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**NEWS RELEASE  
For Immediate Release**

Date: Dec 20, 2017  
Contact: Evann Kleinschmidt, Director of Communications  
505-797-6087 or ekleinschmidt@nmbar.org

**State Bar of New Mexico Announces New Executive Director**

Albuquerque, N.M.—The Board of Bar Commissioners is excited to announce the selection of Richard B. Spinello as Executive Director of the State Bar of New Mexico and its charitable arm, the New Mexico State Bar Foundation. He has overall responsibility for the day to day operations and programs of the State Bar and Bar Foundation with a combined budget of more than \$4.5 million.

Richard is a licensed attorney and has held multiple leadership roles during his 17-year career with the State Bar. Since May, he has served as the Interim Executive Director. Other roles include General Counsel, Public & Legal Services Directory and Managing Staff Attorney for the Legal Resources for the Elderly Program. Richard attended the University of New Mexico (B.A., 1989) and Western Michigan University, Thomas M. Cooley Law School (J.D., 1997). He was admitted to the State Bar in 1997.

"Richard has extensive knowledge of the workings of the bar," said 2017 State Bar President Scotty Holloman, "He will work productively with our members and staff to advance our mission of serving New Mexico attorneys and the people of our state."

He succeeds Joe Conte who retired earlier this year after 14 years as Executive Director.

*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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