



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Crystal Lees Appointed to Second Judicial District Court Bench**

Crystal Lees has been appointed to Division XXIV of the Second Judicial District Court by Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham. She will fill the vacancy due to the retirement of the Honorable Debra Ramirez and will be assigned to the Family Division.

Ms. Lees currently serves as a Domestic Relations Hearing Officer for the Second Judicial District Court, where she presides over hearings related to child custody, divorce, child support, and domestic violence matters. She earned her undergraduate degree from the University of New Mexico and her law degree from Texas Tech University School of Law. Before joining the Second Judicial District Court as a hearing officer, Ms. Lees worked in private practice and for the State of New Mexico Human Services Division.

“It is truly an honor to be selected for this position,” said **Crystal Lees**. “I am committed to serving the public with fairness, integrity, and dedication. I look forward to working alongside my colleagues and the dedicated staff.”

“We are fortunate to welcome Crystal Lees as the Second Judicial District Court’s newly appointed judge,” said **Chief Judge Marie Ward**. “Her experience as a hearing officer, combined with her commitment to justice and the well-being of families, will make her a great asset to the Family Division. We look forward to her continued contributions on the bench.”

Ms. Lees will be sworn in on January 17, 2025.

*About the Second Judicial District Court: The court is located in Bernalillo County in the State of New Mexico. With 30 judges, it handles cases in four divisions: civil, criminal, family, and children’s court. The Second Judicial District Court is a court of general jurisdiction, handling a wide range of matters including tort, contract, real property rights, estate, domestic relations, mental health, appeals from administrative agencies and lower courts, criminal prosecutions, adoptions, child welfare, and juvenile delinquency.*