

STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
COUNTY OF BERNALILLO  
SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

NEW MEXICO PATRIOTS  
ADVOCACY COALITION,  
LISA BRENNER,

Plaintiffs,

Case No. D-202-CV-2019-07344

v.

TIM KELLER, Mayor,  
City of Albuquerque,

Defendant.

**COMPLAINT FOR DECLARATORY JUDGMENT AND  
VERIFIED PETITION FOR INJUNCTIVE RELIEF;**

COME NOW, Plaintiffs New Mexico Patriots Advocacy Coalition and Lisa Brenner, pursuant to NMSA §44-6-1 *et. seq.*, and N.M. Const. Art. II, § 6; bring this action to challenge the actions of Mayor Tim Keller through executive order a.k.a. administrative instruction to restrict the ability of Albuquerque citizens to keep and bear arms for lawful purpose in contravention of the protections against such infringement in the New Mexico Constitution.

**Parties and Venue**

1. Plaintiff New Mexico Patriot Advocacy Coalition ("NM Patriots"), is New Mexico political advocacy group, duly registered and operating in the State of New Mexico, whose members are Albuquerque and New Mexico citizens that wish to exercise their constitutional right to keep and bear arms free from infringement by their government.
2. Plaintiff Lisa Brenner is a resident of the City of Albuquerque.
3. Defendant Tim Keller is the elected mayor of the City of Albuquerque.
4. The Second Judicial District Court is the proper venue.

**Allegations Supporting Declaratory Judgment and Injunctive Relief**

5. Mayor Keller, acting under the color of his executive authority, caused his Chief Administrative Officer, Sarita Nair, to take action to regulate and prohibit the bearing of firearms in certain city facilities by enacting Administrative Instruction No. 5-19, attached hereto as Exhibit 1, in contravention of N.M. Const. art. II, § 6 which unequivocally provides that municipalities are prohibited from taking such an action, stating:

No law shall abridge the right of the citizen to keep and bear arms for security and defense, for lawful hunting and recreational use and for other lawful purposes, but nothing herein shall be held to permit the carrying of concealed weapons. No municipality or county shall regulate, in any way, an incident of the right to keep and bear arms.

N.M. Const. art. II, § 6.

6. Administrative Order No. 5-19 purports to reinterpret state criminal law, specifically NMSA 1978 § 30-7-2.1, to define community centers, multigenerational centers and senior centers as “school premises” as a way to regulate the bearing of arms at these facilities by criminalizing the carrying of firearms at these city facilities that have not traditionally met the definition of “school premises”, nor do they actually meet the definition in the statute.

7. Administrative Order No. 5-19 purports to reinterpret state criminal law, specifically NMSA 1978 § 30-7-2.4, to define health and social service centers as “university premises” as a way to regulate the bearing of arms at these facilities by criminalizing the carrying of firearms at these city facilities that have not traditionally met the definition of “university premises”, nor do they actually meet the definition in the statute.

**COUNT 1**

**VIOLATION OF N.M. CONST. ART. II, § 6**

8. Plaintiffs herein incorporate all of the foregoing paragraphs.

9. Pursuant to N.M. Const. art. II, § 6 the Mayor of the City of Albuquerque is prohibited from all actions that **in any way** regulate any incident of the right to keep and bear arms.

10. Both the United States Constitution and the New Mexico Constitution protect the pre-existing fundamental liberty of the individual to keep and bear arms directing that the government shall not infringe upon that right.

11. It is understood that the right to keep and bear arms is not absolute but may only be limited by regulation in the state of New Mexico by state government.

12. Administrative Instruction No 5-19 violates the Second Amendment to the United States Constitution and Article II Section 6 of the New Mexico Bill of Rights in the New Mexico Constitution.

**WHEREFORE**, Plaintiffs respectfully pray that:

A. The Court enter an order declaring that Administrative Instruction No. 5-19 is unconstitutional and is therefore, void; and,

B. The Court enter a preliminary injunction prohibiting the enforcement of Administrative Instruction No. 5-19 during the pendency of this litigation and a permanent injunction against the enforcement of Administrative Instruction No. 5-19.

Respectfully Submitted,

WESTERN AGRICULTURE, RESOURCE  
AND BUSINESS ADVOCATES, LLP

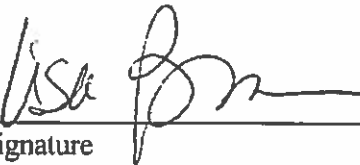
/s/ A. Blair Dunn

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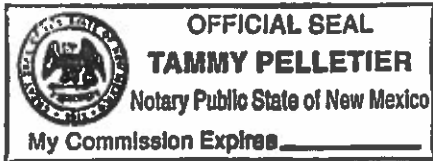
VERIFICATION

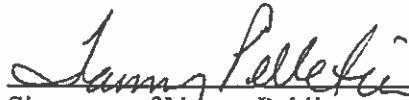
STATE OF NEW MEXICO            )  
  ) ss.  
COUNTY OF BERNALILLO        )

I, Lisa Brenner, being first duly sworn upon my oath, depose and state that I have read the above, know the contents thereof, and that the matters and things therein set forth are true to my own knowledge, save where the same are or must of necessity be set forth upon information and belief, and as to those statements I believe the same to be true.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

On this 20 day of Sept 2019, personally appeared Lisa Brenner personally known to me or identified through satisfactory evidence, being duly sworn, swore to me that the foregoing instrument is true and correct to the best of his knowledge and belief and that he executed the same in his authorized capacity, and that by his signature on the instrument the person or the entity upon behalf of which the person acted executed the instrument.



  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Notary Public  
Tammy Pelletier  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name of Notary Public

My Commission Expires: 9-13-23

# CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE

Office of the Mayor/Chief Administrative Officer



## ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTION NO: 5-19

**TITLE:** Noting the applicability of State laws prohibiting firearms in City of Albuquerque Child Development Centers, Community Centers, Health and Social Service Centers, Multigenerational Centers, and Senior Centers, subject to certain exceptions

**PRIMARY DEPARTMENTS:** Department of Family and Community Services and Department of Senior Affairs

**SECONDARY DEPARTMENTS:** Department of Municipal Development, Albuquerque Police Department, Legal Department, Albuquerque Fire Rescue

As set forth in Administrative Instruction No. 8-5, it is the policy of the City of Albuquerque to ensure that safe and healthful working conditions exist for its employees, contractors and the general public whose work involves the conducting of business in city-owned buildings, on city-owned properties or in the course of normal business. In addition, the City may have liability under the Tort Claims Act for negligence in the operation of its facilities. Accordingly, it is the policy of the City to determine what federal, state and local laws apply to City facilities and to ensure such laws are observed and enforced.

PO Box 1293

Albuquerque

NM 87103

www.cabq.gov

This Administrative Instruction confirms that the City's Community Centers, Multigenerational Centers, and Senior Centers (collectively, the "Centers") all fall within the definition set forth in New Mexico Statutes Annotated 1978, Sections 30-7-2.1 of "school premises." In addition, Health and Social Service Centers fall within the definition set forth in NMSA 1978, § 30-7-2.4, of "university premises." Pursuant to Sections 30-7-2.1 and 30-7-2.4, it is unlawful to carry firearms at any of these facilities, subject to the exceptions set forth in, and coextensive with, those statutes.

### 1. The prohibition on deadly weapons and firearms in schools and universities

NMSA 1978, § 30-7-2.1(A) (1994) makes it unlawful to carry a deadly weapon on "school premises," except by "(1) a peace officer; (2) school security personnel; (3) a student, instructor or other school-authorized personnel engaged in army, navy, marine corps or air force reserve officer training corps programs or state-authorized hunter safety training instruction; (4) a person conducting or participating in a school-approved program, class or other activity involving the carrying of a deadly weapon; or (5) a person older than nineteen years of age on school premises in a private automobile or other private means of conveyance, for lawful protection of the person's or another's person or property." Those who commit unlawful carrying of a deadly weapon on school premises may be charged with a fourth degree felony under NMSA 1978, § 30-7-2.1(C)

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NMSA 1978, § 30-1-12 (1963) defines "deadly weapon" as "any firearm, whether loaded or unloaded; or any weapon which is capable of producing death or great bodily harm, including but not restricted to any types of daggers, brass knuckles, switchblade knives, bowie knives, poniards, butcher knives, dirk knives and all such weapons with which dangerous cuts can be given, or with which dangerous thrusts can be inflicted, including swordcanes, and any kind of sharp pointed canes, also slingshots, slung shots, bludgeons; or any other weapons with which dangerous wounds can be inflicted."

NMSA 1978, § 30-7-2.4(A) (2003) makes it unlawful to carry a firearm on "university premises" except by: "(1) a peace officer; (2) university security personnel; (3) a student, instructor or other university-authorized personnel who are engaged in army, navy, marine corps or air force reserve officer training corps programs or a state-authorized hunter safety training program; (4) a person conducting or participating in a university-approved program, class or other activity involving the carrying of a firearm; or (5) a person older than nineteen years of age on university premises in a private automobile or other private means of conveyance, for lawful protection of the person's or another's person or property." Those who commit unlawful carrying of a firearm on university premises may be charged with a petty misdemeanor under NMSA 1978, § 30-7-2.4(D).

## 2. Policy Rationale for State laws prohibiting firearms in public schools and universities

The US Supreme Court has long upheld laws forbidding the carrying of firearms in sensitive places such as schools. See *District of Columbia v. Heller*, 554 U.S. 570, 626-27 (2008). The need for such a law in New Mexico has only become clearer since the 1994 and 2003 enactments of the State laws prohibiting the carrying of firearms on public school and university premises.

Between the Columbine massacre, which occurred on April 20, 1999, and the date of this Administrative Instruction, the United States has seen 68 mass K-12 "school shootings." Thirty-one of those 68 shootings occurred after December 14, 2012, when a mass shooter murdered 20 six- and seven-year-old school children at Sandy Hook Elementary, as well as six staff members who tried to protect them. Since 2013, American schools, including post-secondary, have seen 181 deaths and 358 injuries attributable to gunfire.

Three school shootings have occurred in New Mexico: (1) Roswell Berrendo Middle School with two injured on January 14, 2014; (2) Aztec High School with three fatalities, including the shooter, on December 7, 2017; and (3) Cleveland High School in Rio Rancho on February 14, 2019 with no physical injuries. These are in addition to the mass shooting that occurred at the Clovis public library on August 28, 2017, when a 16-year-old Clovis High School student killed two and injured four.

Strong policy considerations continue to underlie the State laws cited above. Like schools, mass shooters have targeted municipal centers such as community centers across the country. In 1999, a mass shooter killed one community member

and injured five people at the Los Angeles Jewish Community Center. In 2014, a mass shooter killed two people in a shooting at the Overland Park Jewish Community Center in Kansas. Most recently, a mass shooter killed 12 people and injured four more at a Virginia Beach municipal center.

Between August 1, 2015, and July 31, 2019, 27 gun offenses have been reported to the Albuquerque Police Department ("APD") at City community, health and social service, and senior centers (see attached map). On May 31, 2013, an eight-year-old girl was shot and killed at the City's own Alamosa Community Center. Most recently, on April 4, 2019, a shooting occurred at the Alamosa Community Center. Over that same time period, 510 gun offenses have been reported to APD within a two-block radius of the City's community centers, health and social service centers, multigenerational centers, and senior centers.

### 3. Applicability of Sections 30-7-2.1 and 30-7-2.4 to City facilities

In addition to the buildings and grounds that house public schools, NMSA 1978, § 30-7-2.1(B)(2) defines "public school premises" as "any other public buildings or grounds, including playing fields and parking areas that are not public school property, in or on which public school-related and sanctioned activities are being performed." Under this definition, all Centers fall under the definition of public school premises.

The City's Community Centers, Multigenerational Centers, and Senior Centers are all inextricably linked to schools, provide school-related and school sanctioned activities, and even themselves serve as schools by providing various education classes. The City is party to several contracts and agreements with Albuquerque Public Schools ("APS"), reflecting joint use of the Centers. In addition, the City works with public schools in a broad array of programs and services, including, but not limited to:

- APS Access/CTAP/APS Transitional Services to provide high school age students with disabilities that need transition into areas of employment, post-secondary education/training, independent living and community connections
- APS-sanctioned or APS-related before- and after-school programming
- APS-sanctioned or APS-related school meal programs
- Performances by APS and public charter schools
- School-sanctioned transport to and from APS public schools
- Direct use of Center facilities by charter schools
- 25 playground recreation sites with APS
- Therapeutic recreation programs with APS
- Job mentorship programs
- Child and family development programs

In Fiscal Year 2019, 200,000 City youth and nearly 325,000 City adults visited City community centers. The City Playground Recreation Program served almost 270,000 children, and the City Therapeutic Recreation Program served almost

48,000 youth and 12,000 adults. The City Job Mentorship Program had an enrollment of over 1,500.

In addition to the buildings and grounds of a university, NMSA 1978, § 30-7-2.4(C)(2)(b) (2003) defines "university premises" as "any other public buildings or grounds, including playing fields and parking areas that are not university property, in or on which university-related and sanctioned activities are performed." Under this definition, all four Health and Social Service Centers fall under the definition of "university premises" because they are used for the UNM Maternity & Family Planning clinic. In addition, San Pablo Young Children's Health Center leases space to UNM. City Health and Social Service Centers serve approximately 144,000 clients annually.

As the Attorney General recently noted, local governments do not have the right to pick and choose what state laws to enforce. The state laws cited above are clear and unambiguous. The State legislature could have narrowly defined "public school premises" and "university premises" to mean only those properties owned or leased by public schools or universities. Instead, the Legislature chose expressly to include buildings and areas "that are not public school property" and "that are not university property."

#### 4. Training and posting

The Department of Family & Community Services, Department of Senior Affairs, Department of Municipal Development Security Division, Legal Department, Albuquerque Police Department and the community risk reduction initiative of Albuquerque Fire Rescue are instructed to develop and implement training to ensure that affected employees are aware of the provisions of state law discussed above, and to make any required postings or public notices related to NMSA 1978, §§ 30-7-2.1 and 30-7-2.4.

Until such training is developed, City personnel who see a violation of the State laws cited in this Administrative Instruction should call 9-1-1 and take no further action.



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**Sarita Nair**  
**Chief Administrative Officer**

**August 16, 2019**  
**Effective Date**