



State of New Mexico Commissioner of Public Lands

Executive Order No. 2026-001

Display of the Pride Flag During Pride Month

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of Public Lands (the “Commissioner”) has broad constitutional authority and statutory jurisdiction over the direction, control, management, and the administration of the New Mexico State Land Office (“State Land Office”), in accordance with the Constitution of New Mexico and applicable laws of the State of New Mexico (*see* N.M. Const. art., XIII, Sec. 2 and NMSA 1978, §§ 19-1-1 and 19-1-2); and

WHEREAS, the Commissioner is authorized to maintain and manage the State Land Office buildings and grounds used in the administration of the state land trust (*see* NMSA 1978, § 19-12-2); and

WHEREAS, State Land Office buildings are under the authority and management of the Commissioner as provided by law (*see* NMSA 1978, § 15-3B-2); and

WHEREAS, June is widely recognized as Pride Month in recognition of the Stonewall Uprising of June 1969, a pivotal moment in civil rights for the LGBTQIA+ community, and serves as an opportunity to commemorate the history, resilience, and contributions of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, asexual and other members of the LGBTQIA+ community; and

WHEREAS, the struggle for equality for the LGBTQIA+ community continues, and the Commissioner recognizes that in periods of uncertainty, visible expressions of inclusion and support can serve as meaningful reminders that LGBTQIA+ individuals are welcomed and supported at the State Land Office; and

WHEREAS, in 2019 Commissioner Stephanie Garcia Richard became the first Commissioner of Public Lands to display the Pride Flag at the State Land Office during Pride Month, establishing an annual tradition that has provided employees an opportunity to gather to raise the Pride Flag and recognize the contributions and experiences of LGBTQIA+ New Mexicans and the importance of maintaining an inclusive workplace for all State Land Office employees; and

WHEREAS, employees of the State Land Office have shared that the visibility of the Pride Flag contributes to a workplace environment where they feel welcomed and valued, and that such recognition affirms the contributions of LGBTQIA+ public servants and demonstrates the agency’s commitment to fostering a culture of belonging and respect; and

WHEREAS, the State Land Office has been recognized as one of New Mexico's top workplaces by *USA Today* and the *Albuquerque Journal*, and the Commissioner recognizes that the diversity of experiences, backgrounds, and perspectives represented by State Land Office employees strengthens the agency and enhances its ability to fulfill its constitutional and statutory responsibilities; and

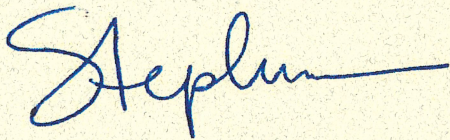
WHEREAS, LGBTQIA+ employees have made and continue to make important contributions to the success of the State Land Office and to its mission of generating record revenue for New Mexico's public schools, universities, hospitals, and other trust beneficiaries, and the Commissioner finds that maintaining a workplace where employees are valued and empowered to contribute to the agency's mission strengthens the State Land Office and better serves the beneficiaries of the state land trust; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioner finds that the display of the Pride Flag during Pride Month serves as a recognition of the contributions of LGBTQIA+ employees and the community and reflects the State Land Office's commitment to maintaining a workplace where all employees are welcome and valued;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Stephanie Garcia Richard, Commissioner of Public Lands for the State of New Mexico, do hereby order and direct the State Land Office to fly the Pride Flag on the main flagpole outside the State Land Office's Santa Fe headquarters alongside the United States Flag and the New Mexico State Flag in accordance with federal and state flag codes for the duration of the month of June, and in addition the Pride Flag may be displayed at any other office maintained by the Commissioner; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED that State Land Office employees may participate in an annual Pride Flag raising ceremony during the month of June where employees may gather and share why Pride Month and raising the Pride Flag is meaningful and to reflect on the importance of maintaining an inclusive workspace for all public servants.

SIGNED THIS 13 DAY OF JULY 2026.



STEPHANIE GARCIA RICHARD
COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC LANDS

