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Taxation and Revenue announces leadership appointments
New deputy cabinet secretary, MVD director and chief legal counsel

SANTA FE — Taxation and Revenue Secretary Stephanie Schardin Clarke has announced the appointments of three key members of the Department’s leadership team – a new deputy cabinet secretary, chief legal counsel and permanent director of the Motor Vehicle Division.

“New Mexico is extremely fortunate to have these three experienced leaders on board. I know they will help us continue the advances we’ve made at Tax and Rev to improve our service to all New Mexicans,” Schardin Clarke said.

The new leadership team includes:

Deputy Cabinet Secretary Aysha Mora. Mora most recently led the Audit and Compliance Division and has served in the Department for more than 17 years. She brings a unique and valuable combination of knowledge about the Department’s business needs and Information Technology Systems.

Mora holds a master's in management information systems, a bachelor's in information technology, and an associate in applied science, Manufacturing and Electronics Technology.

Motor Vehicle Division Director Htet Gonzales. Gonzales has been interim director since June 2022. Prior to that she was the deputy director of MVD Field Operations statewide, the bureau chief over the southern New Mexico zone field offices, and a member of the Alamogordo MVD office. More than eight years of experience through many levels of MVD has given Gonzales a deep knowledge of every aspect of the division. Prior to joining MVD, Gonzales was an accounting technician with the US Air Force at Holloman Air Force Base. She holds a bachelor's in science in Business with an emphasis in Accounting.

Chief Legal Counsel Dee Wald. Wald will supervise the Legal Services Bureau, including litigation, protest, and other matters. Wald recently retired as general counsel to the North Dakota Office of the State Tax Commissioner, where she oversaw that state's tax litigation office. Wald dedicated her career to the North Dakota Tax Commission, serving in various positions there from 1991 until her retirement earlier this year.

She has been an active member in national tax organizations, serving until recently as chair of the Multistate Tax Committee's Litigation Committee. She holds a Juris Doctorate and a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science. Wald will begin work at Taxation and Revenue in July.

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The Taxation and Revenue Department serves the State of New Mexico by providing fair and efficient tax and motor vehicle services. It administers more than 35 tax programs and distributes revenue to the State and to local and tribal governments throughout New Mexico.

The Department strives to reduce taxpayer burden through clearer communication, statutes, regulations, forms, correspondence and instructions.

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