



# State of New Mexico

Michelle Lujan Grisham  
*Governor*

## EXECUTIVE ORDER 2022-144

### RESCINDING OFFENSIVE TERRITORIAL PROCLAMATIONS

**WHEREAS**, New Mexico is home to twenty-three sovereign Native American nations: nineteen Pueblos (Acoma, Cochiti, Isleta, Jemez, Laguna, Nambe, Ohkay Owingeh, Picuris, Pojoaque, Sandia, San Felipe, San Ildefonso, Santa Ana, Santa Clara, Santo Domingo, Taos, Tesuque, Zuni, and Zia), three Apache Tribes (the Fort Sill Apache Tribe, the Jicarilla Apache Nation and the Mescalero Apache Tribe), and the Navajo Nation;

**WHEREAS**, New Mexico has approximately 262,500 Native American inhabitants according to the 2020 Census, which represent nearly 12.4% of the State's entire population;

**WHEREAS**, New Mexico's Native American inhabitants belong to some of the oldest tribal communities in the country, and their culture and traditions are inextricably woven into our history;

**WHEREAS**, the government of New Mexico has not always respected the importance and sovereignty of our Native American citizens, and our history is sadly stained with cruel mistreatment of Native Americans; for example, New Mexico territorial county commissions have offered bounties for scalps of Apache men and women;

**WHEREAS**, this lack of respect and outright hostility has been memorialized in territorial governors' proclamations;

**WHEREAS**, for instance, Governor James S. Calhoun issued a proclamation on March 12, 1851, to “take an accurate census or enumeration of all the inhabitants (Indians excepted) of the several counties and districts in which they are respectively assigned”;

**WHEREAS**, Governor Calhoun issued another proclamation on March 18, 1851, organizing and authorizing militia to “pursue and attack any hostile tribe of Indians that may have entered settlements for the purpose of plunder and depredation” and seize their property;

**WHEREAS**, Governor Robert B. Mitchell issued a proclamation on August 2, 1869, declaring the “Navajo and Apache Indian tribes” as “outlaws,” providing for their punishment “wherever found outside the limits of their respective reservations,” and authorizing citizens to “use sufficient force . . . even should it result in the killing of every such depredator”;

**WHEREAS**, Governor William A. Pile issued a similar proclamation on September 8, 1869, directed at the Navajo tribe;

**WHEREAS**, these proclamations have never been officially rescinded; and

**WHEREAS**, it is appropriate to rescind these shameful proclamations today, Indigenous People’s Day, in order to honor our Native American citizens and remedy some of the injustices our government has perpetrated.

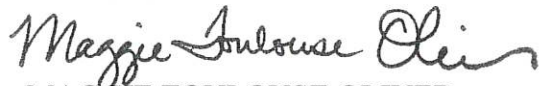
**NOW, THEREFORE, I**, Michelle Lujan Grisham, Governor of the State of New Mexico, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the State of New Mexico, do hereby **ORDER** and **DIRECT**:

1. The following proclamations are hereby rescinded:
  - a. March 12, 1851, proclamation of Governor James S. Calhoun;
  - b. March 18, 1851, proclamation of Governor James S. Calhoun;
  - c. August 2, 1869, proclamation of Governor Robert B. Mitchell;

d. September 8, 1869, proclamation of Governor William A. Pile;

2. This Order shall take effect on Monday, October 10, 2022, and shall remain in effect until renewed, modified, or rescinded.

ATTEST:



MAGGIE TOULOUSE OLIVER  
SECRETARY OF STATE

DONE AT THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE  
THIS 7TH DAY OF OCTOBER 2022

WITNESS MY HAND AND THE GREAT  
SEAL OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO



MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM  
GOVERNOR

