

# SBNM

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## PUBLIC RESOURCES

by Veronica Cordova, Director of Operations

The State Bar serves the public with resources, information, publications, educational programs, referral programs, workshops and more. Explore what is offered to the public and see how you may benefit from these services.

- **Access to Justice** encourages pro bono work by attorneys.
- **Client-Attorney Assistance Program (CAAP)** helps resolve client complaints and offers fee arbitration services, peer assistance services and assistance to lawyers

with alcohol or substance abuse problems.

- **Client Protection** helps reimburse losses caused by the dishonest conduct of lawyers.
- **Dispute Mediation** resolves disputes between consumer and businesses. Volunteer attorney mediators and arbitrators are assigned cases.
- **Educational Programs:** The *Classroom Law Project* pairs volunteer lawyers with teachers to promote the law. The *Annual High School Essay Contest* encourages an appreciation for the law, and *Know the Law* informs New Mexico youth about the law in preparation for their adults lives.
- **Elderly Programs** include referrals, workshops, publications and the *Senior Legal Handbook*.
- **Legal Service Providers:** a list of entities that serve the public on legal matters.
- **Publications/Forms** concerning education.
- **Referrals** include elderly referrals, Bridge to Justice referrals, legal assistance to military personnel, and provider referrals.
- **Workshops** include consumer debt, estate planning, and elderly workshops.

Members of the profession are encouraged to visit the site and, as always, comments and suggestions to continually improve the site are welcome. Call (505) 797-6039 or e-mail [vcordova@nmbar.org](mailto:vcordova@nmbar.org). Look for this column next month.