

Dear Kathi and Susan,

Effective immediately, I am resigning from the New Mexico Foundation for Open Government Board of Directors. I have spent 20 years on the FOG Board and now seems like the best time to part ways. My decision is based on time I need to spend with my 12-year-old son and my private law practice. I have enjoyed my tenure and the extraordinary people I've worked with over the years. Please share this with the present Board members and let them know I appreciate their continued commitment to FOG.

For what it is worth, the decision by FOG to publicly lobby New Mexico Public Education Secretary Hanna Skandera in a press release about the approval of the APS settlement with Winston Brooks is highly unusual. In my 20 years, I simply cannot recall a situation where FOG has asked another public official to take a position on a matter in which that individual has no actual knowledge of the document in question or custodial control of the document. It is certainly not consistent with the approaches I have seen by FOG in the past and sets a precedent which may create some problems down the road. While reasonable minds can differ, we can agree to disagree on this one.

Best of luck to FOG in the future. I will continue to be a FOG member and a resource for the organization as needed. Thank you.

Martin R. Esquivel
Esquivel Law Firm, LLC
111 Lomas NW, Suite 203
Albuquerque, NM 87102