

**STATE BAR OF NEW MEXICO
COMMITTEE ON WOMEN AND THE LEGAL PROFESSION
REPORT FOR PERIOD FROM JANUARY 1, 2010 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2010**

During the period covered by this Report, the Committee on Women and the Legal Profession (the "Committee") held regular meetings on January 20, March 17, July 21, September 15 and November 17. The Committee also had a retreat on May 1. An average of nine Committee members attended each of the meetings and actively participated in one or more projects of the Committee.

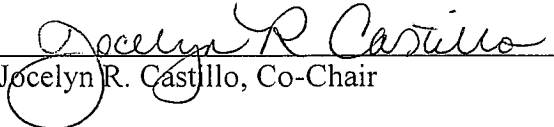
During the period covered by this Report, the Committee engaged in the following projects and activities:

1. **Ask Pat Column:** This is a column that appears as a regular feature in the *Bar Bulletin*. It is a question-and-answer format that responds to issues of particular concern to women attorneys. Committee members published one Ask Pat column in the Bar Bulletin during 2010. The topic of the column was job hunting in a tough economy. The column was published on December 6, 2010. The Committee intends to prepare and publish additional Ask Pat Columns in 2011.
2. **Gender Neutral Language Legislation:** The Committee continued in its efforts to enact legislation it drafted which would require that all newly enacted and revised state laws be gender-neutral. In 2009 the legislation was passed in the House and received a due pass in every Senate committee to which it was assigned. Unfortunately, the session expired before the Legislation made it to the Senate floor. This year, the Committee sought and received endorsements of the legislation from the Board of Bar Commissioners and the Young Lawyers Division. The Committee intends to have the legislation introduced again in the 2011 legislative session.
3. **Support Group Meetings for Lawyers Who Are Parents:** During 2010, the Committee held two luncheon meetings of its support group for lawyers who are parents. The first luncheon, held on February 25th, featured Personal Trainer Laura Bresson and Biking Enthusiast/Committee Member Diane Albert. The topic of the luncheon was "How to Incorporate Exercise into a Busy Schedule." The second luncheon, held on June 17, 2010, featured Certified Professional Organizer Miriam Ortiz y Pino. The topic of the luncheon was "How to Simplify Your Life by Organizing Your Home and Office." Both of the luncheons were very well-attended, including many attendees who are not members of the Committee. The Committee intends to continue with a regular series of lunch meetings with speakers on topics relating to managing a legal career and successful parenting.
4. **Professional Attire Program and Professional Clothing Closet:** Each year the Committee hosts a larger event in the fall. In the past, this has been a family event at the Zoo or Aquarium for members of the Bar and their Children. This year, the Committee teamed up with the Women's Law Caucus and the New Mexico Women's Bar Association to present a Professional Attire Program at the Student Union Building on

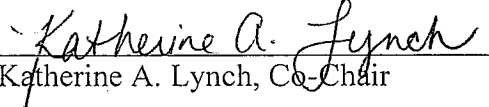
the UNM campus. The program, held on October 26th, was entitled the “Dos and Don’ts of Professional Attire” The program included lunch, a fashion show, and a panel discussion on appropriate professional attire for attorneys. The panel was moderated by Nicole Brady of KOB-TV Eyewitness News 4. Panelists included U.S. Magistrate Judge Alan C. Torgerson from the U.S. District Court; Judge Denise Barela Shepherd from Second Judicial District Court and Bernalillo County Metropolitan Court Judge Sandra Engel. There were over thirty-five attendees at the program, including law students. The program was videotaped and DVDs of the program are available to anyone who is interested in viewing it.

The Professional Attire Program was also the kickoff event for the Committee’s “Professional Clothing Closet.” Attendees at the luncheon and other members of the Bar have donated their new and gently used professional clothing, which is now available to law students and members of the State Bar who are in need of professional attire.

5. **Holiday Reception and Outstanding Advocacy for Women Award:** The Committee hosted a Holiday Reception at the Sheraton Uptown on December 2nd. Committee Members, members of the State Bar and law students were invited. During the reception, the Committee presented the 2010 Justice Pamela Minzner Outstanding Advocacy for Women Award to Judge Linda Vanzi of the New Mexico Court of Appeals. The award recognizes an individual who has provided outstanding legal assistance to women who are underrepresented or underserved or advocating for causes that will ultimately benefit and/or further the rights of women. Judge Vanzi was selected by the Committee as the recipient of the 2010 award because in her election campaign to remain on the Court of Appeals, she campaigned with dignity and class, which was remarkable in an election year where smear campaigns were commonplace. Judge Vanzi has also been very generous in sharing her time and talents by speaking often to groups of young attorneys and helping others along the path in their legal careers.



Jocelyn R. Castillo, Co-Chair



Katherine A. Lynch, Co-Chair