

# Board of Bar Commissioners Election Notice 2024



State Bar of  
New Mexico  
Est. 1886

Notice is hereby given for the 2024 State Bar of New Mexico Board of Bar Commissioners election. Pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 24-101 NMRA, the Board of Bar Commissioners is the elected governing board of the State Bar of New Mexico (State Bar).

The five (5) commissioner positions described below expire December 31, 2024, and will be filled by this election. The positions are for three-year terms that run from January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2027. The election opens November 8, 2024, and closes at noon on December 2, 2024.

Nominations of State Bar active status members to fill the vacancies shall be made by petition of any ten (10) or more active status members of the State Bar who are in good standing and whose principal place of practice (address of record) is in the respective district. Members of the State Bar may nominate (sign a petition for) more than one candidate for a position.

Nominations must be made by completing the form at the link below or by completing the form on the next page. The nominee is responsible for collecting all nomination petitions and submitting them to the State Bar in either a single email or a single mailed packet **no later than 5:00 p.m. MT on October 9, 2024. Individual emails sent directly to the State Bar by a petitioner will not be counted.**

[www.sbnm.org/BBCnomination2024](http://www.sbnm.org/BBCnomination2024)

## Primary Responsibilities of the Board of Bar Commissioners:

- › Carry out the organization's mission and purposes and the current Strategic Plan.
- › Ensure effective organization planning and evaluate the State Bar's programs and operations in line with the strategic plan and budget.
- › Ensure financial accountability for the organization.
- › Promote the programs and activities of the State Bar and communicate regularly with constituents regarding State Bar activities.
- › Attend Board meetings (up to six per year), including the Annual Meeting of the State Bar and a full Board Retreat every three years.
- › Establish and enforce bylaws and policies.
- › Represent the State Bar at local bar-related meetings and events.
- › Select, support, and annually evaluate the Executive Director.
- › Serve on internal Board Committees and Supreme Court committees and boards.
- › Support the New Mexico State Bar Foundation's mission and purposes.

Pursuant to the State Bar Bylaws, following are the names of the commissioners whose terms are expiring and their districts from which they were elected:

### First Judicial District – One Position

*Los Alamos, Rio Arriba and Santa Fe Counties*

- › Currently held by Olga Serafimova

### Second Judicial District – Two Positions

*Bernalillo County*

- › One currently held by Tomas J. Garcia
- › One currently held by Benjamin I. Sherman  
(ineligible for reelection)

### Fourth and Eighth Judicial Districts – One Position

*Colfax, Guadalupe, Mora, San Miguel, Taos and Union Counties*

- › Currently held by Brett Phelps

### Out-of-State District – One Position

*Principal place of practice (address of record) in New Mexico*

- › Currently held by Sean M. FitzPatrick

### Send all nomination petitions in one packet to:

Executive Director Richard B. Spinello, Esq.

State Bar of New Mexico

PO Box 92860, Albuquerque, NM 87199-2860

5121 Masthead St. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87109

or Email: [bbc@sbnm.org](mailto:bbc@sbnm.org)

— PETITIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY 5 P.M. MT, OCT. 9, 2024 —

Direct inquiries to 505-797-6038 or [kbecker@sbnm.org](mailto:kbecker@sbnm.org).