

**DR. KURT STEINHAUS,**Secretary Designate

CASEY STONE-ROMERO,
Director

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## CASEY STONE-ROMERO APPOINTED DIRECTOR OF NMDVR



SANTA FE (January 19, 2022) – Casey Stone-Romero has been appointed by Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham to serve as the director of the New Mexico Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (NMDVR), effective January 10, 2022. With this appointment, Ms. Stone-Romero returns to the agency for which she worked from 1997 to 2014.

"I am very excited to be back with the team at NMDVR," Stone-Romero says. "I look forward to working with so many talented and exceptional people dedicated to the

success of this division for our residents of New Mexico."

Stone-Romero's experience with NMDVR began as a receptionist and secretary. She quickly earned promotions to training specialist, vocational rehabilitation technician, vocational rehabilitation counselor, and finally, staff development specialist. Now she holds the agency's top position, replacing Dan Drury, who had been serving as director in an interim capacity since early 2021.

NMDVR is a division of the Public Education Department. "It's wonderful to have someone with Casey's extensive experience in this important role," says Kurt Steinhaus, Public Education Secretary (Designate). "I have every confidence she will help us fulfill our commitment to helping everyone with a disability meet their employment goals and thrive in their communities."

Stone-Romero has worked for several other state agencies in addition to NMDVR, serving as community inclusion manager and statewide supported employment lead for the New Mexico Department of Health's Developmental Disabilities Supports Division, human resources analyst in the state's General Services Department, and training and development specialist in the State Personnel Office.

A life-long northern New Mexico resident, Ms. Stone-Romero and her husband Jason reside in Santa Fe with their son Tiger.

The New Mexico Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (NMDVR) helps eligible individuals with documented disabilities find suitable employment. To do so, DVR partners with companies and agencies seeking opportunities to enhance and diversify their workforce. Vocational rehabilitation is a voluntary program supporting people who want to work. With a long history of success and proven methodology for making the best fits, DVR is committed to helping participants thrive in their communities.

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