

1                   **IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO**

2   **August 14, 2020**

3                   **NO. 20-8500-035J**

4                   **IN THE MATTER OF COMPLIANCE**  
5                   **WITH SUPREME COURT DIRECTIVES**  
6                   **FOR THE SAFE OPERATION OF THE**  
7                   **SOCORRO MUNICIPAL COURT**  
8                   **DURING THE COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY**

9  
10   **ORDER**

11                   WHEREAS, this Court has issued directives to the Socorro Municipal Court  
12                   requiring the presiding judge to submit an individualized plan for the resumption of  
13                   in-person proceedings in that court. *See, e.g.*, Order No. 20-8500-025 and  
14                   Emergency Court Protocol No. 2(C)(1);

15                   WHEREAS, despite repeated requests for the submission of an individualized  
16                   plan for conducting safe in-person proceedings in the Socorro Municipal Court  
17                   during the current public health emergency, the presiding judge has failed to submit  
18                   a plan for the Supreme Court’s review and approval and the time for doing so has  
19                   expired; and

20                   WHEREAS, the Court having considered the foregoing and the Court being  
21                   sufficiently advised, Chief Justice Michael E. Vigil, Justice Barbara J. Vigil, Justice

1 Judith K. Nakamura, Justice C. Shannon Bacon, and Justice David K. Thomson  
2 concurring;

3 NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that the Socorro Municipal Court  
4 shall cease all in-person proceedings by 5:00 p.m. on Monday, August 17, 2020, and  
5 shall remain closed for all in-person proceedings and other in-person activity until  
6 an individualized plan for resuming in-person proceedings is approved by this Court;

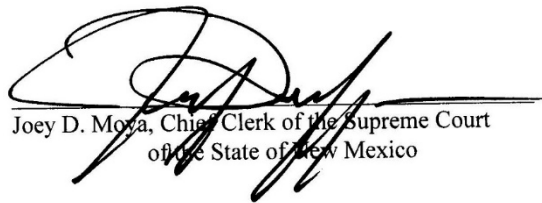
7 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, no later than five (5) business days from  
8 the date of this order, the presiding judge for the Socorro Municipal Court shall  
9 submit to this Court an individualized plan for resuming in-person proceedings in  
10 the Socorro Municipal Court; and

11 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the failure to comply with the terms of this  
12 order may result in a referral to the Judicial Standards Commission.

13 IT IS SO ORDERED.



WITNESS, the Honorable Michael E. Vigil, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of New Mexico, and the seal of said Court this 14th day of August, 2020.

  
Joey D. Moya, Chief Clerk of the Supreme Court  
of the State of New Mexico

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