



State of New Mexico
WORKERS' COMPENSATION ADMINISTRATION

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WCA to Present to Legislative Finance Committee

ALBUQUERQUE – WCA Director Loretta Lopez and Deputy Director Leigh Martinez will go before the New Mexico Legislative Finance Committee on Monday, November 16, 2020, to present the agency's budget request for the upcoming fiscal year. The WCA is self-funded through a quarterly assessment fee paid by New Mexico employers and workers.

While 2020 has proved challenging for public entities and private business alike, the WCA has maintained a high level of service to employers and workers across the state. In this time of teleworking, the WCA's Dispute Resolution Bureau and administrative law judges have worked hard to adapt to the telework environment. They are maintaining their caseload without accruing a backlog by holding virtual mediations, hearings, and trials to assure injured workers continue to receive necessary medical and indemnity benefits.

"We are proud of the resiliency of our staff to be innovative and would like to expand our capabilities in the near future," said Director Lopez. Moving forward, the WCA hopes to update software and create new case management systems. Data collection will be expanded by upgrading our Electronic Data Interchange systems. Once this modernization project is completed, the upgraded system will allow for claims administrators to more easily report first report of injury and subsequent report of injury claims data to US jurisdictions. This additional data will allow us to develop and assess the efficiency of services to New Mexico's workers.