



## New Mexico Office of Recovery and Reinvestment

Governor Bill Richardson

Former Governor Toney Anaya  
Executive Director

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### **Former Governor Toney Anaya Thanks Deputy Secretary Dona Cook For Her Service to New Mexico**

Cook Established New Mexico Office of Recovery and  
Reinvestment, Oversaw Historic Stimulus Program

SANTA FE — Former Governor Toney Anaya today thanked Dona Cook, Deputy Director of the New Mexico Office of Recovery and Reinvestment, for her 26 years of service to New Mexico state government. Cook is retiring effective May 1.

"From state budget director to creating a new office to oversee billions in federal stimulus funds, Dona Cook has always led some of the toughest jobs in state government," former

Governor Anaya said. "Her dedication to the stimulus program has been especially critical for our state for the past year."

Cook has served seven governors during her career, including former Governor Anaya, executive director of the New Mexico Office of Recovery and Reinvestment.

"When Governor Richardson asked me to oversee the stimulus program in New Mexico, I knew that Dona Cook was the person to make this massive undertaking successful," former Governor Anaya said. "For the past year, Dona has worked tirelessly to make sure stimulus funds are properly accounted for and that projects are getting underway and putting thousands of New Mexicans back to work. Stimulus dollars are flowing in every county and our state budget has received a huge boost, thanks in part to Dona's dedication. She came through when we needed her the most."

"I am grateful and honored to have been involved with the Recovery Act at the end of my career," Cook said. "Each of my assignments has been challenging, and I appreciate the opportunity to have worked with so many state employees focused on public service."

Cook began her career as an intern for the Reorganization Commission with former Governor John F. Simms Jr. in 1967. She has served as deputy secretary or administrator for eight state agencies, including the Taxation and Revenue Department and Corrections Department. Her work at the Corrections Department was instrumental to vacating the Duran Consent Decree, or federal court oversight governing living conditions in New Mexico prisons. Inmate Dwight Duran filed a lawsuit over living conditions in 1977; the consent decree was vacated in 1999 in large part due to Cook's work.

Elizabeth Savage will take Cook's place as Deputy Director of the New Mexico Office of Recovery and Reinvestment. Savage most recently oversaw the extensive reporting and accounting requirements associated with stimulus spending. Savage has 24 years of state government experience and has overseen compliance with class action lawsuits at the Departments of Health and Corrections.

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