

# JUSTICE FOR ALL

NEW MEXICO ACCESS TO JUSTICE COMMISSION  
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

## CHAMPIONS OF ACCESS TO JUSTICE



### Representative Pamelya Herndon

Throughout the years, Pamelya Herndon has provided effective and sustained support for the Access to Justice Commission and civil legal services programs. Ms. Herndon currently serves in the House of Representatives for House District 28 in Bernalillo and is the President/CEO of the KWJ Law Center for Social Justice and Change, a nonprofit law center advocating for the rights of women, children and families with children.

Representative Herndon actively participates in Commission initiatives. As a long-time social justice advocate, **Representative Herndon has elevated awareness of the growing divide between those who can access legal services and those who cannot by advocating for support to fund civil legal service providers.**

During the 2023 Legislative Session, Rep. Herndon sponsored two bills that were signed

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## SPOTLIGHT ON CIVIL LEGAL SERVICES

### Modest Means Helpline

The Modest Means Helpline is a free legal helpline and pro bono attorney referral service for New Mexico residents of modest means. The Helpline’s two (soon to be three) staff attorneys provide legal advice over the phone, and may refer cases to Civil Legal Service providers or attorneys for limited legal advice up to full representation.

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## COMMUNITY WEBINARS

Check out the latest Community Webinar on Predatory Lending presented by Karen Meyers and Nicholas Mattison!

[accesstojustice.nmcourts.gov](https://www.accesstojustice.nmcourts.gov)



Watch all Community Webinars on the  
NM Courts YouTube Channel  
@NewMexicoCourts

Free Legal Assistance on  
Civil Matters

Modest  
Means  
Helpline

Mon-Fri  
8:30 - Noon



888-857-9935  
or  
505-797-6013

Modest Means staff also collaborate with the Volunteer Attorney Program (VAP), a program of New Mexico Legal Aid to enable people who are

ineligible for NMLA due to conflicts, income level or citizenship status, to be served at court sponsored legal clinics around the state.

The Modest Means Helpline (MMH) was started in October 2022, and **as of May 2023, 841 cases in 30 out of 33 counties have been opened, benefitting 2,374 New Mexico residents.** The MMH was created through the combined efforts of the Access to Justice Commission, the Administrative Office of the Courts, and the State Bar of New Mexico/New Mexico State Bar Foundation with funding from the New Mexico State Legislature to expand the NMLA VAP services.

## ATJ Commission Meetings

September 22, 2023 (Hybrid) Pre-Registration required for in-person event.

December 8, 2023 (Virtual)

### OTHER ORGANIZATIONS and COMMISSIONS

Wednesday, June 28, 2023. Modest Means Helpline Small Business Webinar: Estate planning for New Mexico small businesses.

Register with Zoom  
link here:



**The NM Commission on Access to Justice (ATJ) is an independent, statewide body dedicated to expanding and improving civil legal assistance in the state.**

## REPRESENTATIVE PAMELYA HERNDEN

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into law, including House Bill 9 - Unlawful Access to Firearm by Minors, making it a crime to negligently make a firearm accessible to a minor and for negligently making a firearm accessible to a minor resulting in great bodily harm or death.

Rep. Herndon is a graduate of the Howard University School of Business and the University of Texas School of Law and is licensed to practice law in New Mexico and Colorado.

Representative Herndon has been appointed to the ABA Commission on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault and was instrumental in establishing a program known as CU SAFE, a credit union service organization that provides access to financial resources for survivors of domestic violence.

The Commission looks forward to continued collaboration with Representative Herndon on expanding access to justice.

Want to highlight your civil legal service program? A pro bono event? Tell us about it!

Contact Tesha and Twila



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