

HECTOR BALDERAS

J . D . , C F E

Former Attorney General of New Mexico

July 20, 2026

The Honorable Andrea Romero, Chair
House Special Investigatory Committee
New Mexico House of Representatives
490 Old Santa Fe Trail
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501
info@nmtruthcommission.com

Re: US DOJ's refusal to provide Epstein/Zorro Ranch material

Chair Romero,

As the most recent former Attorney General for the State of New Mexico, I want to applaud your efforts to provide a truthful accounting of Jeffrey Epstein's dealings in New Mexico, documenting abuses that occurred at Zorro Ranch, and to advocate for transparent government at all levels. We are aligned in this mission. I have seen various statements in the news media that indicate the possibility for confusion among commissioners regarding the history of investigation of these matters, and so I write to provide information that I am certain the Commission will find useful in executing its charge. I also want to share recent correspondence I sent to Attorney General Torrez that outlines the history of the United States' interference with New Mexico's investigation, which I believe are assistive to him in his ongoing pursuit.

I have been monitoring the activities of the Truth Commission and Attorney General Torrez, and I strongly support these efforts. I write to assist you in efficiently navigating the timeline of New Mexico's investigation while I was Attorney General and to provide you my recent correspondence to Attorney General Torrez, identifying records within the Epstein files that demonstrate the United States' express agreement with my office to provide un-redacted records to New Mexico prosecutors after their prosecution. I stand ready to assist you and Attorney General Torrez in this important cause and I urge you to utilize the information contained in this letter to the benefit of the courageous survivors of Epstein.



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My interest in Jeffrey Epstein's conduct in New Mexico originated with the profound failures of prosecutors in Florida to hold him accountable for crimes there. Without any originating referrals or investigative leads, I launched an investigation in New Mexico on the theory that is at the core of the Commission's purpose: to find out what happened in New Mexico and hold anyone who engaged in related criminal activity here accountable. The only investigation into Jeffery Epstein in New Mexico was opened based on wide reporting in early 2019 of the failures of prosecutors to protect survivors of Epstein's abuse in Florida, including failing to communicate with survivors as required by the federal Victims' Rights Act. Prior to this reporting, and in particular between 2015 and 2022, there were no reports or referrals to the Office of the Attorney General requesting investigation of the Zorro Ranch or Jeffrey Epstein. Despite the lack of an existing case file at the Office of the Attorney General, I was concerned that if Epstein had a residence in New Mexico, an investigation needed to be launched based on the public reporting alone.

As a result of the public reporting, I directed agents and prosecutors to reach out to Brad Edwards, a Florida attorney who represented several survivors in Florida. We were the first and only state prosecutors, to my knowledge, to proactively attempt to solicit investigative materials and begin a case against Jeffrey Epstein. Mr. Edwards has subsequently made positive public statements regarding the proactive efforts of our office. We contacted Mr. Edwards in March of 2019. With his clients' consent, he supplied us with the names of two women who had been assaulted in New Mexico and we set up interviews. The first interview of C.D. was conducted July 2, 2019, and based on the statements we obtained from her, we began to formulate a charging theory of criminal sexual penetration in the first degree against Jeffrey Epstein, subject to some additional investigative steps. We also contacted another survivor, A.F., but as described below, our interview with A.F. was cancelled pursuant to our subsequent agreement with federal prosecutors.

Subsequent to this July 2, 2019, interview with C.D., we became aware that the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York (SDNY) had indicted and arrested Epstein on July 6, 2019. We immediately contacted SDNY to establish a line of communication between our offices and to ensure neither of our investigations would create a conflict for the other. During a phone call on July 29, 2019, SDNY prosecutors admonished our investigative team and told them explicitly: stop interviewing our witnesses. SDNY emphasized that our interviewing the victims had the potential to jeopardize their established prosecution and possibly prevent them from also charging Epstein for crimes committed in New Mexico, which is a dynamic that is not out of the ordinary in multi-jurisdictional prosecutions.

Further, they explicitly agreed that at the conclusion of their established prosecution, they would provide all records of their investigation to us, allowing us access to information we would have never otherwise had access to. During this phone call, and in later correspondence, we urged SDNY to search Zorro Ranch. After our meeting with SDNY, our office provided all investigative materials that were then in our possession, including the interview of C.D. and information regarding A.F. Notably, the conduct involving A.F. in New Mexico was incorporated into the



charging documents against Epstein co-conspirator, Ghislain Maxwell and she was convicted based on those facts in June of 2022.

My second term as Attorney General expired December 31, 2022. At that time, it was still believed that information would be provided back to New Mexico for prosecution involving any targets for crimes occurring in New Mexico, though the SDNY had not announced the completion of their investigation, and at that time SDNY had still not fulfilled their promise to provide investigative materials.

I articulate the timeline of New Mexico's investigation during my time as Attorney General in hopes that it will assist the Commission in fulfilling its mission. I have also attached to this correspondence, my recent letter to Attorney General Torrez, noting a record of particular significance within the files released by the DOJ, which also articulates this timeline and supports his basis for bringing legal action against the United States to obtain Epstein and Zorro Ranch related investigative materials. Of note in that letter, you will see an explicit memorialization of the prosecutorial agreement between our office and SDNY prosecutors, which they have not honored to this day. Among the other records that have been released pursuant to the federal Epstein Files Transparency Act, I believe this record to be the most accurate statement of our agreement, and an admission to the United States' breach of our prosecutorial agreement. The United States is legally and morally obligated to provide these documents to Attorney General Torrez, and I encourage the Commission to take immediate and swift action to assist Attorney General Torrez to this end.

I reiterate my appreciation of your efforts in this matter, and please know I stand ready to assist you in any way in advancing the statutory purpose of the Commission and in seeking justice for survivors of abuse in New Mexico.

Sincerely,



Hector Balderas
Former Attorney General of New Mexico

