



Open-Government Group Names New Director, President

Statewide non-profit focuses on education, advocacy

For immediate release

For more information, please contact:

Sarah Welsh, Executive Director (until 2/29)

info@nmfog.org

(505) 901-9297

Gwyneth Doland, Incoming Executive Director

(505) 453-4353

The fight for transparent government in New Mexico has a new general.

The Board of Directors of the New Mexico Foundation for Open Government announced today the appointment of its next Executive Director, Gwyneth Doland. Doland, a journalist and longtime Albuquerque resident, will take the helm of the statewide non-profit organization Feb. 20.

"I look forward to working with engaged citizens, journalists and business and community leaders to ensure the kind of open and transparent government that is critical to a vibrant democracy," Doland said.

Doland is currently the producer and host of KNME's *Public Square*, as well as a correspondent for KNME's *New Mexico in Focus* and an adjunct faculty member at the University of New Mexico, where she teaches multimedia journalism. She edited the non-profit news website *The New Mexico Independent* from 2009 to 2010, and she has also written and edited content for the *Santa Fe Reporter* and *Weekly Alibi*.

"We are very pleased to welcome Gwyneth in her new role with us," FOG Board President Terri L. Cole said. "She is highly skilled and passionate about open government and just the person to take us to the next level."

Cole is President and CEO of the Greater Albuquerque Chamber of Commerce and a longtime FOG Board member; she was elected Board President Jan. 13. Other newly elected FOG officers are Vice President Mary Lynn Roper, president and general manager of KOAT 7; returning Secretary Kent Walz, editor-in-chief of the *Albuquerque Journal*; and Treasurer Greg Williams, an attorney with the Peifer, Hanson & Mullins law firm.

Doland will replace current Executive Director Sarah Welsh, who is resigning in order to pursue graduate studies. Welsh has served as FOG director since August 2009.

“All of us at FOG are indebted to Sarah Welsh for the exquisite job she did as our executive director,” Cole said. “We wish her our very best.”

FOG opened its doors in 1990 with a mission of educating New Mexicans and their public officials about rights and responsibilities under state “sunshine laws” and the First Amendment. The organization provides a free telephone hotline, conducts training seminars, lobbies legislative bodies to increase public access, and participates in litigation to enforce existing law.

For more information, visit nmfog.org or call (888) 843-9121.

* * *

FOG is New Mexico’s leading advocate for transparency in government. Its mission is to defend the public’s right to know and to educate citizens and government agencies about their rights and responsibilities under New Mexico’s open-meetings and open-records laws. Founded in 1989 by an impassioned group of journalists and lawyers, FOG has a strong record of bringing sunshine to the halls of power. It is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, member-supported organization that draws broad membership from the general public, business community, elected officials, journalists and lawyers.