

MICHAEL A. BACA

Albuquerque, New Mexico •

September 10, 2026

New Mexico PRC Nominating Committee
Public Regulation Commission
P.O. Box 1269
Santa Fe, NM 87504-1269

Dear Members of the Nominating Committee:

I am writing to apply for the position of Commissioner of the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission for the term beginning January 1, 2027. I bring more than 21 years of public-sector experience in New Mexico and 25 years of information-technology experience, with a career focused on communications infrastructure, public administration, procurement, contractor oversight, cybersecurity, service reliability, and the delivery of technology services to public organizations.

My professional experience directly relates to telecommunications and communications infrastructure. At the Mid-Region Council of Governments, I have helped procure, configure, secure, and support LAN and WAN networks, VPN equipment, internet connections, phone systems, wireless networks, servers, and other communications infrastructure. I have also worked directly with internet providers and communications contractors and have managed technology services across multiple New Mexico locations. This experience has given me a practical understanding of the importance of reliable communications service, infrastructure investment, cybersecurity, continuity of service, and responsible vendor and contractor management.

I also bring substantial public-sector administration and policy-implementation experience. My responsibilities have included procurement, contracting, contractor management, implementation of security policies, disaster-recovery planning, evaluation of technology solutions, and adherence to board procurement policies. I routinely work with government agencies, contractors, employers, and community organizations and communicate complex technical issues to both technical and non-technical decision makers.

The Commission's responsibility to ensure fair and reasonable rates and adequate and reliable service requires commissioners who can evaluate complex information, ask informed questions, understand infrastructure and operational risks, and make decisions in the public interest. My career has required those same skills. I am accustomed to reviewing technical information, evaluating competing solutions, considering risk and cost, and working collaboratively while maintaining accountability for public resources.

I hold a Bachelor of Arts in Communication and Journalism from the University of New Mexico and completed Network Systems Management coursework, including Cisco CCNA coursework. My resume provides additional detail regarding my public-sector experience and responsibilities.

Political party affiliation: Democrat.

I understand that this is a full-time public position and that Commissioners must devote their full time to the business of the Commission. I also understand that application materials become public records. I am prepared to meet those responsibilities and to serve with professionalism, independence, and a strong commitment to the people of New Mexico.

Thank you for considering my application. I would welcome the opportunity to discuss how my experience in public-sector administration, telecommunications infrastructure, communications systems, cybersecurity, procurement, and service reliability could contribute to the work of the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission.

Sincerely,

Michael A. Baca

MICHAEL A. BACA

Senior Public-Sector Technology & Telecommunications Professional

Albuquerque, NM •

COMMISSIONER CANDIDATE PROFILE

New Mexico public-sector technology and communications professional with more than 21 years of public-sector experience and 25 years of information-technology experience. Career includes management of internet providers, LAN/WAN infrastructure, VPNs, firewalls, communications systems, contractors, procurement, cybersecurity, cloud services, and multi-site public programs. Experienced working with government agencies, contractors, employers, and community partners and translating complex technical issues for non-technical decision makers.

For the NMPRC Commissioner role, brings direct experience with telecommunications and communications infrastructure, public-sector administration, procurement, contractor oversight, service reliability, cybersecurity, and policy implementation. Committed to fair, reliable, secure, and accessible public services.

CORE QUALIFICATIONS

- Telecommunications & communications infrastructure: internet providers, LAN/WAN, VPNs, firewalls, wireless networks, phone systems, smartphones, and multi-site connectivity.
- Public-sector administration: long-term government experience supporting public agencies, boards, contractors, and community partners.
- Procurement & contractor management: equipment, software, cloud services, communications systems, and technology contractors.
- Policy & implementation: assisted with security policy development and implementation; followed board procurement policies and implemented organizational technology standards.
- Reliability & risk management: network monitoring, disaster recovery planning, cybersecurity, backup systems, and continuity of critical infrastructure.
- Public communication: training and support for technical and non-technical audiences; collaboration across government and community organizations.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Senior Cyber Security Administrator | Mid-Region Council of Governments (MRCOG) • Albuquerque, NM • October 2020–Present

- Assist in procuring and managing network hardware and software and maintaining network availability through monitoring and necessary maintenance.
- Support procurement, contracting, and management of communications and information-systems contractors serving agency functions.
- Assist with planning and implementation of network-security measures and organizational security policy.
- Assist in procuring, installing, configuring, and supporting LAN, WAN, VPN equipment, Active Directory, backup systems, phone systems, smartphones, and internet connections.
- Train and assist information-systems technicians supporting computers, printers, servers, devices, databases, software, and local/wide-area networks.
- Analyze database needs, research and recommend commercially available software, implement new IT solutions, and migrate critical infrastructure to cloud services.
- Helped develop and implement a disaster-recovery plan designed to restore critical IT infrastructure after a disaster.
- Provide technical support to users at all levels, from end users to IT managers, requiring clear communication of complex technical issues.

Senior Systems Administrator | Mid-Region Council of Governments / Workforce Connection of Central New Mexico • Albuquerque, NM • October 2014–2020

- Administered IT vision, services, and security and implemented a transition from a local IT environment to hybrid cloud services.
- Managed day-to-day technology operations across multiple One-Stop locations, including internet providers, servers, switches, firewalls, email, antivirus, backup systems, phones, and related equipment.
- Provided outreach and service improvement to government and private employers providing access to career opportunities and training.

- Managed multiple technology and document-system contractors and coordinated with the Department of Workforce Solutions, Human Services Department, Department of Vocational Rehabilitation, Department of Transportation, Help New Mexico, SER-Jobs for Progress, and YDI.
- Followed Workforce Connection board procurement policy for computer and telephone equipment and cloud services.

Systems Analyst II | Mid-Region Council of Governments • Albuquerque, NM • July 2005–September 2014

- Administered multiple New Mexico sites, including internet providers, users, computer labs, and contractors.
- Supported network environments including switches, firewalls, wireless access points, and VPNs.
- Managed Windows-based servers and core network services including DNS, DHCP, Active Directory, and backups.
- Provided technical support and infrastructure management for public-sector locations and services.

System Analyst I | Citigroup • Albuquerque, NM • October 2002–July 2005

- Supported approximately 1,400 production and administrative computers and 40+ printers.
- Provided installation and technical support for computers, printers, software, firewalls, training, equipment management, compliance monitoring, and software inventory/audits.

EDUCATION & TRAINING

- Bachelor of Arts, Communication and Journalism — The University of New Mexico, May 1995
- Network Systems Management — TVI/Central New Mexico Community College, January 2001–December 2002
- Cisco CCNA coursework — Cisco 1 and Cisco 2 completed

PUBLIC-SECTOR COMMITTEES & COMMUNITY SERVICE

- MRCOG: Safety Committee; Intranet Committee; HVAC Committee; Website RFP Committee; Rail Runner Stations Network Management Committee.
- United Way grant award committee.
- Coach and co-athletic director, Alice King Community School boys' basketball team; former Alice King Community School Foundation Board Member.