



New Mexico DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION

Michelle Lujan Grisham, Governor
Ricky Serna, Cabinet Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 3, 2024

NMDOT Employee Richard Baca Recognized for Over 50 years of Continuous Service

Longest continuously working employee with a Single Agency

DEMING – The New Mexico Department of Transportation (NMDOT) recognized Richard Baca for over 50 years of continuous employment with NMDOT and as the longest continuously working State of New Mexico employee. **Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham** honored this accomplishment with a proclamation.

Thursday, March 28, 2024 is now officially known as “Richard Enciso Baca Day” via a proclamation issued and signed by **Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham**.

Baca is currently employed at the District One Sign Shop as a Highway Maintenance Worker-Advanced. He calls the NMDOT his "home," and he is incredibly happy to be a member of the team.

“Richard began working as a summer temp utility worker on July 6, 1971, and eventually followed in his father's footsteps and joined NMDOT full time on May 30, 1973. His story and his tenure with the agency is emblematic of the culture of NMDOT,” said Ricky Serna, Cabinet Secretary. He continued, “His work ethic and longevity truly represent what sets NMDOT apart from all other agencies, we could not be more grateful to celebrate Rick and his time with NMDOT.”

During the annual District One awards ceremony for the department Lt. Governor Howie Morales read the proclamation on behalf of the Governor honoring Baca with his own day, March 28, 2024.

“District employees coming together to support one of our own, Rick Baca, in reaching such a great milestone with the NMDOT was indicative of the type of family and culture we have here in District One” said Aaron Chavarria District Engineer. He continued, “I cannot thank you all enough for being such a great team and making District One a great place to work every day.”

Baca is a native New Mexican born and raised in Deming. Following in his father's footsteps, he started his career with the department in May of 1973. Receiving multiple promotions along the way. He currently works in the District One Sign Shop and is responsible for creating and producing roadway signs that have been utilized all over the State of New Mexico. Even those most recently seen on our named Snowplow Trucks.

Baca has worked continuously for over 50 years and has ensured the safety of countless members of the traveling public. Becoming the longest, continuous employee of the State of New Mexico, his exceptional commitment to the NMDOT stands as a model of employment and is symbolic of what makes the New Mexico State government family remarkable.

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NMDOT
Mobility for everyone







STATE OF NEW MEXICO EXECUTIVE OFFICE SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

Proclamation

WHEREAS, Richard "Rick" Enciso Baca is a native New Mexican born and raised in Deming, and

WHEREAS, Rick followed in the footsteps of his father, Richard Pardo Baca, and chose a public service career with the State of New Mexico and the New Mexico Department of Transportation, and

WHEREAS, Rick started his tenure with the Department of Transportation as a temporary utility worker in 1971, and

WHEREAS, Rick joined the Department of Transportation in a permanent capacity on May 30, 1973, as an Equipment Operator I, and

WHEREAS, Rick moved up the ranks at the Department of Transportation, receiving promotions to Equipment Operator II, Equipment Operator III, and then Highway Maintenance Worker Supervisor, and

WHEREAS, Rick currently works in the Department of Transportation's District One Sign Shop as a Highway Maintenance Worker-Advanced, and

WHEREAS, Rick has worked continuously for the State of New Mexico and the Department of Transportation for over 50 years, and

WHEREAS, Rick's more than 30 consecutive years of outstanding effort for the Department of Transportation has ensured the safety of countless members of the traveling public, and

WHEREAS, Rick's more than 30 consecutive years of exceptional commitment to the Department of Transportation stands as a model of State of New Mexico employment and is emblematic of what makes the New Mexico State government family remarkable, and

WHEREAS, Rick's more than 30 continuous years of public service makes him the longest, continuous employee of the State of New Mexico and a standout among State of New Mexico employees in a manner that merits special recognition.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Michelle Lujan Grisham, Governor of the State of New Mexico, do hereby proclaim March 29th, 2024, as

"Richard Enciso Baca Day"

throughout the state of New Mexico.

Attest:

Maggie Toulouse Oliver

Maggie Toulouse Oliver
Secretary of State

Date at the Executive Office this
21st day of March 2024.

Witness my hand and the Great Seal
of the State of New Mexico.

Michelle Lujan Grisham
Michelle Lujan Grisham
Governor

