



STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
INDIAN AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT

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Michelle Lujan Grisham, Governor  
Lynn Trujillo, Secretary  
Nadine Padilla, Deputy Secretary

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Contact:** Sherrie Catanach  
Public Relations, Indian Affairs Department  
[Sherrie.Catanach2@state.nm.us](mailto:Sherrie.Catanach2@state.nm.us)  
(505)469-7599

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**Sec. Trujillo statement commending President Biden's Action on  
Epidemic of Missing and Murdered Indigenous People**

SANTA FE - New Mexico Indian Affairs Department (IAD) Cabinet Secretary and Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Relatives Task Force Chair Lynn Trujillo on Monday released the following statement applauding President Biden's Executive Order directing administration officials to develop a strategy to address the crisis of Missing and Murdered Indigenous People and to enhance public safety and criminal justice for Native Americans during the White House Tribal Nations Summit.

"The fact that our federal partners are making efforts to secure justice for our Indigenous relatives gives me hope. We are grateful to President Biden and his administration for advocating for this work to be expanded. This executive order will help address specific law enforcement issues and support Tribal Nations to implement Tribally-centered responses that create safety efforts tailored to each of our Tribal communities' own cultural and traditional demands. We will continue to work together to ensure that we are actively working towards a remedy to address these injustices and assure the protection of our people."

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*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; challenges such as*

*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](http://www.iad.state.nm.us).*