Executive Summary
The Board of Directors (Board) of the Immigration Law Section (NMILS) of the State Bar of New Mexico (Bar) presents to the Board of Bar Commissioners (BBC) and the Section’s membership, this Annual Report of our activities for the calendar year 2015, pursuant to section 9.3 of the Bylaws of the State Bar of New Mexico and pursuant to Article 6.9 of the Bylaws of NMILS.
# Table of Contents

Executive Summary ................................................................. 1
Table of Contents ........................................................................ 2
Message from the Chair ............................................................... 3
2015 Directors and Officer Positions; Committees .......................... 4
Purpose of the Immigration Law Section .................................... 5

## ACTIVITIES SINCE THE LAST SECTION REPORT ..................... 6

Continuing Legal Education ...................................................... 7
NMILS Website Development ................................................... 7
The New Mexico Lawyer Magazine ............................................ 8
Legal Specialization .................................................................... 8
Summer Law Camp - New Mexico Hispanic Bar Association .......... 9
Public Statements ...................................................................... 9
UNMSOL Outreach ................................................................... 9
Amendment to the NMILS Bylaws ............................................ 10
Coalitions with Other State Bar Sections .................................. 10
Activism and Pro-Bono Work .................................................... 10
Donation to the South Valley Academy Students ....................... 11
Annual Membership Meeting .................................................... 12
Board Elections for 2016 .......................................................... 12
Recognitions and Awards ......................................................... 12

## Issues Requiring BBC Action ............................................... 13

A Concluding Postcript ............................................................. 13
APPENDIX A .............................................................................. 14
APPENDIX B .............................................................................. 15
Message from the Chair

Immigration lawyers are fortunate to practice in a very dynamic, highly diverse, and rapidly evolving practice area.

The very nature of this field is compassion, activism, and community outreach. There would be no immigration lawyers without that, and I felt that our Section could do more in this area. Therefore, this year I led NMILS in an unprecedented effort to be involved in the community. We decided to allocate money that would otherwise go to pay for cocktails to sponsor New Mexican lawyers to serve in family detention centers, and to support community efforts to expand—and in certain areas to open—dialogue about immigration.

I am happy to report that for the first time in the life of NMILS, we accomplished eight out of the nine purposes designated in our Bylaws. We did not interact with foreign dignitaries this year; that is the only reason we did not accomplish all nine!

I couldn’t be prouder of the Board Directors I served with. It was an honor to lead this group of colleagues who so sincerely and fervently serve the cause of the oppressed. After a period of transition, the current Board finally came together on April 2015. All the activities you will read about in this report were achieved in only six months. Even though the 2015 Board only had half the time to get things done, we worked very hard and are glad with the results.

En solidaridad,

Tania S. Silva, Esq. (2015 NMILS Chair)
2015 Directors and Officer Positions; Committees

The 2015 NMILS Board is made up of the following Directors:

1. Tania S. Silva
2. Joel Hagaman
3. Horatio Moreno-Campos II
4. Jessie Miles
5. Rebecca Kitson
6. Lauren Armstrong
7. Olsi Vrapi
8. Joaquín Sánchez (UNMSOL Liaison)

The Board elected, on motions duly-moving and seconded, the following directors as officers for 2015:

1. Chair – Tania S. Silva;
2. Chair Elect/Secretary – Joel Hagaman;
3. Budget Officer – Horatio Moreno-Campos II

This year, the Board created four Committees:

1. Bylaws – Led by Joel Hagaman
2. CLE – Led by Olsi Vrapi
3. Outreach – Led by Rebecca Kitson
4. Media and Advocacy – Led by Tania Silva

The first official meeting under the new leadership took place on April 28, 2015. The Board held meetings every month, either in-person or telephonically.
**Purpose of the Immigration Law Section**

According to NMILS Bylaws,

The general purpose of the Section shall be the promotion or the objectives of the State Bar of New Mexico within the particular fields designated by the name of this Section. To that end, it shall be the purposes of this Section:

A. To sponsor continuing legal education programs for the Bar in the field of Immigration Law;

B. To advance the quality of legal services provided by members of the State Bar of New Mexico, in the subject areas of the Section;

C. To sensitize the public to the benefits of securing legal counsel at an early state in their affairs related to the subject areas of the Section;

D. To provide general legal information to the public through seminars, publications, the media, and educational institutions;

E. To provide background expertise to government officials in New Mexico on matters related to the subject areas of the Section;

F. To coordinate and co-sponsor activities with the business community in the State of New Mexico, in order to further the economic development of the State;

G. To establish links with the American Immigration Lawyers’ Association, Immigration Law Sections of the neighboring state bar associations, and similar professional organizations;

H. To provide a forum from which United States government officials and visiting foreign dignitaries can address the Bar and the public on matters related to the subject areas of the Section; and

I. To sponsor nonpartisan educational programs for the general public on current issues affecting immigration laws and policies.
ACTIVITIES SINCE THE LAST SECTION REPORT
Continuing Legal Education

NMILS sponsored a full-day CLE program on Friday, December 11, 2015, devoted to immigration issues faced in criminal law, and related issues of ethics and professionalism.

This year’s CLE Program was accredited for 5.0 hours of general credits and 2.0 hours of ethics/professionalism credits. It also offered a Webcast option for those attorneys who could not attend in person.

We’re pleased to report that this CLE was the most attended CLE program ever organized by our Section.

For registration and program information, please see Appendix A.

NMILS Website Development

The Section’s website is undergoing a major overhaul of content and design. The website now includes the following sections:

1. **Section Leadership**: this includes a photograph, a short biography, and the contact information of each Director. This makes it easier for all members to recognize and contact the Board members.
2. **Bylaws**: Members have access to the most up-to-date version of the Section’s bylaws.
3. **Annual Reports**: Members have access to all the annual reports submitted by previous Chairs. This link also informs them how to obtain full copies of the agenda and minutes of each meeting held by the Board in 2015.
4. **CLE & Events**: A go-to place for information on events and CLE.
5. **Member Publications** (In Progress): Any member who has published work will be named in this link, along with a list of their works.
6. **Public Statements** (In Progress): This section lists public stances NMILS has taken on issues affecting our community, both at the national and local levels.
7. **Volunteer Opportunities**: Information about volunteer opportunities that may be of interest to our members goes here.
8. **Membership Roster**: Here is a current list of the 2015 NMILS members.
9. **Join the Section**: Information for interested candidates on how to join NMILS.
10. **Specialty Certification**: Information on how to obtain the Immigration Law specialty certification

**The New Mexico Lawyer Magazine**

The NM Lawyer Magazine is published quarterly as an insert in the Bar Bulletin. NMILS approached the Bar Bulletin to request the opportunity for our Section to author the Autumn Issue of the Magazine. Our request was approved and NMILS will be in charge of producing the Fall Issue of the NM Lawyer Magazine.

Calls for articles and preparations for this publication will begin in 2016.

**Legal Specialization**

Following the efforts of the 2014 Board, NMILS was finally able to establish a certification for an Immigration Law specialty. The criteria and application for the certification was posted on the Section’s website and it was posted on the Section’s listserve. The NM State Bar also sent a message via their e-Blast informing NM attorneys of this great opportunity.

On June 12, 2015, the New Mexico Board of Legal Specialization confirmed the following NMILS members for the Immigration Law Specialization Committee:

1. Pamela Kennedy (Chair)
2. Rebeca Bustamante
3. Jessie Miles
4. Kendra Jimenez
5. John Russo

After this confirmation, the Immigration Law specialty certification became active and any NM lawyer who meets the criteria may now apply for it.
**Summer Law Camp - New Mexico Hispanic Bar Association**

The Summer Law Camp is a summer residential camp developed by the NMHBA for youth interested in exploring the world of law. The Board hopes to contribute to these efforts every year. In 2015, NMILS donated $625 towards the “tuition” of one summer law camp participant.

**Public Statements**

The Board, on motions duly-moved and seconded, approved the following public statements* on behalf of NMILS:

1. May 8, 2015: Sign-on letter to President Obama calling on the Administration to end family detention and urging the Administration to implement more just and humane policies toward families apprehended at the border.
2. May 20, 2015: Letter to APD Chief Gordon Eden to encourage application of the U visa certification policy that they are allegedly working on.
   a. This letter was a key factor in encouraging APD’s cooperation in the matter. Thanks to all our members who also signed it individually!

*Per the State Bar’s guidance, we included a disclaimer that “The views expressed in these statements are those of the Immigration Law Section of the State Bar of New Mexico and do not represent the views of the State Bar as a whole.”

**UNMSOL Outreach**

NMILS coordinated and funded two outreach events at the UNM School of Law:

1. August 13, 2015 - Welcome Back Days: NMILS reserved a table and Board members answered questions about the Section and about Immigration law in general. Board Director Joaquín Sánchez created a short video on the issue of Family Detention which was well-received by those who stopped by the table.
2. October 14, 2015 - NMILS presentation at UNMSOL: This event was coordinated by Joaquín Sánchez. It was a success! Members of our Board talked about the Section, Family Detention, and the practice of law. The event was well-attended; law students were very interested in our Section and the practice of Immigration Law. They also expressed interest in volunteering at detention centers during their Spring Break next year.

**Amendment to the NMILS Bylaws**

On motion duly-moved and seconded, the Board voted to shorten the Director terms to two years instead of three years. This change would apply to all subsequent elections, not to sitting terms.

The change was submitted to the Board of Bar Commissioners for approval. The BBC passed the amendment at its September 30, 2015 meeting.

The Bylaws committee is also working on other amendments to our bylaws, which will be presented to the BBC for approval next year.

**Coalitions with Other State Bar Sections**

The Board reached out to other Sections to request donations for attorneys interested in volunteering in the South Texas Detention Complex, in Dilley, TX.

**NMILS would like to extend its sincerest thanks and appreciation to the following Sections who so kindly contributed to our Dilley efforts:**

1. Real Property, Trust & Estate Section: $2,160
2. Criminal Law Section: $1,080

**Activism and Pro-Bono Work**

As part of the Section’s commitment to support pro-bono efforts for refugees and immigrants, NMILS raised enough money to provide funding for travel and
related expenses for up to six Section members to provide pro bono legal services at the family detention center in Dilley, TX.

Interested volunteers were encouraged to apply for this opportunity. We received exactly six applications, all of which were approved for funding. However, two volunteers withdrew their applications, which allowed us to pay for airfare (instead of car transportation, as it was initially planned) for the remaining volunteers.

NMILS funded the following volunteers: Joel Hagaman, Tess Wilkes, Julpa Dave, and Israel Haros Lopez.

The following NMILS members also volunteered in Dilley this year, but were privately funded: Allegra Love, Tania Silva, Kendra Jimenez Baughman, and Monica Newcomer Miller.

**Donation to the South Valley Academy Students**

Freshmen students at the South Valley Academy Charter School approached the Board with a request for funding to buy the book *Enrique’s Journey*, as part of their participation in the UNM Lobo’s Reading Experience program.

In their words, “We reach out to [NMILS] because we’re aware of your members’ commitment to the immigrant population. Most of these children, in one way or another, have a connection to a story similar to the one they will read in *Enrique’s Journey*.”

The Board unanimously approved funding of $606 to buy a book for each one of the 100 students who didn’t have one. We also had an exposition of the students’ book reports at our Annual CLE on December 11, 2015.
Annual Membership Meeting

The NMILS Annual Membership Meeting was duly-called and duly-held on Friday, December 11, 2015. Members who could not attend personally had the option to call in. See Membership invitation in Appendix B.

Board Elections for 2016

Joel Hagaman chaired the Section’s nominating committee, and submitted the following slate of candidates to serve on the Board:

1. Rebecca Kitson (two-year term)
2. Horatio Moreno-Campos II (two year term)
3. Eva Eitzen (two-year term)
4. Rómulo Sauñe (two year term)
5. Alfredo Bonilla (one-year term, in the position left vacant by Tania Silva once she becomes Past Chair)

The election of the proposed candidates was uncontested, and each of the foregoing nominees was approved to serve as a director of the Board for calendar years 2016 and 2017.

The other currently-serving Directors of NMILS are:

1. Tania Silva, whose term expires on December 31, 2016
2. Jessie Miles, whose term expires on December 31, 2016
3. Joel Hagaman, whose term expires on December 31, 2016
4. Olsi Vrapi, whose term expires on December 31, 2015
5. Lauren Armstrong, whose term expires on December 31, 2015

Recognitions and Awards

1. NMILS Chair, Tania S. Silva, was named Outstanding Young Lawyer of the Year by the State Bar of NM; she also ran for National Secretary of the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA)
2. NMILS Board Director, Olsi Vrapi, was elected Secretary for the Texas AILA Chapter (encompassing NM, TX, and OK)

3. NMILS Budget Officer, Horatio Moreno-Campos II, will become a first-time father to Horatio Moreno-Campos III. Congratulations!

Issues Requiring BBC Action

None.

A Concluding Postscript

NMILS thanks Evann Kleinschmidt, Marian Chavez, and Christine Morganti of the NM State Bar, for their continuous support and guidance. Without their assistance, NMILS would not have been able to successfully undertake its many projects this year.

In addition, thank you to our members who believe in and support the Section’s purpose. It is members like you who continue to make our Section so vibrant and active.

We look forward to working with each one of you again next year.
APPENDIX A

Current Immigration Issues for the Criminal Defense Attorney

Friday, Dec. 11, 2015 • 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.
State Bar Center, Albuquerque

$249: Standard Fee
$219: Co-sponsoring section members, government and legal services attorneys, and Paralegal Division members
$279: Webcast Fee

Co-sponsor: Immigration Law Section

In the wake of Padilla v. Kentucky, 559 U.S, 356 (2010); State v. Parrozo, 2004-NMSC-035; and Ramirez v. State of New Mexico, 2014 -NMSC-023, the duty of the criminal defense attorney to advise of collateral immigration consequences is an ever-expanding part of a criminal defense attorney's job in New Mexico. This interactive CLE seeks to demystify immigration law for the criminal defense practitioner and will provide practical tools for the representation of non-citizen clients in criminal proceedings.

8 a.m. Registration and Continental Breakfast
8:30 a.m. Crash Course in Immigration for the Criminal Defense Attorney
Horatio Moreno Campos, Horatio Moreno-Campos Attorney at Law LLC
Rebecca Kidston, Rebecca Kidston Law
9:30 a.m. Understanding Immigration Enforcement Priorities
Jessica Miles, Noble & Vrapi PA
Brenda Villalpando, Janos, Zavala & Villalpando, LC
10:30 a.m. Break
10:45 a.m. Asylum Seekers and Unaccompanied Children
Kendra Jimnez Baughman, Rebecca Kidston Law
Nancy Orehkin, New Mexico State University College of Business Finance Department
Tanis Silva, The Ultegra Law Firm LLC
11:45 a.m. Lunch (provided at the State Bar Center)
Tanis Silva, Donating to Dilley Section Annual Meeting
12:45 p.m. Ethical Considerations of Representing Non-Citizen Clients (1.0 EP)
Rebecca Kidston, Rebecca Kidston Law
Christine Long, Disciplinary Counsel TBC
1:45 p.m. Criminalization Toolkit: How to Analyze a Conviction
Mary Kramer, Law Office of Mary E. Kramer, PA
Osi Vrapi, Noble & Vrapi PA
2:45 p.m. Break
3 p.m. Criminalization Breakout Sessions: Applying to Tools Facilitated by Rebecca Kidston, Mary Kramer, Brenda Villalpando and Osi Vrapi
4 p.m. Ineffective Assistance of Counsel Related to Non-Citizen Clients (1.0 EP)
Hon. Courtney Wecks, Bernalillo County Metropolitan Court
Amber Weeks, Noble & Vrapi PA
5 p.m. Adjournment
Immigration Section Happy Hour at the State Bar Center

CLE Registration Form

For more information about our programs, visit www.nmbar.org • 505-797-6020

Four Ways to Register:
Online: www.nmbar.org Fax: 505-797-6071, 24-hour access Phone: 505-797-6020
Mail: Center for Legal Education, PO Box 92860, Albuquerque, NM 87199

Please Note: For all webcasts and teleseminars, you must register online at www.nmbar.org.

Name ___________________________ NMBAR# ___________________________
Phone ___________________________ Fax ___________________________
Email ___________________________

Payment
Total Cost $ ___________________________ Payment by credit and debit card will incur a 3% service charge.

☐ Check or P.O. # ___________________________
☐ VISA ☐ MC ☐ American Express ☐ Discover

Name on card if different from above: ___________________________
Credit Card # ___________________________
Exp. Date ___________________________ Billing ZIP Code ___________________________ CVV# ___________________________

Authorized Signature ___________________________

CLE Cancellations & Refunds: We understand that plans change. If you find you can no longer attend a program, please contact the CLE Department. We are happy to assist you by transferring your registration to a colleague or applying your payment towards a future CLE event. A full refund will be given to registrants who cancel two or more business days before the program date. A 3% present processing fee will be withheld from any refund for credit and debit card payments. Cancellation requests received within one business day of the program will not be eligible for a refund, but the fees may be applied to a future CLE program offered in the same compliance year.

Submitted on December 14, 2015
APPENDIX B

The NM Immigration Law Section cordially invites you to our

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Friday, December 11, 2015
11:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

5121 Masthead St NE
Albuquerque, NM 87109

The meeting agenda will be published on December 9th.

Out of town? You may join by teleconference, dialing (866) 640-4044. When prompted, enter 663225 and press #

Lunch will be provided. We look forward to your presence.

Please direct any questions to Tania Silva, current NMILS Chair, Tania@AbogadaFlora.com