



Jackie McKinney, Mayor

Linda Garcia, District 1 Councilor  
Allan Landavazo, District 2 Councilor  
Yogash Kumar, District 3 Councilor  
Fran Palochak, District 4 Councilor

Maryann Ustick, City Manager  
Curtis G. Hayes, City Attorney



April 30, 2020

Dear Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham,

Pursuant to NMSA 1978 §§ 12-10-16 through 12-10-21 ("the Riot Control Act"), I respectfully ask that you declare a state of emergency pursuant within the boundaries of the City of Gallup. This request is being made as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak in our community, which constitutes an unprecedented health crisis. The virus has caused many deaths, stretched our medical facilities and resources to their capacity, and adversely impacted the welfare of the City of Gallup. Our community is unable to adequately address the outbreak without the imposition of certain restrictions necessary to regulate social distancing, public gatherings, sales of good, and the use of public streets. See generally, NMSA 1978, § 12-10-18 (2005).

I recognize this request is unusual and constitutes a drastic measure, and the emergency powers set out under the Riot Control Act should be invoked sparingly. However, the COVID-19 outbreak in the City of Gallup is a crisis of the highest order. Immediate action is necessary. Only through the invocation of your authority under the Riot Control Act can our community impose the measures necessary to stem transmission of COVID-19. Your support with law enforcement agencies, NMDOT, and the National Guard unit are requested.

We will collaborate with your office to craft the specific restrictions necessary to address this crisis. See generally, NMSA 1978, § 12-10-18 (2005). Further, we recognize that an emergency declaration under the Riot Control Act expires after three days, and that additional requests will need to be made if the situation warrants your continued exercise of authority.

Please make note that my official capacity as Mayor of Gallup ends today at midnight. Mayor Elect Louis Bonaguidi is being sworn into office today at 2:30 pm. Please continue to use the [mayor@gallupnm.gov](mailto:mayor@gallupnm.gov) as your contact. [REDACTED] the office number remains at (505) 863-1221.

Governor, as we discussed in March, the spread of the virus is my first priority and we both understand that extreme measures are necessary during this extraordinary time.

Respectfully submitted,

Jackie McKinney, Mayor  
City of Gallup