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**NEWS RELEASE
For Immediate Release**

Date: December 13, 2017
Contact: Evann Kleinschmidt, Communications and Member Services
Program Manager, 505-797-6087 or ekleinschmidt@nmbar.org

State Bar of New Mexico Swears In President Wesley Pool and New Officers

Albuquerque, N.M.—The State Bar of New Mexico recently elected new officers to the Board of Bar Commissioners. The 22-member governing board of the State Bar develops policies, procedures and regulations; monitors financial performance, programs and services; and serves as advocates for the State Bar. Chief Justice of the New Mexico Supreme Court Judith K. Nakamura administered the oath of office Dec. 7, 2017, in the Supreme Court Chambers in Santa Fe.



*President-Elect Jerry Dixon, Secretary-Treasurer Tina Cruz,
Immediate Past President Scotty Holloman and President Wesley Pool*

President Wesley O. Pool is the principal and owner of Pool Law Firm PC in Clovis. He is licensed to practice in New Mexico and Texas. The firm focuses on commercial litigation in addition to real estate, bankruptcy, probate, wills and estate planning, and domestic relations. Pool is a member of the Curry/Roosevelt Bar Association, the American Bar Association, and the American Trial Lawyers Association. He has served on the board of directors of the Business Law Section. Pool also serves the Fifth Bar Commissioner District (De Baca, Quay, Curry and Roosevelt counties).

President-elect Jerry Dixon is a shareholder at Dixon Scholl Carrillo P.A. He practices in the areas of professional malpractice defense, commercial and construction litigation. He is a frequent speaker on professional liability and risk management issues. Dixon was admitted to the Colorado Bar Association in 1981 and the State Bar of New Mexico in 1986. He is a member of the Albuquerque Bar Association (President, 1994). Dixon attended Texas Tech University (BBA 1977, J.D. 1981). He has participated in the New Mexico high school mock trial program as a coach or judge since 1988 and has served as a trustee for the Texas Tech School of Law Foundation since Board of Bar 2017

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Commissioners 2005. Dixon received the Distinguished Service Award from Texas Tech School of Law in 2015. He provides pro bono services through Christian Legal Aid. Dixon was recognized by Best Lawyers each year since 2009 and as 2014 and 2016 Lawyer of the Year in the area of professional malpractice. He was named Outstanding Attorney by the Albuquerque Bar Association in 2014. Dixon represents the First Bar Commissioner District. He serves on the Client Protection Fund Commission and as liaison to the Board of Bar Examiners. Dixon also represents the First Bar Commissioner District (Bernalillo County).

Secretary Treasurer Ernestina R. Cruz is a solo practitioner and the owner of Cruz Law Office in Taos. Her practice is primarily focused in the areas of civil rights, employment law, and personal injury. She is a graduate of the University of New Mexico (B.A. 1996 and J.D. 2001) and the University of Notre Dame (M.A. 1998). In addition to her law practice, she is currently attending the Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution at Pepperdine University School of Law where she is completing coursework to obtain a LL.M. in Dispute Resolution with a concentration in Mediation. In 2008, she was named the Young Lawyer of the Year by the New Mexico Hispanic Bar Association. She was also recognized by the Hispanic National Bar Association as a Top Lawyer under 40 in 2010. She is a past chair of the State Bar Young Lawyers Division and Employment and Labor Law Section. Cruz also represents the Fourth Bar Commissioner District (Taos, Colfax, Union, Mora, Harding, San Miguel and Guadalupe counties).

Immediate Past President Scotty A. Holloman is a shareholder, director, and president of Maddox, Holloman & Moran PC in Hobbs. He attended Texas Tech University (B.B.A., Accounting, 1980) and Texas Tech University School of Law (J.D., 1983). Holloman was admitted to practice law in Texas in 1983 and in New Mexico in 1984. He is a member of the State Bar Real Property, Trust and Estate Section and the State Bar Business Law Section. He served as president of the Lea County Bar Association. From 2009-2012 he served as the out-of-state liaison to the State Bar of Texas Board of Directors. Holloman and his wife, Terry, have three children: Aaron and wife Kelli; Emily; Jacob and wife Lacey; and three grandchildren: Simon, Owen and Annie of Roswell. Holloman also represents the Sixth Bar Commissioner District (Lincoln, Chaves, Otero, Eddy and Lea counties)

The State Bar of New Mexico was organized in 1886 and is composed of more than 9,000 members. Its purposes are to aid the courts in administering justice and preserving the rule of law, and to foster a high standard of integrity and competence within the legal profession.

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