17A-003. Attorney assessment.

A. **Duty of Court.** The Court shall provide for continuous funding for the fund in amounts adequate for the proper payment of claims and the costs of administering the fund with funds available for transfer under the provisions of [Subparagraph (1) of Paragraph C of Rule 18-102 NMRA] Rule 18-102(C) NMRA and [pursuant to] Paragraph B of this rule.

B. **Assessment of attorneys.** Every lawyer admitted and licensed to practice law in New Mexico shall, prior to January of each year, pay to the commission an annual client protection fund fee in the amount of fifteen dollars ($15.00). The annual fee assessment shall be mailed to the state bar at the time the registration statement required under Rule [17-202] 24-102.1 NMRA is submitted. Annual fee assessments collected by the state bar shall be deposited in an account in a financial institution in the name of the commission.

C. **Suspension.** A lawyer’s failure to pay any fee assessed shall be a cause for suspension from practice until payment has been made.

[Approved by Supreme Court Order No.05-8300-025, effective December 13, 2005; as amended by Supreme Court Order No. 09-8300-034, effective September 29, 2009; as amended by Supreme Court Order No. 21-8300-030, effective December 31, 2021.]