

Office of the District Attorney  
Eleventh Judicial District  
Division II

PAULA JAMES-PAKKALA  
DISTRICT ATTORNEY



Fiscal Year 2020

LFC HEARING  
November 15, 2018



*Office of the District Attorney  
Eleventh Judicial District Division II*

*Paula Pakkala  
District Attorney*

August 31, 2018

State Budget Division  
Room 190  
Michael Regensberg  
Bataan Memorial Building  
Santa Fe, NM 87501

Legislative Finance Committee  
Ismael Torres  
325 Don Gaspar, Suite 101  
Santa Fe, NM 87501

Dear Sirs:

It is an honor for me to serve as District Attorney for the 11<sup>th</sup> Judicial District, Division II, serving the people of McKinley County first by appointment on October 6, 2017, now as the Democratic nominee running uncontested and soon to be the first woman to be elected District Attorney in McKinley County.

The citizens of McKinley County are diversified in cultures and rich in traditions. The map, that is part of the attached packet, shows the vastness of the land area of McKinley County. McKinley County is largely made up land that is classified as tribal. The attached map indicates the City of Gallup by a star and Chapter Houses of the Navajo Nation. McKinley County also covers a small area of the Pueblo of Zuni and Navajo Ramah not shown on the map. On the first of the month, on weekends when there are special events and tourism during Spring, Summer and Fall cause the population of Gallup to be up to 100,000 people causing the crime rate of the City of Gallup to be high. (See attached FBI 2016 crime statistics).

At present the law enforcement agencies serving McKinley County are the McKinley County Sheriff's Department, Gallup Police Department, New Mexico State Police, Navajo Nation Police Department Ramah, Navajo Police Department Crownpoint and the Zuni Tribal Police Department. Law enforcement agencies' from time to time usually have a shortage of officers. I want to continue to have a solid working relationship and partner with all law enforcement agencies. It is essential we all work together and share our limited resources. Expanding the staff of my agency will help all law enforcement agencies and most important make McKinley County safer for all citizens.

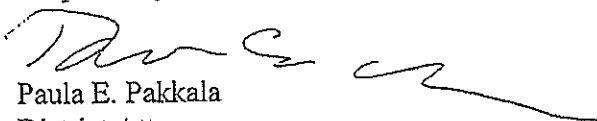
An average of 2,300 cases are prosecuted per year in State Court by this office. Prosecutors face challenges of jurisdiction, cross commission agreements and suspects that flee to tribal jurisdiction or from tribal jurisdiction to state. The District Attorney's Office has a shortage of attorneys and since taking office, I have had an average of 5 prosecutors making prosecution of cases difficult. At present, the yearly figures for the attorney case load averaged 392.4 cases per attorney. This figure reflects a number that consists of both felony and misdemeanor cases. My office has advertised and tried to recruit attorneys; but the response has been minimal. We must compete with other District Attorney's office, the Navajo Nation Department of Justice and the U.S. Attorney's office that pay higher salaries.

I have asked for two Senior Trial positions, two Assistant Trial Attorney positions, four assistants and three trial assistants and a \$100,000.00 dollars for contract attorneys. It is an innovative measure to have para professional to prepare cases. The three trial assistants are essential to help elevate case preparation for attorneys by doing case reviews and participate in interviews and work with law enforcement to make certain cases are ready for trial by gathering evidence and maintaining cases. The contract attorneys are essential for easing the day to day courtroom appearance of attorneys by handling Pre-Trial and Preliminary Hearing dockets and prosecuting the backlog and existing homicide case. I am seeking creative solutions to our staffing problems.

When I was campaigning, I visited many Chapter Houses in McKinley County on the Navajo Nation, the Pueblo of Zuni and Navajo Ramah, met people in the County and in the City of Gallup, and it is clear to me all citizens from McKinley County want to be safe and want justice to be served. My budget request is a step in that process.

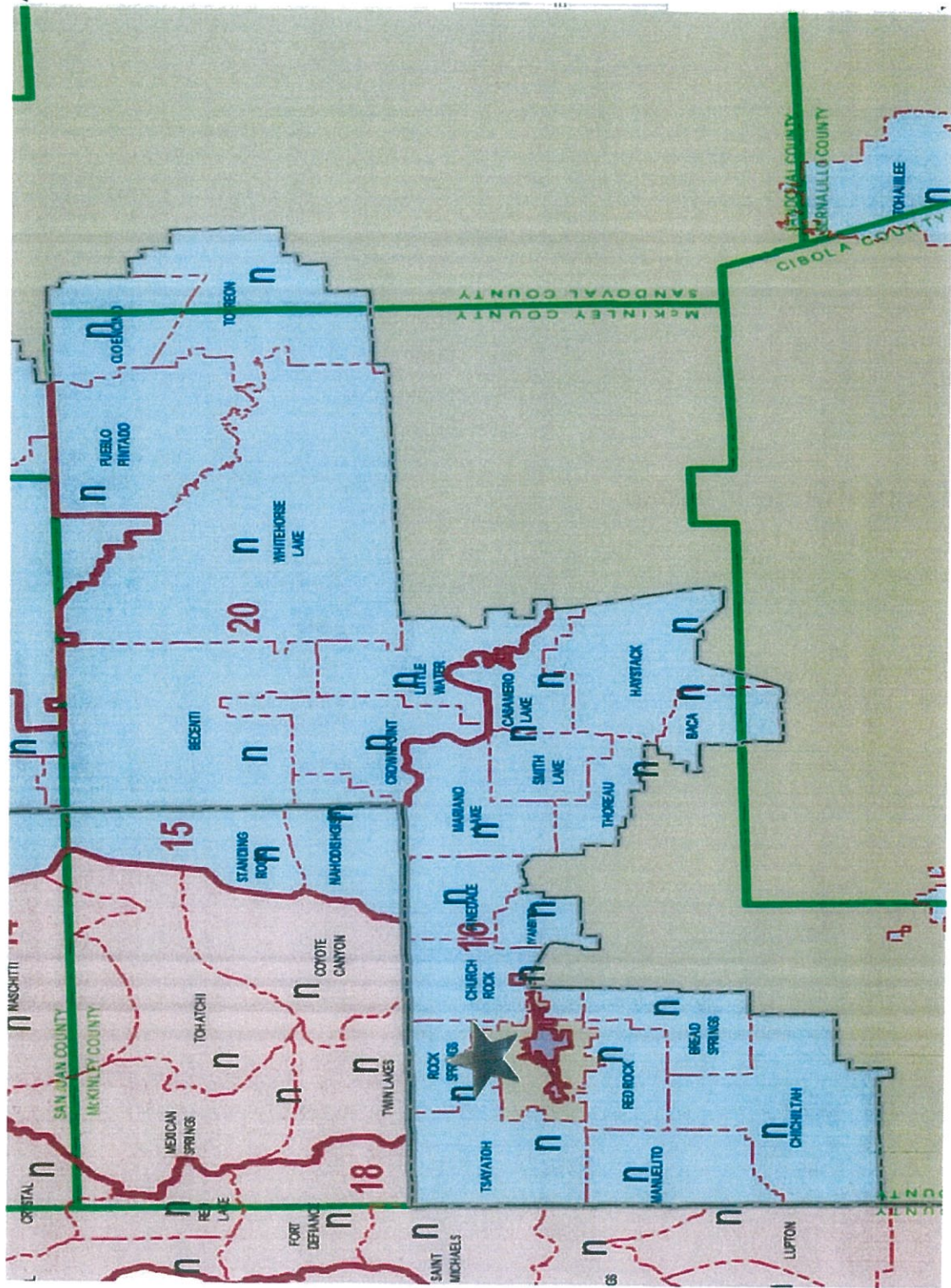
I thank you for your attention and review of my request.

Respectfully,

  
Paula E. Pakkala  
District Attorney



McKinley County covers a small area of the Pueblo of Zuni and Navajo Ramah not shown on the map.



Enter a State, City, Neighborhood, Address or Zip

Search » New Mexico » Gallup » Crime



## Gallup, NM Crime

Livability [Real Estate](#)

Livability	3.5	Amenities	3.5
Cost of Living	3.5	Crime	3.5
Education	3.5	Employment	3.5
Housing	3.5	Weather	3.5

### Reported Annual Crime In Gallup

Statistic	Reported Incidents	Gallup (per 100 people)	New Mexico (per 100 people)	National (per 100 people)
Total crime	2,054	8,730	4,640	2,837
Murder	1	4.3	6.7	5.3
Rape	22	93.5	73.3	40.4
Robbery	80	340.0	131.5	102.8
Assault	303	1,287.8	491.0	248.5
Violent crime	406	1,726	703	386
Burglary	282	1,198.6	830.4	468.9
Theft	1,231	5,232.1	2,542.4	1,745.0
Vehicle theft	135	573.8	564.3	236.9
Property crime	1,648	7,004	3,937	2,451

The table above offers a complete overview of all reported annual crimes in Gallup, NM. The total number of reported crimes in Gallup, NM is shown and for comparison purposes, each crime is also displayed based on the number of crimes per 100,000 people. The crimes are also broken down into two categories; violent crimes and property crimes. The table shows that the overall Gallup, NM crime rate is 88% higher than the New Mexico average and is 208% higher than the national average. Looking at violent crime specifically, Gallup, NM has a violent crime rate that is 146% higher than the New Mexico average and 347% higher than the national average. For property crime, Gallup, NM is 78% higher than the New Mexico average and 186% higher than the national average.

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**Budget Review System  
 S-8 Financial Summary**  
 (Dollars in Thousands)

	FY2018 Opbud	FY2018 Actuals	FY2019 Opbud	FY2020 Agency Request	FY2020 Recommendation	FY2020 Opbud
			Base Expansion	Total	Base Expansion	Total
<b>SOURCES</b>						
111 General Fund Transfers	2,268.0	2,257.8	2,480.6	2,815.1	466.6	3,281.7
112 Other Transfers	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
120 Federal Revenues	99.0	0.0	104.4	0.0	0.0	0.0
130 Other Revenues	0.0	95.3	0.0	114.0	0.0	114.0
150 Fund Balance	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>REVENUE, TRANSFERS</b>	<b>2,367.0</b>	<b>2,353.1</b>	<b>2,585.0</b>	<b>2,929.1</b>	<b>466.6</b>	<b>3,395.7</b>
<b>SOURCES</b>	<b>2,367.0</b>	<b>2,353.1</b>	<b>2,585.0</b>	<b>2,929.1</b>	<b>466.6</b>	<b>3,395.7</b>
<b>USES</b>						
200 Personal Services and Employee Benefits	2,210.8	2,104.1	2,424.6	2,665.1	466.6	3,131.7
300 Contractual Services	14.9	14.1	14.9	114.5	0.0	114.5
400 Other	141.3	139.6	145.5	149.5	0.0	149.5
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>2,367.0</b>	<b>2,257.8</b>	<b>2,585.0</b>	<b>2,929.1</b>	<b>466.6</b>	<b>3,395.7</b>
500 Other Financing Uses	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>OTHER FINANCING USES</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
<b>USES</b>	<b>2,367.0</b>	<b>2,257.8</b>	<b>2,585.0</b>	<b>2,929.1</b>	<b>466.6</b>	<b>3,395.7</b>
<b>FTE POSITIONS</b>						
810 Permanent	34.0	34.0	34.0	34.0	9.0	43.0
820 Term	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	0.0	2.0
830 Temporary	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>FTEs</b>	<b>36.0</b>	<b>36.0</b>	<b>36.0</b>	<b>36.0</b>	<b>9.0</b>	<b>45.0</b>
<b>FTE POSITIONS</b>	<b>36.0</b>	<b>36.0</b>	<b>36.0</b>	<b>36.0</b>	<b>9.0</b>	<b>45.0</b>

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*ELEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT ATTORNEY, DIV. II*

*FY2020 - BUDGET REQUEST*

*EXPANSION*

<u>FTE Request:</u>	<u>Position:</u>	<u>Amount Request:</u>
2	Senior Trial Attorney	159,400
2	Assistant Trial Attorney	130,500
3	Prosecution Assistant	110,200
2	Legal Secretary	66,500
<hr/> 9		<b>Total: <hr/>\$466,600</b>