

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Indian Affairs Department's Melody Delmar receives US Attorney General's Award in Washington, DC

WASHINGTON, DC – Yesterday, Indian Affairs Department Special Projects Coordinator and Constituent Services Liaison Melody Delmar is honored to receive the Merrick B. Garland US Attorney General's Award for Outstanding Contributions to Community Partnerships for Public Safety.

The award recognizes extraordinary contributions to building collaborations that draw upon the skills and resources of a range of stakeholders within a community – including state and local community leaders, law enforcement officials, community leaders, and service providers. Melody was selected along a group of fifteen New Mexican recipients who have been addressing the MMIP initiatives through community collaboration.

"I want to congratulate Melody for this recognition of her work, but more importantly, I want to thank her for her dedication to seeking justice for the families of Missing and Murdered Indigenous People in New Mexico," said **Gov. Lujan Grisham.**

"In the heartfelt celebration of Melody Delmar receiving the Merrick B. Garland US Attorney General's Award in Washington DC, we extend our sincere congratulations and deep gratitude. Her achievement is not just an individual honor; it resonates profoundly with all the New Mexico Pueblos, Tribes, and Nations. This recognition brings hope to families dealing with the pain of missing or murdered loved ones, assuring them that the vital work continues. Melody's dedication symbolizes a collective commitment to justice and safety, reinforcing our shared responsibility to build resilient communities. In honoring Melody, we acknowledge the significance of her contributions, a beacon of hope for all those affected by these heart-wrenching situations." **Indian Affairs Cabinet Secretary Designate Josett Monette said.**

"Congratulations to Melody Delmar on receiving Merrick B. Garland US Attorney General's Award in Washington DC! This is a remarkable achievement that reflects Melody's outstanding contributions and dedication to bring awareness to all of our partners and all of Indian Country in New Mexico," said **Governor Jenelle Roybal of Pojoaque Pueblo.** "Her hard work and commitment have clearly made a significant impact, and this recognition is so well-deserved. I am wishing you continued success in bringing awareness to and a hopeful end to the MMIP epidemic. Melody, you are a valued and appreciated member of our team and an amazing advocate for the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Persons."

Melody, with Secretary Designate Josett Monette and the Governor's Office continue to lead state response to MMIP. They are looking forward to the next steps in addressing strategic response with the MMIP Advisory Committee, which will meet for the first time in the coming weeks.

"I'm thankful to receive this award from the honorable Merrick B. Garland, and I want to acknowledge this is not my award, this is ours. For our families, for those working in the background, for those who have been working alongside me and tirelessly. This is yours. I am honored to serve MMIP families," Delmar said.

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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: 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.



Missing or Murdered Indigenous Persons Initiative Team

Missing or Murdereo ...

John Bush
Lisson Specialist
Criminal Justice Information
Sevice for Investigation
Federal Burver. Fancher
Supervisory Special Agent
Abuquerque Field Office
Albuquerque Field Office
Federal Burver. Fancher
Amalia M. Herrera
Openational Support Technician
Arabquerque Field Office
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Russell J. Myers II
Management and Program Analyst
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Federal Burver of Investigation
Nicolette G. Rose
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Dawn Begay
Native American Affairs Coordinates
Albuquerque
City of Albuquerque
Lyan Trujillo
Task Force Chair
Albuquerque Department of Interior
Reycita Billie
Public Safety Answering Point
Supervisor
Albuquerque Division of Public Safety
Clarence Gibson
Special Agent in Charge
Albuquerque New Mexico
Attorney General's Office
Stephanic Salazar
Assistant General Counsel
Albuquerque Sandia Pueblo
Attorney General's Office
Gerard Bartlett
Acting Commander
Albuquerque Police Department
Albuquerque Police Department
Albuquerque New Mexico
Melody Delmar
Staff Lead
Albuquerque New Mexico
Indian Affairs Department
Darlene Gomez
Task Force Officer
Comez LIZC

Albuquerque Law Offices of Darlene Gomez, LLC

Nominated by: Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)

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THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S AWARD THE ATTORNET GENERAL'S AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS TO COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS FOR PUBLIC SAFETY FOR PUBLIC SAFETY

This award recognizes outstanding achievement in the development and support of community partnerships designed to address public safety within a community. The award recognizes the significant contributions of etitzens and community are assisted the Department in the accomplishment of the programs. For 2022 and 2023, two Outstanding Contributions to community Partnerships for Public Safety Awards are presented.

Albert Maresca Jr.

Deputy United States Marshal United States Marshals Service

Nominated by: United States Marshals Service Director (USMS)

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