



## **NEW MEXICO SUPREME COURT BANS REPUBLICAN STATE SENATOR GREG BACA FROM COURTROOM IN LAWSUIT AGAINST THE GOVERNOR**

**Santa Fe, November 17**—Today the New Mexico Supreme Court took unprecedented action to ban NM Republican Senate Leader Greg Baca from the courtroom in a landmark case against Gov. Lujan Grisham.

The ban came as Baca was about to address the High Court in a case over the Governor's illegal disbursement of federal pandemic money.

Baca, an attorney and a lead plaintiff in the case, was denied access after he respectfully declined to share his personal medical information with court staff. Requests by Baca to appear remotely or by phone were also denied, and the Supreme Court Justices offered no additional accommodations.

Republican Party of New Mexico Chairman Steve Pearce issued the following statement this morning in response to the Court's action:

“Sadly, it comes as no surprise that a court comprised of Democrats and governor-appointed Justices would ban the lone Republican plaintiff in a case against the Governor. No citizen should be denied lawful access to the judiciary, and the Court should immediately rescind this absurd, discriminatory policy. The Justices not only banned Sen. Baca from the courtroom today but they banned his constituents and every New Mexican who stands with him in this effort to preserve our constitution and protect the principle of checks and balances in government. This is a devastating day for the reputation of the New Mexico Supreme Court.”