

SANTA FE COUNTY

Resolution No. 2006 - 162

**A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF A NEW JUDICIAL COMPLEX
FOR THE FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT THROUGH LOBBYING EFFORTS DURING
THE 2007 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

WHEREAS, the Steve Herrera Judicial Complex has major safety and security issues such as:

- a. Unavoidable public and prisoner interaction;
- b. Unsecured parking for staff, judges and the District Attorney's staff;
- c. Lack of separate staff and public circulation paths, separate prisoner circulation paths, a secure sally port for prisoners, and separate victim and witness waiting areas;
- d. Holding cells located in separate areas of court complex;
- e. Numerous accessible back doors and an accessible basement;
- f. An unsecured public records viewing area;
- g. Inadequate notification capacity to staff in an emergency; and
- h. Inadequate outside lighting; and

WHEREAS, since 1999, the Administrative Office of the Court has noted the following security incidents at the Steve Herrera Judicial Complex:

- a. 27 personal threats to Judges and Staff;
- b. 7 acts of violence;
- c. 6 unauthorized entries into secured areas;
- d. 1 act of vandalism; and
- e. 1 act of theft; and

WHEREAS, the existing Steve Herrera Judicial Complex is an old junior high school facility that was converted into a judicial complex; and

WHEREAS, the First Judicial staff has outgrown the Steve Herrera Judicial Complex and has encountered insurmountable space issues including:

- a. An insufficient number of public restrooms and the inconvenient location of those restrooms;
- b. Inadequate meeting and conference room space;
- c. Inflexible shape of courtrooms with inadequate support space and a lack of integrated technology; and

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d. Clerk functions and several other court programs which must be operated in several different overcrowded areas of the building because of insufficient space to operate in a centralized area; and

WHEREAS, NMSA 1978, § 34-6-24 (1988) provides that “each board of County Commissioners shall provide adequate quarters for the operation of the district court”; and

WHEREAS, Santa Fe County has identified a 2.3 acre site for the construction of a new facility for the First Judicial District to address space requirements and public safety.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Santa Fe Board of County Commissioners:

- 1.) Supports lobbying on behalf of Santa Fe County and requests for assistance from Governor Bill Richardson and the New Mexico State Legislature for funding to assist Santa Fe County to plan, design, construct and equip a new judicial complex and related parking facilities; and
- 2.) Encourages Governor Bill Richardson and the New Mexico Legislature to allocate \$ 3.5 million of Capital Outlay appropriation during the 2007 legislative session to Santa Fe County for this project; and
- 3.) Directs that copies of this Resolution be sent to Governor Bill Richardson and all New Mexico Legislators.

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PASSED, APPROVED and ADOPTED this 10th DAY OF OCTOBER, 2006.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

[Signature]
Harry B. Montoya, Chairman

ATTEST:

[Signature]
Valerie Espinoza, Santa Fe County Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

[Signature]
Stephen C. Ross, Santa Fe County Attorney



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COUNTY OF SANTA FE) BCC RESOLUTIONS
STATE OF NEW MEXICO) ss PAGES: 3

I Hereby Certify That This Instrument Was Filed for Record On The 11TH Day Of October, A.D., 2006 at 13:32 And Was Duly Recorded as Instrument # 1454490 Of The Records Of Santa Fe County

Deputy *[Signature]* Witness My Hand And Seal Of Office Valerie Espinoza County Clerk, Santa Fe, NM