

**The New Mexico Department of Veterans Services**

**Michelle Lujan Grisham** *Governor*

**DVS Pueblo & Tribal Liason Beverly Charley Honored**

**as One of Ten *2022 New Mexico True Heroes***

**(Santa Fe)—** New Mexico Department of Veterans Services (DVS) Pueblo & Tribal Liason Beverly Charley has been recognized by New Mexico Magazine as one of eleven recipients of its 2022 *New Mexico True Heroes Award.*

The announcement was made by New Mexico Tourism Department Cabinet Secretary Jen Schroer in a videotaped message posted on the agency’s website revealing the eleven award recipients.

“Our true heroes are eleven exceptional individuals who have distinguished themselves as community leaders, creators, and activators who are building a better New Mexico for all of us,” said Secretary Schroer. “The designation as a New Mexico True Hero recognizes New Mexicans who work hard every day to uplift others, and support causes beyond themselves.”

Charley was honored for her work helping veterans in her hometown of Farmington and the Four Corners area—especially homeless and low-income veterans. She was instrumental in organizing the area’s annual San Juan County Homeless Veterans Stand Down ten years ago to bring together dozens of veterans and community service agencies to provide services, health care referrals, employment and housing assistance, clothing, and food for area homeless veterans.

“This is an incredible honor, to even be nominated for this prestigious award. This is really, really humbling,” said Charley. “I sincerely want to thank New Mexico Magazine. To help a veteran in need gives me a lot of satisfaction. To be recognized and thanked for what I love doing is just icing on the cake.”

The Farmington native served 14-years in the Army and was deployed to Somalia, Iraq, and twice to Haiti. She came to DVS in 2015 as the agency’s Farmington-based veterans service officer tasked with helping veterans and their eligible dependents with filing VA claims, applying for state veterans benefits, and generally helping with any other issues veterans or their families face.

A proud member of the Navajo Nation, she was appointed last year as the agency’s inaugural pueblo and tribal liaison to focus specifically on helping New Mexico’s 9,700 Native American veterans.

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