

**MINUTES  
of the  
FIFTH MEETING  
of the  
COURTS, CORRECTIONS AND JUSTICE COMMITTEE**

**September 22-24, 2025  
Bernalillo County Chambers at Alvarado Square  
415 Silver Avenue SW  
Albuquerque**

The fifth meeting of the Courts, Corrections and Justice Committee was called to order by Senator Joseph Cervantes, chair, on September 22, 2025 at 9:24 a.m. at the Bernalillo County Chambers at Alvarado Square in Albuquerque.

**Present**

Sen. Joseph Cervantes, Chair  
Rep. Christine Chandler, Vice Chair  
Rep. Marianna Anaya  
Rep. Janelle Anyanonu  
Sen. Crystal Brantley (9/22, 9/24)  
Rep. Nicole Chavez (9/22, 9/24)  
Rep. William A. Hall II  
Sen. Antonio Maestas  
Sen. Cindy Nava (9/22)  
Rep. Andrea Reeb (9/23, 9/24)  
Rep. Andrea Romero  
Sen. Antoinette Sedillo Lopez

**Advisory Members**

Sen. Heather Berghmans  
Rep. John Block  
Rep. Cynthia Borrego  
Rep. Eleanor Chávez  
Sen. Natalie Figueroa  
Rep. Tara L. Lujan (9/22, 9/23)  
Sen. Micaelita Debbie O'Malley (9/23, 9/24)  
Sen. Mimi Stewart  
Sen. Linda M. Trujillo (9/22)

**Absent**

Rep. Dayan Hochman-Vigil  
Sen. Nicholas A. Paul  
Rep. Angelica Rubio

Rep. Gail Armstrong  
Sen. Katy Duhigg  
Rep. Joanne J. Ferrary  
Rep. Joy Garratt  
Rep. Yanira Gurrola  
Sen. Steve D. Lanier  
Rep. Stefani Lord  
Rep. Alan T. Martinez  
Rep. Debra M. Sariñana  
Rep. Sarah Silva  
Rep. Nathan P. Small  
Rep. Reena Szczepanski  
Sen. Anthony L. Thornton  
Sen. Peter Wirth

**Guest Legislator**

Rep. Susan K. Herrera (9/22)

(Attendance dates are noted for those members not present for the entire meeting.)

**Staff**

Nancy Martinez, Bill Drafter, Legislative Council Service (LCS)

Sean Dolan, Staff Attorney, LCS

Simon Suzuki, Staff Attorney, LCS

Domenica Nieto, Research Assistant, LCS

**Guests**

The guest list is in the meeting file.

**Handouts**

Handouts and other written testimony are in the meeting file and are posted on the legislature's website.

**References to Webcast**

The time reference noted next to each agenda item in this document is cross-referenced to the webcast of the committee meeting, which can be found at [www.nmlegis.gov](http://www.nmlegis.gov), under the "Webcast" tab. The presentations made and committee discussions for agenda items can be found on the recorded webcast for this meeting.

**Monday, September 22****Welcome and Introductions (9:24 a.m.)**

Senator Cervantes welcomed members of the committee and members of the public to the meeting.

**Welcome Remarks (9:32 a.m.)**

Cindy Chavez, county manager, Bernalillo County, welcomed the committee to the county facility.

**Bernalillo County Youth Services Center — A History and Purpose in a Response to Juvenile Crime (9:37 a.m.)**

Tamera Marcantel, director, Bernalillo County Youth Services Center, and Greg Perez, deputy county manager, Public Safety Division, Bernalillo County, presented an overview of the Bernalillo County Youth Services Center, including a general overview, strategic priorities and challenges. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=CCJ&Date=9/22/2025&ItemNumber=2>.

**Tour of the Bernalillo County Youth Services Center (10:15 a.m.)**

Members of the committee and staff toured the Bernalillo County Youth Services Center.

**Bernalillo County Youth Services Center — A History and Purpose in a Response to Juvenile Crime (11:40 a.m.) (cont.)**

Ms. Marcantel and Mr. Perez continued the panel after the tour and answered questions from committee members regarding the Bernalillo County Youth Services Center.

**Approval of Minutes (12:33 p.m.)**

The committee approved the minutes of the August 25-27, 2025 meeting.

**Boots on the Ground in Bernalillo County (1:49 p.m.)**

Pete Golden, chief deputy, Bernalillo County Sheriff's Office (BCSO); Kyle Woods, lieutenant, BCSO; and William Corvin, lieutenant, BCSO, discussed technology updates that are enhancing policing strategies and intelligence-led policing and balancing public safety and civil liberties, as well as the success of these new technologies. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=CCJ&Date=9/22/2025&ItemNumber=3>.

**New Mexico National Guard — New Roles and Responsibilities in 2025 Executive Orders (3:24 p.m.)**

Major General Miguel Aguilar, adjutant general, New Mexico National Guard; Mizel A. Garcia, chief of police, City of Espanola; and Naureen Shah, director, Government Affairs, Equality Division, American Civil Liberties Union, provided an overview of the New Mexico National Guard's activities in Albuquerque, a potential mission in Espanola and the potential personal liberty issues associated with the deployment. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=CCJ&Date=9/22/2025&ItemNumber=4>.

**Recess**

The meeting recessed at 5:17 p.m.

**Tuesday, September 23**

**Reconvene**

Representative Chandler reconvened the meeting at 9:13 a.m.

**Evaluating Competency — Defense or Dodge? (9:14 a.m.)**

Randy Otto, Ph.D., chief, Division of Forensic Behavioral Sciences, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, University of New Mexico (UNM) School of Medicine;

Jeffrey Younggren, Ph.D., fellowship co-director, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, UNM School of Medicine; Kaisa Marshall, Ph.D., research assistant professor, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, UNM School of Medicine; Caroline Bonham, M.D., former interim chief, associate professor, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, UNM School of Medicine; Jennifer Barela, deputy chief public defender, Public Defender Department; and Greer Staley, chief deputy district attorney, Second Judicial District, discussed the work being done at UNM to train various medical professionals for work in behavioral health, the partnerships with state agencies to progress assisted outpatient treatment and how the new process is working, including what is and is not functioning properly. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=CCJ&Date=9/22/2025&ItemNumber=5>.

### **Enforcing Immigration and Civil Liberties — State and Local Government Roles and Risks (10:35 a.m.)**

Teague Gonzalez, executive director, New Mexico Immigrant Law Center; Gabriela C. Ibanez Guzman, staff attorney, United Worker Center of New Mexico, Somos Un Pueblo Unido; Brandon Huss, director, Litigation Bureau, New Mexico Association of Counties; and Jeremy Ferris, executive director, State Ethics Commission, presented on the relationship between state and federal forces regarding enforcement of federal immigration law, potential civil liberties issues, potential legal exposure for counties and a recent ethics complaint filed by the State Ethics Commission regarding alleged conduct by the Corrections Department. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=CCJ&Date=9/22/2025&ItemNumber=6>.

### **Moving Away from the Warehouse Model (12:33 p.m.)**

Steven Smith, warden, Bernalillo County Metropolitan Detention Center (MDC), and Rosanne Otero Gonzales, deputy warden, MDC, presented an overview of the MDC, including the layout of the facility, medical housing statistics, inmate statistics, capacity and future plans. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=CCJ&Date=9/22/2025&ItemNumber=7>.

### **A History and Purpose of the Resource Reentry Center (1:39 p.m.)**

Sarah Spain, manager, Transition Planning Services, Bernalillo County, and Wayne Lindstrom, Ph.D., deputy county manager, Behavioral Health Authority, Bernalillo County, presented an overview of the Resource Reentry Center in preparation for the committee's tour. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=CCJ&Date=9/22/2025&ItemNumber=8>.

**Tour of the Resource Reentry Center (2:30 p.m.)**

The committee and staff toured the Resource Reentry Center.

**Recess**

The meeting recessed at 3:25 p.m.

**Wednesday, September 24****Reconvene**

Senator Cervantes reconvened the meeting at 9:19 a.m.

**At the Precipice — Children, Youth and Families Department Redux Arbitrator Report and Child Advocacy After House Bill 5 (2025) (9:24 a.m.)**

Billy Jimenez, deputy attorney general, State Department of Justice; Rebecca Guay, deputy director, Government Counsel and Accountability, State Department of Justice; and Representative Michelle Paulene Abeyta presented regarding the implementation of House Bill 5 (2025). The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=CCJ&Date=9/22/2025&ItemNumber=9>.

**Committee Discussion (10:39 a.m.)**

The committee held an open discussion on United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement detention facilities, political rhetoric both locally and nationally, political violence, committee tours and topics for future meetings.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 11:32 a.m.