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**The Interfaith
Community Shelter is a
501(c)(3) not-for-profit
serving homeless people
of Santa Fe and
Northern New Mexico.**

May 22, 2025

City Of Santa Fe, NM
200 Lincoln Ave
Santa Fe, NM 87504

Dear Sir/Madam,

As you are aware, the conditions on Harrison, especially in the vicinity of the Interfaith Shelter have been, for some time and continue to be, a nuisance, safety threat and inconvenience both for guests, staff and volunteers of the shelter and for our neighbors. While we have taken all actions requested by the city, including the hiring of private security, we have been repeatedly cautioned by the Santa Fe Police that we have no jurisdiction outside of our property. Unfortunately, outside of our property is where the problem exists. With few exceptions, the people outside our property are NOT shelter guests, and some have been barred from our property due to violence or on premises drug use.

We have repeatedly asked for police support to address the issue and receive, at best, limited support. This has tarnished the reputation of both the shelter and the city.

Over a year ago we made a verbal, informal proposal to the city to:

1. Cover the salary and benefits of hiring a city police officer for a mutually agreed period of time
2. Help educate said officer in effective ways to deal with our population
3. Provide office space at the shelter to headquarter that officer
4. We asked that the officer be dedicated to the neighborhood and homeless issues

The city declined our offer. Considering the continuing and escalating nature of the issue, we are now, formally, in writing making the same offer. This will be a major financial commitment of the shelter's limited resources, but we believe our neighbors, guests, staff and volunteers deserve no less.

Please let us know as soon as possible how we can work together to facilitate the implementation of this proposal.

Respectfully submitted,

Len Rand
Board Chair – The Interfaith Community Shelter