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Stephen S. Shanor  
President

## Join us in Celebrating Constitution Day September 17th!

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DATE: May 14, 2010  
TO: New Mexico 5<sup>th</sup> grade teachers & Elementary School Principals  
FROM: New Mexico State Bar Foundation & Public & Legal Education Commission  
RE: Constitution Day September 17<sup>th</sup>

*Constitution Day is designated by [Public Law 108-447 Sec. 111 Division J - SEC. 111\(b\)](#) which states that all levels of educational institutions receiving federal funds are required to educate students on our U.S. Constitution.*

Dear Principals & Teachers:

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Constitution Day is an event taking shape across the country designed to help teach 5th graders about the Constitution. **Each fifth grader will receive a pocket-size Constitution** as a result of participation! The New Mexico State Bar Foundation and the State Bar of New Mexico Public and Legal Education Commission are sponsoring this event, along with attorneys in private practice. There is **NO COST** to the school, the teacher or the students! The costs of the materials are paid for by the sponsors. After you sign up, we will find a local attorney to partner with you. The attorney will go to your classroom to co-teach your students about the Constitution. Each presentation should last 1- 1.5 hours per classroom. You and the attorney can do as much pre-planning as you like.

Although it is preferable to hold the event on September 17th, any day within that week (Sept. 13-17) is acceptable. You pick the time that is most convenient, and we'll send the attorney (you and the attorney will be given each other's contact information upon scheduling so that you may communicate in advance). **Your e-mail address is required to make such pairings.**

The Public Legal Education Commission (PLEC) recognizes that schools must meet New Mexico content standards with benchmarks and performance standards. The education provided through Constitution Day may meet standards for Grades 5-9 (6.29.11.9 NMAC, 6-30-2009):

- A. Strand 1: History. (2) Benchmark 1-B (a)(iii) and (4) Benchmark 1-D (a)(ii)
- B. Strand 3: Civics and Government. (1) Benchmark 3-A (a)(iii), (2) Benchmark 3-C (a)(i) and (4) Benchmark 3-D (a).

If you are interested in participating, **please complete the attached Registration Form and return it to us prior to September 3, 2010.** This will give us time to organize a volunteer attorney for your classroom. If you have any questions, please contact Marilyn Kelley at 1-505-797-6048, or mkelley@nmbar.org. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Marilyn Kelley

Assistant Director, Public & Legal Services Department

Constitution Day

Constitution Day September 17th!

**YES I'D LIKE TO PARTICIPATE!**

Send this completed form  
ATT: Marilyn Kelley

Email: [mkelley@nmbar.org](mailto:mkelley@nmbar.org)

fax @ (505) 797-6074

or US mail:

New Mexico State Bar Foundation, Public & Legal Services Dept  
Attention Marilyn Kelley,  
PO Box 92860  
Albuquerque, NM 87199

**TEACHER REGISTRATION FORM 2010**

**DEADLINE TO REGISTER: FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 3, 2010**  
**Please fill out below information completely and legibly**

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Name of School City/Town

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Contact Person (Teacher) Phone Number email (required)

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Available dates/times for presentation\* Number of Students\*\*  
(\* *September 13-17<sup>th</sup>*) \*\*5<sup>th</sup> grade students only

Comments:

**(NOTE: Multiple groups may have to be combined for a large presentation)**  
**Requests for specific attorneys cannot be guaranteed but we will do our best**

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*For more information, call Marilyn Kelley @ (505) 797-6048, or email [mkelley@nmbar.org](mailto:mkelley@nmbar.org)*

