



UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

District of New Mexico
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NOMINATION OF MARGARET STRICKLAND TO FILL UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT JUDICIAL VACANCY IN THE DISTRICT OF NEW MEXICO CONFIRMED BY THE SENATE

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. – With the United States Senate recently voting to confirm the Presidential nomination of Margaret Strickland to be a United States District Judge for the District of New Mexico, President Joe Biden signed the commission formally appointing Ms. Strickland to the position of United States District Judge on October 22, 2021. At 9:00 a.m., MST, October 25, 2021, in Las Cruces, N.M., U.S. District Judge Kenneth J. Gonzales administered the oath of office to Ms. Strickland thereby allowing her to become the 24th U.S. District Judge in New Mexico since statehood in 1912. Las Cruces will be the official duty station for Judge Strickland and there will be a formal ceremony at the U.S. Courthouse in Las Cruces in the coming weeks.

Judge Strickland has strong ties to the southwest and the Las Cruces community having been a civil rights and criminal defense attorney since 2006. She attended the University of Texas at El Paso where she earned her bachelor's degree in 2003 and then attended law school at New York University's School of Law. Judge Strickland began her law career with the New Mexico State Public Defenders office. In 2011, Judge Strickland went into private law practice with the firm of McGraw & Strickland, LLC. Judge Strickland served as President of the New Mexico Criminal Defense Lawyers Association from 2017 to 2019. She is a very experienced trial lawyer having represented clients in numerous criminal and civil trials and has appellate court experience having handled appeals before the New Mexico Supreme Court and the New Mexico Court of Appeals.

Judge Strickland's proven legal abilities combined with her enthusiasm and commitment make her well qualified for the position of United States District Judge. She will fill a judicial position that has been vacant for almost 40 months.

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