



Judge Zach Ives
New Mexico Court of Appeals
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Judge Zach Ives serves as a judge on the New Mexico Court of Appeals. Zach has dedicated his career to helping New Mexicans in the legal system. Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham appointed him to the New Mexico Court of Appeals, and he must run statewide in the 2020 election to keep his seat on the bench. Zach was appointed to the Court after the bi-partisan Judicial Nominating Commission found him “qualified.”

Zach knows that the work of judges has significant – often profound – consequences for people, businesses, and government. He firmly believes that a neutral and independent New Mexico judiciary is essential for healthy government.

Zach has over 18 years of experience as an attorney in New Mexico. Before being appointed to the Court of Appeals, Zach ran his own law firm, practicing at every level in our state and federal courts. He did appellate work, represented plaintiffs in civil rights litigation, and served as a guardian ad litem in adult guardianship proceedings, representing vulnerable people, including children, people with disabilities, and the elderly. He has significant experience in criminal law, personal injury law, and commercial law. He has been recognized by his peers for selection in *Best Lawyers in America* and *Super Lawyers*.

Zach served as a law clerk to the Honorable Pamela B. Minzner, Chief Justice of the NM Supreme Court, where he learned the critical, far-reaching impact of judicial decisions. He was court-appointed by the US Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit to the Criminal Justice Act panel and by the NM Supreme Court to the Criminal Uniform Jury Instruction Committee, which he chaired. He has also served on the Board of Directors of the Appellate Practice Section of the NM State Bar. He is deeply committed to public service, having served as a mentor for the Bridge the Gap Program of the NM State Bar and as a trustee of the Nature Conservancy of New Mexico.

Zach was born in Las Cruces and raised in Socorro, Albuquerque, and Corrales. He has deep roots in New Mexico, where his extended family worked on farms and ranches in various places, including the Hatch Valley, Weed, Roswell, and Anthony. Zach attended the University of New Mexico School of Law. He and his wife live in Albuquerque, where they are raising two children. In his free time, Zach enjoys photography, hiking, running, cycling, and reading.