

Inspection of Public Records Act (IPRA) Requests & Results

**Obtained for purposes of supporting
SB177 (2025) the U Visa Certification Act**

Conducted by:

**SANTA FE
DREAMERS
PROJECT**



Completed on January 31, 2025

IPRA RESPONSE ANALYSIS

Quick Stats (Last Updated 1/31/2025)

Total IPRA's Sent: 131

- Skipped US Marshal's Service
- Skipped Dona Ana County Magistrate Court (But They Also Responded to Our Request to the Third Judicial District Court)
- Skipped Tatum Police Department (Abolished in 2023)
- Skipped Cimarron Police Department (Contracts w/ Colfax County Sheriff's Office)

Total Responses Received: 106

Agencies w/ No Responsive Records: 85/105 = Appx. 81%

Agencies w/ Responsive Records: 17/105 = Appx. 16%

Other: 5/105 = Appx. 5%

- Los Alamos Police Department
 - Sent Policies for Processing/Releasing ICE Detainees
 - Policies DO NOT Address U Certification
- Anthony Police Department
 - Sent Employee Handbook
 - Handbook DOES NOT Address U Certification
- Roswell Police Department
 - Sent Link to All Policies and Procedures
 - Policies and Procedures DO NOT Address U Certification
- Socorro Police Department
 - Sent Policy Currently **Under Consideration** (Described Below)
- Melrose Police Department
 - No Police Officers Since 2022

IPRA Response Analysis by District (Only includes analyses for those that provided policies/documents)

District 1

1) First Judicial District Court

- a) Policies, Memos, Letters, Etc.? **Yes; Emails**
 - i) The response states that the Court located emails between judicial officers and their staff concerning individual Form I-918B requests.
 - ii) The emails were withheld as internal decision-making communications protected by the judicial deliberation privilege recognized in *Pacheco v. Hudson*, 2018-NMSC-022, 415 P.3d 505.
- b) Tracking? **No.**

2) **First Judicial District Attorney Office**

- a) Policies, Memos, Letters, Etc.? **Yes; U Visa Materials**
 - i) Copy of the U Visa Toolkit for Law Enforcement Agencies and Prosecutors Developed by NIWAP
- b) Tracking? **Yes; Excel Spreadsheets**
 - i) First Spreadsheet Tracks Every U Certification Request Received from 2016 to Present

U-VISA CERTIFICATION LOG		
APPLICANT	DATE SUBMITTED	APPLICANT ATTORNEY/CONTACT INFO.
Petra Rosas Hernandez	6-Jul-16	Law Office of J. alison Cimino, P.C. 1300 Iomas Blvd. NW Albuquerque, NM 87104 (505) 842-0888 (505) 842-0555 (FAX)

- ii) Second Spreadsheet Tracks Action Taken by First Judicial DA Office

DA #	COURT #	DA Investigator	Returned to Applicant/NOTES
	CR 201300312	Lisa (8/9)	
	CR 200900266	Matt (8/9)	completed sent to applicant 10/14/16

3) **Espanola Police Department**

- a) Policies, Memos, Letters, Etc.? **Yes; Policy**
 - i) Each U Certification request is assigned to a Records Specialist. The Specialist locates the law enforcement records relevant to the request and forwards them to the Executive Administrator.
 - ii) The Executive Administrator forwards the U Certification request and law enforcement records to the Chief of Police.
 - iii) The Chief of Police is the U Certifier. The Chief reviews the request and records, and makes a decision. The Chief then returns the Certification to the requestor (whether signed or unsigned).
 - iv) There is no established timeline for reviewing the records and request, or for returning the Certification.
- b) Tracking? **Yes; Tracking System**
 - i) Each U Certification request must be logged into a tracking system that is maintained by the Records Supervisor.

4) **Santa Fe County Sheriff's Office**

- a) Policies, Memos, Letters, Etc.? **Yes; General Information & Emails**
 - i) The response indicates that the Sheriff is the U Certifier.
 - ii) The emails and email attachments provided pertain to individual U Certification requests made to the Sheriff. (signed Form I-918Bs, drafted Form I-918Bs, blank Form I-918Bs, incident reports, shipping labels)
- b) Tracking? **No BUT**
 - i) The response states that the Sheriff stores all U Certification requests in a file cabinet in his office.

District 2

1) **Second Judicial District Court**

- a) Policies, Memos, Letters, Etc.? **Yes; Emails**
 - i) The response states that the Court located one email regarding an individual U Certification request.
 - ii) The email was withheld pursuant to the attorney-client privilege, NMSA 1978, Section 14-2-1(G) (2023), as it contains legal analysis and advice about the Court's legal authority to complete the Form I-918B.

2) **Second Judicial District Attorney Office**

- a) Policies, Memos, Letters, Etc.? **Yes; General Information, Designee Letter, U Visa Materials & Emails**
 - i) The response states that, in determining whether or not to approve a U Certification request, the Second Judicial DA Office reviews the facts of the case and the Petitioner's level of cooperation in the case. The Certification is then returned to the requestor (whether signed or unsigned).
 - ii) There is no established timeline for reviewing the facts of the case and the Petitioner's level of cooperation in the case, or for returning the Certification.
 - iii) DA Jason Greenlee is the U Certifier. The responsive records included a designee letter.
 - iv) The emails and email attachments provided include: 1) emails between the Second Judicial DA Office and the USCIS Fraud Detection Unit regarding filling out a "Certifying Official Information Worksheet," and the instructions for filling out the worksheet; 2) emails between the Second Judicial DA Office and the Law Offices of the Public Defender in which the Public Defender states that their position is that U Visa applications are *Brady* material and that the State is obligated to provide them; 3) emails seeking the contact information for the Second Judicial DA Office's U Certifier; and 4) emails pertaining to individual U Certification requests.
- b) Tracking? **Yes.**
 - i) The Second Judicial DA Office tracks the following information for each U Certification request:
 - (1) Petitioner's Name
 - (2) Associated Criminal Case #
 - (3) Law Firm Looking to File the Petition
 - (4) Date Request Received
 - (5) Date Action Taken
 - (6) Action Taken

3) **Bernalillo County Sheriff's Office**

- a) Policies, Memos, Letters, Etc.? **Yes; Procedures**
 - i) The Sheriff is the U Certifier (or a person assigned by the Sheriff).
 - ii) The Sheriff must request and review all relevant data provided by the Crime Analysis Unit through a local records check.

- iii) Once that is complete, the Sheriff reviews the U Certification request and may approve it if the following criteria are met:
 - (1) The individual is a direct or indirect victim;
 - (2) The individual has been helpful, is being helpful, or is likely to be helpful in the investigation or prosecution of the crime (or is exempt) and has complied with all reasonable requests to assist law enforcement;
 - (3) The information listed on the form is accurate to the best of the Sheriff's knowledge; and
 - (4) The Sheriff has direct knowledge of the information listed (or has reviewed the relevant records).
- iv) There is no established timeline for requesting and reviewing the relevant records, or for reviewing the U Certification request.
- b) Tracking? **No.**

District 3

1) Third Judicial District Attorney Office

- a) Policies, Memos, Letters, Etc.? **Yes; Designee Letters & U Visa Materials**
 - i) DA Gerald Byers is the U Certifier.
 - ii) The responsive records also included twenty signed U Certifications with designee letters. The qualifying crimes included attempt to commit any of the named crimes, abusive sexual contact, blackmail, conspiracy to commit any of the named crimes, domestic violence, false imprisonment, felonious assault, kidnapping, murder, rape, sexual assault, solicitation to commit any of the named crimes, stalking, and witness tampering. The dates in which the criminal activity occurred ranged from 2002 to 2024. Most of the Certifications were signed by DA Byers; a few were signed by DA Heather Chavez when she was the U Certifier.
- b) Tracking? **No.**

2) Dona Ana County Sheriff's Office

- a) Policies, Memos, Letters, Etc.? **Yes; Designee Letter**
 - i) Captain Jerod Houston is the U Certifier.
- b) Tracking? **No.**

3) Las Cruces Police Department

- a) Policies, Memos, Letters, Etc.? **Yes; Policy, Designee Letter, U Visa Materials & Emails**
 - i) U Certification requests go to the Victim Assistance Unit (VAU).
 - ii) Upon receiving a request, the VAU must try to contact the assigned officer/detective. If it is unable to reach them, the VAU can contact the DV officer/detective.
 - iii) There is no established timeline for contacting the assigned officer/detective or DV officer/detective. The policy merely states that if the VAU is unable to reach the assigned officer/detective "in a timely manner," then they can contact the DV officer/detective.

- iv) Police Services Administrator Melinda S. Gamboa and Crime Victim Advocate Erika Valencia, both part of the VAU, are the U Certifiers. The responsive records included a designee letter.
- v) The responsive records also included a blank Form I-918B.
- vi) The emails and email attachments provided included: 1) emails between the Las Cruces Police Department and the USCIS Fraud Detection Unit regarding filling out a "Certifying Official Information Worksheet," and the instructions for filling out the worksheet; 2) emails between Las Cruces Police Department staff sharing the most current U Visa forms with one another; 3) emails between Las Cruces Police Department staff sharing the most current designee letter with one another; and 4) emails regarding one individual U Certification request.

b) Tracking? **No.**

4) Mesilla Police Department

a) Policies, Memos, Letters, Etc.? **No BUT**

- i) The response stated that the Mesilla Police Department received its first U Certification request 11/2024.
- ii) The response also stated that Marshal Ben Azcarate would be the U Certifier.

b) Tracking? **No.**

District 4

None

District 5

None

District 6

None

District 7

1) Socorro County Sheriff's Office

a) Policies, Memos, Letters, Etc.? **Yes; Policy Currently Under Consideration**

- i) Applies to T and U Certification Requests
- ii) Upon receipt, each request should be forwarded to the supervisor assigned to oversee the related case. The supervisor consults with the investigator assigned to the case to determine the current status of the case and whether the supervisor will need any further documentation. If applicable, the supervisor also contacts the appropriate prosecutor to determine whether they have signed a Certification and if not, whether Certification is appropriate. The supervisor then addresses the request.
- iii) There is no established timeline for consulting with the investigator assigned to the case, contacting the prosecutor, or for addressing the

request. The policy merely states that the supervisor should address the request and complete the Certification, if appropriate, in “a timely manner.”

- iv) The policy also states that, if applicable, the supervisor must forward their decision to complete or not complete the Certification to the appropriate prosecutor.

District 8

- 1) **Town of Taos Police Department** (sent over 300 records *they sent everything unredacted, so Cinthia redacted client names)

- a) Policies, Memos, Letter, Etc.?: Yes**

- i) In December 2024, the new Chief of PD Mark Archuleta began working with Lexipol, a company that provides policy manual writing services. On 12/23/2024, Lexipol sent a draft of the PD’s policies for Chief Archuleta to approve, this is what has been sent to us as an attachment to that email from Lexipol. The draft manual includes the following in relation to U and T visas:

- (1) Policy 318.5(g) states that the “Chief of police shall ensure that victim information handouts are available and current. These should include as appropriate a “Notice regarding U-Visa and T-Visa application processes.”
 - (2) Policy 414 concerns “Immigration Violations” Section 414.8 states procedures specifically for U-Visa and T-Visa. **According to the policy the agency does not have a specific timeline for U Certs. It seems like they do not track the number of U Certs received. Under the policy, it seems like the assigned U Certifier is the “Criminal Investigations Supervisor,” though prior to the policy being written most U Certs were sent to the Chief of Police.** Here is what the policy states:

“Under certain circumstances, federal law allows temporary immigration benefits, known as a U visa, to victims and witnesses of certain qualifying crimes (8 USC § 1101(a)(15)(U)). Similar immigration protection, known as a T visa, is available for certain qualifying victims of human trafficking (8 USC § 1101(a)(15)(T)). **Any request for assistance in applying for U visa or T visa status should be forwarded in a timely manner to the Criminal Investigations supervisor assigned to oversee the handling of any related case. The Criminal Investigations supervisor should:**

- (a) Consult with the assigned investigator to determine the current status of any related case and whether further documentation is warranted.

(b) Contact the appropriate prosecutor assigned to the case, if applicable, to ensure the certification or declaration has not already been completed and whether a certification or declaration is warranted.

(c) Address the request and complete the certification or declaration, if appropriate, in a timely manner.

1. The instructions for completing certification and declaration forms can be found on the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) website.

(d) Ensure that any decision to complete, or not complete, a certification or declaration form is documented in the case file and forwarded to the appropriate prosecutor. Include a copy of any completed form in the case file.

ii) Based on the hundreds of emails they sent: They seem to have a track record of not responding to U Certs or waiting a very long time to respond or certify, so there's clearly not a designated timeline for certifying. They also have a track record of denying U Certs because they are hesitant to sign due to undocumented status or they choose to "assess" if the U Cert client is eligible or not themselves.

(1) Ex 1: Vrapí Weeks sent a cert request on 05/11/2022 received no response then sent a second request for the same person on 07/22/2022 and followed up via email with Chief Wentz on 08/11/2022, and again on 08/22/2022. They received no response, so they followed up again via email on 09/07/2022 and again on 09/19/2022 with a response from **Chief Wentz stating he is hesitant to sign it because the client is "in violation of Federal Law" related to immigration** (screenshot below). This is a total of four months they tried to get the certification before they got this response from the Chief. Vrapí Weeks tried to clarify the requirements for the U-Visa and certification process. However, There is no clear resolution in the records they sent us. You can find a complete, but unsigned U Cert for this person in the records as well.

From: John Wentz <JWentz@taosgov.com>
Sent time: 09/19/2022 12:49:57 PM
To: Eunice Herrera de Bejarano <eunice@vrapíweeks.com>
Subject: RE: [External Email] Re: Update on U Visa Certifications

Ms. Herrera,

I have received the subject U Visa Certification packet, but I am hesitant to sign it. [REDACTED] has been residing in Taos since at least 2016, presumably in violation of Federal Law related to immigration.

John Wentz, Chief of Police
Taos Police Department
400 Camino de la Placita
Taos, NM 87571
575-770-8097
jwentz@taosgov.com

From: Eunice Herrera de Bejarano <eunice@vrapíweeks.com>
Sent: Monday, September 19, 2022 11:25 AM
To: John Wentz <JWentz@taosgov.com>; Betsy McCullough <BMcCullough@taosgov.com>
Subject: [External Email] Re: Update on U Visa Certifications

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Good morning Chief Wentz,

This is attorney Eunice Herrera from Vrapí Weeks. I just left a voice message at your office. I would really appreciate an update on this U Visa Certification. Please see below.

(2) Ex 2: SFDP sent a cert request on 01/11/2024. The initial email from SFDP also states there is lack of clarity around who the current certifying official is at Taos PD. There was no response from Taos PD, so SFDP followed up again via email on 02/13/2024. Chief Wentz's assistant emailed back saying she forwarded the request to the Chief of PD (there is also an email proving she did do this), and stated he is the certifying official listed on the application. On 05/13/2024 SFDP followed up again because there had been no response from the Chief and needed it by the deadline of 06/01/2024. The same day the assistant followed up again with the Chief about certifying, stating she had already sent the request to him a couple of times, and that the Chief had said he would look into it but hadn't yet with the deadline being in a few weeks. On 05/23/2024, **Chief Wentz responded, asserting that he could not certify because even though the crime occurred in Taos, the suspect was involved in other crimes being investigated by the Federal Law Enforcement (screenshot below).** SFDP responded providing the law enforcement guide and explaining that this was a nonissue. On 11/07/2024 an SFDP partner based in Taos sent an email to the Taos Town Manager stating they had been texting about getting the U Cert signed with an attachment of the digital copy needing to be certified. SFDP was able to finally receive a signed U Cert from new interim Chief Mark Archuleta on 11/20/2024, about 10 months after they sent the initial request. The completed U Certification was sent to SFDP by the Town Manager. You can find the completed and signed U Cert in the records they sent us.

From: John Wentz <jwentz@taosnm.gov>
Sent time: 05/23/2024 12:05:56 PM
To: sarah@santafedreamersproject.org
Cc: Javelle Holland <jholland@taosnm.gov>
Subject: Marco Rodriguez-Lozano - U Visa

Ms. Pezold,

Regarding the U-Visa Certification you sent to me concerning Marco Rodriguez-Lozano, I cannot be the certifying official attesting to _____'s cooperation. Although the subject crime occurred in Taos, the suspect was involved in other alleged crimes that were being investigated by Federal Law Enforcement. In the subject investigation, Taos PD conducted initial investigation, but follow up investigation was conducted by Bureau of ATF Task Force Officer Victor Hernandez, and his follow up investigation included interaction with _____. TFO Hernandez requested a copy of the TAOS PD Case File, which he intended to use to file federal charges on the suspect as it related to the Taos Robbery. Based on that request, the subject case was forwarded to TFO Hernandez, and this matter was not prosecuted in the Taos District Court.



John Wentz
Chief | Taos Police Department
jwentz@taosnm.gov
P 575-758-4656 | M 575-770-8097
Town of Taos
400 Camino de la Placita
Taos NM 87571
TaosNM.gov

COMPLIANCE NOTICE:
Town of Taos, NM

Under the New Mexico Inspection of Public Records Act (IPRA), all messages sent by or to me on this Town-owned email account may be subject to public disclosure.

TaosNM.gov

- (3) Ex 3: On 10/01/2021 Chief Wentz denied signing a U Cert on the implied basis that Vrapi Weeks' client was not the direct victim of the crime, rather her daughters who are minors were the direct victims (so he denied despite the fact that the client qualified for the U-Visa as an indirect victim). **He stated that because he couldn't verify the client being a victim of this crime, he could not sign the U Cert.** (screenshot below). You can find a complete, but unsigned U Cert form in the emails as well.

From: John Wentz <JWentz@taosgov.com>
Sent time: 10/01/2021 12:33:15 PM
To: Heather Kryzak <heather@vrapiweeks.com>
Subject: RE: [External Email] U visa certification - Elvira Porchas

I cannot certify that [REDACTED] was a crime victim, therefore I cannot sign the attached form.

John Wentz, Chief of Police
Taos Police Department
400 Camino de la Placita
Taos, NM 87571
575-770-8097
jwentz@taosgov.com

From: Heather Kryzak <heather@vrapiweeks.com>
Sent: Friday, October 1, 2021 12:13 PM
To: John Wentz <JWentz@taosgov.com>
Subject: [External Email] U visa certification - Elvira Porchas

Dear Chief Wentz:

Thank you for your service to the community. I am writing in regards to a request for a U visa certification for [REDACTED]. She is the mother of [REDACTED], who was stabbed several times in Taos in 2012. I am requesting the certification based on felony assault because after the stabbing, the perpetrator and their friends were driving by [REDACTED]'s home and threatening her and the family with guns. [REDACTED] does not speak any English, so whenever she saw them she would have her son or daughter call the police to inform them. We have a record of one call from [REDACTED], who was about 15 years old at the time, who only called because his mother [REDACTED] instructed him to. [REDACTED]'s name is listed on the police report for the stabbing because she was helpful to the police in allowing them to search her home.

I am wondering if part of the problem is that we listed aggravated battery on the form, which [REDACTED] was not a victim of, only her daughters were. I have removed that and left only the assault in the new version (attached here). I am wondering if you are able to sign the certification, or if it is possible for us to discuss this.

I greatly appreciate your time and the attention you have already given to this matter.

- (4) On 07/21/2022, Vrapl Weeks followed up about a U Cert request delivered on 05/11/2022. **Chief Wentz denied receiving the Cert request** (screenshot below). Vrapl Weeks sent a new digital copy.

From: John Wentz <JWentz@taosgov.com>
Sent time: 07/21/2022 01:08:52 PM
To: Daisy Herrera <daisy@vrapiweeks.com>
Subject: RE: [External Email] U-visa certification Follow Up

I do not recall receiving the subject certification request.

John Wentz, Chief of Police
Taos Police Department
400 Camino de la Placita
Taos, NM 87571
575-770-8097
jwentz@taosgov.com

From: Daisy Herrera <daisy@vrapiweeks.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 21, 2022 10:06 AM
To: John Wentz <JWentz@taosgov.com>
Subject: [External Email] U-visa certification Follow Up

Good morning Chief Wentz,

My name is Daisy and I am writing to you from Vrapl Weeks, immigration law office. We mailed the attached U-visa certification request for to your office and it was confirmed delivered on 05/11/2022. We have not heard back nor received the signed certification back yet---please confirm that you received it. Let us know if you have any questions or need any additional information in regards to this request.

Thank you very much for your time.

Kindest regards,

- iii) They also included their 2019 STOP VAWA annual report for Taos Police Department. It includes stats on how many calls were made for domestic violence and sexual assault related incidents, as well as how many were investigated. In 2019, there were 34 calls, only 16 of which were investigated for DV.

District 9

1) Clovis Police Department

a) Policies, Memos, Letter Etc.? No

- i) No policy in place, but outlined general procedure. The procedure doesn't specify a timeline, and they state they do not formally track the number of U Certs received, though they said they receive maybe two or three a year. These are typically reviewed by the detective unit Lieutenant or Captain. Here is what their response states:

"Currently, we don't have any written policies in place for U Visas. We receive maybe two or three requests a year from attorneys representing foreign nationals who were victims of crimes here in Clovis. These U Visa applications typically arrive in the mail, and the attorneys usually have them pre-filled. When they arrive, the Lieutenant or Captain over the detective unit is assigned to handle the requests. They review the case that the applicant was involved in and if they determine it warrants approval based on the totality of the circumstances, they sign off on the U Visa and return it either by mail or email to the attorney.

Again, we don't have a policy in place that outlines this process, nor do we don't keep track of how many requests we receive each year."

District 10

None

District 11

1) McKinley County Sheriff's Office

a) Policies, Memos, Letter, Etc.? In Progress

- i) No current policy, but says they are in the process of developing a policy. The general procedure they sent does not state anything in relation to a timeline, or a designated certifier. They also don't seem to formally track U Cert requests, though they state they have had 2 requests in the past that they have complied with. Here is what their response states:

"Currently our Office does not have a policy that addresses U visas or the Form I-918B. However, in the past few years our office has received a few requests for assistance with the I-918 form that we complied with. From the two that I remember the individuals had

retained a law firm to assist them with the process and they were advised to come to our office and obtain a copy of the incident report where they were listed as a victim or material witness in a criminal case. **Our Office would provide them with a copy of the report, assist in filling out the form with the Sheriff's Office information, business card and affidavit if needed.** The new policy that we are developing will address the U visa process, but it only includes a brief description of the U visa and that we will provide relevant information for requesting parties in compliance with IPRA and the victims rights act."

2) **City of Gallup Police Department**

a) Policies, Memos, Letter, Etc.? No

- i) They have no current policy specifically related to U-Visa requests. They also mention there are no specialized units in the PD to respond to U-Visa requests. They do not mention anything related to timelines or tracking either. They sent over their Rules and Procedures documents, but nothing in there mentions U-Visas specifically.

3) **San Juan County Sheriff's Office**

a) Policies, Memos, Letter, Etc.? No

- i) Specified no policy, but provided general procedures. Their general procedures state the Sheriff is the designated certifier, and that they do not track the number of U Certs. It doesn't mention anything related to the timeline. Here is what their response states:

"We do not have agency policies regarding Form I-918 Supplement B, U Nonimmigrant Status Certification (Form I-918B)...As far as your direct questions, the answers are as follow...:

Item 1) Our Sheriff is the certifier for our agency.

Item 2) The Sheriff reviews records and makes the decision based on those facts.

Item 3) We do not track the number of requests to review and sign annually.

Item 4) We do not track the approvals or denials of requests.

4) Aztec Police Department

a) Policies, Memos, Letter, Etc.? No

- i) No current policy, but says they follow the protocol set by DHS. They do not specify anything in regards to timeline, nor do they formally track U Certs. Though, they state they have had 5 requests since 2020 and certified them all. Here is what their response states:

1. The Chief of Police is the agency head and the reviewer of U-VISA requests

2. Determination is made based on the federal requirements listed:

- a. The petitioner: Was a victim of a qualifying criminal activity, that occurred in the U.S. or violated U.S. law; Has specific, credible, and reliable information about the qualifying crime; Was, is being, or is likely to be helpful to the certifying agency in the detection, investigation, prosecution, conviction, or sentencing of the qualifying crime; Suffered substantial physical or mental abuse as a result of the qualifying crime; and Is admissible to the United States.
- b. Was helpful to the Certifying Agency;
- c. Meets one of the qualifying or similar categories: Abduction, Abusive Sexual Contact, Blackmail, Domestic Violence, Extortion, False Imprisonment, Felonious Assault, Female Genital Mutilation, Fraud in Foreign Labor Contracting, Hostage, Incest, Involuntary Servitude, Kidnapping, Manslaughter, Murder, Obstruction of Justice, Peonage, Perjury, Prostitution, Rape, Sexual Assault, Sexual Exploitation, Slave Trade, Stalking, Torture, Trafficking, Witness Tampering, Unlawful Criminal Restraint Any similar activity in which the nature and elements of the criminal offenses are substantially similar to the list above. Includes: Attempt, conspiracy, or solicitation to commit these crimes.

3. We do not track the number of requests.

4. We do not track the number of approvals/denials. However, the chief indicated we have received approximately 5 requests since 2020, all of which were approved.

District 12

1) Carrizozo Police Department

a) Policies, Memos, Letter, Etc.? No

- i) They sent a community outreach policy, which doesn't include anything specific related to the U-Visa certification policies: no timeline, no designated certifier, no formal tracking. The only relevant policy

includes that of “ IV. Mandatory Community Outreach on Immigration Status” which states:

It shall be the policy of this agency that community outreach shall be established with regard to immigration status information.

1. A peace officer may not inquire into the immigration status of a victim or witness to a crime unless the officer determines the inquiry is necessary to:

(1) investigate the offense; or

(2) provide the victim or witness with information about federal visas designed to protect individuals providing assistance to law enforcement.

2. Community outreach regarding immigration status shall include, but shall not be limited to, outreach to the following persons:

(1) family violence; and

(2) sexual assault, including those receiving services under a sexual assault program.

District 13

1) Town of Bernalillo Police Department

a) Policies, Memos, Letter, Etc.? No

- i) **They stated they have no policies, so nothing specific in relation to timeline, designated certifier, or tracking.** However, they did send documents/emails from when they did certs. None of the emails demonstrate how long it took for the U Certs to be signed or denied, however it does seem like the PD was responsive.