

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF NEW MEXICO

NO.

IN RE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A COMMISSION ON PROFESSIONALISM

ORDER

WHEREAS, the Supreme Court hereby establishes a permanent Commission on Professionalism of the State Bar of New Mexico to guide and support the principles of professionalism under the terms of this order.

I. Purposes. The purposes of the Commission on Professionalism are to:

Support the concept and principles of professionalism, to encompass competence; civility; integrity; attitude; respect for the rule of law, for other lawyers and the courts, for clients and the public and fidelity to lawyers' roles as officers of the court and as problem solvers; create and promote an awareness of professionalism by all members of the New Mexico Bench and Bar and reinforce the values of professionalism; serve as the statewide clearinghouse for professionalism; serve as the oversight and advisory commission for professionalism training, education and resources to support a catalyst for positive change; uphold and support the definition of professionalism and educational (MCLE) requirements adopted by the New Mexico Supreme Court; and serve as a forum for communication, support and collaboration among legal constituencies in New Mexico.

II. Commission on Professionalism. Professionalism oversight and support efforts in New Mexico shall be carried out by the Commission on Professionalism, to be composed of twenty-three (23) members from the profession and the public as follows: four (4) judges; fourteen (14) lawyers; the Dean of the University of New Mexico School of Law; one (1) member representing the Legal Assistants Division; and three (3) public members.

III. Membership. The Membership, Terms and Appointing Authority for each member of the Commission on Professionalism shall be as follows:

<u>Judicial Members</u>	<u>Appointed by</u>	<u>Term</u>
1. Chief Justice of New Mexico Supreme Court (or designee)	—	Indefinite
2. Chief Judge of the U.S. District Court, District of New Mexico (or designee)	—	Indefinite
3. Two (2) State District Court Judges	District Judges Association	1-year
<u>Lawyer Members</u>		
1. President of the State Bar of New Mexico (or designee)	—	Indefinite
2. President of the New Mexico Criminal Defense Lawyers Association (or designee)	—	Indefinite
3. President of the New Mexico Trial Lawyers Association (or designee)	—	Indefinite
4. President of the New Mexico Defense Lawyers Association (or designee)	—	Indefinite
5. President of the New Mexico District Attorneys Association (or designee)	—	Indefinite
6. Chair-elect of the State Bar of New Mexico Young Lawyers Division	—	Indefinite
7. President (or designee) of each of the following State's Voluntary Bar Associations: Hispanic Bar Association of New Mexico; Indian Bar Association of New Mexico; New Mexico Black Lawyers Association; New Mexico Women's Bar Association	—	Indefinite

8. Chair of the New Mexico MCLE Board (or designee)	—	Indefinite
9. Chair of the New Mexico Disciplinary Board (or designee)	—	Indefinite
10. One (1) Active Status Member of the State Bar of New Mexico	State Bar President	2-year
11. One (1) Active Status Member of the State Bar of New Mexico	State Bar President	3-year

Other Members

1. Chair-elect of the State Bar of New Mexico Legal Assistants Division (or Chair's designee)	—	Indefinite
2. Dean of the University of New Mexico School of Law (or Dean's designee)	—	Indefinite

Public Members

1. One (1) Public Member	Chief Justice	2-year
2. Two (2) Public Members	State Bar President or entity designated by Pres.	2-year

Terms shall commence on May 1, 2000 and shall be effective based on a calendar year, the first term to be expired on December 31, 2000. Subsequent appointments shall be effective January 1, 2001.

The Chief Justice of the New Mexico Supreme Court and the President of the State Bar of New Mexico will serve as Co-Chairs of the Commission. The Director of the Administrative Office of the Courts and the Executive Director of the State Bar of New Mexico will serve as ex-officio members of the Commission.

Any appointed member of the Commission on Professionalism may be removed as a member of the Commission by majority vote of the members of the Commission, for cause, including but not limited to, failure to attend to the duties and responsibilities of the Commission, or for non-attendance at three consecutive meetings of the Commission.

IV. Administration and Functions. The Commission may conduct its work through Committees, either standing or ad hoc. One standing committee shall be composed of the current members of the State Bar's standing committee called the Commission on Professionalism. The new standing committee of the Commission shall be assigned tasks delegated to it by the Co-Chairs of the Commission on Professionalism. Other standing or ad hoc committees shall be appointed as deemed necessary by the Commission.

The State Bar of New Mexico shall administer the Commission on Professionalism, and shall develop and approve the goals, duties, programs, budget, operation and staffing of the Commission.

The State Bar of New Mexico's governing board, the Board of Bar Commissioners, shall review and approve all policies relating to the Commission on Professionalism.

The State Bar of New Mexico will provide an annual status and progress report to the New Mexico Supreme Court on the goals, programs, accomplishments and operation of the Commission on Professionalism.

Upon the establishment and creation of the initial Commission on Professionalism, by this Order of the New Mexico Supreme Court, on May 1, 2000, the Commission will develop the Mission Statement, Goals, Objectives, Responsibilities, and first-year programs and activities of the Commission on Professionalism, which shall be subject to approval and adoption by the State Bar of New Mexico Board of Bar Commissioners.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Pamela B. Minzner, Chief Justice