



PUBLIC-INTEREST FIELD GUIDE

PUBLIC RIGHTS FIELD GUIDE

Authorities & Reporting Routes

Read the source · Understand the limits · Find the right office



Prepared and maintained by Brandon N. Gallegos

Independent public-interest legal-information project

CORE PRINCIPLE

Red flags are questions, not proof. Read the source, its version and its limits. Choose a route by what it can do—not by an assumed outcome.

Contents →

Find a route →

While you wait →

Choose a button · Underlined labels and page arrows are also links

GENERAL U.S. FRAMEWORKS · NEW MEXICO REPORTING GATEWAYS

September 19, 2026 · Review candidate, not an approved public release

Find what you need

Underlined text and outlined navigation rows are clickable. Page numbers and stable card IDs also work in print.

Start with the problem

Choose the task and the outcome—not an accusation.

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Find a health profession

Physicians, nurses, therapists, dental and rehabilitation practice.

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Find an institution or other role

Police, judges, work, education, records and consumer routes.

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No response, referral or closure

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Versions, source checks and version 1

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READ THIS AS A REVIEW COPY

Review copy, not a personal legal assessment. New source checks are scoped; inherited law cards keep their version limits. No public update site has been provided.

Start with the problem

One event can justify several questions. The directory is a menu of possible fits—not instructions to report to every listed office.

A clinician's licensed practice

Verify the credential before choosing a board.

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Hospital or facility practice

Institutional oversight and grievance routes.

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Health records, privacy or discrimination

Separate the entity request from an outside complaint.

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Long-term-care and VA New Mexico advocacy routes.

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New Mexico IPRA, federal FOIA and dispute assistance.

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Fraud, identity or consumer concern

General intake versus a financial, insurance or billing route.

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DO NOT WAIT FOR THE PERFECT PACKET

An urgent safety issue, actual notice, short filing period or possible loss of evidence needs its own prompt attention. The numbered sequences are organizational aids, not a universal internal-first rule.

Find by health profession

Search by the real credential, not only a title such as “therapist.” The entries distinguish individuals, facilities and products.

Physician / psychiatrist / physician assistant

Medical Board; check the precise license and jurisdiction.

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Nurse / nurse practitioner / APRN

Nursing-board gateway.

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Psychologist

Psychologist Examiners Board.

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Counselor / counseling or therapy practice

Verify the specific professional license.

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Social worker

Social-work board directory lead; process not fully checked.

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Dental professional

Dental Health Care Board gateway.

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Physical therapist

Physical Therapy Board gateway.

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Occupational therapist / assistant

Occupational Therapy Board gateway.

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Pharmacy / pharmacist

Pharmacy complaint gateway.

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Another licensed health profession

RLD directory; verify the individual board.

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Drug, device or other medical product

FDA safety reporting is not a clinician-discipline process.

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Facility, hospital or program

Identify institutional oversight separately.

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The labels above are search aids, not determinations of scope of practice. State, federal, tribal, compact and interstate situations can require different analysis.

Find by institution or role

Use the reader's role and the actor's actual institution together. Stable route numbers are catalogue IDs, not effectiveness scores.

APD or officer certification

CPOA and NM certification entries have different scope.

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Other police / sheriff / NM state judge

Verify the local police route; distinguish judicial discipline from appeal.

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Possible federal crime or civil-rights issue

FBI and DOJ gateways are not private representation.

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Employee, wage earner or union participant

EEOC, WHD and NLRB branches.

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Safety complainant or federal employee

NM OSHA and OSC distinctions.

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Student or educational institution

OCR versus NM HED complaint handling.

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Requester of government records

State/local and federal records routes.

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Insurance or consumer finance customer

OSI and CFPB handle different questions.

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Medicare beneficiary / surprise-billing complainant

Appeal, quality and billing tracks.

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Long-term-care resident or VA patient

Care advocacy rather than a general enforcement promise.

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Child or vulnerable adult

Protective-services gateways.

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A setting not covered here

Known research gaps; not “no protection.”

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Choose the outcome and route

An office can be relevant without having power to provide the particular result you seek.

LICENSING / CERTIFICATION

Investigate a regulated professional or officer's conduct; distinguish discipline from compensation. See [the Medical Board's stated limits](#) and [certification routing](#).

FACILITY / PROGRAM COMPLIANCE

Identify the institution, service and applicable oversight; an individual board complaint is not the same task. See [DHI](#).

CIVIL RIGHTS / EMPLOYMENT

Identify the actual protection, covered actor and activity. [ADA retaliation/interference](#) is not a substitute for every employment or education framework.

CRIMINAL REPORT / PRIVATE CLAIM

DOJ or FBI intake and a private civil filing are different processes. A report does not appoint an agency as your lawyer. See [federal report routes](#) and [the civil vehicle example](#).

ACCESS / PRESERVATION / APPEAL

Identify each separate task, recipient and clock. Confirm whether any prerequisite or election applies instead of imposing an internal-first rule on everyone.

EIGHT QUESTIONS FOR EVERY RECIPIENT

What does it handle? What can it not decide? Who may file? Which method and form count? What are the independent clocks? Who may see the submission? What acknowledgment is issued? What review, referral or appeal remains?

Keep the factual account materially consistent, but tailor the requested action and attachments. Record uncertainties and contrary information. The [route worksheet](#) helps compare options; it is not a filing or legal deadline calculation.

Care, professional conduct or a medical bill

An editorial sequence of questions, not a legal prerequisite or ranking of agencies.

1

Identify any immediate care or appeal issue

Urgent care, discharge notices or ending coverage need their own prompt attention. Do not wait for a licensing investigation.

[Medicare quality or ending services](#)

2

Identify the actual actor and result sought

Clinician discipline, facility practice, access to records, insurance coverage and a surprise bill are different tasks.

[Physicians and physician assistants](#) · [Facilities and specified care programs](#) · [Health-information privacy or access](#) · [Insurance and managed-care review](#) · [Surprise medical-billing concerns](#)

3

Use relevant tracks in parallel when appropriate

A patient advocate may help a care problem while a separate, properly supported regulatory or rights issue is considered. Check each route's requirements.

[Long-term-care resident advocacy](#) · [VA New Mexico care concerns](#) · [Discrimination in health or human services](#)

4

Track the correct stage

Use the timing entry for the actor and event involved, not as a countdown to compensation.

[What does a response time mean?](#)

PARALLEL / CONDITIONAL TRACKS

Preservation, urgent care, legal advice and independent notice/appeal checks may need attention before any numbered step is complete.

[WEB · Medicare — fast appeals](#)

[WEB · New Mexico Medical Board — complaints](#)

[WEB · NM Office of Superintendent of Insurance — consumer assistance](#)

[WEB · CMS — submit a No Surprises complaint](#)

[WEB · NM Aging — Long-Term Care Ombudsman](#)

[WEB · VA New Mexico health care — patient advocates](#)

Police, public bodies or public records

Sequence by task and jurisdiction, not by the perceived seriousness of an office.

1

Separate current safety from later review

An immediate safety problem is not an ordinary oversight status inquiry. Identify the agency and jurisdiction without confrontation.

[Police oversight and certification](#) · [Other police and judicial conduct](#)

2

Separate discipline, crime and a civil claim

Employer oversight, officer certification, federal reporting and a private legal assessment do different jobs.

[Complaints about APD personnel](#) · [Officer certification concerns](#) · [Possible federal civil-rights violation](#) · [Possible federal crime / witness harm](#) · [42 U.S.C. § 1983](#)

3

Use the correct records process separately

Federal agency records and New Mexico public records use different gateways. A request for access is not proof that a preservation hold exists.

[New Mexico public-records concerns](#) · [Federal records and FOIA disputes](#)

4

Read an actual response or closure carefully

Identify what was decided, what was not, whether referral occurred and which review instructions apply.

[No response, referral or closure](#) · [Route-verification worksheet](#)

PARALLEL / CONDITIONAL TRACKS

Do not wait for an internal complaint to finish merely because the steps are numbered. Verify any actual prerequisite or election rule for the specific route.

[WEB · FOIA.gov — frequently asked questions](#)

[WEB · National Archives OGIS — mediation program](#)

Workplace or education concerns

Conditional branches; an agency's speed is not a substitute for legal coverage.

1

Keep overlapping statuses

Student, employee, applicant, contractor, witness and federal employee are distinct roles that can overlap. Identify the actual institution.

[Find by institution or role](#)

2

Match the subject and legal framework

Civil-rights, safety, wages, labor practices and federal personnel each have different routes; a general grievance does not establish every protection.

[Employment discrimination / retaliation](#) · [NM workplace safety / safety retaliation](#) · [Wages, hours and covered leave](#) · [Employer or union labor practices](#) · [Covered federal personnel / disclosures](#) · [Education civil-rights concerns](#)

3

Check an actual prerequisite—not a universal one

NM HED's student complaint route requires the institution's complaint process and excludes grade/conduct appeals. Do not transfer that rule to EEOC, OCR or every other route.

[Higher-education complaints](#)

4

Preserve later events and the notice trail

Keep new events separate from the original filing. Check whether an amendment, new filing or time-sensitive review is needed.

[Employment discrimination / retaliation](#) · [While you wait](#) · [No response, referral or closure](#)

PARALLEL / CONDITIONAL TRACKS

Do not wait for a complete narrative before checking an urgent deadline, retaliation concern, requested release or legal-representation question.

[WEB · NM Higher Education Department — student complaints](#)

[WEB · EEOC — after you file a charge](#)

While you wait

Waiting for one office does not mean every other task should stop. These are process questions and organization choices, not directions for a particular case.

FIRST: ESTABLISH WHAT HAPPENED

Keep the exact submission, attachments, receipt, reference number and any error or bounce. “Sent,” “received,” “accepted,” “assigned” and “investigated” describe different events.

FOLLOW THE DESIGNATED STATUS PROCESS

Use the portal, case contact or published update method. Ask which stage applies and whether information is missing. Some offices restrict updates; [the Judicial Standards Commission](#) is one example.

USE A REAL CHECKPOINT

Record an actual notice date, an agency-provided estimate or its published instructions. No universal seven-day or monthly follow-up rule is created here. See [the timing records](#).

KEEP CHANGED FACTS DISTINCT

Preserve originals and dated corrections. Check whether a new event belongs in an amendment, new submission or a separate route. EEOC’s [charge-process guidance](#) specifically addresses later events.

KEEP INDEPENDENT OPTIONS VISIBLE

Urgent care or safety, preservation, access requests, counsel/advocate support, and filing or appeal checks may remain separate. A pending inquiry is not proof that someone is protecting your deadline.

A REPLY IS NOT A RESULT

An acknowledgment may confirm only intake. A referral may require a new accepted submission. An investigation may end without action. Check what the actual record and the office’s authority establish.

Use [the bounded follow-up](#) only where permitted. For closure, jurisdiction problems or an unanswered submission, continue to [No response, referral or closure](#).

[WEB · EEOC — after you file a charge](#)

[WEB · NM Judicial Standards Commission — about and jurisdiction](#)

[WEB · National Archives OGIS — mediation program](#)

What does a response time mean?

Timing is useful only when the actor, stage, trigger and limits stay attached. Faster does not necessarily mean more appropriate.

LEGAL ACTION PERIOD

A rule can require action on a defined request. [HIPAA access](#) concerns a covered entity's request handling—not OCR's investigation.

AGENCY ESTIMATE OR PUBLISHED AVERAGE

[Medical Board](#), [EEOC](#) and [NLRB](#) numbers describe different investigation stages. These pages do not identify a common measurement cohort.

INITIAL OR THIRD-PARTY REPLY

[CFPB](#) describes company replies; [HED](#) describes initial handling and a separate institution response. Neither is a universal resolution clock.

CONDITIONAL CONTACT

[CMS](#) describes contact if additional information is needed, not a final answer by that date.

YOUR FILING OR APPEAL CLOCK

[HIPAA complaint filing](#) is not a waiting estimate. Notices and claim-specific prerequisites require separate attention.

Investigation expectations

Three published intervals, each tied to its stage.

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Replies and conditional contact

CFPB, HED and CMS.

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A response rule versus a filing clock

HIPAA access and an OCR complaint are different processes.

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A 2026 CHECK IS NOT 2026 PERFORMANCE DATA

Read on September 19, 2026 is a retrieval date. Unless a cohort is stated, do not label a website's number a measured 2026 average. Review requests, legal changes, reorganizations and backlogs can change the picture.

Investigation expectations

Published descriptions read September 19, 2026. None is a promised finish date or a measure of agency quality.

T01 · Medical Board investigation

3 months to 1 year

Actor / stage. NM Medical Board — Investigation; not compensation or final court relief.

Limits. Volume and complexity affect the range. No measurement cohort is supplied; this is not a verified FY2026 statistic or a promised completion date.

Next step. Check the current complaint instructions and any acknowledgment before deciding how to seek an update.

Route [R01](#) · Read 2026-09-19 · Not a case-specific promise.

[WEB · New Mexico Medical Board — complaints](#)

T02 · EEOC investigation

About 10 months

Actor / stage. EEOC — Investigation of a charge; not every later hearing, suit or remedy.

Limits. The page gives an average without identifying the underlying cohort. Federal-sector complaints follow a different process. Some cases take longer.

Next step. Use the portal. Check instructions promptly for new events, closure notices or a right-to-sue request.

Route [R19](#) · Read 2026-09-19 · Not a case-specific promise.

[WEB · EEOC — after you file a charge](#)

T03 · NLRB merits decision

Typically 7–14 weeks

Actor / stage. NLRB regional office — Initial decision whether a charge has merit.

Limits. Some cases take much longer. This is not a final hearing, Board/court resolution or remedy interval; no specific cohort is stated.

Next step. Use the regional office's process; promptly examine review instructions on a dismissal.

Route [R26](#) · Read 2026-09-19 · Not a case-specific promise.

[WEB · NLRB — investigate charges](#)

Replies and conditional contact

These entries measure different actors and events. Do not compare them as if they were three agencies' resolution speeds.

T04 · CFPB company replies

Generally 15 days; some final replies within 60 days

Actor / stage. Company receiving a CFPB complaint — Initial company response; a response in progress may lead to a later final response.

Limits. These are company-response expectations, not CFPB investigation, enforcement or compensation deadlines. A reply may dispute the complaint.

Next step. Track the existing complaint and use the portal's review/feedback instructions.

Route [R33](#) · Read 2026-09-19 · Not a case-specific promise.

[WEB · CFPB — consumer complaint process](#)

T05 · NM HED: two distinct stages

1-2 business days initially; 10 business days for an institution's reply

Actor / stage. NM HED, then the institution — Initial review/reply; separately, the institution's response to a forwarded complaint.

Trigger. HED receives a submission; the second stage starts when the institution receives the forwarded complaint.

Limits. HED can allow the institution more time. Neither interval promises final resolution. Coverage, internal-process and complaint-category limits still apply.

Next step. Confirm which stage applies and whether more information is needed; keep other forums' clocks separate.

Route [R32](#) · Read 2026-09-19 · Not a case-specific promise.

[WEB · NM Higher Education Department — student complaints](#)

T06 · CMS request for more information

Contact within 60 days if more information is needed

Actor / stage. No Surprises Help Desk — Conditional request for additional information.

Limits. The page does not promise a final decision in 60 days. A case may be referred to another authority.

Next step. Save the confirmation number and check the preferred contact channel; use the existing complaint for updates.

Route [R42](#) · Read 2026-09-19 · Not a case-specific promise.

[WEB · CMS — submit a No Surprises complaint](#)

A response rule is not a filing clock

The first entry concerns action by a covered entity. The second concerns a person's complaint-filing period.

T07 · HIPAA access request: action by the entity

30 days; one additional period of no more than 30 days if conditions are met

Actor / stage. Covered entity receiving the access request — Grant/provide access or issue a denial under the rule—not OCR investigation.

Trigger. Receipt of the access request under [45 C.F.R. § 164.524\(b\)\(2\)](#).

Limits. The extension requires written reasons and a completion date within the initial period; only one extension is allowed. Coverage, exceptions and denial/review rules matter.

Next step. Keep the request, receipt and response; read the full regulation on the law card.

Route [R10](#) · Read 2026-09-19 · Not a case-specific promise.

[LAW · Full regulation and version information](#)

T08 · HIPAA complaint filing—not waiting time

180 days; the Secretary may waive the period for good cause shown

Actor / stage. Person filing a complaint under the HIPAA administrative-simplification rule — Complaint filing under 45 C.F.R. § 160.306—not OCR investigation.

Trigger. When the complainant knew or should have known the act or omission occurred, under paragraph (b)(3).

Limits. Waiver is not automatic. Coverage, required content and filing instructions matter; no personal deadline is calculated. The eCFR text is authoritative but unofficial; Title 45 displays currency September 17, 2026.

Next step. Read the full rule and OCR instructions promptly. Do not assume an access request or ongoing exchange extends this separate period.

Route [R10](#) · Read 2026-09-19 · Not a case-specific promise.

[WEB · 45 C.F.R. § 160.306 — full complaint rule](#)

[WEB · HHS OCR — HIPAA complaint process](#)

No response, referral or closure

The next question depends on what actually happened. Delay alone does not establish wrongdoing; closure alone does not resolve every legal issue.

NO RECEIPT / TECHNICAL FAILURE

Check the accepted method and the evidence of your attempt. Use an officially permitted alternative promptly when necessary. A technical-support request is not automatically a completed filing.

RECEIVED, BUT NO UPDATE

Review the acknowledgment and status policy. Where allowed, ask whether anything is missing and what stage the matter has reached. Do not infer an investigation just because the portal accepted a form.

OUTSIDE JURISDICTION / REFERRED

Ask for the specific reason and official recipient. Verify whether it was actually forwarded and accepted, or whether you must make a new submission. Match the new route's scope and deadline.

CLOSED / DENIED / NO ACTION

Preserve the exact notice and delivery date. Identify what was decided and any reconsideration, appeal, review or separate legal option. The guide does not promise that such an option exists.

THE PROBLEM CONTINUES

Document new facts independently. Consider relevant advocacy, urgent care/safety, access, regulatory or legal-assistance questions without assuming every new fact belongs in every earlier complaint.

CHOOSE THE RIGHT ALTERNATIVE

[OGIS](#) may assist with federal FOIA disputes; [Medicare fast appeals](#) address specified urgent coverage situations. These are examples of distinct processes, not universal escalation steps.

Do not threaten, create repeated conflicting submissions, recruit witnesses to adopt a shared account, or delete inconvenient records to make a follow-up look stronger. [Keep a source-linked log](#) and seek qualified help for legal strategy or a time-sensitive notice.

[WEB · National Archives OGIS — mediation program](#)

[WEB · Medicare — fast appeals](#)

[WEB · EEOC — after you file a charge](#)

Physicians and nurses

Check scope, process and current official instructions. Card IDs identify records; their order is not a mandatory filing sequence.

R01 · Physicians and physician assistants

INHERITED CHECK · not recertified in this candidate

Possible fit. The New Mexico Medical Board lists physicians (MDs and DOs), physician assistants and several other regulated professions. Verify the actual credential.

Limits. Individual licensing discipline is different from facility oversight, compensation or a malpractice suit. The Board says it cannot award damages.

Before using. Use the official complaint gateway and check its current required information and release terms.

Timing. [Medical Board investigation \(p. 12\)](#)

While waiting. Use the published range as context, not a promised finish date. [Next steps](#)

[WEB · New Mexico Medical Board — complaints](#)

R02 · Nurses and advanced-practice nurses

INHERITED CHECK · not recertified in this candidate

Possible fit. New Mexico Board of Nursing: begin with license verification and its practice-complaint entry point, including when the clinician is an advanced-practice nurse.

Limits. Do not route someone solely because a workplace calls them a nurse. Verify the credential; facility complaints and nurse-aide matters may follow different channels.

Before using. Confirm the named license, board jurisdiction, complaint instructions, required release and receipt. The linked portal was not submitted or delivery-tested.

[Waiting / next steps](#) · No completion estimate verified here.

[WEB · New Mexico Board of Nursing](#)

Mental-health practice

Check scope, process and current official instructions. Card IDs identify records; their order is not a mandatory filing sequence.

R03 · Psychologists

INHERITED CHECK · not recertified in this candidate

Possible fit. RLD Psychologist Examiners: the official board landing page is the starting point for a verified psychology license.

Limits. A psychologist, psychiatrist and counselor should not be routed interchangeably. A facility concern may require a separate route.

Before using. Follow the board's current discipline/complaint instructions from its official page. Detailed intake, required forms and confidentiality terms remain to be checked.

[Waiting / next steps](#) · No completion estimate verified here.

[WEB · RLD — Psychologist Examiners](#)

R04 · Counselors and therapy-practice licensees

INHERITED CHECK · not recertified in this candidate

Possible fit. RLD Counseling and Therapy Practice: use this gateway after identifying the actual counseling or therapy-practice credential.

Limits. The word therapist alone does not establish a board. Social work, psychology, physical therapy and occupational therapy may have different regulators.

Before using. Check the exact license category and the current board complaint process. This pass verified the board gateway, not a complete filing procedure.

[Waiting / next steps](#) · No completion estimate verified here.

[WEB · RLD — Counseling and Therapy Practice](#)

Social work, dentistry and other licenses

Check scope, process and current official instructions. Card IDs identify records; their order is not a mandatory filing sequence.

R05 · Social workers

INHERITED CHECK · not recertified in this candidate

Possible fit. The official RLD directory lists Social Work Examiners. Use that directory to locate the current board page for the relevant license.

Limits. The deep social-work page could not be retrieved during this pass; this is a directory entry, not recertified intake instructions.

Before using. Confirm license type, jurisdiction, accepted form, required releases and receipt directly through the current board.

[Waiting / next steps](#) · No completion estimate verified here.

[WEB · RLD — boards and commissions](#)

R06 · Other licensed health professions

INHERITED CHECK · not recertified in this candidate

Possible fit. The RLD directory includes dental, pharmacy, physical therapy, occupational therapy, respiratory care, chiropractic, optometry, massage and other boards.

Limits. Choose by verified license and challenged conduct. A profession's board listing does not prove that it can resolve every complaint about that person.

Before using. Check the correct board, active license, location of service, telehealth or compact issues, and current discipline instructions. This directory is not an exhaustive jurisdiction opinion.

[Waiting / next steps](#) · No completion estimate verified here.

[WEB · RLD — boards and commissions](#)

R37 · Dental professional concerns

INHERITED CHECK · not recertified in this candidate

Possible fit. The RLD Dental Health Care Board page provides the official professional-board gateway.

Limits. Verify the specific dental credential and board coverage. A dental-office billing, insurance or facility issue may need a separate route.

Before using. Follow the board's current complaint navigation and check forms, release terms and required facts.

[Waiting / next steps](#) · No completion estimate verified here.

[WEB · RLD — Dental Health Care Board](#)

Rehabilitation professions

Check scope, process and current official instructions. Card IDs identify records; their order is not a mandatory filing sequence.

R38 · Physical therapy concerns

INHERITED CHECK · not recertified in this candidate

Possible fit. The RLD Physical Therapy Board page identifies the profession-specific regulatory gateway.

Limits. A clinic's institutional conduct and an individual's licensed practice are distinct questions.

Before using. Verify the practitioner's license and the board's current complaint instructions; do not infer the credential from a business name.

[Waiting / next steps](#) · No completion estimate verified here.

[WEB · RLD — Physical Therapy Board](#)

R39 · Occupational therapy concerns

INHERITED CHECK · not recertified in this candidate

Possible fit. The RLD Occupational Therapy Board page addresses occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants.

Limits. A professional-board route does not replace a benefit appeal, facility complaint or employment process.

Before using. Verify credential and conduct; use the board's current complaint link and review its information-sharing terms.

[Waiting / next steps](#) · No completion estimate verified here.

[WEB · RLD — Occupational Therapy Board](#)

Pharmacy and product safety

Check scope, process and current official instructions. Card IDs identify records; their order is not a mandatory filing sequence.

R07 · Pharmacists and pharmacy matters

INHERITED CHECK · not recertified in this candidate

Possible fit. RLD Board of Pharmacy has an official pharmacy complaint entry point.

Limits. A dispensing or professional-practice concern, an insurer's coverage denial and possible program fraud are different questions.

Before using. Identify the licensed person or pharmacy and conduct. Confirm the complaint form, evidence/release requirements and applicable process; do not send a complete medical record by default.

[Waiting / next steps](#) · No completion estimate verified here.

[WEB · RLD — Pharmacy complaint page](#)

R41 · Medical-product safety

INHERITED CHECK · not recertified in this candidate

Possible fit. FDA MedWatch receives safety reports about covered medical products. Use the product-specific instructions.

Limits. A product safety signal, clinician complaint and proof that a product caused an injury are different things.

Before using. Identify the product, event and source records. Check whether a different specialized reporting system applies to that product.

[Waiting / next steps](#) · No completion estimate verified here.

[WEB · FDA — MedWatch safety reporting](#)

Facility oversight and hospital grievances

Check scope, process and current official instructions. Card IDs identify records; their order is not a mandatory filing sequence.

R08 · Facilities and specified care programs

INHERITED CHECK · not recertified in this candidate

Possible fit. NM Health Care Authority, Division of Health Improvement (DHI): facility licensing/oversight and specified community-program concerns. Its page identifies facility, program, abuse/neglect and nurse-aide routes.

Limits. A facility route is not identical to discipline of an individual clinician. Program and setting determine which DHI channel fits.

Before using. Identify facility name/type, program, dates and immediate safety concerns. Choose the relevant official reporting entry. This pass did not establish every facility-specific filing condition.

[Waiting / next steps](#) · No completion estimate verified here.

Law: [42 C.F.R. § 482.13\(a\)\(2\)](#) · [42 U.S.C. § 1395dd\(i\)](#)

[WEB · NM Health Care Authority — Division of Health Improvement](#)

R09 · The hospital's grievance process

INHERITED CHECK · not recertified in this candidate

Possible fit. For a hospital covered by the patient-rights Condition of Participation, the grievance rule addresses an internal process and specified written-resolution information.

Limits. Internal resolution is not a universal prerequisite to every outside report. Do not assume a grievance preserves a separate legal deadline.

Before using. Locate the hospital's published grievance contact and keep the request, receipt and disposition. No individual hospital's contact has been recertified in this atlas.

[Waiting / next steps](#) · No completion estimate verified here.

Law: [42 C.F.R. § 482.13\(a\)\(2\)](#)

Health information and civil rights

Check scope, process and current official instructions. Card IDs identify records; their order is not a mandatory filing sequence.

R10 · Health-information privacy or access

OFFICIAL PAGE READ · scoped check 2026-09-19

Possible fit. HHS Office for Civil Rights (OCR) provides a HIPAA complaint route. A request for your information usually begins with the entity's applicable access process.

Limits. Not every organization or record is covered by HIPAA. Do not confuse a privacy complaint with malpractice review, records amendment or a guarantee of compensation.

Before using. Separate the holder's access/amendment/accounting process from an HHS OCR complaint. § 160.306's 180-day knowledge trigger is a filing period, not OCR's resolution estimate. Check current form and consent instructions.

Timing. [HIPAA access request: action by the entity \(p. 14\)](#) · [HIPAA complaint filing—not waiting time \(p. 14\)](#)

While waiting. The entity's access-response rule and an OCR complaint clock are different; neither is an OCR investigation estimate. [Next steps](#)

Law: [45 C.F.R. § 164.524](#) · [45 C.F.R. § 164.526](#)

[WEB · HHS OCR — HIPAA complaints](#)

[WEB · HIPAA complaints — 45 C.F.R. § 160.306](#)

[WEB · HHS — Filing a health information privacy complaint](#)

R11 · Discrimination in health or human services

INHERITED CHECK · not recertified in this candidate

Possible fit. HHS OCR provides a separate civil-rights complaint gateway for matters within its jurisdiction.

Limits. Identify the applicable law and coverage. Ordinary poor service does not, without more, establish a civil-rights violation.

Before using. Check the organization, program/funding, protected activity or characteristic, accessibility needs and current complaint instructions. Keep employment and education branches separate where appropriate.

[Waiting / next steps](#) · No completion estimate verified here.

Law: [42 U.S.C. § 12203](#)

[WEB · HHS OCR — civil-rights complaints](#)

Healthcare-program fraud

Check scope, process and current official instructions. Card IDs identify records; their order is not a mandatory filing sequence.

R12 · Medicaid provider fraud; facility abuse

INHERITED CHECK · not recertified in this candidate

Possible fit. NMDOJ's Medicaid Fraud Control Unit describes investigations of provider fraud and abuse, neglect or financial exploitation of facility residents.

Limits. A licensing complaint, billing disagreement, fraud allegation and personal civil claim are not interchangeable.

Before using. Use NMDOJ's official intake gateway and identify the program, provider, event and basis for concern. Do not assume a tip initiates a qui tam action or secures retaliation relief.

[Waiting / next steps](#) · No completion estimate verified here.

Law: [31 U.S.C. § 3730\(h\)](#)

[WEB · NMDOJ — Criminal Affairs / Medicaid Fraud Control Unit](#)

[WEB · NMDOJ — submit a complaint](#)

R13 · Fraud involving federal HHS programs

INHERITED CHECK · not recertified in this candidate

Possible fit. HHS Office of Inspector General provides a federal fraud-reporting gateway for matters within its remit.

Limits. A fraud report is not a universal medical-care complaint or a private False Claims Act filing.

Before using. Identify the federal program and conduct. Separate documented transactions from estimates and inference; follow the official intake and privacy instructions.

[Waiting / next steps](#) · No completion estimate verified here.

Law: [31 U.S.C. § 3730\(h\)](#)

[WEB · HHS Office of Inspector General — report fraud](#)

Police oversight and certification

Check scope, process and current official instructions. Card IDs identify records; their order is not a mandatory filing sequence.

R14 · Complaints about APD personnel

INHERITED CHECK · not recertified in this candidate

Possible fit. Albuquerque's Civilian Police Oversight Agency (CPOA) receives and investigates complaints concerning Albuquerque Police Department personnel.

Limits. This APD-specific route is not a statewide police complaint office and should not be substituted for a sheriff's or another department's process.

Before using. Use the official complaint form; identify APD, incident and conduct. Check current process, review/appeal options, privacy and independent clocks. The form was not submitted.

[Waiting / next steps](#) · No completion estimate verified here.

[WEB · Albuquerque Civilian Police Oversight Agency](#)

[WEB · CPOA — complaint or commendation form](#)

R15 · Officer certification concerns

INHERITED CHECK · not recertified in this candidate

Possible fit. New Mexico's Law Enforcement Certification Board (LECB) has a certification/disciplinary role distinct from an employer's internal review.

Limits. The misconduct-reporting material includes agency reporting duties. Those clocks are not automatically a civilian complaint deadline. Direct citizen intake was not fully verified.

Before using. Use the official contact route to confirm whether and how a civilian submission will be accepted. An inquiry is not necessarily a filed complaint.

[Waiting / next steps](#) · No completion estimate verified here.

[WEB · NM Law Enforcement Certification Board](#)

[WEB · LECB — misconduct reporting](#)

[WEB · LECB — contact information](#)

Other police and judicial conduct

Check scope, process and current official instructions. Card IDs identify records; their order is not a mandatory filing sequence.

R16 · Another police or sheriff's agency

LOCAL ROUTE NOT VERIFIED

Possible fit. Routing worksheet: first identify the actual employing agency and its jurisdiction. Look for its published professional-standards/internal-affairs process and any applicable external oversight body.

Limits. No New Mexico State Police, BCSO, campus-police or other local intake is recertified by this entry. Do not send to CPOA merely because an event occurred near Albuquerque.

Before using. Verify the office, official URL, complaint method, acknowledgment and independent deadlines before use. A records custodian, misconduct reviewer and prosecutor perform different functions.

[Waiting / next steps](#) · No completion estimate verified here.

R36 · New Mexico judicial conduct

INHERITED CHECK · not recertified in this candidate

Possible fit. The NM Judicial Standards Commission examines covered state judicial conduct; the Supreme Court decides discipline.

Limits. This is not an appeal from a ruling, a federal-judge process, a lawyer complaint, or automatic reassignment of a case.

Before using. Use the official jurisdiction and complaint instructions. Keep any appeal or court deadline on its own track.

While waiting. The Commission says it cannot provide status updates; it communicates the outcome in writing subject to applicable limits. [Next steps](#)

[WEB · NM Judicial Standards Commission — about and jurisdiction](#)

Federal reporting gateways

Check scope, process and current official instructions. Card IDs identify records; their order is not a mandatory filing sequence.

R17 · Possible federal civil-rights violation

INHERITED CHECK · not recertified in this candidate

Possible fit. U.S. DOJ's Civil Rights Division provides an official reporting portal for potential violations within its enforcement responsibilities.

Limits. A report is not a private lawsuit, an accepted attorney engagement, a finding of wrongdoing or a promise that DOJ will act.

Before using. Identify the conduct and relevant institution/function. Use the portal's own scope and privacy instructions; separately examine any private claim and deadline.

[Waiting / next steps](#) · No completion estimate verified here.

Law: [42 U.S.C. § 1983](#) · [42 U.S.C. § 12203](#)

[WEB · U.S. DOJ — report a civil-rights violation](#)

R18 · Possible federal crime / witness harm

INHERITED CHECK · not recertified in this candidate

Possible fit. Use the FBI's official contact page for federal-crime reporting contacts and tip entry points.

Limits. Not every threat, false statement or later disadvantage satisfies a federal offense. Government investigation and prosecution are separate from private relief.

Before using. Describe acts and sources; do not claim the checklist proves a crime. For witness-related matters, identify the proceeding or communication and federal connection to be examined.

[Waiting / next steps](#) · No completion estimate verified here.

Law: [18 U.S.C. § 1512](#) · [18 U.S.C. § 1513](#)

[WEB · FBI — contact us](#)

Employment, wages and labor

Check scope, process and current official instructions. Card IDs identify records; their order is not a mandatory filing sequence.

R19 · Employment discrimination / retaliation

INHERITED CHECK · not recertified in this candidate

Possible fit. EEOC's employment-discrimination charge process. An inquiry is not the same as a signed charge.

Limits. Coverage and clocks are claim-specific; federal employees have a different EEO process.

Before using. Verify worker status, protected activity, charge requirements and the independent deadline.

Timing. [EEOC investigation \(p. 12\)](#)

While waiting. Use the portal and check instructions for later events and notices. [Next steps](#)

Law: [42 U.S.C. § 12203](#)

[WEB · EEOC — filing an employment-discrimination charge](#)

R25 · Wages, hours and covered leave

INHERITED CHECK · not recertified in this candidate

Possible fit. U.S. DOL Wage and Hour Division receives complaints under the wage, hour and leave laws it administers.

Limits. Coverage varies; this is not an all-purpose discrimination or contract forum.

Before using. Keep employer, pay, hours and event records; use WHD's current contact instructions.

[Waiting / next steps](#) · No completion estimate verified here.

[WEB · U.S. DOL Wage and Hour Division — complaints](#)

R26 · Employer or union labor practices

INHERITED CHECK · not recertified in this candidate

Possible fit. NLRB regional offices investigate covered unfair-labor-practice charges against employers or unions.

Limits. Not every workplace is covered. A merits decision is not a final remedy.

Before using. Ask the regional information officer about coverage and process; read any dismissal's review instructions promptly.

Timing. [NLRB merits decision \(p. 12\)](#)

[Waiting / next steps](#) · No completion estimate verified here.

[WEB · NLRB — investigate charges](#)

Safety and federal personnel

Check scope, process and current official instructions. Card IDs identify records; their order is not a mandatory filing sequence.

R20 · NM workplace safety / safety retaliation

INHERITED CHECK · not recertified in this candidate

Possible fit. New Mexico OSHA distinguishes workplace-hazard complaints from discrimination complaints linked to protected safety activity. Its employee page describes a short retaliation filing window.

Limits. A hazard report is not necessarily a retaliation complaint. Other OSHA-administered whistleblower laws have different jurisdiction and clocks.

Before using. Check the exact safety activity, employment setting, event date and accepted retaliation process promptly. The published period is not an individualized deadline calculation.

[Waiting / next steps](#) · No completion estimate verified here.

[WEB · NM OSHA — employee information](#)

R21 · Covered federal personnel / disclosures

INHERITED CHECK · not recertified in this candidate

Possible fit. OSC's official page separates prohibited-personnel-practice allegations and wrongdoing disclosures; it also directs readers to other processes for certain matters.

Limits. A disclosure does not automatically initiate a retaliation case or MSPB appeal. Federal coverage, exclusions, elections and prerequisites must be checked.

Before using. Use the current official filing instructions, which in this pass direct electronic submission. Do not infer eligibility or a protected status merely from federal employment.

[Waiting / next steps](#) · No completion estimate verified here.

Law: [5 U.S.C. § 2302\(b\)\(8\), \(b\)\(9\)](#)

[WEB · U.S. Office of Special Counsel — file a complaint](#)

Education: different complaint routes

Check scope, process and current official instructions. Card IDs identify records; their order is not a mandatory filing sequence.

R22 · Education civil-rights concerns

INHERITED CHECK · not recertified in this candidate

Possible fit. The U.S. Department of Education's OCR provides a civil-rights complaint gateway for covered education matters.

Limits. An academic or disciplinary disagreement is not automatically a civil-rights claim. Institutional appeals, education-records questions and employment routes may be different.

Before using. Identify the applicable protection, institution, activity, challenged action and independent clocks. Current Title VI, Title IX and Section 504 law/procedure require their own verified cards.

[Waiting / next steps](#) · No completion estimate verified here.

Law: [42 U.S.C. § 12203](#)

[WEB · U.S. Education OCR — file a discrimination complaint](#)

R32 · Higher-education complaints

INHERITED CHECK · not recertified in this candidate

Possible fit. NM HED describes a complaint route for covered public and NM-licensed or registered private postsecondary institutions.

Limits. Its page requires exhaustion of the institution's complaint process and excludes grade and student-conduct appeals. Other forums have separate rules.

Before using. Check institution coverage, complaint category and the appropriate HED/SARA instructions before filing.

Timing. [NM HED: two distinct stages \(p. 13\)](#)

[Waiting / next steps](#) · No completion estimate verified here.

[WEB · NM Higher Education Department — student complaints](#)

Government records and disputes

Check scope, process and current official instructions. Card IDs identify records; their order is not a mandatory filing sequence.

For personal access and correction, start with [the records-process gateway](#). FERPA complaints, public access and federal personal-records review are different routes.

R23 · New Mexico public-records concerns

GUIDANCE READ; CODE REVIEW OPEN · scoped check 2026-09-19

Possible fit. NMDOJ distinguishes records-access matters from its enforcement-complaint process for potential IPRA violations.

Limits. The office's guidance is not a substitute for current official codified text. A records request, preservation request and enforcement complaint are different tasks.

Before using. Check current official custodian instructions. The March 2025 NMDOJ statutory reproduction was read this pass; current official codification and controlling treatment remain open. Do not promise unconditional release by day 15.

[Waiting / next steps](#) · No completion estimate verified here.

Law: [NMSA 1978 §§ 14-2-6, 14-2-8-12](#)

Code status: [New Mexico source gate](#)

[WEB · NMDOJ — IPRA guidance and enforcement complaints](#)

[WEB · NMDOJ IPRA Compliance Guide — Ninth Edition](#)

[WEB · NMDOJ — Inspection of Public Records Act](#)

R35 · Federal records and FOIA disputes

INHERITED CHECK · not recertified in this candidate

Possible fit. FOIA.gov identifies agency-specific federal records routes. OGIS offers neutral assistance with federal FOIA disputes.

Limits. Federal FOIA is not New Mexico IPRA. OGIS is not the requester's advocate or a court, and its assistance is not a production order.

Before using. Use the agency's request/tracking process; preserve responses and review instructions. OGIS says its help can be sought at any point in the FOIA process.

While waiting. Ask about status and missing information through the designated process; do not assume a dispute request stops another clock. [Next steps](#)

Law: [5 U.S.C. § 552](#)

[WEB · FOIA.gov — frequently asked questions](#)

[WEB · National Archives OGIS — mediation program](#)

Consumer and general intake

Check scope, process and current official instructions. Card IDs identify records; their order is not a mandatory filing sequence.

R24 · NMDNJ guided intake / uncertain category

INHERITED CHECK · not recertified in this candidate

Possible fit. NMDNJ offers Guided Help and electronic complaint/tip entry points, with a paper option described on its page.

Limits. Guided intake is not proof that an office accepted jurisdiction or forwarded a matter successfully.

Before using. Check the chosen complaint type and recipient, save the exact version and confirmation, and independently verify other necessary filings. Avoid sending unrelated private material.

[Waiting / next steps](#) · No completion estimate verified here.

[WEB · NMDNJ — submit a complaint](#)

R34 · Fraud or identity-theft reporting

INHERITED CHECK · not recertified in this candidate

Possible fit. The FTC's official site links to ReportFraud and IdentityTheft.gov for their distinct reporting and recovery workflows.

Limits. A report does not promise individual investigation, reimbursement, a lawsuit or a stopped collection/appeal clock.

Before using. Choose the relevant official gateway. Separately identify any bank, identity-recovery, law-enforcement or legal steps needed.

[Waiting / next steps](#) · No completion estimate verified here.

[WEB · FTC — official reporting gateways](#)

Insurance and consumer finance

Check scope, process and current official instructions. Card IDs identify records; their order is not a mandatory filing sequence.

R27 · Insurance and managed-care review

INHERITED CHECK · not recertified in this candidate

Possible fit. New Mexico OSI's consumer-assistance gateway directs insurance concerns and managed-healthcare review questions.

Limits. Plan type matters. Do not assume OSI has authority over every employer plan, Medicare issue or benefit dispute.

Before using. Identify the insurer, plan and denial notice. Separate a complaint about conduct from an appeal seeking coverage.

[Waiting / next steps](#) · No completion estimate verified here.

[WEB · NM Office of Superintendent of Insurance — consumer assistance](#)

R33 · Consumer financial products

INHERITED CHECK · not recertified in this candidate

Possible fit. CFPB forwards eligible financial-product or service complaints to companies, or may refer them to another agency.

Limits. A company reply is not a CFPB investigation finding, enforcement action or guaranteed payment. Some products have particular prerequisites.

Before using. Include the relevant facts and records at intake. Track the existing complaint and respond through the portal rather than creating conflicting duplicates.

Timing. [CFPB company replies \(p. 13\)](#)

[Waiting / next steps](#) · No completion estimate verified here.

[WEB · CFPB — consumer complaint process](#)

Medicare and surprise billing

Check scope, process and current official instructions. Card IDs identify records; their order is not a mandatory filing sequence.

R28 · Medicare quality or ending services

INHERITED CHECK · not recertified in this candidate

Possible fit. Medicare's official finder separates quality-of-care complaints from payment and coverage appeals, including fast-appeal routes.

Limits. An ordinary complaint is not a substitute for a time-sensitive appeal about discharge or ending covered services. Contractor assignments can change.

Before using. Read the actual provider notice promptly; use Medicare's current locator rather than an old contractor name.

While waiting. An urgent appeal belongs on its notice-specific track, not in an ordinary complaint queue. [Next steps](#)

[WEB · Medicare — complaints](#)

[WEB · Medicare — fast appeals](#)

R42 · Surprise medical-billing concerns

INHERITED CHECK · not recertified in this candidate

Possible fit. The CMS No Surprises Help Desk receives complaints about possible violations within its scope and may route matters onward.

Limits. This is not every billing dispute, a malpractice claim or a guarantee that charges will be cancelled.

Before using. Preserve bills and notices; save the confirmation number. Use that number to update the existing complaint.

Timing. [CMS request for more information \(p. 13\)](#)

[Waiting / next steps](#) · No completion estimate verified here.

[WEB · CMS — submit a No Surprises complaint](#)

Care advocacy: residents and VA patients

Check scope, process and current official instructions. Card IDs identify records; their order is not a mandatory filing sequence.

R29 · Long-term-care resident advocacy

INHERITED CHECK · not recertified in this candidate

Possible fit. New Mexico's Long-Term Care Ombudsman program assists residents with concerns in covered long-term-care settings.

Limits. Advocacy and problem-solving are different from facility enforcement, professional discipline, emergency protection and a private claim.

Before using. Check setting and resident-consent requirements. Identify the desired care or communication outcome.

[Waiting / next steps](#) · No completion estimate verified here.

[WEB · NM Aging — Long-Term Care Ombudsman](#)

R40 · VA New Mexico care concerns

INHERITED CHECK · not recertified in this candidate

Possible fit. VA New Mexico patient advocates help address concerns about care and service in that health system.

Limits. These advocates are VA personnel serving a liaison role, not the reader's lawyer or a substitute for every benefits, discrimination or legal route.

Before using. The local page describes service-level contacts and patient advocates. Treat this as a local care-resolution workflow, not a universal legal prerequisite.

[Waiting / next steps](#) · No completion estimate verified here.

[WEB · VA New Mexico health care — patient advocates](#)

Protective-services reporting

Check scope, process and current official instructions. Card IDs identify records; their order is not a mandatory filing sequence.

R30 · Vulnerable-adult safety reports

INHERITED CHECK · not recertified in this candidate

Possible fit. New Mexico Adult Protective Services is a reporting gateway for suspected abuse, neglect or exploitation of vulnerable adults.

Limits. This is a protective-services route, not a way to resolve every family conflict or compel a chosen outcome. Immediate danger requires appropriate urgent help.

Before using. Use the official reporting instructions promptly. Verify applicable reporting duties; do not wait for a polished packet.

While waiting. A hotline's availability is not a guaranteed response or resolution time. [Next steps](#)

[WEB · NM Aging — Adult Protective Services](#)

R31 · Child-abuse or neglect reports

INHERITED CHECK · not recertified in this candidate

Possible fit. New Mexico CYFD's Statewide Central Intake receives reports of suspected child abuse or neglect.

Limits. This protective route is distinct from student discipline, adult professional licensing or a school grievance.

Before using. The agency describes prompt reporting duties. Check the official instructions immediately when relevant; do not postpone reporting to complete this guide.

While waiting. Urgent safety and applicable reporting duties should not be placed on a routine follow-up schedule. [Next steps](#)

[WEB · NM CYFD — report abuse and neglect](#)

Special settings and missing routes

A directory should admit what it has not verified. Absence from this draft does not mean there is no protection or reporting route.

ADDITIONAL ROUTES STILL NEED REVIEW

NM Human Rights Bureau and state wage routes; federal OSHA’s statute-specific whistleblower processes; MSPB; student-privacy/FERPA complaints; Medicaid managed-care grievances; HUD housing routes; employee-benefit and disability-rights assistance; attorney discipline and additional inspectors general.

MANDATORY REPORTING IS SEPARATE

[Adult Protective Services](#) and [CYFD](#) identify protective gateways. This draft does not compile all operative rules on who must report, timing, permitted disclosure or profession/facility duties. Do not assume an internal report satisfies a statutory requirement.

SPECIAL JURISDICTIONS

Tribal and Indian Health Service settings, military service, detention, interstate telehealth and license compacts still need dedicated research. [The VA New Mexico entry](#) is a care-advocacy gateway, not a complete federal-institution remedy map.

NO CONTACT INVENTION

R16 remains an explicitly unverified local police entry. Directory-only board entries are not fully tested complaint procedures. A failed source fetch is not evidence that an agency or protection disappeared.

BREADTH WITHOUT “SEND TO EVERYONE”

This edition has 46 route records. No route is assigned an effectiveness score or a personal legal recommendation. Use the [outcome distinctions](#) and [conditional sequences](#) to ask better questions.

Known gaps and failed retrievals stay in the research ledger. A gap is “not verified,” not “no law.”

Read the law and its limits

Each underlined citation opens an internal card. The card identifies a short excerpt, source type, version and the official full-text link.

42 U.S.C. § 1983 A civil vehicle, not a finding	p. 38 →
42 U.S.C. § 12203 ADA retaliation and interference	p. 39 →
31 U.S.C. § 3730(h) False Claims Act retaliation	p. 40 →
42 U.S.C. § 1395dd(i) EMTALA: specified hospital personnel	p. 41 →
18 U.S.C. § 1512 Federal witness tampering	p. 42 →
18 U.S.C. § 1513 Federal witness / informant retaliation	p. 43 →
5 U.S.C. § 2302(b)(8), (b)(9) Covered federal personnel	p. 44 →
42 C.F.R. § 482.13(a)(2) Hospital grievance process	p. 45 →
45 C.F.R. § 164.524 HIPAA access: a bounded right	p. 46 →
New Mexico source gate Current codification and controlling treatment remain open.	p. 47 →

DO NOT CONFUSE THE THREE CHECKS

A page opens. A passage supports a proposition. The law is current and applicable. These are different checks. The federal Code cards use official 2024 snapshots; a fresh retrieval does not certify later amendments or case treatment.

Statutes, regulations, cases, agency guidance and local policy need separate labels. Regulatory cards here use the government-maintained eCFR, which describes itself as authoritative but unofficial. No card is an individualized legal conclusion.

New shared records cards: [FERPA, HIPAA amendment, IPRA, FOIA and the Privacy Act](#).

42 U.S.C. § 1983

A01 · STATUTE · Excerpt only; read the full section and its context.

A01 · SOURCE STATUS

OFFICIAL 2024 SNAPSHOT · Later amendments and case treatment not certified.

EXACT EXCERPT · NOT THE FULL PROVISION

“under color of any statute, ordinance, regulation, custom, or usage, of any State or Territory or the District of Columbia”

Opening sentence; excerpt

WHAT THIS TEXT ADDRESSES

The text supplies a civil action tied to deprivation of federal rights under color of state-type law. It is not itself a list of every protected right.

COMPONENTS TO CHECK

Identify the federal right, challenged conduct, attribution, proper defendant and capacity, causation, defenses, forum, and independent filing rules. Government funding or a job title does not complete this analysis.

LIMITS / UNFINISHED REVIEW

Current state-action cases, immunity, remedy limits, accrual and procedural requirements remain to be researched. Do not substitute this civil text for a criminal offense or assume it supplies a federal-actor remedy.

SOURCE / VERSION

2024 U.S. Code edition — official archived text

Specified text read; amendments since snapshot and controlling case treatment NOT certified.

[WEB · Read the full text — 42 U.S.C. § 1983](#)

www.govinfo.gov · Retrieved 2026-09-19 · No independent legal signoff.

Related routes: [R17](#). Return to [the authority index](#).

42 U.S.C. § 12203

A02 · STATUTE · Excerpt only; read the full section and its context.

A02 · SOURCE STATUS

OFFICIAL 2024 SNAPSHOT · Later amendments and case treatment not certified.

EXACT EXCERPT · NOT THE FULL PROVISION

“No person shall discriminate against any individual because such individual has opposed any act or practice made unlawful by this chapter”

Subsection (a), opening clause; excerpt

WHAT THIS TEXT ADDRESSES

Subsection (a) also addresses specified participation. Subsection (b) separately addresses interference, coercion, intimidation and threats, including specified assistance to another.

COMPONENTS TO CHECK

Who: individual within the relevant protection. Activity/nexus: identify the ADA right and opposition, participation or assistance. Response: distinguish retaliation from interference. Causation/knowledge: examine the specific theory and controlling cases.

LIMITS / UNFINISHED REVIEW

Forum, prerequisite, deadline and remedy depend on the applicable title and the cross-references in subsection (c). Reasonable-belief, standing and causation questions are not resolved by this excerpt. No universal retaliation test is supplied.

SOURCE / VERSION

2024 U.S. Code edition — official archived text

Specified text read; amendments since snapshot and controlling case treatment NOT certified.

[WEB · Read the full text — 42 U.S.C. § 12203](#)

www.govinfo.gov · Retrieved 2026-09-19 · No independent legal signoff.

Related routes: [R11](#) · [R19](#) · [R22](#). Return to [the authority index](#).

31 U.S.C. § 3730(h)

A03 · STATUTE · Excerpt only; read the full section and its context.

A03 · SOURCE STATUS

OFFICIAL 2024 SNAPSHOT · Later amendments and case treatment not certified.

EXACT EXCERPT · NOT THE FULL PROVISION

“Any employee, contractor, or agent shall be entitled to all relief necessary to make that employee, contractor, or agent whole”

Subsection (h)(1), opening clause; excerpt

WHAT THIS TEXT ADDRESSES

The subsection addresses specified employment-related responses because of lawful acts furthering an FCA action or efforts to stop violations of the subchapter.

COMPONENTS TO CHECK

Who/activity: employee, contractor or agent; identify the covered acts.

Nexus/knowledge/causation: investigate the fraud-related connection, recipient knowledge and applicable cases. Forum: appropriate U.S. district court. Clock: (h)(3) states three years after retaliation; this is not a personal calculation.

LIMITS / UNFINISHED REVIEW

Relief listed in (h)(2) includes reinstatement, double back pay, interest and special damages/costs. Coverage, defendants and proof still matter. A retaliation claim, fraud hotline report and qui tam action are distinct; filing/seal/public-disclosure rules require separate review.

SOURCE / VERSION

2024 U.S. Code edition — official archived text

Specified text read; amendments since snapshot and controlling case treatment NOT certified.

[WEB · Read the full text — 31 U.S.C. § 3730](#)

www.govinfo.gov · Retrieved 2026-09-19 · No independent legal signoff.

Related routes: [R12](#) · [R13](#). Return to [the authority index](#).

42 U.S.C. § 1395dd(i)

A04 · STATUTE · Excerpt only; read the full section and its context.

A04 · SOURCE STATUS

AGENCY STATUTE COMPILATION · Text retrieved; later amendments and case treatment not independently certified.

EXACT EXCERPT · NOT THE FULL PROVISION

“or against any hospital employee because the employee reports a violation of a requirement of this section”

Social Security Act § 1867(i), final clause; excerpt

WHAT THIS TEXT ADDRESSES

The provision addresses adverse action by a participating hospital. It also covers specified medical personnel refusing to authorize an unstabilized emergency transfer.

COMPONENTS TO CHECK

Who: verify the exact personnel category. Activity/nexus: reporting this section’s violation or the specified refusal, not healthcare criticism in general. Response/causation: hospital penalty or adverse action because of the covered act.

LIMITS / UNFINISHED REVIEW

The excerpt is not a universal patient or healthcare-worker protection. Forum, private-action basis, remedy, causation, deadline and prerequisites require examination of subsection (d) and controlling cases; do not assume each personnel claim fits the patient civil-remedy route.

SOURCE / VERSION

SSA statutory compilation read September 19, 2026

Subsection (i) and related civil-enforcement provisions; subsequent amendments and case treatment not independently certified.

[WEB · Read the source — Social Security Act § 1867 / 42 U.S.C. § 1395dd](#)

www.ssa.gov · Retrieved 2026-09-19 · No independent legal signoff.

Related routes: [R08](#) · [R09](#). Return to [the authority index](#).

18 U.S.C. § 1512

A05 · STATUTE · Excerpt only; read the full section and its context.

A05 · SOURCE STATUS

OFFICIAL 2024 SNAPSHOT · Later amendments and case treatment not certified.

EXACT EXCERPT · NOT THE FULL PROVISION

“an official proceeding need not be pending or about to be instituted at the time of the offense”

Subsection (f)(1); excerpt

WHAT THIS TEXT ADDRESSES

The section contains different offenses concerning witnesses, victims, informants, evidence and specified communications. The quoted timing rule does not erase other elements.

COMPONENTS TO CHECK

Who/activity: identify the relevant person, communication or proceeding. Nexus: identify the subsection’s federal connection. Response/intent: identify the alleged force, threat, persuasion, misleading conduct or other specified act and required mental state.

LIMITS / UNFINISHED REVIEW

Government criminal enforcement is distinct from a personal damages claim. Do not infer criminal liability from a disagreement or a missing record. Definitions, controlling treatment, causation and criminal limitation rules are not fully reviewed here; no civilian report deadline or guaranteed prosecution is supplied.

SOURCE / VERSION

2024 U.S. Code edition — official archived text

Specified text read; amendments since snapshot and controlling case treatment NOT certified.

[WEB · Read the full text — 18 U.S.C. § 1512](#)

www.govinfo.gov · Retrieved 2026-09-19 · No independent legal signoff.

Related routes: [R18](#) · [R17](#). Return to [the authority index](#).

18 U.S.C. § 1513

A06 · STATUTE · Excerpt only; read the full section and its context.

A06 · SOURCE STATUS

OFFICIAL 2024 SNAPSHOT · Later amendments and case treatment not certified.

EXACT EXCERPT · NOT THE FULL PROVISION

“for providing to a law enforcement officer any truthful information relating to the commission or possible commission of any Federal offense”

Subsection (e), part of the offense; excerpt

WHAT THIS TEXT ADDRESSES

Subsection (e) addresses knowingly taking harmful action with intent to retaliate for specified truthful information; harm can include interference with lawful employment or livelihood.

COMPONENTS TO CHECK

Who/activity: identify the person, information and recipient. Nexus: possible federal offense and the relevant officer definition. Response/knowledge/causation: identify harm, knowledge and retaliatory intent. Other subsections concern different acts and settings.

LIMITS / UNFINISHED REVIEW

This criminal statute is not interchangeable with an employment retaliation claim. A later adverse event does not complete its elements. Government enforcement, definitions, remedies outside this provision and limitation questions require separate review; reporting does not guarantee a prosecution.

SOURCE / VERSION

2024 U.S. Code edition — official archived text

Specified text read; amendments since snapshot and controlling case treatment NOT certified.

[WEB · Read the full text — 18 U.S.C. § 1513](#)

www.govinfo.gov · Retrieved 2026-09-19 · No independent legal signoff.

Related routes: [R18](#) · [R17](#). Return to [the authority index](#).

5 U.S.C. § 2302(b)(8), (b)(9)

A07 · STATUTE · Excerpt only; read the full section and its context.

A07 · SOURCE STATUS

OFFICIAL 2024 SNAPSHOT · Later amendments and case treatment not certified.

EXACT EXCERPT · NOT THE FULL PROVISION

“any disclosure of information by an employee or applicant which the employee or applicant reasonably believes evidences”

Subsection (b)(8)(A), introductory words; excerpt

WHAT THIS TEXT ADDRESSES

Paragraph (8) specifies disclosure categories and conditions. Paragraph (9) separately addresses specified complaint, assistance, cooperation and refusal activity.

COMPONENTS TO CHECK

Who: check covered position, agency and exclusions. Activity/belief/nexus: identify the exact paragraph and recipient. Response: defined personnel action, including specified threatened or omitted actions. Knowledge/causation: apply the correct statute and procedural route.

LIMITS / UNFINISHED REVIEW

OSC disclosure and PPP complaint channels differ. MSPB jurisdiction, exhaustion/election, deadlines, burdens and remedies require additional authority review; not all federal workers or contractors share this route. Do not use ordinary public channels for classified or otherwise restricted information.

SOURCE / VERSION

2024 U.S. Code edition — official archived text

Specified text read; amendments since snapshot and controlling case treatment NOT certified.

[WEB · Read the full text — 5 U.S.C. § 2302](#)

www.govinfo.gov · Retrieved 2026-09-19 · No independent legal signoff.

Related routes: [R21](#). Return to [the authority index](#).

42 C.F.R. § 482.13(a)(2)

A08 · REGULATION · Excerpt only; read the full section and its context.

A08 · SOURCE STATUS

GOVERNMENT eCFR TEXT · Page currency September 17, 2026; legal treatment not certified.

EXACT EXCERPT · NOT THE FULL PROVISION

“The hospital must establish a process for prompt resolution of patient grievances”

Paragraph (a)(2), opening words; excerpt

WHAT THIS TEXT ADDRESSES

This hospital Condition of Participation calls for grievance procedures and specified written-resolution information, including investigation steps, results and completion date.

COMPONENTS TO CHECK

Check whether the facility and concern fall within the rule. Identify the grievance recipient, submission method, facility time frames, contact person and written disposition. Read the entire paragraph rather than treating this excerpt as a complete process.

LIMITS / UNFINISHED REVIEW

This is a regulation, not a statute or a promise of individual compensation. Facility oversight, professional licensing, civil-rights complaints and private claims remain distinct. Coverage, enforcement and any personal remedy need their own authority.

SOURCE / VERSION

eCFR page: Title 42 up to date September 17, 2026

Paragraph (a)(2) grievance process. eCFR is authoritative but unofficial; not an official legal edition.

[WEB · Read the full text — 42 C.F.R. § 482.13 — patient rights](#)

www.ecfr.gov · Retrieved 2026-09-19 · No independent legal signoff.

Related routes: [R09](#) · [R08](#). Return to [the authority index](#).

45 C.F.R. § 164.524

A09 · REGULATION · Excerpt only; read the full section and its context.

A09 · SOURCE STATUS

GOVERNMENT eCFR TEXT · Page currency September 17, 2026; legal treatment not certified.

EXACT EXCERPT · NOT THE FULL PROVISION

“an individual has a right of access to inspect and obtain a copy of protected health information about the individual in a designated record set”

Paragraph (a)(1), excerpt subject to its surrounding exceptions

WHAT THIS TEXT ADDRESSES

The rule concerns access to covered information in designated record sets. It contains exceptions and denial/review procedures, not an unqualified right to every file held by an institution.

COMPONENTS TO CHECK

Identify the covered entity, requester or representative, records sought, format, request date, response and stated basis for denial. Check the rule’s timing and extension conditions rather than importing a public-records deadline.

LIMITS / UNFINISHED REVIEW

Access, amendment and accounting are separate questions. Do not assume an access request requires a new audit analysis or reaches every internal log. A complaint to HHS OCR is separate from the request to the entity.

Timing detail: [HIPAA access request: action by the entity](#).

SOURCE / VERSION

Government-maintained eCFR, authoritative but unofficial. Title 45 displays currency September 17, 2026; that is not a section-amendment date.

Paragraphs (b)(2)(i)–(ii) read for action on an access request and one conditional extension. No comprehensive legal-treatment review.

[WEB · Read the full text — 45 C.F.R. § 164.524 — access to PHI](#)

www.ecfr.gov · Retrieved 2026-09-19 · No independent legal signoff.

Related routes: [R10](#). Return to [the authority index](#).

New Mexico source gate

Official source discovery is complete enough to identify the publisher, but not to certify the operative NMSA text for these topics.

A bounded statutory reproduction is now documented on [the IPRA records/process card](#). That source does not close the current official-codification gate.

The New Mexico Compilation Commission identifies itself as the state’s official legal publisher and supplies the NMOneSource gateway. The current codified sections could not be retrieved for this pass. The links below are repository links, not verified section-text links.

[WEB · New Mexico Compilation Commission](#)

[WEB · NM Compilation Commission — search laws](#)

FIRST CODE TRANCHE

Whistleblower Protection Act: NMSA 1978 §§ 10-16C-1 to -6. Human Rights Act retaliation: relevant portions of § 28-1-7. IPRA: Chapter 14, Article 2. New Mexico Civil Rights Act: Chapter 41, Article 4A.

WITNESS / RECORDS / SAFETY TRANCHE

Witness provisions: § 30-24-3. Evidence tampering: § 30-22-5. Public-record tampering: § 30-26-1. Peace-officer duty: § 29-1-1. Safety retaliation: § 50-9-25. These citations are research targets, not certified summaries.

NO SUBSTITUTE FOR CURRENT CODE

An agency summary, old session law, proposed amendment or draft jury instruction cannot be silently relabeled as the current code. Capture the exact section, subsection, version, amendments and controlling treatment before adding operative instructions.

Record a source gap as “not verified,” not “no law” or “no protection.” Keep the later Stage 4 corrections and its unresolved flags; the older federal-rights dataset supplies structure and research leads, not controlling legal authority.

Which records process fits?

The copy, holder, requester and purpose determine which questions to ask.

PERSONAL ACCESS IS NOT PUBLIC DISCLOSURE

FERPA education records and qualifying treatment records have different access rules. The student's own access is separate from public inspection of records held by a public institution. A confidential record can satisfy a public-record definition without being publicly releasable.

HIPAA IS NOT THE DEFAULT FOR EVERY CLINICAL FILE

Its PHI definition excludes the specified FERPA education and treatment records. HIPAA designated-record-set access, amendment and accounting have different scopes and clocks. A therapist's file is not automatically a set of psychotherapy notes.

AMENDMENT IS NOT A SUBSTANTIVE APPEAL

FERPA amendment/hearing, HIPAA disagreement and Privacy Act amendment/review are different. IPRA and FOIA principally address access, not a universal right to rewrite records. Preserve independent appeal and claim deadlines.

A SPECIFIC PRESERVATION RULE

FERPA § 99.10(e) prohibits destruction of covered education records while a request under that access section is outstanding. Do not say that an access request never affects preservation. It is also not a universal litigation hold.

[WEB · FERPA regulations — 34 C.F.R. Part 99](#)

[WEB · HIPAA definitions — 45 C.F.R. § 160.103](#)

[WEB · HIPAA Privacy Rule — 45 C.F.R. Part 164, Subpart E](#)

[WEB · NMDOL IPRA Compliance Guide — Ninth Edition](#)

The Records Access & Corrections companion provides the full workflow, source cards, clocks and sixteen templates. Here, use [SPPO / Privacy Act](#), [health-IT / court records](#), and [the shared law-card index](#).

School and federal personal records

The correct records route is not necessarily the institution's general grievance office.

R43 · FERPA: school records and SPPO

SCOPED OFFICIAL GATEWAY CHECK · scoped check 2026-09-19

Possible fit. Possible noncompliance with FERPA education-record access, amendment/hearing or disclosure rules. Use the actual school process and the Student Privacy Policy Office complaint gateway as appropriate.

Limits. SPPO is distinct from ED OCR's discrimination office. Its page encourages local resolution for FERPA but does not impose that as a universal prerequisite. Complaint filing time is not investigation time.

Before using. Use current complaint form, eligibility, consent and submission instructions; check § 99.64's 180-day violation/knowledge trigger and possible good-cause extension.

[Waiting / next steps](#) · No completion estimate verified here.

Law: [20 U.S.C. § 1232g](#); [34 C.F.R. §§ 99.3, 99.5](#)

[WEB · Student Privacy Policy Office — File a complaint](#)

[WEB · FERPA regulations — 34 C.F.R. Part 99](#)

R44 · Federal personal records: Privacy Act

SCOPED OFFICIAL GATEWAY CHECK · scoped check 2026-09-19

Possible fit. Access to, or amendment of, covered federal records about an eligible individual; identify the actual agency and system of records.

Limits. System-specific exemptions, eligibility and retrieval criteria matter. Ten working days concerns amendment acknowledgment, not final action. FOIA may supply a separate overlapping access route.

Before using. Find the agency's current access/amendment and refusal-review instructions, accepted identity verification and exact notice requirements.

[Waiting / next steps](#) · No completion estimate verified here.

Law: [5 U.S.C. § 552a](#) · [5 U.S.C. § 552](#)

[WEB · Privacy Act — 5 U.S.C. § 552a](#)

[WEB · FOIA.gov — How to make a FOIA request](#)

Health-IT and court-record questions

These gateways answer different questions from a professional discipline complaint.

R45 · Electronic health information: information blocking

SCOPED OFFICIAL GATEWAY CHECK · scoped check 2026-09-19

Possible fit. The ONC official gateway identifies claim submission and actor-specific ONC/HHS OIG roles for possible interference with electronic health information.

Limits. Actor, knowledge, practice and exceptions must be checked. Failure to satisfy an exception alone does not establish information blocking. A report is not a damages award.

Before using. Use the current claim portal linked from the official page; record specific requested information, dates, actors, replies and any asserted basis for delay. No portal submission was tested.

[Waiting / next steps](#) · No completion estimate verified here.

[WEB · ONC — Information blocking and complaint gateway](#)

R46 · Court records: correct court and clerk

SCOPED OFFICIAL GATEWAY CHECK · scoped check 2026-09-19

Possible fit. The NM Courts gateway distinguishes court-case records from court administrative public records. Contact the court/clerk responsible for the particular case or record.

Limits. A records request is not a motion, appeal, amendment of a judgment or automatic access to sealed/protected material. Federal FOIA does not govern federal courts.

Before using. Verify the case number, court, access/copy rules, any sealed status and the proper procedural route for correcting a court record.

[Waiting / next steps](#) · No completion estimate verified here.

[WEB · New Mexico Courts — Records requests](#)

Records authority cards

The same source-linked cards also appear in the Records Access & Corrections companion.

FERPA education records 20 U.S.C. § 1232g; 34 C.F.R. §§ 99.3, 99.5	p. 52 →
HIPAA amendment and disagreement 45 C.F.R. § 164.526	p. 53 →
IPRA: record, access and process NMSA 1978 §§ 14-2-6, 14-2-8-12	p. 54 →
FOIA: federal records and review 5 U.S.C. § 552	p. 55 →
Privacy Act access and amendment 5 U.S.C. § 552a	p. 56 →
SOURCE STATUS Code PDFs, eCFR current displays and the NMDOJ statutory reproduction are labeled separately. These excerpts are not the complete law. They do not determine a personal entitlement or filing date.	

FERPA education records

RA01 · 20 U.S.C. § 1232g; 34 C.F.R. §§ 99.3, 99.5

RA01 · SOURCE STATUS

SCOPED TEXT CHECK · Sources read September 19, 2026; not independent legal signoff.

EXACT EXCERPT · NOT THE FULL PROVISION

“Directly related to a student;”

§ 99.3, education records, paragraph (a)(1); one of two required components.

WHAT THIS TEXT ADDRESSES

The definition also requires maintenance by the educational agency/institution or a party acting for it. Media do not decide coverage. Eligible-student rights generally transfer at age 18 or attendance at a postsecondary institution.

COMPONENTS TO CHECK

Check covered institution, attendance, actual record, maintenance and every relevant exclusion. The definition includes a person who is or has been in attendance, so leaving an institution does not itself remove retained records from the definition.

LIMITS / UNFINISHED REVIEW

Student employment, sole-possession notes and law-enforcement-unit records have specific tests. A label such as “clinical,” “private” or “disciplinary” does not settle them. This card does not decide a civil remedy.

SOURCE / VERSION

eCFR · Title 34 displayed current through September 17, 2026. Authoritative but unofficial; scoped Part 99 text check.

[WEB · Read the full text — FERPA regulations — 34 C.F.R. Part 99](#)

www.ecfr.gov · Retrieved 2026-09-19 · No independent legal signoff.

SOURCE / VERSION

Official GovInfo FERPA statute PDF resolving link; read September 19, 2026. Amendment-through date not independently established.

[WEB · Read the full text — FERPA — 20 U.S.C. § 1232g](#)

www.govinfo.gov · Retrieved 2026-09-19 · No independent legal signoff.

Return to [the authority index](#).

HIPAA amendment and disagreement

RA08 · 45 C.F.R. § 164.526

RA08 · SOURCE STATUS

SCOPED TEXT CHECK · Sources read September 19, 2026; not independent legal signoff.

EXACT EXCERPT · NOT THE FULL PROVISION

“appending or otherwise providing a link to the location of the amendment.”

§ 164.526(c)(1); excerpt describing minimum accepted-amendment method.

WHAT THIS TEXT ADDRESSES

The entity must act within 60 days of receipt, with one additional period of up to 30 days if timely written reasons and a completion date are given. Acceptance entails an appropriate amendment, identification of affected records and linked/appended correction.

COMPONENTS TO CHECK

Denial grounds include originator (with an unavailability qualification), designated-record-set/access scope and accuracy/completeness. Denial must explain the basis, disagreement process and complaint route. Relevant recipients and notification duties have their own conditions.

LIMITS / UNFINISHED REVIEW

A disagreement can be reasonably length-limited. The entity may rebut but must give the individual a copy. The rule provides linkage and future-disclosure requirements, including permitted accurate summaries; it does not promise erasure or an independent amendment hearing.

SOURCE / VERSION

eCFR · Title 45 displayed current through September 17, 2026. Scoped definitions/access/amendment/accounting check only.

[WEB · Read the full text — HIPAA Privacy Rule — 45 C.F.R. Part 164. Subpart E](#)

www.ecfr.gov · Retrieved 2026-09-19 · No independent legal signoff.

Return to [the authority index](#).

IPRA: record, access and process

RA10 · NMSA 1978 §§ 14-2-6, 14-2-8–12

RA10 · SOURCE STATUS

CURRENT-CODIFICATION GATE OPEN · March 2025 agency reproduction, checked against the official gateway; not certified current law.

EXACT EXCERPT · NOT THE FULL PROVISION

“that relate to public business, whether or not the records are required by law to be created or maintained.”

§ 14-2-6(H), end of “public records” definition, as reproduced in the NMDOJ 2025 guide.

WHAT THIS TEXT ADDRESSES

Public-body/public-business classification and public inspectability are different inquiries. A confidential student record can fit the public-record definition while protected information is not publicly releasable. Apply FERPA and the relevant access exceptions separately.

COMPONENTS TO CHECK

The reproduced text requires reasonable specificity and requester information for written requests; email/fax qualify. It addresses prompt inspection, 3-business-day advice when inspection is delayed, a 15-calendar-day outside period subject to the burdensome/broad-request provision, and segregation/electronic format.

LIMITS / UNFINISHED REVIEW

This is an official agency reproduction, not current official codification verified through this release date. Do not infer a right to all student or medical records, a guaranteed release by day 15, or the meaning of “public record” in a different criminal statute. Current text/cases must be checked.

SOURCE / VERSION

NMDOJ Ninth Edition · March 2025 statutory reproduction with commentary. Current official codification remains unverified.

[WEB · Read statutory reproduction — NMDOI IPRA Compliance Guide — Ninth Edition](#)

nmdoj.gov · Retrieved 2026-09-19 · No independent legal signoff.

[WEB · NMDOI — Inspection of Public Records Act](#)

[WEB · New Mexico Compilation Commission](#)

Return to [the authority index](#).

FOIA: federal records and review

RA11 · 5 U.S.C. § 552

RA11 · SOURCE STATUS

SCOPED TEXT CHECK · Sources read September 19, 2026; not independent legal signoff.

EXACT EXCERPT · NOT THE FULL PROVISION

“reasonably describes such records”

§ 552(a)(3)(A)(i); excerpt.

WHAT THIS TEXT ADDRESSES

FOIA governs covered federal agencies and existing agency records, not state/local bodies, Congress or federal courts. It provides requested readily reproducible formats and reasonably segregable nonexempt portions.

COMPONENTS TO CHECK

Ordinary initial determination: 20 working days, with proper-component receipt/routing and permitted tolling rules. Written unusual-circumstances provisions allow specified extensions. A determination is not necessarily completed production. Adverse decisions provide an appeal period of at least 90 days; expedited-processing decisions have a distinct 10-day rule.

LIMITS / UNFINISHED REVIEW

Use current agency regulations and the actual notice. Fee, identity, exemptions, exhaustion and litigation rules require separate analysis. OGIS assistance is not an agency appeal or a promise that an appeal clock stops. Source retrieval alone does not certify later amendments/cases.

SOURCE / VERSION

Official GovInfo Code PDF resolving link, read September 19, 2026. Amendment-through date and later cases not certified.

[WEB · Read the full text — FOIA — 5 U.S.C. § 552](#)

www.govinfo.gov · Retrieved 2026-09-19 · No independent legal signoff.

[WEB · FOIA.gov — How to make a FOIA request](#)

[WEB · OGIS — Request assistance](#)

Return to [the authority index](#).

Privacy Act access and amendment

RA12 · 5 U.S.C. § 552a

RA12 · SOURCE STATUS

SCOPED TEXT CHECK · Sources read September 19, 2026; not independent legal signoff.

EXACT EXCERPT · NOT THE FULL PROVISION

“permit the individual to request amendment of a record pertaining to him”

§ 552a(d)(2); excerpt.

WHAT THIS TEXT ADDRESSES

The Privacy Act supplies a separate federal personal-records pathway. The basic “individual” definition is a U.S. citizen or lawful permanent resident; a system of records has a personal-identifier retrieval criterion. Other eligibility provisions and exemptions need individual checking.

COMPONENTS TO CHECK

Amendment-request acknowledgment: 10 working days. Amendment action must be prompt, but that is not a uniform 10-day decision rule. Administrative review of amendment refusal: normally within 30 working days of a review request, with a good-cause extension by the agency head.

LIMITS / UNFINISHED REVIEW

Do not import HIPAA’s access clock. Verify the agency’s access/amendment procedures, identity requirements, system and exemptions. FOIA and Privacy Act processing can overlap; neither label guarantees release or deletion of every record. Court and damage remedies are not decided here.

SOURCE / VERSION

Official GovInfo Code PDF resolving link, read September 19, 2026. Amendment-through date and agency/system rules not certified.

[WEB · Read the full text — Privacy Act — 5 U.S.C. § 552a](#)

www.govinfo.gov · Retrieved 2026-09-19 · No independent legal signoff.

Return to [the authority index](#).

Versions, updates and corrections

A durable guide is not one that never changes. It is one whose claims, versions and corrections remain traceable.

TWO LINKS, TWO PURPOSES

Use an internal authority ID for the explanation. The card holds a full citation, a preserved edition link and—once verified—a current official text link. A stable archived URL preserves what was read, not what the law will be tomorrow.

SEPARATE DATES

Record source retrieval, publisher currency, effective dates, legal-treatment review, route/contact check, build date and actual release date. A change anywhere on a Code title does not prove a particular section was amended.

TIMING AND ROUTE CHANGES

A new organization name, scope, form, status policy or published interval must flag its dependent routes and pages. An editorial review date is a maintenance checkpoint, not the expiration date of a right. Never auto-promote “link working” into “law current.”

IF A LINK FAILS

Use the printed citation, publisher and section title to locate the text on the official site. Compare version and scope before using a replacement. Report the edition/page/card ID and broken address through a confirmed corrections channel.

THIS FILE DOES NOT UPDATE ITSELF

This is v1.0-rc1, drafted September 19, 2026. No public update website or corrections inbox has been supplied or established. Obtain a later dated edition through the person who supplied this review copy; do not assume it is the newest.

WHAT THE NEXT RELEASE MUST HAVE

A user-controlled update/corrections page, immutable edition files, a visible change log, a source ledger and accessible formats. Material legal changes should flag every linked proposition and affected route for review, not automatically rewrite them.

A link checker can detect some failures; it cannot determine current legal meaning, jurisdiction, an injunction, an accepted complaint or a personal deadline. Human source and legal review remain separate tasks.

THIS CANDIDATE

v1.0-rc1 is a review milestone. Public-release approval remains false; no stable corrections/update endpoint has been supplied. New records checks do not recertify every inherited route.

Route-verification worksheet

Optional local organization aid. Keep case-specific records outside the public guide's legal registry.

BEFORE USING

This worksheet is not a complaint, privileged communication, preservation order or deadline calculation. Use only information you are authorized to handle. Consider the AI/discovery safeguards in the companion before creating or sharing sensitive analysis.

Purpose / result sought:
Person's role(s) and actual institution:
Professional credential / employing agency:
Candidate office and jurisdiction to verify:
Official source title, URL and date checked:
Accepted method, form and required attachments:
What the office can decide / cannot provide:
Privacy, respondent disclosure and release terms:
Independent deadline / trigger / source / uncertainty:
Other routes and any prerequisite or election:
Exact version sent, date/time/time zone and files:
Receipt / reference number / bounce / referral:
Next review or appeal step and verified source:

Use [the bounded follow-up and waiting log](#) only when appropriate. Keep case-specific evidence outside the public machine-readable backbone.

A bounded follow-up

A short factual inquiry can clarify the process when the office permits status requests. It does not file an appeal or suspend a deadline.

CHECK BEFORE SENDING

Use the official accepted route; replace every placeholder; attach only appropriate material. Do not use this message where a status policy forbids inquiries, a form is required or urgent legal help is needed.

I submitted [type of submission] on [date] through [accepted route].
My reference number is [number, if issued].

Please confirm the current stage and whether any information is missing. If another office is responsible, please identify its official route and whether the matter was forwarded.

Please identify any published next-step or review instructions applicable to this submission, and any estimate you are able to provide. I understand an estimate is not a guarantee.

This message [adds no new allegations / identifies the attached, clearly labeled correction]. Please associate it with the existing reference number.

Preserve the exact message, delivery evidence and reply. [Some offices cannot provide status updates](#). New allegations, corrections, an appeal or an emergency may need a different process.

[WEB · NM Judicial Standards Commission — about and jurisdiction](#)

Keep a waiting and notice log

An optional organization tool, not a legal hold or a determination of what must be preserved or produced.

Submission and accepted method:
Reference number / recipient:
Receipt evidence and date/time/time zone:
Current stage (unknown is allowed):
Who is expected to act next:
Published interval / type / source / date checked:
Actual notice and any required response:
Separate filing, appeal or preservation questions:
New facts or correction (source and date):
Next appropriate checkpoint and reason:

KEEP CONTEXT AND PRIVACY

Preserve originals, note later corrections and distinguish known dates from estimates. Keep sensitive case records outside the public legal registry. A local file, restricted label or AI-assisted note is not automatically privileged.

The AI, Evidence & Witnesses companion develops disclosure and legal-process safeguards. Before a consequential upload or submission, check the actual recipient, governing process and any preservation or confidentiality obligations.

How this fits version 1

Keep the Core easy to use while letting readers reach the exact source and the appropriate route.

CORE GUIDE

Task-first explanations, a short authority appendix containing the cards actually cited, essential warnings and links into specialist modules. Do not require opening another PDF merely to understand a Core citation.

RECORDS ACCESS & CORRECTIONS

The separately supplied companion explains record classification, personal/public access, amendment and independent clocks. It contains sixteen canonical templates with TXT exports. It is also v1.0-rc1, not a public-approved edition.

QUICK TOOLS

Short copyable tools, generated from the same registry. Each standalone tool needs its own scope, version, caution and source IDs—not a vague reliance on warnings elsewhere.

AUTHORITIES & REPORTING ROUTES

This atlas contains fourteen law-text cards, a New Mexico source gate, 46 route records and eight inherited timing records. Four new records gateways and shared source cards connect to the Records Access & Corrections companion. The native v0.7 Core has not been migrated or recertified.

WITNESS / WHISTLEBLOWER AND AI / EVIDENCE

Keep detailed status-first protection cards, independent witness safeguards, AI transformations, disclosure and legal-process distinctions in focused supplements. Generate common material from one canonical record.

MACHINE-READABLE FIRST

Manuscript, routes, authorities, timings, scenarios, sources, templates and style tokens are canonical JSON. PDF, HTML, text, page maps and the combined backbone are generated from them; shared content is not maintained as separate pasted copies.

VERSION 1 RELEASE GATES

Complete the active legal/source and route coverage; resolve material gaps or remove affected instructions; integrate the same cards into native Typst; verify every page, link, bookmark, selectable tool, accessible alternative and print sample. Obtain scoped independent legal review of high-risk content.

This atlas is an assistant-prepared reviewer draft, not an approved public release. The package includes the source/route records, build code, maintenance plan and an honest QA ledger. Your choices remain yours; the guide explains information and questions rather than deciding your case.