



# MMIP TASK FORCE MEMBERSHIP

## CHAIR & CO-CHAIR

### **Stephanie Padilla** (Isleta Pueblo)

Chairwoman, NMDOJ MMIP Task Force,  
Assistant Attorney General – Government Counsel & Accountability Division, NMDOJ

### **Meskee (Yanabah) Tsotaddle-Yatsayte**

(Diné, Kiowa, Potawatomi, Guachichil Mexican)

Co-Chair, NMDOJ MMIP Task Force Founder, Navajo Nation Missing Persons Updates

## NMDOJ STAFF

### **Sevía Gonzales**

Secretary, NMDOJ MMIP Task Force, Policy Analyst – Legislative &  
Intergovernmental Affairs, NMDOJ

### **Danica Cotov**

Assistant Attorney General – Indian Affairs Division, NMDOJ

### **Michael Kiehne**

Assistant Attorney General – Indian Affairs Division, NMDOJ

## MEMBERS (ALPHA ORDER)

### **Gabe Aguilar** (Mescalero Apache Tribe)

Council Member, Mescalero Apache Tribal Council

### **Birga Alden**

Chief Communications Officer / Community Outreach Coordinator, New Mexico Dream Center

### **Jamie Allbach**

Gender Justice Program Coordinator, Tewa Women United

### **Adrian Armijo**

Chief of Police, Sandia Pueblo

### **Yolanda Azua** (Navajo/Diné)

MMIR & Disabilities Affairs Liaison, Navajo Nation Office of the President and Vice President

### **Shelly Begay** (Navajo/Diné)

Native American Liaison & Administrative Officer, New Mexico Health Care Authority

### **Bernadine Beyale** (Navajo/Diné)

Founder / Executive Director, 4 Corners K-9 Search and Rescue

### **Reycita Billie** (Navajo/Diné)

MMIP Coordinator / PSAP Supervisor, Navajo Police Department

### **Kevin Burns**

Captain, San Juan County Sheriff's Office

### **DeeJay Chino** (Laguna Pueblo, Northern Cheyenne, Navajo/Diné)

Executive Director, All Pueblo Council of Governors

### **Amber Kanazbah Crotty** (Navajo/Diné)

Council Delegate, Navajo Nation Tribal Council



## MEMBERS (CONT.)

### **Kyle Dowdy**

Deputy Chief, Farmington Police Department

### **Kyle Hartsock**

Criminal Investigation Division Commander, Albuquerque Police Department

### **Paul Joye**

Chief of Police, Santa Fe Police Department

### **Dinah Lee** (Navajo/Diné)

Special Agent, U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs Missing and Murdered Unit

### **Charlotte Little** (San Felipe Pueblo)

New Mexico House Representative, District 68

### **Cina Littlebird** (Laguna Pueblo)

Native American Program Director, New Mexico Legal Aid

### **Linda M. Lopez**

New Mexico Senator, District 11

### **James Maiorano III**

Sheriff, McKinley County Sheriff's Office

### **Eliot Neal**

Assistant U.S. Attorney – MMIP, New Mexico U.S. Attorney's Office

### **Kristina Padilla** (Acoma, Laguna, and Taos Pueblos)

Case Manager, Rape Crisis Center of Central New Mexico

### **Shannon Pinto** (Navajo/Diné)

New Mexico Senator, District 3

### **Deiandra Reid** (Navajo/Diné)

Land & Body Violence Coordinator, Coalition to Stop Violence Against Native Women

### **Victor Rodriguez**

Chief of Police, Isleta Pueblo

### **Joyce Shroulote** (Navajo/Diné, Ohkay Owingeh, Hopi)

Community Engagement Coordinator, Tewa Women United

### **Glenn St. Onge**

Executive Director, Domestic Violence Resource Center

### **Sarah Tafoya**

Assistant SANE Director, Albuquerque Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANE) Collaborative

### **Audrey Tolth** (Navajo/Diné)

Behavioral Health Care Manager, New Mexico Solutions

### **Octavian Valencia**

Staff Manager – Missing Persons Clearinghouse, New Mexico Department of Public Safety

### **Tonita Vigil** (Jicarilla Apache Nation)

Tribal Prosecutor, Jicarilla Apache Nation

## CONSULTANTS

### **Alyssa Begay** (Navajo/Diné)

Commissioner, Farmington Community Relations Commission

### **Genevieve Chavez** (Navajo/Diné)

Lead Case Manager – Human Trafficking Program, First Nations Community HealthSource

### **Lacey Guinn** (Muskogee)

Associate Director, Sexual Assault Services of Northwest New Mexico



# MEMBER PROFILES

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## CHAIR & CO-CHAIR

### **Stephanie Padilla** (Isleta Pueblo)

Stephanie Padilla, a proud member of Isleta Pueblo, joined the New Mexico Department of Justice (NMDNJ) after working as a children's court attorney for the Children, Youth and Families Department for one and a half years. She is a proud alumna of the Native American Community Academy, the University of New Mexico, and the University of New Mexico School of Law. Stephanie currently serves our community as an Assistant Attorney General in the Government Counsel & Accountability Division is the Chairwoman of the NMDNJ Missing and Murdered Indigenous Peoples (MMIP) Task Force.

### **Meskee (Yanabah) Tsothaddle-Yatsayte** (Diné, Kiowa, Potawatomi, Guachichil Mexican)

Meskee Yanabah Tsothaddle-Yatsayte is a volunteer Missing and Murdered Indigenous Peoples (MMIP) advocate, community organizer and the founder of Navajo Nation Missing Persons Updates, a volunteer grassroots organization that works with families to raise awareness and advocate for their missing loved ones, which she created in May of 2013. Ms. Yatsayte is also a founding member and the Board Vice Chair of the Missing and Murdered Diné Relatives Coalition (MMDRC), a multidisciplinary team that works to support victims and families by providing crucial aid, resources and advocacy and aims to improve MMIP data collection, organize community members, and develop toolkits for addressing the MMIP crisis. She previously served as a member of the Indian Affairs Department (IAD) Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Relatives (MMIWR) Task Force and played a key role in instituting Missing in New Mexico Day, an annual event meant to connect the families of missing loved ones with services and law enforcement agencies from throughout the state. Ms. Yatsayte currently serves as Co-Chair of the NMDNJ (MMIP) Task Force.



# NMDOJ STAFF

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## **Sevía Gonzales**

A lifelong New Mexican, Sevía Gonzales currently serves as a Policy Analyst for the New Mexico Department of Justice (NMDOJ), focusing on legislative and intergovernmental affairs. She first became involved in cross-agency efforts to address MMIP in New Mexico during her time working for the Torrez administration at the Second Judicial District Attorney's Office. At the DA's Office, she regularly collaborated with the Indian Affairs Department (IAD) Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women & Relatives (MMIWR) Task Force and contributed to the successful creation of a specialized MMIP subunit within the DA's Office Crime Strategies Unit to support investigations, improve data analysis and cultural competency, and enhance collaboration between tribal and state law enforcement. A graduate of the University of New Mexico, Sevía earned her BA in Journalism & Mass Communications, covering stories from around the state and gaining recognition for excellence in collegiate reporting. She recognizes the power of storytelling and open-minded listening as catalysts for positive change – a mindset that drives her commitment to uplifting communities through a holistic, person-centered approach to policy and reform. Sevía is honored to serve as Secretary of the NMDOJ MMIP Task Force.

## **Danica Cotov**

Danica Cotov is originally from the East Coast and most recently lived in Aztec, New Mexico. After graduating law school, Danica worked for DNA – People's Legal Services in both Flagstaff, AZ and Farmington, NM, focusing on civil and family law matters such as guardianships, protection orders and landlord tenant cases. For over three and a half years, Danica assisted clients throughout the Navajo Nation as well as in San Juan County, NM, and helped to plan and organize regular outreach events. As an attorney with the NMDOJ's Indian Affairs Division, Danica continues to connect with and serve tribal communities throughout the state.

## **Michael Kiehne**

Michael Kiehne (Mike) is originally from Anthony, NM, and recently moved to Santa Fe after spending 14 years living in Michigan. Mike worked for a large nonprofit law firm in Michigan for the past 10 years. At first, his work focused on developing materials to assist self-represented litigants and organizing legal clinics to help remove barriers to employment, such as expungement and driver's license restoration. Mike then transitioned to advocating for survivors of domestic violence, especially in family law cases and with protection orders. He ended his time in Michigan as a supervising attorney, still focusing mostly on domestic violence advocacy but also assisting clients with different administrative law hearings. Mike is honored to be a part of the New Mexico Department of Justice, Indian Affairs Division and the NMDOJ MMIP Task Force.





# MEMBERS (ALPHA ORDER)

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## **Gabe Aguilar**

Gabe Aguilar is a current Council Member and the Secretary of the Mescalero Apache Tribal Council. He chairs the Council's Community Service Committee and also sits on the Executive, Programs, and Cultural Committees. He will serve on the NMDOJ MMIP Task Force on behalf of the Mescalero Apache Nation.

## **Birga Alden**

Birga Alden is the Chief Communications Officer and Community Outreach Coordinator for the New Mexico Dream Center (NMDC), a non-profit with a mission to address human trafficking through education, outreach, survivor services, and client support. NMDC also focuses on supporting at-risk and unhoused youth. Passionate about fostering community connection, Birga is dedicated to making the NMDC an accessible and valued community resource. Outside of work, she enjoys spending time with her family, writing, podcasting, and walking her dogs.

## **Jamie Allbach**

Jamie Allbach is the Gender Justice Program Manager for Tewa Women United (TWU), a multicultural and multiracial organization led by Native women and rooted in ancestral Tewa homelands. With a BA and MA in Education and a background in community prevention, Jamie brings her passion for healing and resilience to TWU's mission to address gender-based violence and empower Indigenous women and girls. She is deeply committed to fostering spaces that promote safety and justice for all, in alignment with TWU's values of respect, connection, and environmental care. Over the years, Jamie has held various roles in nonprofits dedicated to supporting survivors of trauma and advancing gender justice, contributing her expertise to creating meaningful community change.

## **Adrian Armijo**

Adrian Armijo began his law enforcement career with the Socorro Police Department in 1993 before joining the New Mexico State Police in 1998. Over his 25-year tenure, he worked in Patrol, Criminal Investigations, and Special Operations, investigating hundreds of cases. Armijo retired as a Deputy Chief in charge of the Uniform Division and Training Academy. In 2022, he became the Chief of Police for the Pueblo of Sandia, bringing his extensive experience and leadership to the role. He now extends his skills and commitment to the NMDOJ MMIP Task Force, working to address the critical issue of missing and murdered Indigenous people in New Mexico.



**Yolanda Azua (Navajo/Diné)**

Yolanda Azua currently serves as the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Relatives (MMIR) and Disabilities Affairs Liaison for the Navajo Nation's Office of the President and Vice President. She is also a member of the Navajo Nation Council's Missing and Murdered Diné Relatives (MMDR) Task Force, where she is working with other members to develop a comprehensive victim advocate program. Yolanda co-founded the Hozho Center for Personal Enhancement, which serves the community by providing culturally competent treatment and support and has been recognized for its efforts to assist homeless Native Americans in Gallup. With over 20 years of community service experience and a strong track record in education, outreach, and advocacy, Yolanda now extends her commitment to addressing critical issues affecting Indigenous communities by serving as a member of the NMDOJ MMIP Task Force on behalf of the Navajo Nation Office of the President and Vice President.

**Shelly Begay (Navajo/Diné)**

Shelly Begay, MS, MLS, serves as the Native American Liaison and Administrative Officer for the New Mexico Human Services Department (HSD). In this role, she monitors state-tribal relations, supports government-to-government collaboration, and works closely with the Indian Affairs Department. Ms. Begay leads efforts to advance the goals of HSD's Native American Initiative by addressing tribal concerns and gathering input on issues affecting Native communities across state and federal programs. Shelly has also played a pivotal role in the state's outreach against fraudulent rehab scams targeting Native Americans, encouraging the use of the 988 emergency line to report suspicious activities. Through initiatives like "Don't Be Taken For a Ride," she raises awareness and provides resources to protect vulnerable tribal communities from exploitation.

**Bernadine Beyale (Navajo/Diné)**

Bernadine Beyale is the Founder and Executive Director of 4 Corners K-9 Search and Rescue (4CK9SAR), where she leads a specialized K9 team focused on locating, rescuing, and recovering missing persons across Native American Tribal Lands and surrounding areas in New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, and Colorado. Recognizing a critical gap in services for families and inspired by the natural instincts of her German Shepherd, Trigger, she launched 4CK9SAR to provide boots-on-the-ground support, K9 assistance, and enhanced collaboration between families and law enforcement. With a background in criminal justice and business administration, Bernadine regularly assists tribal law enforcement, local and county sheriff's departments, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and the Federal Bureau of Investigations. She holds certifications from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the New Mexico Department of Public Safety, and the National Association of Search and Rescue. Bernadine serves on the New Mexico Human Trafficking Task Force, collaborates with the Missing Murdered Diné Relatives Task Force and Indian Affairs Department MMIP Advisory Council, and works with organizations like the Coalition to Stop Violence Against Native Women and the American Civil Liberties Union to provide vital resources to families seeking justice and closure.



### **Reycita Billie (Navajo/Diné)**

Reycita Billie is the MMIP Coordinator and a Public Safety Answering Point Supervisor for the Navajo Police Department (NPD). Ms. Billie is born for the Waterflows Together Clan and Red House Plan Clan; her maternal grandparents are Within His Cover Clan and paternal grandparents are Salt People Clan. She has spent the past 18 years serving the Navajo Nation Division of Public Safety and is deeply grateful for the ongoing support of family, friends, mentors, MMIP families, the NPD, and the Navajo Nation. Over the past two years, Reycita has worked closely with the NPD Missing Persons Unit and a number of other law enforcement agencies to support MMIP families. As a member of the NMDOJ MMIP Task Force, she looks forward to continuing the mission of fostering open communication and providing crucial resources and support services to families in need.

### **Kevin Burns**

Kevin Burns currently serves as a Captain with the San Juan County Sheriff's Office, where he oversees investigations, records, evidence management, support services, and public information. Captain Burns is dedicated to fostering strong partnerships between law enforcement, non-governmental organizations, and the community to improve investigative processes and assist in locating missing persons. His commitment to protecting the vulnerable and serving the citizens of New Mexico lies at the core of his work.

### **DeeJay Chino (Laguna Pueblo/Northern Cheyenne/Diné)**

DeeJay Chino, PhD, MPA, currently serves as the Executive Director of the New Mexico All Pueblo Council of Governors. Dr. Chino earned her bachelor's degree in political science from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV), her master's in public administration from the University of South Florida and completed her PhD in public affairs at UNLV. Her dissertation work focused on the implementation of federal legislation into culturally appropriate Tribal policies and practices specific to violence against women. With over 15 years of experience working in Indian country in various capacities, Dr. Chino has developed and implemented a federally funded Native college internship program that provided students the opportunity to work with victims of crime in tribal communities and assisted in the creation and development of the National Institute of Justice's National Baseline Study, which focused on the public health, safety, and wellness of American Indian and Alaska Native women residing in tribal communities. Dr. Chino will serve as a member of the NMDOJ MMIP Task Force on behalf of the All Pueblo Council of Governors.





### **Amber Kanazbah Crotty (Navajo/Diné)**

The Honorable Amber Kanazbah Crotty has served as a Navajo Nation Council Delegate since 2015 and currently sits on the Budget and Finance Committee, the Naabik'iyáti' Sexual Assault Prevention Subcommittee, and serves as the New Mexico Delegate Caucus Chair. She plays a key role in leading both the Missing and Murdered Diné Relatives (MMDR) Task Force and the MMDR Coalition, and also serves as a Not Invisible Act Commissioner. Delegate Crotty has held leadership roles within the Diné Policy Institute and Diné College and was previously a member of the Indian Affairs Department Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Relatives Task Force. She comes from a long legacy of female leaders, strong weavers, tenacious shepherders, and loving grandmothers, and as a leader, mother, and community member, has worked tirelessly to improve responses to sexual violence and MMIP, strengthen intergovernmental coordination and data-sharing, and expand resources for survivors on the Navajo Nation and beyond.

### **Kyle Dowdy**

Deputy Chief Kyle A. Dowdy has served with the Farmington Police Department since 2004, holding leadership roles in Patrol, SWAT, and Special Operations, and acting as liaison to the LGBTQ+ community, a first for Farmington PD. As a Deputy Chief, he brings extensive experience in overseeing investigations, purchasing and procurement, and working collaboratively with community stakeholders, particularly in border towns like Farmington near the Navajo Reservation. Deputy Chief Dowdy previously collaborated with the Indian Affairs Department Missing and Murdered Women and Relatives Task Force and is deeply committed to addressing cases within Indigenous communities. Dedicated to public service and justice, he looks forward to applying his leadership skills and firsthand knowledge of the challenges faced by Indigenous communities to advance the NMDOJ MMIP Task Force's mission of seeking justice and healing.

### **Kyle Hartsock**

Kyle Hartsock currently serves as the Commander of the Criminal Investigation Division and Missing Persons Unit for the Albuquerque Police Department (APD), overseeing homicide, sex offense, family violence, and human trafficking cases. Under his leadership, the department launched one of New Mexico's first full-time mobile digital forensic units, which has been instrumental in doubling APD's clearance rate. Commander Hartsock began his law enforcement career with the Bernalillo County Sheriff's Office, where he created the Ghost Unit, which pioneered a victim-centered response to human trafficking in Albuquerque, and later led the Second Judicial District Attorney's Office Crime Strategies Unit, where his team solved New Mexico's first forensic genealogy case. He previously collaborated with the Indian Affairs Department Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Relatives Task Force and remains dedicated to serving the community and advancing the efficiency and effectiveness of sexual assault kit testing and investigations.





## **Paul Joye**

Paul Joye has served as the Chief of Police for the Santa Fe Police Department since December 2021. Prior to this role, he spent most of his law enforcement career in the Criminal Investigations Section, overseeing the Crimes Against Persons, Special Victims, and Intel Units. Chief Joye has also acted as a dedicated law enforcement liaison for several community-focused initiatives addressing mental health, homelessness, and crime prevention. He brings this broad expertise and a strong commitment to public safety to his work with the NMDOJ MMIP Task Force.

## **Dinah Lee (Navajo/Diné)**

Dinah Lee is a Special Agent with the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Missing and Murdered Unit (MMU) in Albuquerque, New Mexico, and has nine years of law enforcement experience conducting criminal investigations within Indian Country. Instituted by Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland in 2021, the BIA MMU investigates unsolved homicides and missing persons cases in Indian Country and is charged with fostering strong collaboration between federal, state, and tribal agencies to enhance investigative processes and better address the pressing issue of MMIP within New Mexico. When not working on a case, Dinah enjoys spending time with family and friends.

## **Charlotte Little (San Felipe Pueblo)**

Representative Charlotte Little (D) is a member of the New Mexico House of Representatives for District 68, which encompasses northwest Albuquerque. She comes from the Pueblo of San Felipe, where she was raised. With a strong family tradition of service, she has spent over 17 years as a small business owner, Tribal Administrator, and Administrative Officer for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Her leadership extends to roles as Chair of Emerge New Mexico, Vice-Chair of New Mexico Voices for Children, and Chair of the San Felipe Pueblo Health Board. In the House, she is a member of key committees focused on commerce, economic development, and government and Indian affairs, shaping policy to support New Mexico's diverse communities.



### **Cina Littlebird (Laguna Pueblo)**

Cina Littlebird is the Director of the Native American Program at New Mexico Legal Aid (NMLA), where she leads efforts to provide free legal services to low-income Native Americans on or near the 19 Pueblos and the Mescalero Apache Nation. Before joining NMLA, she worked with the Northwest Justice Project's (NJP) Native American Unit in Washington, supporting Native families by addressing civil legal issues, including those related to missing relatives. With a JD and MA in education from Stanford, Cina's time at NJP began with a fellowship project supporting Native American students. Her current work includes supporting survivors and families of missing relatives by collaborating with advocacy organizations across New Mexico, Arizona, and Utah to support families when these issues cross jurisdictional lines. Cina now brings her passion for breaking cycles of inequity and advancing tribal sovereignty to the NMDOJ MMIP Task Force.

### **Linda M. Lopez**

Senator Linda M. Lopez (D) has represented New Mexico's District 11 in the State Senate since 1997. She earned her MBA from the College of Santa Fe and is the owner of Lopez Consulting. An active community member, Sen. Lopez has chaired the Bernalillo County Democratic Party and served on the boards of the First Choice Community Health Foundation, La Colmena, and the Albuquerque Rape Crisis Center. She is also an advisory board member for HopeWorks, the largest homeless service provider in New Mexico. In the Senate, she has held leadership roles, including Majority Whip (2021–2023), and is committed to initiatives that support economic development, education and justice reform, healthcare, and services for families in need. In 2024, she co-sponsored Senate Joint Memorial 2, the legislation establishing the NMDOJ MMIP Task Force.

### **James Maiorano III**

Sheriff James Maiorano III has served McKinley County for over 22 years, starting his law enforcement career with the Gallup Police Department in 2000 and joining the McKinley County Sheriff's Office in 2004. He served as a Sergeant, Lieutenant, Captain, and Undersheriff before becoming Sheriff and holds over 1,000 hours of advanced training and certifications in areas like Active Shooter Response and Use of Force. He has built strong partnerships with the Navajo Nation and Zuni Pueblo, collaborating on cross-jurisdictional missing persons cases. A former member of the Indian Affairs Department Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Relatives Force law enforcement subcommittee, he is committed to improving the quality of life in McKinley County and the state as a whole through education, enforcement, and accountability. Sheriff Maiorano looks forward to representing the New Mexico Sheriff's Association on the NMDOJ MMIP Task Force.



## **Eliot Neal**

Eliot Neal is the Missing or Murdered Indigenous Person Assistant United States Attorney (MMIP AUSA) for the Southwest Region, which includes New Mexico, Colorado, Utah, Nevada, and Arizona. As one of five specialized MMIP AUSAs serving United States Attorneys' offices, AUSA Neal advocates for Indigenous communities, supports investigations of unresolved MMIP cases, and fosters collaboration between federal, tribal, state, and local law enforcement agencies. Prior to this role, he worked on a variety of cases including child exploitation, gun crimes, and Indian Country crimes and served as the Tribal Liaison to the Mescalero Apache Tribe, where he helped reestablish a crucial government-to-government relationship. Eliot's personal experiences and commitment to justice drive his work in addressing the MMIP crisis and supporting impacted families.

## **Kristina Padilla (Acoma, Laguna, and Taos Pueblos)**

Kristina Padilla is a Case Manager with the Rape Crisis Center of Central New Mexico (RCCCNM), where she supports survivors of sex trafficking and sexual assault. She has previously worked with the Indian Affairs Department (IAD) MMIWR Task Force and has experience building collaborative partnerships with agencies such as the Department of Justice in Washington, D.C. Kristina's advocacy journey began during her time with the First Nations Community HealthSource Human Trafficking Team, an experience she has built upon since joining RCCCNM. With a deep-rooted commitment to bringing justice, resources, and visibility to survivors—a passion that originated from her studies at Haskell Indian Nations University—Kristina is dedicated to collaborating with various agencies and pueblos across New Mexico to address the intersectional issues contributing to MMIP in our state.

## **Shannon D. Pinto (Navajo/Diné)**

Senator Shannon Pinto (D) is the only Diné member of the New Mexico Senate, representing District 3, which encompasses parts of the Navajo Nation, San Juan and McKinley counties, the Southern Ute Indian Reservation, and the city of Gallup. Appointed by Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham in 2019, she is committed to improving infrastructure, public safety, government accountability, and addressing the crisis of Missing and Murdered Indigenous People (MMIP) in New Mexico. Continuing her grandfather Senator John Pinto's legacy, she co-sponsors key legislation supporting Indigenous communities and has recently worked to secure funding, equipment, and forensic technology to aid tribal efforts in locating missing loved ones. Senator Pinto currently chairs the Indian, Rural & Cultural Affairs Committee, serves as the Vice-Chair of the Indian Affairs Committee, and actively participates in numerous interim committees. Senator Pinto was also a key sponsor 2024 Senate Joint Memorial 2, which calls for the formation of NMDOJ MMIP Task Force.



**Deiandra Reid (Navajo/Diné)**

Deiandra Reid serves as the Land & Body Violence Coordinator for the Coalition to Stop Violence Against Native Women (CSVANW), a non-profit dedicated to eradicating violence against Native women and children through support, education, and advocacy. In her role, she assists impacted families in New Mexico as they search for their loved ones and advocate for justice. Her commitment to this work is deeply personal, as she is also searching for her sister, Tiffany Reid, who has been missing for over 20 years. Through her efforts, Deiandra embodies CSVANW's mission to foster healthy families and communities, contributing to the creation of violence-free spaces for all.

**Victor Rodriguez**

Pueblo of Isleta Police Chief Victor Rodriguez's law enforcement career within the State of New Mexico has included holding various administrator, director, command, and first-line supervisor leadership positions in state, city, and municipal governments. Chief Rodriguez holds a Master's Degree in Business Administration and Criminal Justice Administration from the University of Phoenix. Chief Rodriguez is a proud graduate of the Northwestern University Public Safety Center School of Staff and Command Class #445 and FBI Command Course Class #7, both stable institutions in law enforcement leadership. As a tribal police chief with 24 years of law enforcement experience, Chief Rodriguez has committed himself to becoming a proactive voice in advocating for strategies and best practices aimed at reducing and resolving incidents of missing or murdered indigenous persons.

**Joyce Shroulote (Navajo/Diné, Ohkay Owingeh, Hopi)**

Joyce Shroulote is a Diné, Hopi, and Ohkay Owingeh artist, poet, and activist from Española, New Mexico, and currently serves as the Gender Justice Program Assistant for Tewa Women United (TWU). Before joining the TWU staff, Joycelyn spent many years participating in the organization's A'Gin Youth Council, which supports Indigenous youth ages 11-17 in developing leadership skills, building peer connections, and engaging in advocacy. Named one of Santa Fe's Youth Poets Laureate until 2025, Joyce is passionate about using her creative talents—including photography, street art, murals, and poetry—to advocate for land, history, and environmental conservation, community empowerment, and Indigenous voices. She also runs a community-centered skateboarding zine, What's the Word, which highlights local art, music, and skate culture in northern New Mexico.





## **Glenn St. Onge**

Glenn St. Onge is the Executive Director of the Domestic Violence Resource Center in Albuquerque. A law enforcement career professional, he retired as a Lieutenant from the Albuquerque Police Department after 21 years of service, where he gained extensive experience supervising units focused on Sex Crimes, Crimes Against Children, Child Exploitation, Crisis Intervention, and Violent Crimes. A Navy veteran with multiple overseas deployments, Glenn has also worked nearly a decade in the security industry, handling both civilian and federal contracts. He is dedicated to delivering high-quality support to survivors of domestic violence and serving the Albuquerque community.

## **Sarah Tafoya**

Sarah Tafoya, MSN-FN, RN, CEN, SANE-A, FNE, is the Assistant Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANE) Director and Community Outreach Coordinator with the Albuquerque SANE Collaborative, with 16 years of experience as a nurse, primarily in emergency medicine. Born and raised in Albuquerque, New Mexico, Sarah has lived in 11 states and worked in over 20 emergency departments, focusing on intersectional healthcare within forensic nursing. Sarah is a co-author of a chapter on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women for a forthcoming book focused on violence against women. She is an active member of the Albuquerque Sex Trafficking Allied Response Team (START) and the Intimate Partner Violence Death Review Team (IPVDRT). As a Chicana, she is committed to providing resources and support to Black, Brown, and Indigenous communities and LGBTQIA2S+ individuals through her work in emergency and forensic nursing.

## **Audrey Tolth (Navajo/Diné)**

Audrey Tolth is a Behavioral Health Care Manager at New Mexico Solutions, where she connects clients to community resources and coordinates their care. With previous experience in child welfare and as a nurse technician, Ms. Tolth now works as part of a dedicated team providing trauma-informed, evidence-based behavioral health services aimed at improving the well-being of individuals and families throughout the community. New Mexico Solutions offers a range of ethical, community-based resources, such as treatment for substance use disorders, psychosocial rehabilitation, and outpatient services designed to foster healing and provide clients with comprehensive support.



## **Octavian Valencia**

Octavian Valencia is a Staff Manager for the New Mexico Department of Public Safety, where he oversees the Missing Persons Clearinghouse, National Crime Information Center (NCIC), Sex Offender Unit, criminal and non-criminal audit units, and the state's National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS). He has 17 years of experience across corrections, probation, and the judicial system. In addition to his experience, he earned his undergraduate and graduate degrees from the University of Phoenix. Mr. Valencia brings a deep passion for justice to his work and remains dedicated to using his skills and expertise to protect and serve the citizens of New Mexico through his role with the Task Force.

## **Tonita Vigil (Jicarilla Apache Nation)**

Ms. Tonita Vigil is a tribal prosecutor with nearly a decade of experience serving the Jicarilla Apache Nation. During that time, she has collaborated closely with the Nation's court, police department, and behavioral health and social services programs. She is a strong advocate for leveraging multidisciplinary teams to create impactful programs such as Sexual Assault Response Teams (SARTs) to help victims navigate complex community services and improve those services based on survivor experiences. She is eager to contribute her expertise to advance the Task Force's mission on behalf of the Jicarilla Apache Nation.



# CONSULTANTS

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## **Alyssa Begay (Navajo/Diné)**

Alyssa Begay is a dedicated business owner, community advocate, and Commissioner for the City of Farmington's Community Relations Commission, where she fosters connections between the Navajo Nation and San Juan counties, leveraging her extensive network to support community members in need. As a member of 4 Corners Families & Advocates (4CFA) and the Missing & Murdered Diné Relatives Coalition (MMDRC), she aids families with missing relatives by connecting them to resources, organizing awareness events, and collaborating with local stakeholders. In addition to her advocacy, Alyssa consults at the WESST Farmington Women's Business Center, where she empowers Native entrepreneurs through comprehensive business training and has played a pivotal role in developing the organization's Native Women Rising program, which helps Indigenous women grow their income and businesses. She is also a member of the Four Corners K-9 Search and Rescue Team, working to establish infrastructure that supports their response to tribal, county, state, and federal cases.

## **Genevieve Chavez (Santa Ana Pueblo, Navajo/Diné)**

Genevieve Chavez is the Lead Case Manager for the Human Trafficking Program at First Nations Community HealthSource (FNCH), an Urban Indian and Federally Qualified Health Center that provides integrated, culturally sensitive healthcare addressing the physical, social, emotional, and spiritual needs of community members. With deep expertise in the challenges faced by survivors, Genevieve has educated tribal, local, and national audiences through the Office of Victims of Crime, focusing on the intersectional factors and impacts of human trafficking, prevention strategies and cultural competency. She has collaborated with numerous community and tribal partners, including local police departments, the Navajo Nation, New Mexico Legal Aid, the Rape Crisis Center of Central New Mexico (RCCCNM), and the FBI to connect survivors to referrals and support services. Genevieve also works closely with the human trafficking programs at the Life Link and New Mexico Dream Center. Through her dedicated efforts, she has played a critical role in preventing the exploitation of vulnerable populations and mitigating the effects of human trafficking in New Mexico.

## **Lacey Guinn (Muskogee)**

Lacey Guinn, B.Sc., is the current Associate Director of Sexual Assault Services of Northwest New Mexico (SASNWNM) and oversees operations in the Farmington and Gallup offices, leading direct services programs and coordinating prevention efforts. With over 15 years of experience in advocacy and prevention, Lacey has supported survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and child abuse across multiple states. She has worked on military installations under federal law and with state and nonprofit organizations, such as the Family Crisis Center's human trafficking initiative, which has strong ties to MMIP efforts, and helps raise awareness and provide resources to impacted families. Lacey's expertise and hands-on approach combined with her passion for rural communities, makes her an invaluable leader in providing trauma-informed services and driving change within underrepresented populations.

