



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

2 **June 20, 2024**

3 **NO. S-1-AO-2024-00025**

4 **IN THE MATTER OF REQUIREMENTS**
5 **FOR REQUESTING PRO TEMPORE**
6 **JUDGE DESIGNATIONS**

7 **ORDER**

8 WHEREAS, the Chief Justice has authority under Article VI, Sections 3 and
9 15 of the Constitution of the State of New Mexico to designate out-of-district judges
10 pro tempore when no district court judge is available within a reasonable time to
11 hear a case, when a district court judge is disqualified or otherwise unavailable to
12 expeditiously dispose of a case in the district, or in other special circumstances;

13 WHEREAS, the Chief Justice has previously issued orders regarding the
14 designation of retired judges to serve as judges pro tempore in fiscal year 2024 to
15 address case backlog in state courts throughout New Mexico using the Judges Pro
16 Tempore Fund special appropriation;

17 WHEREAS, providing clear and consistent guidelines for courts to request
18 pro tempore designations is in the best interests of judicial economy and the
19 expeditious disposition of pending matters on state court dockets by streamlining the
20 out-of-district designation process; and

1 WHEREAS, the Court having considered the foregoing and being sufficiently
2 advised, Chief Justice David K. Thomson, Justice Michael E. Vigil, Justice C.
3 Shannon Bacon, Justice Julie J. Vargas, and Justice Briana H. Zamora concurring;

4 NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that the attached criteria and
5 procedures for requesting out-of-district designation of judges pro tempore are
6 hereby APPROVED and ADOPTED.

7 IT IS SO ORDERED.



8 WITNESS, the Honorable David K. Thomson, Chief
9 Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of New Mexico,
10 and the seal of said Court this 20th day of June, 2024.

11 *Elizabeth A. Garcia*

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

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