



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Missing in New Mexico Day on Sunday

Event provides resources for relatives of missing indigenous people

ALBUQUERQUE – The New Mexico Department of Public Safety and Indian Affairs Department invite families and loved ones of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Persons (MMIP) to the second annual Missing in New Mexico Day on Sunday. The day-long event established through legislation signed by Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham last year brings together law enforcement, forensic, medical, and social service partners to provide resources for families, friends and loved ones of MMIP.

The free public event is scheduled from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Sunday, December 3, 2023, at the Embassy Suites, 1000 Woodward Place NE, in Albuquerque.

“Searching for a missing loved one is a horrific ordeal for families, friends and relatives. No one should have to live with those unanswered questions,” said **Department of Public Safety Secretary Jason R. Bowie**. “This collaborative event assembles resources, expands dialogue, updates missing persons cases, and allows families to develop strategies and partnerships to find their missing family member.”

"Missing in New Mexico Day is a crucial catalyst in our ongoing efforts to secure resources and justice for families facing the heart-wrenching uncertainty surrounding their missing or murdered loved ones," stated **New Mexico Indian Affairs Department Secretary Designate James Mountain**. "This in-person event not only facilitates filing and updating of missing persons reports, but also enables submitting DNA records and provides an invaluable opportunity for families to engage directly with investigators. It underscores our commitment to fostering collaboration and support, recognizing the profound impact these issues have on our communities."

The Missing Persons in New Mexico event will provide an opportunity for:

- Federal, state, local and tribal governments to meet in one location and assist families in filing missing persons reports, updating missing persons reports, submit DNA records and meet with investigators.
- Individuals with missing relatives to access support services, and share their stories with media outlets; and
- The New Mexico Department of Public Safety, local law enforcement agencies, the Office of the Attorney General, the Office of the State Medical Investigator, the Indian Affairs Department, and other state agencies to gather in one place to provide support and services for individuals and families with missing relatives.

The FBI maintains a list of missing indigenous individuals in New Mexico and the Navajo Nation [here](#).

For more information and to register, please visit, <https://www.iad.state.nm.us/missinginnewmexicoday> or contact the DPS Missing Persons Clearinghouse at dps.missingperson@dps.nm.gov or 1-800-457-3463.

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The Department of Public Safety's mission is to provide vital leadership, scientific, training, technical, and operational support to the criminal justice community and the public. Visit us at: www.dps.nm.gov.

Since 2003 the New Mexico Indian Affairs Department (IAD) has implemented groundbreaking state-tribal policies intended to improve the quality of life for the state's Native citizens. Our initiatives are designed to strengthen Tribal and state relations and address the challenges we face in our communities: economic development, infrastructure improvement, the protection of our cultures and languages, health care accessibility, and educational opportunities for our most precious resource— our children. Learn more at www.iad.state.nm.us.