

BERNALILLO COUNTY

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

ADMINISTRATIVE RESOLUTION NO. 2019-17

1 **A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A BERNALILLO COUNTY/CITY OF**
2 **ALBUQUERQUE CENSUS 2020 COMPLETE COUNT COMMITTEE**

3 **WHEREAS**, a decennial census of every United States resident is required under Article
4 1, Section 2 of the U.S. Constitution; and

5 **WHEREAS**, an accurate census count is essential for the equitable allocation of political
6 representation within the United States Congress, the New Mexico State Legislature, and within
7 city and county voting districts; and

8 **WHEREAS**, billions of federal, state, and local dollars for health, education,
9 transportation, childcare, senior services, emergency preparation and response, and other social
10 support programs of all kinds are appropriated based on census data so an accurate census count
11 of every county resident in 2020 will guarantee Bernalillo County its fair share of funding for the
12 coming decade; and

13 **WHEREAS**, in 2010, New Mexico had the second lowest response rate in the nation.
14 New Mexico currently receives federal funding of \$6 Billion per year, so the participation of
15 every single county resident matters. It is estimated that every New Mexico resident counted in
16 the 2020 Census represents approximately \$3,000 per person, per year for the next decade. Just a
17 1% undercount of New Mexicans could result in a \$600,000,000 loss of funds in a ten-year
18 period; and

1 **WHEREAS**, all units of government require accurate population and income data for
2 planning purposes and to determine the need for transportation, education, health, and social
3 programs; and

4 **WHEREAS**, individual and family information is confidential and protected by strict
5 federal laws. 2020 Census information will not be released except in large statistical totals that
6 protect all personal information until 2092, and then for genealogical purposes only; and

7 **WHEREAS**, previous decennial census counts have demonstrated that county residents
8 in high-density urban neighborhoods, low-income communities, and rural areas; people of color;
9 and residents with language barriers are often missed in the census count so educating our
10 residents about the importance and privacy of an accurate count is essential; and

11 **WHEREAS**, residents who are informed about the census process and the value of an
12 accurate count are more willing to participate; and

13 **WHEREAS**, the Board of County Commissioners understands the importance of a full
14 and complete 2020 decennial census and desires to create a Bernalillo County/City of
15 Albuquerque Census 2020 Complete Count Committee to increase census response. The
16 Complete County Committee will design and implement a focused, structured, grassroots,
17 neighborhood-centered education and outreach program that utilizes local knowledge, expertise,
18 and influence of each Complete County Committee member to ensure that every Bernalillo
19 County resident is counted; and

20 **WHEREAS**, a combined Bernalillo County and City of Albuquerque Complete Count
21 Committee would be the most efficient and effective means to ensure an accurate and complete
22 count; and a cooperative effort by the two agencies is the most efficient use of personnel and