

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Jodi McGinnis Porter Office of the Governor Jodi.mcginnisporter@exec.nm.gov

May 13, 2024

Governor issues statement on the death of Jicarilla Apache Nation President Edward Velarde

SANTA FE – Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham on Monday issued a statement following the death of Jicarilla Apache Nation President Edward Velarde over the weekend.

"President Velarde was a committed, effective leader who always sought to strengthen statetribal relations. One look no further than his leadership on energy and rural economic development to understand his commitment to his tribal community and the State of New Mexico.

Manny and I extend our condolences to President Velarde's family and the entire Jicarilla Apache Nation as we all grieve his loss," said **Gov. Lujan Grisham.**

"President Velarde demonstrated incredible leadership and dedication to his Nation. I am sending good thoughts to President Velarde's family, friends, and the Jicarilla Apache Nation during this difficult time." said New Mexico Indian Affairs Department **Cabinet Secretary Josett Monette**.