

## STATE OF NEW MEXICO EXECUTIVE OFFICE SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

## roclamation

WHEREAS, following disasters, stressed, and strained homeowners are vulnerable to predatory practices from dishonest contractors fraudulently inflating repair or rebuilding costs; and

WHEREAS, predatory practices by unscrupulous contractors ultimately increase costs for consumers by driving up insurance premiums and forcing insurers to reevaluate risk; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative that we implement a public outreach campaign that effectively highlights the various forms of contractor fraud, ensuring that our citizens are well-equipped to identify and avoid such deceptive practices; and

WHEREAS, the National Insurance Crime Bureau encourages New Mexicans to get at least three written estimates, check contractor credentials, and work closely with insurers during the entire rebuilding process when hiring a contractor; and

WHEREAS, the National Insurance Crime Bureau, in collaboration with its local and state partners in New Mexico, including law enforcement, first responders, legislators, and state officials, are committed to educating New Mexicans about predatory practices by dishonest contractors; and

WHEREAS, contractor fraud schemes can take many forms, including advance payment scams, deceptive practices, and unlicensed contracting, often leaving consumers financially vulnerable; and

WHEREAS, it is essential for consumers to be informed and vigilant in recognizing the signs of contractor fraud to protect themselves and their investments.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Michelle Lujan Grisham, Governor of the State of New Mexico, do hereby proclaim May 19-23, 2025, as:

"Fifth Annual Contractor Fraud Awareness Week"

Attest:

Maggie Toulouse Oliver

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Secretary of State

Done at the Executive Office this 11th day of March 2025.

Witness my hand and the Great Seal of the State of New Mexico.