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**The New Mexico Economic Development Department's Office of Business Advocacy  
Successfully Assists More Than 200 Businesses**

*Efforts of the OBA results in the Creation of 1,623 jobs over Two and a Half Years*

SANTA FE - The New Mexico Economic Development Department's Office of Business Advocacy (OBA) has successfully assisted more than 200 businesses in breaking through regulatory and licensing hurdles which has led to the creation of 1,623 jobs and the saving of 646 jobs. The OBA offers a unique service for businesses looking for help navigating through regulatory and permitting issues at both state and federal levels. OBA staff works as an intermediary between the business and regulatory agency on a case-by-case basis to resolve various issues.

"For many small businesses, they do not have the time or resources to work through an issue that may arise as a result of doing business in a certain jurisdiction and that is where the services of the OBA come in," said Economic Development Secretary Jon Barela. "Without the help of the OBA, many businesses would have to let an employee go or may not have been able to hire a new worker; therefore I encourage businesses to seek assistance if faced with a regulatory challenge."

Since January 2011, the OBA worked 221 cases across the state; becoming a go-to resource for businesses. OBA's ability to research, track down answers and identify solutions has proven invaluable to small businesses with limited resources and time. The issues OBA works on vary from how to appeal a federal highway sign ordinance to researching and creating legislative reform to aid in streamlining permitting processes.

The Office of Business Advocacy opened its doors in January 2011, as a direct initiative from Governor Susana Martinez and Secretary Barela. Its core mission is to advance New Mexico businesses by resolving challenging bureaucratic, intergovernmental and public policy problems affecting businesses in New Mexico.

For more information on how the Office of Business Advocacy can benefit your business please visit: [www.NMforBusiness.com](http://www.NMforBusiness.com) or contact Dora Dominguez at 505.827.0089 or [Dora.Dominguez@state.nm.us](mailto:Dora.Dominguez@state.nm.us)

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