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

**September 20, 2023**

**No. S-1-AO-2023-00021**

**IN THE MATTER OF THE REORGANIZATION  
OF THE NEW MEXICO COMMISSION ON  
ACCESS TO JUSTICE**

**ORDER**

WHEREAS, this matter previously came on for consideration by the Court upon recommendation of the Civil Legal Services and Program Committee of the State Bar of New Mexico to create a New Mexico Commission on Access to Justice, whereupon this Court issued an order on May 28, 2004, establishing the New Mexico Commission on Access to Justice (ATJ Commission) comprised of eighteen (18) members representative of the bar, judiciary, and legal aid providers;

WHEREAS, the ATJ Commission being desirous of creating a more diverse commission, hired a diversity and inclusion expert with grant funds awarded by the National Center for State Courts (NCSC) to review the Commission's appointment process and create a racial equity action plan;

WHEREAS, this matter is now before the Court for consideration upon request of the ATJ Commission to diversify the Commission's membership to include a wider array of people from a variety of backgrounds and professions, and to incorporate new selection criteria for nominations of new members based on principles of diversity and inclusion and its grant-commissioned racial equity action plan;

WHEREAS, the Court having considered the foregoing and being sufficiently

1 advised, Chief Justice C. Shannon Bacon, Justice Michael E. Vigil, Justice David K.  
2 Thomson, Justice Julie J. Vargas, and Justice Briana H. Zamora concurring;

3 NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that the request is GRANTED;

4 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the ATJ Commission shall be comprised  
5 of both attorney and non-attorney members reflecting the community, justice system  
6 users, representatives of the bar, judiciary, and legal and community service  
7 providers;

8 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the selection criteria submitted with the  
9 Commission's request is APPROVED; and


10 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the ATJ Commission shall continue to be  
11 comprised of eighteen (18) members and the aforementioned selection criteria shall  
12 be implemented beginning with the filling of vacancies created by the expiration of  
13 the terms of current members.

14 IT IS SO ORDERED.



WITNESS, the Honorable C. Shannon Bacon, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of New Mexico, and the seal of said Court this 20th day of September, 2023.

15 I CERTIFY AND ATTEST:  
A true copy was served on all parties  
or their counsel of record on date filed.  
Elizabeth Edwards  
Deputy Clerk of the Supreme Court  
of the State of New Mexico

  
Elizabeth A. Garcia, Chief Clerk of the Supreme Court  
of the State of New Mexico