

Ms. Rene Kepler  
PRC Nominating Committee  
VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL  
[rene.kepler@state.nm.us](mailto:rene.kepler@state.nm.us)

September 30, 2022

Dear Ms. Kepler,

I submit this letter and my attached resume for consideration by the Public Regulation Commission Nominating Committee as an expression of my interest in serving on the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission (the "PRC"). As my resume reflects, I have a passion for serving New Mexicans and seek to continue doing so as an appointee on the PRC.

I meet all statutory requirements for the appointment. I hold a Juris Doctorate from Drake University Law School and am a member of the New Mexico Bar, the Federal Bar, the 10<sup>th</sup> Circuit Bar and the Supreme Court of the United States Bar. I have spent over a decade as a government lawyer. I have extensive experience in administrative law and specifically, in energy and utilities law, representing both the State of New Mexico and consumers in my roles at the Office of the New Mexico Attorney General. My time at the Office of the Attorney General has given me extensive experience balancing the interests of diverse stakeholders and building coalitions.

I am a registered Democrat and hold no financial interest in a public utility regulated by the Commission or in any other jurisdiction.

It would be an honor to serve New Mexico during this important time in history as we transition to cleaner energy and struggle to make sure no New Mexican is left behind. New Mexico is rich in renewable resources and is therefore poised to be a leader in this transition, but it must be done with careful consideration for the health of our utilities and the protection of our most vulnerable citizens.

I am happy to discuss my qualifications further. Thank you for the consideration for this important position.

Sincerely,

*P. Cholla Khoury*  
P. Cholla Khoury

# P. CHOLLA KHOURY

Albuquerque, NM 87104 · (505) [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]@gmail.com

## OBJECTIVE

Continue to serve New Mexicans and help guide New Mexico through the global energy transition so as to ensure that all New Mexicans have access to clean affordable energy while maintaining economic security for our businesses and communities.

## EXPERIENCE

NOVEMBER 2021 - CURRENT

**CHIEF DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL, CIVIL AFFAIRS**

OFFICE OF THE NEW MEXICO ATTORNEY GENERAL

- Executive Leadership: Act as the Attorney General in his absence, authorized to bring suit on behalf of the state, when in the public interest. Responsible for the oversight of day-to-day operations of all civil divisions in the Office of the Attorney General. Experience managing personnel and budget of the civil half of the agency.
- Media Relations: Experience collaborating with agency PIO to respond to a broad range of media inquiries. Provide advice and direction for agency media policy.
- Public Policy: Collaborate with staff to advise Attorney General on public policy. Speak on behalf of the Attorney General with regard to public policy positions.
- Legislative Experience: Work with diverse set of stakeholders to pursue legislative efforts. Provide legislator with updates regarding progress of agency with regard to budget, significant cases and impact litigation. Field legislative inquiries regarding agency efforts.
- Oversight of Utilities and Energy Positions: Provide oversight and management of utilities bureau. Provide input and advice to the Attorney General with regards to climate change and energy and utility policy.

MARCH 2016 – NOVEMBER 2021

**DIRECTOR, CONSUMER AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION**

OFFICE OF THE NEW MEXICO ATTORNEY GENERAL

- Management: Responsible for the daily oversight and operations of the Consumer and Environmental Protection Division. Manages staff of approx. 20 people including attorneys, investigators, paralegals, consumer advocates and constituent service specialists.

- Utilities Bureau: Responsible for daily oversight of a team of attorneys, paralegals and experts statutorily charged with representing consumer interest in front of the PRC. Provided public policy advice for the Attorney General in utilities and energy matters. Negotiated for the public and consumer interest in all manners of utility proceedings before the PRC.
- Enforcement: Responsible for investigation of and litigation regarding violations of consumer protection statutes as well as environmental, charity, anti-trust, security and privacy laws. Includes enforcement under Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, Children’s Online Privacy Protection Act and other state and federal laws. Special Litigation, including original actions in SCOTUS for the TX v NM Original Action No. 141.
- Public Policy: Responsible for assisting in the development of OAG public policy with regard to consumer and environmental matters. Primarily responsible for implementing public policy directives through targeted impact litigation.
- Media Relation: Experience responding to media inquiries through verbal and written mediums. Represented the agency on camera and verbally for broadcast news media and radio.
- Legislative Experience: Assisted the Agency with presenting testimony to the New Mexico legislature. Provided legal analysis for legislation and represented agency in support or opposition to legislation.
- Financial Oversight: Responsible for coordination and collection of funds due to the Consumer Settlement Fund. Administer and oversee special funds and programs as necessary and available due to funding.
- Constituent Outreach and Communication: Responsible for planning and developing curriculum for outreach and constituent education.

**JANUARY 2014- MARCH 2016**

**ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL, WATER ENVIRONMENT & UTILITIES DIVISION  
OFFICE OF THE NEW MEXICO ATTORNEY GENERAL**

- Utilities: Responsible for protecting consumer and ratepayer interests in PRC proceedings. Represented the State and consumers in all manners of PRC proceedings including rate cases, mergers, certificates of convenience and necessity and power plant abandonment. Manage a diverse group of stakeholder advocates, build consensus on state energy policy.
- Policy and Legislation: Development of comprehensive utility litigation plan which developed policy goals, criteria for intervention and resource dedication for utility related matters. Assist in the development of OAG energy policy. Advise legislative liaison and participate in communicating to the legislature on energy and utility related bills.
- Management: Responsible for oversight, supervision and training of attorney and paralegal working on utility and energy matters. Management of expert contractor contracts and budget.

**SEPTEMBER 2010- DECEMBER 2013**

**ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL, LITIGATION DIVISION  
OFFICE OF THE NEW MEXICO ATTORNEY GENERAL**

- Responsible for carrying an extensive case load over a variety of areas.

- General litigation including litigation in Federal and State courts.
- Administrative Proceedings: Familiar with administrative law and procedure.
  - Provided Administrative Prosecution for boards and commissions including: Racing Commission, Construction Industries Commission, Manufactured Housing Commission, Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and Professional Surveyors, Veterinary Board, Social Work Board.
  - General Counsel to Labor and Industrial Commission, Mining Safety Board.

## EDUCATION

MAY 2010

**JURIS DOCTORATE**, DRAKE UNIVERSITY LAW SCHOOL

With High Honors

MAY 2007

**BACHELORS OF ARTS**, BRIAR CLIFF UNIVERSITY

Cum Laude

May 2003

**Moriarty High School**, Moriarty, NM

## SKILLS

- Consensus builder- skilled at bringing together diverse views and work toward consensus and problem solving
- Strong leadership skills- people focused leadership helps teams find ways to work together toward a common goal.
- Creative problem solver- solves problems by seeking diverse input and viewing problems from different angles.
- Strong Communicator- skilled at effective and efficient communication.

## MEMBERSHIP

New Mexico State Bar

New Mexico Federal Court Bar

10<sup>th</sup> Circuit Bar

Supreme Court of the United States Bar

## REFERENCES

Available upon request