



State Bar of
New Mexico

Est. 1886

SBNM Law Student Newsletter

*Connecting future practitioners to the State Bar of New Mexico
and our vast legal network!*



› Did you know?

When you join the State Bar, you become a
Young Lawyers Division member!

Most of our YLD events are open to law student members.
To stay up to date on all of our goings-on, sign up for a free State Bar membership here:
www.sbnm.org/Member-Services/Law-Student-Application

It's free! You can also follow us on social media: @NewMexicoYLD.

April 2021

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You have almost made it!

This year certainly has not gone like any of us had expected. And while a mostly virtual world may not have been the ideal way to spend this academic year (and some of the last one), you are nearly across the finish line, which is something to be immensely proud of.

Law school is *hard* and it is stressful enough without having to do it during a global pandemic. The SBNM YLD has heard your concerns, and we want to remind you that we are here for you. Last fiscal year we were privileged to be able to give money to the UNM law students' mental health services and emergency funds and provide grocery gift cards to students in need.

The SBNM YLD also maintained our law student mentorship program this year, and we had a higher turnout for virtual mock interviews in January 2021 than we did for the in-person session in January 2020. Information on the rest of our UNM-related programs is below.

Save the Date: We hope to have an **in-person** Western States Regional Summit in Santa Fe this fall, Nov. 4-7! There will be law-student specific programming and reduced registration rates for law students, so save the date, and stay tuned for more information.

Feel free to reach out to me with any questions, concerns, feedback, or guidance!

› **Shasta N. Inman**
2021 YLD Chair
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State Bar of New Mexico
Young Lawyers Division



YLD Events

UNM School of Law Programming

The YLD coordinates volunteer attorneys to provide professional and career development support and opportunities for you. These initiatives include resume review panels, mock interviewing, mentorship programs, speed-networking and wellness support through #Fit2Practice.

YLD Summer Fellowship

The YLD is proud to offer a fellowship award to a UNMSOL student committed to working in public interest over the summer, when they might not be otherwise able to due to financial constraints. The program is intended to encourage law students to pursue a career in public interest law in New Mexico. The Young Lawyers Division will award up to \$3,000 to the accepted applicant.

SBNM Judicial Clerkship Program

The Judicial Clerkship Program is a collaboration between the New Mexico Supreme Court, the State Bar's Committee on Diversity in the Legal Profession, and the YLD. Selected participants receive a stipend, partner with a YLD member for mentorship, participate in a professional development bootcamp and work closely with a New Mexico supreme court justice and a court of appeals judge in a summer clerkship. Program applications are open to underrepresented students (which may include, but is not limited to, members of racial or ethnic minorities, women, students with disabilities, students who identify as LGBTQ+, and students who are economically disadvantaged).

#Fit2Practice

#Fit2practice is more than just yoga and 5k runs. The program aims to assist young lawyers and law students with establishing and maintaining their mental and physical health by identifying and managing circumstances unique to the legal profession. Positive self-care is one of the most unselfish things (future) lawyers can do! Topics covered by the YLD's #Fit2Practice programming include mental and physical health, substance use issues and student loan debt.

› What I Wish I Knew About...

When you join the State Bar, you become a Young Lawyers Division member!

...Bar Prep

“Scheduling regular breaks to exercise, spend time with family, and do an activity other than memorizing legal rules is essential for maintaining your sanity. It will keep you, and your loved ones, happier over the course of the two months that you will spend studying. Have days where no one says a word about rules of evidence or civil procedure.” – D. Fogg, 2019

“I wish I knew to trust in my own abilities. I wish I knew not to compare myself to my peers and the progress they were making studying. It’s important to find support, but don’t get lost in comparison.” – H. Bell, 2016

...Landing that first job

“Law school doesn’t teach you how to be a lawyer. The real learning starts when you get your first job and realize all the practical aspects that law school didn’t cover. This is okay. Don’t get discouraged if you don’t know it all right away.” – 2018 Graduate

“I went into work thinking deadlines would control everything. I wish I had known that everything is not deadline driven, and self-imposed deadlines are not always helpful or necessary.” – H. Pavlides, 2020

...Work-Life Balance

“The practice of law is a bottomless pit and will devour as much time as you pour into it. There will always be one more page of discovery to review, case to research, or response to file. But, death comes for us all one day and on their death bed, no one wishes that they had listened to more audio recordings rather than spending time with their loved ones or enjoying their hobbies. Make sure to clock out at quitting time and develop a routine to disengage your mind from work”. – D. Fogg, 2019

“It takes time to ease into practice. It didn’t happen quickly for me. Five years in and I finally feel like I have a more holistic view of the law and how to advise my clients.” – H. Bell, 2016

...Life as an Attorney

“If you hate law school you won’t necessarily hate being a lawyer, and vice versa. There are tons of ways to put a law degree to good use”. – 2020 Graduate

“I am still learning and finding my own style of practice. As a young woman who often gets mistaken for a teenager, I am far from resembling the stereotypical lawyer. In trial practice class in law school, I could not pull off any of the techniques we were taught for giving opening arguments or cross examining a witness. I was “robotic” and “unnatural” until I finally threw the techniques out the window and did it my own way (which was successful). Without my newfound self-compassion, I would easily think that I’m just not cut out for this profession. But I’m already here and I like who I am--this is what a lawyer looks like.” – N. Cabrera-Mazzeo, 2020

› SBNM is Hear Podcast



The *SBNM is Hear* podcast is the official podcast for the State Bar of New Mexico. Created to connect our members throughout our large state, it has become a particularly useful resource for our now-virtual world. Be sure to tune in to our “What I Wish I Knew” episodes to hear from different attorneys reflecting on their careers, and check out our other topics as you proceed in your journey from law student to lawyer!

Ep. 2 & 3: Ernestina Cruz, Cruz Law Firm, SBNM 2020 President

Hear Tina’s experience as a first-generation attorney from northern New Mexico, and the lessons she learned from her first court experience.

Ep. 4: Tomas Garcia, Modrall Sperling Law Firm, SBNM YLD 2017 Chair

Tomas discusses his experience working in larger firms directly out of law school, clerking for the late Chief Justice Daniels, and staying grounded in a stressful profession with help from his faith.

Ep. 7: Aja Brooks, Second Judicial District Self Help and Dispute Resolution, New Mexico State Bar Foundation 2021 President

Aja shares her passion for public interest law and her experiences working with legal services programs, as well as her perspective as a Black woman in the legal field and a new mom.

Ep. 11: Hear All About It: Judicial Clerkship with NM Justice David K. Thomson

Hear directly from a judicial leader on the importance of clerkships and how to make yourself stand out. Two young lawyers also share their clerking experiences.

Coming June 2021

What I Wish I Knew with Carla Martinez, Second Judicial Court, SBNM 2021 President



Spotify®



YouTube

› Sections

When you join the State Bar, you become can join two Sections for free!



Membership in a section can gain you early access to practice area-targeted resources, networking with your future colleagues, and provide leadership experience by participating on their boards. You can change your section membership on an annual basis!

Visit sbnm.org/leadership to learn more about each group!



› Serve as a Student Liaison Board Member

Interested in making connections with practitioners before you graduate? Want to add some leadership experience to your CV? Serve as a liaison to one of the section boards!

The New Mexico legal community is tight knit, everyone knows everyone. Serving as a liaison can help you begin to foster relationships around the state. The section boards love to have student voices in their discussions and want to help you thrive in your career, wherever you decide to practice.

Obligations typically include attending board meetings (monthly or every other month depending upon the board), updating the other directors on law school updates and/or law student group initiatives.

If you are interested in serving as liaison to a section board, email Member Services at memberservices@sbnm.org.

› Committees

When you join the State Bar, you can join up to two Committees!



Committees serve to strengthen the profession, provide resources to members, improve public understanding of legal issues and process or increase access to the legal system. Those listed below do not include all of the SBNM's committees but are the ones with the most aligned interest and participation of law students.

Alternative Methods of Dispute Resolution (ADR)

Composed of mediators and attorneys who further support the community by expanding practical access to such methods of dispute resolution.

Historical Committee

Holds an annual presentation that is free to all members of the State Bar. While not all presentations are law related, the topics range from educational to entertaining.

Legal Services and Programs Committee (LSAP)

Facilitates cooperation and coordination of the legal services provided by various segments of the State Bar and increases public access to the civil justice system.

Well-Being Committee

Examine and create initiatives centered around wellness that includes mental, emotional, physical, and spiritual health and substance use struggles within the New Mexico legal community.

Committee on Diversity in the Legal Profession (CDLP)

Aim to strengthen diversity and inclusion of the incoming generation of lawyers.

Committee on Women and the Legal Profession (CWLP)

Seeks to address issues adversely affecting female lawyers and judges and promotes systemic changes and opportunities to advance the role of women in the legal profession.

› Legal Education



FREE, FREE, FREE! Got your attention yet?

All law student members receive any SBNM or New Mexico State Bar Foundation continuing legal education courses for free! There is no cap or limit to how many or what type of CLE's you can take. Enjoy this perk, as these pesky CLE's can cost a pretty penny once you are barred and practicing! To view our catalog and register for courses, visit sbnm.org/cle-events.

› Clerkships

ARTURO JARAMILLO CLERKSHIP PROGRAM



ARTURO L. JARAMILLO
Summer Law Clerk Program

Arturo Jaramillo, the first Hispanic president of the State Bar of New Mexico, started the Summer Law Clerk Program in 1993. The program's goal was to offer law students of diverse backgrounds the opportunity to clerk in legal settings that provide a foundation for the students' law careers. Over the years, more than 300 first-year law students

have participated in the program, working in the best legal environments in New Mexico.

The State Bar's Committee on Diversity in the Legal Profession is focused on maintaining the strength of the program and its positive influence on the diversity of the New Mexico bar.

Every year, the attorney panelists are impressed and inspired by all the students who interview for the program.

› *Congratulations to the 2021 Arturo Jaramillo Students:*

Alyssa Aragon	Akram Hernandez	Yoselin Martin	Cheyenne Trujillo
Andrew Conticelli	Alexandra Honican	Alexis Mena	Gretchen Wendlandt
Shylah Gonzalez	Emmalee Johnston	Barbara Ogushi-Rivera	Brian Yardman-Frank
Emilee Greenhouse	Victoria Lovato	Santiago Piza-Cossio	

JUDICIAL CLERKSHIP PROGRAM



The purpose of the Judicial Clerkship Program is to provide opportunities to students who are members of traditionally underrepresented groups in the legal profession, particularly within the judiciary. In addition, it is the purpose of the program to prepare individuals with the tools necessary to obtain judicial clerkships. The program provides opportunities to underrepresented students, which may include, but is not limited to, members of racial or ethnic minorities, women, identify as LGBTQIA+, students with disabilities and students who are economically disadvantaged.

Leading up to the summer clerkship, students participate in workshops with New Mexico justices, justices from other states, review resumes and covers letters, and work with attorneys who clerked early in their careers. Students will spend half of their summer with the New Mexico Court of Appeals and the other half with the New Mexico Supreme Court.

For the inaugural program, Justice Thomson, Bacon and Vargas from the New Mexico Supreme Court and Judge Henderson, Duffy and Ives from the New Mexico Court of Appeals will be participating.

› *Congratulations to the inaugural class of this program:*

Lauren Chavez	Amber Morning Star Byars (U of Az.)
Denisee Enriquez	Huong Nguyen
Cody Jeff	Natalie Saing

> Judges and Lawyers Assistance Program



State Bar of New Mexico Judges and Lawyers Assistance Program

The New Mexico Lawyers and Judges Assistance Program is a free service for all members of the New Mexico bench and bar and law students. As law students, you are valued members of the legal community who are eligible to access services provided by the New Mexico Judges and Lawyers Assistance Program. NMJLAP offers confidential professional and peer assistance to help you identify and address problems with alcohol and other drugs, depression, and other mental health/emotional disorders.

For Students in Recovery - Peer Advisor Model

An individual in recovery helping another creates a powerful relationship that can have a tremendous impact on the healing process. An attorney who has “been there” can ease the initial fears of law students and provide unique support and direction. Call NMJLAP at 505-228-1948 for more information and referrals to peer advisors.



The
Solutions
Group

The Solutions Group EAP - Get help and support for yourself, your family and your employees.

The Employee Assistance Program is a FREE service offered by NMJLAP. Services include up to four FREE counseling sessions per issue per year for ANY mental health, addiction, relationship conflict, anxiety and/or depression issue. 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.

To access this service call 866-254-3555 and identify with NMJLAP.

› “What a Healthy Lawyer Looks Like”



It is time for a **CULTURE CHANGE** in the legal profession! Judges, lawyers, and law students are some of the most hard-working professionals. This way of living is sustainable for a short while. However, soon you will ask yourself, “Is there more than this? Why am I doing this? Where’s the joy? How do I make a living at this long term **AND** be happy....or, at least, content?” We do not claim to have the answer for you, but we can give you pointers and guidance along the way such that you can **CHOOSE** your path. The path that helps you find clarity, meaning, tools to create gratitude and patience and an overall sense of **WHOLE** human being peace and flow. Fluffy? I think not! Intriguing? For sure! Imperative? Definitely!

“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**.”

Each month, we will be releasing an article and podcast episode about one well-being topic!

Well-Being topics and upcoming air dates for articles and podcast episodes —

› April 28:
**Well-Being for
Law Students**

› May 26:
**Discussion
on Sleep**

› June 23:
**Hobbies – What are
you doing for fun?**

Legal Well-Being in Action Podcast Series Overview:

Find us on:



Spotify®



YouTube



Does self-care and lawyering co-exist? How do I integrate my personal life and legal professional life so that I find meaning and purpose in both? If I start to feel burned out or overwhelmed as a legal professional would I know? Why does lawyering have some of the highest anxiety, depression, and addiction rates vs other professions and what can I do to make sure I stay mentally, emotionally and physically healthy? How can I be a great lawyer and human being? This legal well-being podcast series will feature leaders of wellness in your community, answer these questions, and more!

Tune in to find out how you can be mentally, emotionally, physically and spiritually strong while being a good lawyer.

Stay tuned for an episode just for law students premiering on April 28!