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**NEWS RELEASE
For Immediate Release**

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Contact: D.D. Wolohan, Communications and Member Services Program Manager
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**Lees and Sapien Elected Co-chairs of the
Committee on Women and the Legal Profession**

Albuquerque, N.M. — Zoë E. Lees and DeAnza Valencia Sapien are the new co-chairs of the State Bar of New Mexico Committee on Women and the Legal Profession. They will serve through Dec. 31, 2015.

Zoë E. Lees practices in energy, utilities, environmental and employment law with the Modrall Sperling Law Firm in Albuquerque, NM. She also advises clients on environmental laws and regulatory matters including the Endangered Species Act.

DeAnza Valencia Sapien is an Albuquerque attorney and consultant that specializes in business strategy, healthcare and legislative policy. She serves on the Board of the New Mexico Women's Bar Association and has over 15 years' experience in public policy, communications and community affairs.

Formed in 1991, the mission of the Committee on Women and the Legal Profession is to address issues affecting women and lawyers and judges and to monitor substantive issues of women served by the legal system.

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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