



March 25, 2024

The Honorable  
Raúl Torrez  
Attorney General of New Mexico  
408 Galisteo Street  
Villagra Building  
Santa Fe, NM 87501

The Honorable  
Joseph Maestas  
State Auditor of New Mexico  
2540 Camino Edward Ortiz  
Suite "A"  
Santa Fe, NM 87507

Subject: Notification of Intent to Conduct Oversight Evaluation of New Mexico Military Institute

Dear Attorney General Torrez and State Auditor Maestas:

I am writing to you in my capacity as the Executive Director of SallyPort Watch, a non-governmental independent watchdog organization incorporated in New Mexico with IRS 501(c)(3) status. Our organization is dedicated to overseeing the New Mexico Military Institute (NMMI) in Roswell, New Mexico, focusing on ensuring the integrity and efficiency of its operations.

Over the past eight months, SallyPort Watch has engaged in preliminary research concerning the governance practices of the NMMI Board of Regents and Administration. This research has included reviewing documentation acquired through requests under the New Mexico Access to Public Records Act (IPRA), analysis of confidential submissions through our hotline portal, and observation of regular and special NMMI Board of Regents public meetings. Our preliminary research and analysis raise potentially significant concerns regarding the governance and administrative practices at NMMI.

We intend to initiate an evaluation of NMMI's governance and administrative practices within the next 90 days. Our team is comprised of volunteer professionals with expertise in government oversight, including certified auditors, evaluators, and subject matter experts in education and public governance. We will submit our draft report to management officials to whom findings and recommendations may be directed for management comment before finalizing and publishing the report.

In accordance with our commitment to uphold the highest standards of oversight, this review will be conducted in accordance with the professional quality standards of the Council of Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency, the Government Auditing Standards of the Government Accountability Office, and the standards of the International Association of Internal Auditors.

It is our policy, in line with SallyPort Watch bylaws, that if during our review we detect significant indicators of fraud, waste, abuse, or uncover information raising reasonable suspicion of criminal

activity, we will immediately refer the matter to your office. This referral is aimed at ensuring that our oversight activities do not conflict with any potential inquiry or investigation conducted by your office. Additionally, a draft report of our findings will be shared with the Department of Higher Education, the Attorney General, and the State Auditor prior to public release.

To facilitate this important undertaking, we kindly request the nomination of a point of contact within your offices for future correspondence and coordination regarding this engagement.

We appreciate your attention to this matter and look forward to your support in our endeavors to promote the economy, efficiency, and integrity of operations at the New Mexico Military Institute.

Sincerely,



Gregory D. Sampson  
Executive Director

Distribution:

The Honorable Lujan Grisham, Office of the Governor of the State of New Mexico  
The Honorable Stephanie Rodriguez, Secretary, New Mexico Higher Education Department  
Board of Regents, New Mexico Military Institute