

**Legislative Finance Committee
Budget Hearing Presentation
October 24, 2023**

Mr. Chair and Members of the Committee:

My name is Dr. Rick Hendricks. I am the State Records Administrator of the State Records Center and Archives. I appreciate the opportunity to present our fiscal year 2025 budget appropriation request, and for your continued support of our agency. I would like to make some introductions before I begin. Georgette Chávez is Deputy State Records Administrator and Ruben Rivera is our chief financial officer. They are part of our highly qualified team, which recently completed its seventh consecutive audit with no findings. I am proud of their work on behalf of the people of New Mexico and grateful for their attendance and support today.

Mr. Chair and Members of the Committee:

You all appreciate the importance of accurate record keeping and providing access to the records of state government in the interest of public awareness and open government. I also know that you appreciate the important records that constitute the historical patrimony of New Mexico, which we are privileged to safeguard and make available to the public.

- State agencies, for example, rely on our agency for proper records management assistance in producing documents in response to IPRA requests.
- In addition, all NMAC rules and regulations are filed, published and housed in our agency. SRCA has taken steps to ensure rulemaking is being done properly with maximum transparency.
- The State Attorney General's Office, relies upon the records housed at the State Archives and the State Records Center in order to effectively represent state agencies.
- District Attorneys regularly request DWI and domestic violence cases, housed in the State Archives, that provide information used in the prosecution of repeat DWI and domestic violence offenders.
- The Children Youth and Families Department regularly accesses child abuse cases that are stored in the State Archives. These records are vital in the protection of New Mexico's children.
- The State Records Center and Archives is one of New Mexico's most important legal, historical and cultural resources. As the central repository of state government records and the custodian of numerous private papers and manuscript collections, our agency is the primary steward of New Mexico's documentary heritage. We are known nationally and internationally to scholars, historians, students, and filmmakers.

Mr. Chair and Members of the Committee:

SRCA is requesting a total base budget increase of \$73,100 in general fund to meet the compliance standards set by the Department of Information Technology's (DoIT) due to the rise in cybersecurity threats. SRCA has prioritized budget for the upgrade of its old hardware and software in FY25 and will continue to cooperate with the Department of Information Technology and its contractors to reach cybersecurity compliance through identification of vulnerabilities; upgrade of software and equipment; managing network security; managing user privileges; and increasing awareness of management and staff. SRCA is committed to protecting the integrity, confidentiality, and accessibility of information stored, processed, or transferred to our agency.

Mr. Chair and Members of the Committee:

That concludes our presentation. My staff I and are happy to answer any questions.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND CONSIDERATION