

Bryan "Blue" Shendo

Tribal Administrator, Mescalero Apache Tribe

September 11, 2026

New Mexico Public Regulation Commission Nominating Committee

Attn: Sarah E. Valencia

via email: SarahE.Valencia@prc.nm.gov

RE: Application for the Position of Commissioner, New Mexico Public Regulation Commission

Dear Members of the Nominating Committee:

Please accept this letter along with attached resume as my formal application for the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission position that is to be filled January 1, 2027. I possess a background in public infrastructure, telecommunications, and executive level public administration. I would be committed to ensuring the public receives fair rates and services, but would also ensure policy is always referenced in any attempt to provide fair and reliable services in regard to utility and telecommunications.

Statutory Qualifications and Eligibility

In reference to Section 62-19-4(B) under Track 2(a), I hold an accredited bachelor's degree in **Information and Engineering Technology**, which gives me the technical foundation to understand and monitor complex telecommunication infrastructure and networks. I would be a great asset in understanding how to successfully navigate issues that involve technical data implementation and in pipeline engineering problems. I understand the position requires ten years of professional and leadership experience, therefore I would like to highlight that I have completed 5 years in the Army with the 82nd Airborne Division, 3 years of experience in public administration as the Mescalero Apache Tribal Administrator, and 2 years as a Network Administrator with the Inn of the Mountain Gods Resort and Casino. I left the Army with the rank of Sergeant and earned my role as a Jumpmaster where I led airborne operations for the 82nd. I feel this background fully encompasses the 10 year experience requirement. I currently oversee public infrastructure now and make decisions in regard to policy, utilities, and telecommunication related matters.

As for **party association**, referenced with NMSA 1978, & 62-19-5, **I am independent of the industries** regulated by the Commission. I do not hold any financial interests in any public utility in New Mexico, elsewhere, nor do I have any history of being employed by any commission regulated entity in the past 2 years. If appointed, I have no plans of pursuing any other vocation or office for profit and will devote all my time to the position.

Relevant Regulatory & Industry Experience

My professional background is directly aligned with the administrative and telecommunications scopes of the NMPRC:

- **Public & Utility Administration:** For the past three years, I have served as the **Tribal Administrator for the Mescalero Apache Tribe**. I directly oversee public works departments, navigating complex administrative policies, infrastructure oversight, and compliance frameworks that intersect with utility and public service standards. I work closely with the

coordinating departments that allow full circle project implementation by ensuring the necessary resources are working together to bring the appropriate solutions to our Tribe.

- **Telecommunications Background:** Upon graduating from New Mexico State University with a bachelor's in Information and Engineering Technology, I spent 2 years as a **Network Administrator at the Inn of the Mountain Gods Resort and Casino** in Mescalero. This role provided me with hands-on, practical experience managing complex network architectures and communication systems, directly translating to the Commission's regulatory oversight of telecommunications providers. This position allowed me to also understand gaming regulations and how they are tied to information technology in New Mexico.
- **Operational Leadership:** My career history in leadership is anchored by **five years of service in the United States Army**, culminating in my role as a **Sergeant and qualified Jumpmaster within the 82nd Airborne Division**. Serving on **two combat deployments** with the 2nd Battalion, 504th Parachute Infantry Regiment, I developed a deep discipline for thorough preparation, rapid analysis of technical data, and objective decision-making under intense pressure. I am currently a leader in my community as the **Tribal Administrator**, where I am at the pinnacle of leadership. I manage roughly 40 directors and departments, 550 staff, and answer directly to the public in day to day meetings with Tribal members while upholding the needs and demands of the President and Tribal Council. My level of leadership is my absolute strength in reference to this job posting. I have led my reservation in response to multiple natural disaster responses where I have had the opportunity to operate as the Tribal Administrator during the **Salt and South Fork Fires**. I directly led efforts in recovery as well, for example, I brought the use of HESCO baskets to the reservation and Ruidoso area utilizing my military background and new found experience in natural resource engineering practices. My leadership skills are my biggest strength and I have made a strong name for myself in Otero and Lincoln County, the state, and the coordinating agencies I have worked with over the years to help me bring services to my community.

I am highly accustomed to evaluating technical recommendations, collaborating with cross-functional staff, and serving the public. I have always put my community first. I hope for the opportunity to bring my leadership to the Commission's multi-day hearings and public meetings.

Political Party Affiliation

In accordance with the disclosure request and the provisions regulating the political balance of the Commission, I register my voter status as an **independent who declines to state a specific political party affiliation**. As noted in the committee's briefing, this status ensures complete alignment with the multi-party structural rules governing the commission's current vacancy.

I would be honored to be submitted as a nominee to the Governor and to serve the citizens of New Mexico in this vital regulatory role. Thank you for your time, leadership, and consideration of my application.

Sincerely,

Bryan "Blue" Shendo

Bryan J. Shendo

[REDACTED], Alamogordo, NM [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Personal Objective: Seeking employment opportunity as NM Public Regulation Commissioner.

Executive level Tribal Administrator with 10 years of cross-functional experience spanning tribal governance, enterprise technology, and elite military operations. Currently serves as an executive leader for the Mescalero Apache Tribe, directing 40 operational departments, 550 personnel, and the oversight of complex public works, utility, and telecommunications infrastructure. Combines a technical foundation in Information Engineering Technology from NMSU with a decorated background as a U.S. Army Sergeant and Jumpmaster in the 82nd Airborne Division. A proven crisis commander who has successfully directed multi-agency emergency responses to major natural disasters, specialized in navigating stringent regulatory frameworks, cross-jurisdictional policy execution, and technical data analysis to safeguard public safety and optimize community services.

Key Qualifications:

- Bachelor of Science in Engineering Technology with major in Information Engineering Technology
- Five years of honorable Military Service
- Demonstrated high levels of competence in Fort Bragg, North Carolina as a qualified 82nd ABN Jumpmaster
- Combat tested leadership with hands on experience as a supervisor
- Mescalero Apache Tribal Administrator who directly oversees Public Works Departments to include grants and budgets
- Highly skilled in effective communication, strong sense of tact
- 2 years of experience as Network Admin with Inn of the Mountain Gods
- Experience in disaster response and Emergency Management
- Public Administration: Extensive executive leadership managing public works departments, infrastructure budgets, and public policy execution.
- Direct multi-agency emergency responses to natural disasters to maintain public safety and service continuity.
- Telecommunications & Engineering: Deep technical competence in enterprise network architectures, technical data implementation, and pipeline safety alignment.

Work Experience:

US Army

**Infantry Rifle Platoon Squad Leader, 82nd Airborne Division, 2-504th Battalion
November 2010 –January 2016
Ft. Bragg, NC**

Held accountable for training and mentoring up to eight soldiers out of a 30 personnel size element for combat situations and maintaining up to \$500,000 worth of combat equipment for five years. Contributed to the success of two combat deployments in Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom consisting of a total of over 200 mounted and dismounted combat patrols with zero loss of men, weapons and equipment. Also responsible for conducting airborne operations for the 82nd Airborne Division as a Jumpmaster for one year with zero loss of men, weapons and equipment.

- One of four squad leaders in a 30-man platoon who was accountable for eight soldiers in all aspects of training, welfare, and combat.
- Led soldiers in training for stateside airborne operations as a qualified jumpmaster which required the upmost levels of competence.
- Applied critical thinking skills under stressful situations to assist in the success of combat situations and intense training exercises.
- Held liable for the transporting of hazardous materials under the title of Transportation of Hazardous Materials Non-Commissioned Officer.
- Taught and implemented the use of sophisticated hand held improvised explosive device detection equipment and military tactics to counter the high threat of improvised explosive devices in Afghanistan. Trained 60 soldiers in January of 2014 at Fort Polk, Louisiana.

Inn of the Mountain Gods Resort and Casino

Bartender/IT tech

May 2016- May 2019

Mescalero, NM

Served alcohol and maintained a bar at a four diamond resort while going to college. Operated a cash register and built relations with customers from all over the world while upholding the Inn of the Mountain God expectations as a bartender. At the same time worked part time in the IT department learning the necessary skills to build basic IT structure.

- Developed great personal skills that led to strong communication capability
- Handled large amounts of money on a daily basis
- Handled basic IT calls and trouble tickets
- Expected to work well with people and have strong communication skills

Inn of the Mountain Gods Resort and Casino

Network Admin II

May 2021 – January 2024

Mescalero, NM

Responsible for monitoring and maintaining the networking aspect of the IT department's responsibilities to the resort. Maintained Cisco switches and routers, IPv4 infrastructure, and other highly sophisticated IT resources that allows the resort to function. Facilitated all internet traffic to and from devices that require network connectivity. Extensive knowledge in troubleshooting and implementing networks that are

responsible for generating millions of dollars of revenue each year as the resort highly depends on network connectivity.

**Mescalero Apache Tribe
Tribal Administrator
January 2024 – Current**

Direct all executive operations, public policy execution, and infrastructure management for the Tribe, overseeing 40 distinct departments and a workforce of 550 personnel. Provide direct governance and administrative oversight for public works, utilities, and telecommunications frameworks to ensure reliable community services. Act as the primary liaison between the public, Tribal President, and Tribal Council to drive transparent, compliant project implementation. Championed regional emergency management efforts during the devastating Salt and South Fork Fires, leading multi-agency crisis recovery, establishing critical infrastructure protection, and successfully engineering and deploying defensive tactical layouts (including HESCO mitigation frameworks) in coordination with local, state, and federal agencies

- Executive Oversight: Manage operations across 40 distinct tribal departments and direct a workforce of 550 personnel.
- Infrastructure Operations: Supervise public works, utilities, and telecommunications frameworks to ensure adequate public services.
- Regulatory Compliance: Navigate complex regulatory environments and administrative policies to execute large-scale projects.
- Cross-Jurisdictional Liaison: Foster operational collaboration across Otero and Lincoln counties with local, state, and federal agencies. Crisis Management: Direct multi-agency emergency responses to natural disasters to maintain public safety and service continuity.
- Technical Engineering Mitigation: Implement innovative natural resource engineering initiatives, including deploying tactical HESCO mitigation layouts

Education and Training:

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|--|----------------|
| • Bachelor's Degree, Major: Information and Engineering Tech.
New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, New Mexico | May 2021 |
| • Jumpmaster School
Advanced Airborne School, Fort Bragg, North Carolina | March 2015 |
| • Combat Life Saver Course
Fort Bragg, North Carolina | September 2013 |
| • Warrior Leader Course
Warrior Leader Course, Fort Bragg, North Carolina | May 2013 |
| • Combative Level II
Fort Bragg, North Carolina | March 2013 |
| • Airborne School
Fort Benning, Georgia | March 2011 |
| • Combative Level I
Fort Benning, Georgia | December 2010 |
| • High school Diploma
Mescalero Apache High school, Mescalero, New Mexico | May 2008 |

Key Qualifications:

Courses Completed at NMSU:

ENGL111G- Rhetoric/Composition, ENGL218G- Technical and Scientific Comm.,
COMM265G- Principles and Human Communication, MATH120- Intermediate Algebra,
MATH121G- College Algebra, MATH190G- Trig and Pre-Calculus, MATH235- Technical
Calculus, MATH236- Technical Calculus II, BIOL111G- Nat. History of Life, PSY201G- Intro
to Psychology, GOVT100G- American Nat'l Gov't, PHIL101G- The Art of Wondering,
HIST202G- Intro to Recent American History, ELA350V- Intro to Educational Leadership

Engineering Courses Completed at NMSU:

ENGR100- Intro to Engineering, ET160- Basic Computer Operating Systems, ET182- Digital
Logic, ET255- Linux Administrations, ET262- Software Technology, ET377- Computer
Networking I, ET344- Microcomputer Systems, ET362- Software Technology II, ET463-
Advanced Linux and Python Scripting, ET477- Computer Networking II, BCIS350- Information
Systems Analysis and Design

Certifications:

- Certified Jumpmaster for the US Army
- Certified in the transportation of Hazardous Materials (HAAZMAT).
- Certified IED and Handheld Detector Master Trainer.
- Army Combative Course Level 1
- Army Combative Course Level 2
- Certified to serve alcohol in state of New Mexico

Awards and Affiliations:

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|---------------------------------|---|
| • Two Army Accommodation Medals | • Global War on Terrorism Ribbon |
| • Three Army Achievement Medals | • Army Service Ribbon |
| • NATO Service Medal | • National Defense Service Medal |
| • Overseas Ribbon | • French Fourragere |
| • Good Conduct Medal | • 2-504 th PIR 82 nd ABN DIV Regimental |
| • Combat Infantry Badge | Affiliation |
| • NCOPD Ribbon | |