

## NEW MEXICO CORRECTIONS DEPARTMENT

MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM, GOVERNOR

Alisha Tafoya Lucero, Cabinet Secretary

## **Media Advisory**

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## New Mexico Corrections Department presents agency budget request to the Legislative Finance Committee

SANTA FE – Today, New Mexico Corrections Department's Cabinet Secretary Alisha Tafoya Lucero will present the FY22 budget request to the Legislative Finance Committee. Totaling \$356,614,100, the request recognizes the realty of COVID-19 and the economic hardships the state faces while still allowing for the Department to prioritize public safety and successful reentry.

Despite budget reductions, the New Mexico Corrections Department will continue to maintain safe and professional institutions and provide individuals that are incarcerated with opportunities. Reentry initiatives remain top priority. The Probation and Parole Division and the Adult Prisons Division will continue to collaborate to build and strengthen the Reentry Division. The FY22 request will allow the Reentry Division to increase workforce development opportunities for inmates through collaborative efforts with Department of Workforce Solutions and employers across the state, while expanding vocational training and educational opportunities. The budget will also focus on improving pre-release planning and the transition process, streamlining communication and incorporating peer mentorship. We will continue to work with our more than 130 community providers including transitional living centers, residential and outpatient treatment providers, shelters, and other community resource providers. NMCD will also be able to continue assisting offenders in areas including vital records, rent/housing assistance, clothing, and transportation assistance.

"Our staff continue to safeguard our facilities and communities through unprecedented challenges" said NMCD Cabinet Secretary Alisha Tafoya Lucero. "I am grateful for their spirit of service and for the resolute leadership of Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham. Our FY22 budget request reflects our commitment to public safety and the strength of our state."

Secretary Tafoya Lucero will present today, December 3<sup>rd</sup> 2020 at 1:00PM. Those interested may view the hearing through the New Mexico Legislature webcast.

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