other NM Bar Meeting is sponsored by the State Bar of New Mexico’s Lawyer Assistance Program and the Judicial Wellness Program. The meeting is in person and Zoom audio. For more information, please email NMLAP@sbnm.org.

EAP/Solutions Group

Brought to you by the New Mexico Lawyer Assistance Program, the Employee Assistance Program's services include up to four FREE counseling sessions/issue/year for ANY mental or behavioral health struggle. Counseling sessions are with a professionally licensed therapist. Other FREE services include management consultation, stress management education, critical incident stress debriefing, video counseling and 24x7 call center. Providers are located throughout the state and via tele-therapy. Upon calling, identify with NM LAP for access to EAP's services. Please note that all calls are confidential. Contact: 505-254-3555
www.solutionsbiz.com

New Mexico Well-Being Committee Meetings

The NM Well-Being Committee (WBC) was established in 2020 by the State Bar of New Mexico’s Board of Bar Commissioners. The NM WBC is a standing committee of key stakeholders that encompass different areas of the legal community and cover state-wide location. All members have a well-being focus and concern with respect to the NM legal community. It is this committee’s goal to examine and create initiatives centered around wellness. This includes mental, emotional, physical, and spiritual health and wellness within the New Mexico legal community. The WBC continues to follow the recommendations laid out in the 2017 National Task Force on Lawyer Well-Being.

2026 WBC Meeting Dates/Times:

- June 30, 10 a.m. (MT)
- July 28, 10 a.m. (MT)
- Aug. 25, 10 a.m. (MT)
- Sept. 29, 10 a.m. (MT)
- Oct. 27, 10 a.m. (MT)
- Nov. 24, 10 a.m. (MT)

UNM SCHOOL OF LAW Law Library Hours

The Law Library is happy to assist attorneys via chat, email or in person by appointment from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. (MT) Monday through Friday. Though the Library no longer has community computers for visitors to use, if you bring your own device when you visit, you will be able to access many of our online resources. For more information, please see <https://lawlibrary.unm.edu/>.

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OTHER NEWS Albuquerque City Council Notice of Recruitment of Applicants

The Albuquerque City Council is recruiting applicants for the Civilian Police Oversight Advisory Board (CPOAB), a five-member group that reviews investigations into complaints involving Albuquerque Police Department (APD) personnel, makes policy recommendations, and hears public comment at monthly meetings. Board members are appointed by the City Council for three-year terms. This is a meaningful way to contribute to public safety policy at the local level. Residents from all backgrounds who are interested in public safety, accountability, and who want to serve our City are encouraged to apply. For more information on the CPOA board and to apply, visit: <https://www.cabq.gov/cpoa/police-oversight-board>.

N.M. Legislative Council Service Legislative Research Library Hours

The Legislative Research Library at the Legislative Council Service is open to state agency staff, the legal community and the general public. We can assist you with locating documents related to the introduction and passage of legislation as well as reports to the legislature. Hours of operation are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (MT), with extended hours during legislative sessions. For more information and how to contact library staff, please visit: <https://bit.ly/NMLegisLibrary>.



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State Bar
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New Mexico
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Formal Reprimand

► From the Disciplinary Board of the New Mexico Supreme Court <https://nmdisboard.org>

From the Supreme Court of the State of New Mexico

Filing Date: May 18, 2026

No. S-1-SC-41366

IN THE MATTER OF KEVIN JOHN SANDERS, ESQ.

An Attorney Suspended From
the Practice of Law before the Courts of the State of New Mexico

ORDER

WHEREAS, this matter came on for consideration by the Court upon *petition for administrative suspension for failure to cooperate*, together with exhibits thereto, filed under Rule 17-207(B) NMRA, with no response having been filed and the time for doing so having expired;

WHEREAS, the Court having considered the foregoing and being sufficiently advised; Chief Justice Julie J. Vargas, Justice Michael E. Vigil, Justice C. Shannon Bacon, Justice David K. Thomson, and Justice Briana H. Zamora concurring;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that the petition is GRANTED; IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Respondent, Kevin John Sanders, is hereby ADMINISTRATIVELY SUSPENDED from the practice of law in New Mexico pursuant to Rule 17-207(B), effective immediately and until further order of the Court;

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Respondent shall remain under the jurisdiction of the disciplinary board for any pending or future proceedings under the Rules Governing Discipline;

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Respondent may apply for reinstatement in accordance with Rule 17-207(B)(5);

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Respondent shall comply with Rule 17-212 NMRA, as appropriate; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this suspension shall be published in the *Bar Bulletin*.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

FORMAL OPINION

Electronic decisions may contain computer-generated errors or other deviations from the official version filed by the Court of Appeals.

Filing Date: 4/28/2026

No. A-1-CA-41531

STATE OF NEW MEXICO,

Plaintiff-Appellee,

v.

ELIJAH S. KLUMB,

Defendant-Appellant.

**APPEAL FROM THE DISTRICT COURT
OF TAOS COUNTY**

Emilio Chavez, District Court Judge

Raúl Torrez, Attorney General

Felicity Strachan, Assistant Solicitor General
Santa Fe, NM

for Appellee

Bennett J. Baur, Chief Public Defender

Santa Fe, NM

Luz C. Valverde, Assistant Appellate Defender
Albuquerque, NM

for Appellant

► Introduction of Opinion

In this appeal, we review Defendant Elijah S. Klumb's convictions for crimes directed at his ex-girlfriend (Victim 1), her new boyfriend (Victim 2), and the house where she lived. Following a jury trial, Defendant was convicted of two counts of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon, contrary to NMSA 1978, Section 30-3-2(A) (1963); one count of shooting at a dwelling or occupied building, contrary to NMSA 1978, Section 30-3-8(A) (1993); and one count of arson (over \$20,000), contrary to NMSA 1978, Section 30-17-5(F) (2006). Defendant argues that his convictions for shooting at a dwelling and aggravated assault constitute double jeopardy and that the district court improperly applied firearm enhancements to his aggravated assault convictions under NMSA 1978, Section 31-18-16(A) (2020, amended 2022). We agree and remand to the district court to vacate Defendant's conviction for shooting at a dwelling, vacate the firearm enhancements applied to Defendant's convictions for aggravated assault with a deadly weapon, and to resentence Defendant consistent with this opinion.

Kristopher N. Houghton, Judge

WE CONCUR:

Zachary A. Ives, Judge

Jane B. Yohalem, Judge

To read the entire opinion, please visit the following link: <https://bit.ly/A-1-CA-41531>

FORMAL OPINION

Electronic decisions may contain computer-generated errors or other deviations from the official version filed by the Court of Appeals.

Filing Date: 5/20/2026

No. A-1-CA-41767

NEW MEXICO ETHICS WATCH,
Plaintiff-Appellee,

v.

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SERVICE,
as Records Custodian for the New
Mexico Legislature; and THE NEW
MEXICO LEGISLATURE,**
Defendants-Appellants.

**APPEAL FROM THE DISTRICT COURT
OF SANTA FE COUNTY**

Kathleen McGarry Ellenwood, District Court Judge

Daniel Yohalem
Santa Fe, NM

for Appellee

Hinkle Shanor LLP
Thomas M. Hnasko
Timothy B. Rode
David A. Lynn
Santa Fe, NM

for Appellants

► Introduction of Opinion

This case concerns a dispute over records that committees within the New Mexico Legislature submitted to Defendant Legislative Counsel Service (LCS) for use in drafting an appropriations bill. Plaintiff New Mexico Ethics Watch (Ethics Watch) argued to the district court that the records should be subject to public inspection pursuant to the Inspection of Public Records Act (IPRA), NMSA 1978, §§ 14-2-1 to -12 (1947, as amended through 2025). LCS insisted that the records were excepted from inspection under IPRA by the New Mexico Constitution, statute, and rule. The district court ordered LCS to produce the records and awarded attorneys' fees to Ethics Watch, pursuant to IPRA. We reverse and hold as follows. {2} The confidentiality statute under which LCS operates, NMSA 1978, § 2-3-13 (1951) (the Confidentiality Statute), is a valid exception to public inspection under IPRA's catchall exception, "as otherwise provided by law," Section 14-2-1(N). **View full PDF online.**

Kristopher N. Houghton, Judge

WE CONCUR:

Jennifer L. Attrep, Judge

Katherine A. Wray, Judge

To read the entire opinion, please visit the following link: <https://bit.ly/A-1-CA-41767>

MEMORANDUM OPINION

This decision of the New Mexico Court of Appeals was not selected for publication in the New Mexico Appellate Reports. Refer to Rule 12-405 NMRA for restrictions on the citation of unpublished decisions. Electronic decisions may contain computer-generated errors or other deviations from the official version filed by the Court of Appeals.

No. A-1-CA-41235
State of New Mexico

v.

Esteban Cereceres Alvarez

Introduction of Opinion

Defendant appeals his convictions after a bench trial for aggravated battery (great bodily harm), NMSA 1978, § 30-3-5(C) (1969); embezzlement (over \$500), NMSA 1978, § 30-16-8(A), (D) (2007, amended 2025); and bribery or intimidation of a witness, NMSA 1978, § 30-24-3 (1997). Defendant challenges the sufficiency of the evidence to support each of these convictions and argues that (1) for aggravated battery (great bodily harm), the evidence did not establish that Victim's injuries rose to the level of great bodily harm; (2) for embezzlement, the State did not establish that Defendant converted the car for his own use, had the requisite fraudulent intent, or that the value of the car exceeded \$500; and (3) for bribery or intimidation of a witness, that Victim did not credibly testify. We affirm.

Katherine A. Wray, Judge

WE CONCUR:

Jacqueline R. Medina, Chief Judge

Zachary A. Ives, Judge

To read the entire opinion,
please visit:
<https://bit.ly/A-1-CA-41235>

No. A-1-CA-42339
State of New Mexico

v.

Jeremy Jacob Garcia

Introduction of Opinion

Defendant Jeremy Jacob Garcia appeals his convictions of second degree murder, contrary to NMSA 1978, Section 30-2-1(B) (1994), and aggravated assault (deadly weapon), contrary to NMSA 1978, Section 30-3-2(A) (1963). Defendant maintains: (1) multiple errors in the jury instructions caused juror confusion; (2) the district court improperly allowed a detective to describe and interpret video evidence; (3) the prosecutor engaged in misconduct; and (4) the cumulative effect of the errors deprived Defendant of a fair trial. We affirm.

Megan P. Duffy, Judge

WE CONCUR:

J. Miles Hanisee, Judge

Shammara H. Henderson, Judge

To read the entire opinion,
please visit:
<https://bit.ly/A-1-CA-42339>

No. A-1-CA-41934

Jean Boyle

v.

B-Well, LLC

Introduction of Opinion

The district court dismissed Plaintiff Jean Boyle's complaint for medical negligence against Defendants B-Well, LLC and Sheila Bardwell on summary judgment after striking Plaintiff's expert on the standard of care. On appeal, Plaintiff challenges both rulings. We affirm.

Megan P. Duffy, Judge

WE CONCUR:

Jacqueline R. Medina, Chief Judge

Jane B. Yohalem, Judge

To read the entire opinion,
please visit:
<https://bit.ly/A-1-CA-41934>

MEMORANDUM OPINION

This decision of the New Mexico Court of Appeals was not selected for publication in the New Mexico Appellate Reports. Refer to Rule 12-405 NMRA for restrictions on the citation of unpublished decisions. Electronic decisions may contain computer-generated errors or other deviations from the official version filed by the Court of Appeals.

No. A-1-CA-42152
State of New Mexico
v.
Giovani Ruiz

Introduction of Opinion

Defendant Giovani Ruiz was convicted of one count of first degree kidnapping (Count 1), contrary to NMSA 1978, Section 30-4-1 (2003), four counts of second degree criminal sexual penetration resulting in personal injury (Counts 2-5), contrary to NMSA 1978, Section 30-9-11(E)(3) (2009), and one count of fourth degree criminal sexual contact resulting in personal injury (Count 6), contrary to NMSA 1978, Section 30-9-12(C) (1993). Defendant appeals, arguing (1) error in two of the jury instructions, (2) hearsay testimony was improperly admitted, (3) prosecutorial misconduct occurred during voir dire and closing argument, and (4) the cumulative impact of multiple errors resulted in the deprivation of a fair trial. **View full PDF online.**

Megan P. Duffy, Judge
WE CONCUR:
J. Miles Hanisee, Judge
Zachary A. Ives, Judge

To read the entire opinion,
please visit:
<https://bit.ly/A-1-CA-42152>

No. A-1-CA-42429
Cox River Ranch, LLC
v.
Sean Perez

Introduction of Opinion

After a bench trial, the district court denied the motion to compel arbitration filed by Defendants Zia Agricultural Consulting, LLC, Sean Perez (Perez), and Narciso Perez (collectively, Defendants), based on the district courts' determination that the document containing the arbitration provision was obtained by fraud in the factum and therefore void. Perez appeals pursuant to the Uniform Arbitration Act, NMSA 1978, §§ 44-7A-1 to -32 (2001), and argues that the district court did not make findings that establish fraud in the factum as a matter of law and that the evidence did not show justifiable reliance, intentional misrepresentation, or the requisite deceptive conduct. We affirm.

Katherine A. Wray, Judge
WE CONCUR:
Shammara H. Henderson, Judge
Gerald E. Baca, Judge

To read the entire opinion,
please visit:
<https://bit.ly/A-1-CA-42429>

No. A-1-CA-42688
Children, Youth and Families
Department
v.
Frank W.

Introduction of Opinion

Frank W. (Father), appeals the termination of his parental rights to his three biological children (Children), pursuant to NMSA 1978, Section 32A-4-28(B)(2), (3) (2022). For the reasons that follow, we reverse.

Jacqueline R. Medina, Chief Judge
WE CONCUR:
J. Miles Hanisee, Judge
Kristopher N. Houghton, Judge

To read the entire opinion,
please visit:
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DISPOSITIONAL ORDER

This decision of the New Mexico Court of Appeals was not selected for publication in the New Mexico Appellate Reports. Refer to Rule 12-405 NMRA for restrictions on the citation of unpublished decisions. Electronic decisions may contain computer-generated errors or other deviations from the official version filed by the Court of Appeals.

Filing Date: 4/20/2026

No. A-1-CA-42405

**OKINI RECORDS and IVAN
ALFREDO HERNANDEZ CARDOZA,**

Plaintiffs-Appellants,

v.

**ALDO ALFONSO TRUJILLO CALLEJA;
GODKING PUBLISHING, INC.; RB
MUSIC; RICARDO BOBADILLA; AD
RECORDS; and CARLOS DE LA TORRE,**

Defendants-Appellees.

**APPEAL FROM THE DISTRICT COURT
OF BERNALILLO COUNTY**

Daniel E. Ramczyk, District Court Judge

Law Office of Augustine M. Rodriguez, LLC
Augustine M. Rodriguez
Albuquerque, NM

for Appellants

Eric Sirotkin
Santa Fe, NM

for Appellees

► Dispositional Order

This matter is before the Court on Plaintiffs Okini Records and Ivan Alfredo Hernandez Cardoza's appeal from the district court's entry of a directed verdict against Plaintiffs on all counts at the conclusion of a two-day bench trial. Plaintiffs raise six claims of error on appeal. For the reasons that follow, we affirm.

Megan P. Duffy, Judge

WE CONCUR:

Jennifer L. Attrep, Judge

Katherine A. Wray, Judge

To read the entire dispositional order, please visit the following link: <https://bit.ly/A-1-CA-42405>

DISPOSITIONAL ORDER

This decision of the New Mexico Court of Appeals was not selected for publication in the New Mexico Appellate Reports. Refer to Rule 12-405 NMRA for restrictions on the citation of unpublished decisions. Electronic decisions may contain computer-generated errors or other deviations from the official version filed by the Court of Appeals.

Filing Date: 4/22/2026

No. A-1-CA-41697

ARTHUR P. CROWDER,

Petitioner-Appellee,

v.

PAULA M. CROWDER,

Respondent-Appellant.

**APPEAL FROM THE DISTRICT COURT
OF DOÑA ANA COUNTY**

Mark D. Standridge, District Court Judge

Batley Family Law

L. Helen Bennett

Albuquerque, NM

for Appellee

Thomas C. Montoya

Albuquerque, NM

for Appellant

► **Dispositional Order**

Respondent Paula Crowder (Wife) appeals the district court's order denying her request for spousal support from Petitioner Arthur Crowder (Husband). For the reasons that follow, we reverse the district court's order denying spousal support and remand for further proceedings consistent with this dispositional order.

Gerald E. Baca, Judge

WE CONCUR:

Jacqueline R. Medina, Chief Judge

Jane B. Yohalem, Judge

To read the entire dispositional order, please visit the following link: <https://bit.ly/A-1-CA-41697>

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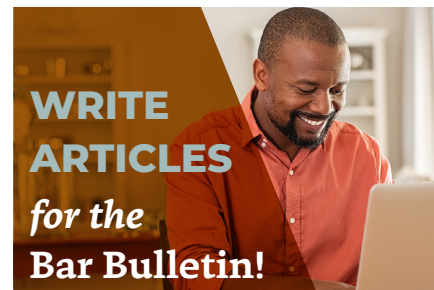
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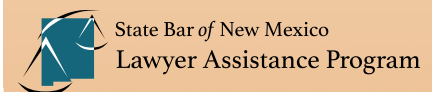
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**State Bar of
New Mexico**

Est. 1886

Schedule a tour:

▶ guestservices@sbnm.org
505-797-6070

State Bar Center
5121 Masthead St NE
Albuquerque, N.M. 87109
www.sbnm.org/StateBarCenter

Meetings & Events

at the State Bar Center



Hold your next meeting or event in a secure, professional setting designed for focus and flexibility, with expert on-site support.

Versatile Event Spaces:

- ▶ 150-seat auditorium
- ▶ Multimedia boardrooms
- ▶ Conference rooms
- ▶ Classrooms
- ▶ Reception Area



Everything You Need — On Site:

- ▶ Reliable hybrid & livestreaming with on-site technical support
- ▶ Flexible room and seating configurations
- ▶ Dedicated on-site guest services
- ▶ Drink and snack service available; preferred caterer allowed
- ▶ Secure facility with controlled access and ample parking

From conferences and seminars to mediations, receptions and networking events, the State Bar Center provides the space and support to deliver a successful event.

*Now Booking —
Reserve Your Date*

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