

Supreme Court of New Mexico

CHIEF JUSTICE
DAVID K. THOMSON
JUSTICES
MICHAEL E. VIGIL
C. SHANNON BACON
JULIE J. VARGAS
BRIANA H. ZAMORA

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February 18, 2025

Dear Fellow New Mexicans,

"Dedicated to the Administration of Equal Justice Under Law". These words are carved into the wood above the heads of the Justices in the Supreme Court of New Mexico courtroom. For 123 years, these words have served as a guidepost to the Justices and a promise to all New Mexicans.

As we face challenges and pushback at the federal level against inclusivity efforts, the Supreme Court of New Mexico affirms our commitment to these values. As stewards of justice, we recognize that a just legal system must reflect and respect the diverse communities that it serves. We remain devoted to eliminating barriers to justice, promoting equal access, and ensuring that every individual is treated with dignity and fairness regardless of race, ethnicity, color, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, indigency status, physical, mental, or developmental disability or condition, age, English language proficiency, parenting status, or pregnancy.

We remain resolute in our responsibility to lead by example in advancing equity, diversity, inclusion, and justice within the judiciary and the legal profession. Through our policies, decisions, and ongoing education, we continue to enhance our cultural awareness within the judiciary and eliminate bias. We will cultivate court environments where our values are woven into the legal processes. We will ensure our courthouses remain safe for all people in New Mexico to have their voices heard. We will continue to work collaboratively with judges, court staff, attorneys, the Commission on Equity and Justice, other Supreme Court Commissions, and community justice partners to build a more just, accessible, and equitable legal system for all.

Chief Justice David K. Thomson

Senior Justice Michael E. Vigil

Justice C. Shannon Bacon

Justice Julie J. Vargas

Justice Briana H. Zamora