CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE
CITY COUNCIL

MEMORANDUM

TO: **All City Councilors**

FROM: **Isaac Padilla, Director of Council Services**

SUBJECT: **Appointment of Member to the Accountability in Government Oversight Committee**

DATE: **October 5, 2026**

This communication notifies the Council of two candidates for the vacant seat on the Accountability in Government Oversight Committee. Under the City's Accountability in Government Ordinance § 2-10-1-4(C), appointments to the AGO Committee alternate between the Mayor's office and the City Council. AGO Committee member Victor Griego was not interested in reappointment, and his term expired on August 31, 2026, creating a vacancy in the Management Consultant position. The City Council has 45 days from the vacancy date to name a replacement. Because the vacancy occurred before the updated Accountability in Government Ordinance governing the AGO Committee (O-26-40) took effect, we must use the 45-day deadline rather than the new 60-day deadline for this appointment. Committee members serve staggered three-year terms. If the Council approves one of these candidates, the term will expire on August 31, 2029.

The following individuals are interested in serving on the AGO Committee, and their names are submitted for the Management Consultant position. Their resumes are attached for Councilors to review.

- **John T. Major II**
- **Lucas Abel Pedraza**

Because there are two candidates for one vacant position, Councilors will select their preferred candidate through preferential balloting. Each Councilor shall rank the candidates in order of preference, with **1** indicating the first preference and **2** indicating the second preference. The candidate receiving the lowest total score shall be declared the successful candidate.

In the event of a tie, a runoff election shall be conducted among the tied candidates using the same preferential balloting process.

The current composition of the AGO Committee is as follows:

Current Membership

Representing	Position	Term Expires
1. Vacant	Management Consultant	
2. Robert J. Aragon	Legal/Law Background	8/31/2028
3. Esteban A. Aguilar, Jr., Esq.	At Large (Vice Chair)	8/31/2027
4. Martin E. Mathisen	CPA	8/31/2028
5. Lia Armstrong	At Large	8/31/2027
6. Carla Martinez, CFO	Mayor Appointed Ex Officio Member	12/31/2025
7. Matthew Whelan, COO	Mayor Appointed Ex Officio Member, Alternate	12/31/2025
8. Brook Bassan, City Councilor	Council Appointed Ex Officio Member	12/31/2025
9. Dan Champine, City Councilor	Council Appointed Ex Officio Member, Alternate	12/31/2025

John T. Major II

[redacted]

September 23, 2026

Mayor and Members of the Albuquerque City Council
City of Albuquerque

Letter of Interest for the Accountability in Government Oversight Committee

Dear Mayor and Councilors:

I am applying to serve on Albuquerque's Accountability in Government Oversight Committee. As an Albuquerque resident with more than 30 years of experience in law enforcement, security management, and federal compliance, I would welcome the opportunity to put my experience to work for our community.

In my current role as an HQ Classification Analyst with the National Nuclear Security Administration, I lead assessment teams evaluating programs at federal sites and contractor organizations. I direct inquiries into alleged violations of information-protection policies and laws, review reports for compliance, and advise senior management on policy and related issues. My work also includes reporting findings and coordinating with the Office of Inspector General and inquiry officials.

Previously, I conducted independent inquiries at Idaho National Laboratory, Savannah River Site, and Atkins Nuclear. At Savannah River Site, I managed an Information Protection Department and led annual assessments across several security disciplines. My earlier service as a police officer and reserve deputy provided direct experience in public safety and investigations. I also hold master's degrees in Criminal Justice and Security Management.

I would bring careful review of evidence, practical experience evaluating compliance, and an independent perspective to the committee's work. I believe effective oversight requires asking clear questions, weighing findings fairly, and following through on identified concerns. I would approach this responsibility impartially, with respect for confidentiality and a commitment to accountable government and the responsible use of public resources.

Thank you for considering my application. I would appreciate the opportunity to discuss how my experience could contribute to the committee. My résumé is enclosed.

Sincerely,

John T. Major II

John T. Major II

[redacted]

Professional Summary

Law enforcement and security professional with more than 30 years of experience spanning public safety, federal compliance, independent inquiries, and security management. Leads program assessments, advises senior management, and coordinates with Inspectors General and law enforcement on compliance and information-protection matters. Holds master's degrees in Criminal Justice and Security Management.

Professional Experience

HQ Classification Analyst

National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) | Albuquerque, NM | 2022–Present

- Lead assessment teams evaluating classification programs at NNSA sites and contractor organizations.
- Direct inquiries into alleged violations of information-protection policies and laws.
- Report compliance findings and coordinate with senior management, inquiry officials, and the Office of Inspector General on classified-information security and law-enforcement matters.
- Review reports, publications, and other work products for compliance with federal law and national classification guidance.
- Advise senior management on classification policy, application of guidance, and resolution of related issues.

Classification Analyst

Idaho National Laboratory | Idaho Falls, ID | 2018–2022

- Directed inquiries into policy and legal violations and coordinated classification matters with the Site Inquiry Official, Office of Inspector General, and Naval Criminal Investigative Service.
- Reviewed materials for proper classification and potential public release; provided guidance on information-protection requirements.
- Received the annual Support Service Award.

Information Security Manager

Savannah River Site | Aiken, SC | 2015–2018

- Managed the project's Information Protection Department.
- Served as Department Inquiry Official, conducting independent inquiries, coordinating criminal investigations with law enforcement, and reporting findings to federal oversight agencies and senior management.
- Led annual Safeguards and Security Assessments covering personnel security, information protection, physical security, nuclear material control and accountability, and safeguards program management.

Professional Experience Continued

Security Specialist

Atkins Nuclear | Clinton, TN | 2011–2015

- Conducted independent inquiries into policy and legal violations; coordinated criminal investigations with law enforcement and reported findings to oversight agencies and senior management.
- Planned and implemented a security plan approved by the U.S. Department of Energy and Nuclear Regulatory Commission for a classified research and development facility.

Special Response Team Lieutenant

WSI-OR | Oak Ridge, TN | 2003–2011

- Managed and led a protective force responsible for safeguarding highly enriched uranium and classified facilities.

Police Officer

City of Maryville | Maryville, TN | 1998–2003

- Served as a patrol and traffic-unit officer, responding to incidents, conducting investigations, and making arrests.
- Served on the SWAT team and as a traffic radar and firearms instructor.
- Received a Life Saving Award and multiple productivity awards.

Deputy Sheriff and Corrections Officer

Knox County Sheriff's Office | Knoxville, TN | 1995–1998

- Served as a reserve deputy after graduating from the department's first reserve academy; subsequently worked as a full-time corrections officer.

Military Service

Nuclear, Biological, and Chemical Operations Specialist

Tennessee Army National Guard | 1992–2000

- Attained the rank of Sergeant and served as a nuclear, biological, and chemical noncommissioned officer. Earned four promotions and received an honorable discharge.

Education

Master of Science in Criminal Justice
University of Tennessee | GPA 4.0

Master of Science in Security Management
Bellevue University | GPA 4.0

Bachelor of Science in Biology
University of Tennessee

LUCAS ABEL PEDRAZA

[redacted]

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Project Coordinator

New Mexico MainStreet, State of New Mexico | Santa Fe, NM | January 2020 – Present

- Developed selection criteria and collaborated with the New Mexico MainStreet (NMMS) director to evaluate and allocate $38 million in capital outlay and infrastructure funding from FY20 to FY27.
- Created a new infrastructure project application and established project categories for the NMMS public infrastructure project pipeline.
- Coordinated with local MainStreet organizations and government entities to facilitate the completion of 68 public infrastructure project applications, identifying matching funding sources and capital investments for downtown development projects.
- Designed training and presentation materials for the NMMS Capital Outlay program and project-based initiatives, presenting them at conferences and webinars.
- Implemented a new internal quarterly reporting system to evaluate the economic development outcomes of 32 NMMS organizations across New Mexico.
- Delivered quarterly revitalization reports to the NMMS director and department leadership.
- Advised local MainStreet organizations on the development of funding strategies for public infrastructure projects.

Economic Development Manager

City of Albuquerque | Albuquerque, NM | January 2019 – January 2020

- Developed a job training program with Central New Mexico Community College to provide training to the local workforce, allowing companies to scale and hire additional employees.
- Formulated recommendations to improve the City's procurement code and practices.
- Managed, implemented, and oversaw the economic department's contracts with vendors and consultants.
- Implemented the Incremental Development program to train local real estate developers and provided administrative recommendations to the planning department regarding development permitting processes.
- Participated in the Mayor's Rail Yards Redevelopment task group to guide the future development of Albuquerque's Rail Yards.

Research Scientist 2

Bureau of Business and Economic Research | Albuquerque, NM | May 2018 – January 2019

- Collaborated with the director and research team on economic impact and policy reports.
- Conducted field interviews and data collection to assess the economic impact of Pueblos on New Mexico's economy.
- Analyzed budgets and audits of Pueblo Tribal Governments and their enterprises.
- Designed survey instruments and conducted business interviews to measure the operational and economic effects of municipal regulations on small businesses in Albuquerque.
- Managed research projects and assistants to achieve project milestones and successfully complete research reports.

Director

Barelas Community Coalition | Albuquerque, NM | September 2016 – May 2018

- Coordinated coalition efforts with other non-profits, stakeholders, and state government agencies.
- Secured over $160,000 in grants from local government agencies and foundations to support organizational programs.
- Facilitated negotiations for a public-private partnership to launch a $7 million multi-use project at 4th and Coal in Barelas.
- Cultivated a partnership that led to a $350,000 investment in a catalytic project in Barelas.
- Formulated commercial revitalization strategies for Barelas MainStreet, assisting the organization in achieving Accredited MainStreet designation.
- Established a small business incubation initiative to support local commercial enterprises.
- Maintained strategic partnerships with community development corporations, chambers of commerce, and elected officials.

Account Coordinator

TKO Advertising | Albuquerque, NM | May 2017 – August 2017

- Conducted comprehensive market research and led focus groups.
- Served as the primary liaison for local Albuquerque accounts.

Evaluation Lab Senior Fellow

UNM Evaluation Lab | Albuquerque, NM | August 2016 – May 2017

- Implemented improvements to the intake process with PB&J staff, refining pre- and post-assessments to reduce duplicative efforts and streamline reporting.

Evaluation Lab Fellow

UNM Evaluation Lab | Albuquerque, NM | August 2015 – May 2016

- Collected and analyzed organizational data to quantify the impacts of the PB&J program.
- Conducted focus groups and interviews to evaluate program effectiveness.
- Analyzed qualitative and quantitative data for the final evaluation report and recommended improvements to data collection processes for local municipalities.

Research Assistant

Bureau of Business and Economic Research | Albuquerque, NM | June 2014 – July 2016

- Evaluated the cost structures and efficiency of the Construction Industries Division.
- Analyzed the adoption of websites by small businesses in New Mexico and assessed their impact.
- Led the design and administration of multiple surveys and produced social network maps for MainStreet reports.

EDUCATION

- **Master of Community and Regional Planning** | University of New Mexico | Albuquerque, NM | August 2016
- **Bachelor of Arts in Economics** | State University of New York at New Paltz | New Paltz, NY | December 2009

SKILLS

- **Core Competencies:** Policy Analysis, Project Management, Grant Writing, Community Outreach, Quantitative & Qualitative Research, Oral & Written Communication, Presentation Skills.
- **Technical Software:** Atlas.ti, Adobe Creative Suite, Salesforce, Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, Access, Publisher, Outlook), STATA, SPSS, GIS Software (ESRI, Caliper), UCINET, Basecamp.

AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS

- **Senior Fellow**, UNM Evaluation Lab (2016–2017)
- **Evaluation Lab Fellow** (2015–2016)
- **American Planning Association Student Service Award** (2014–2015)
- **Student Success Award and Scholarship** (2014–2015)
- **Tau Sigma Delta Honor Society Inductee**, Gamma Lambda Chapter (2014–2015)

VOLUNTEER WORK

- **Board Member**, PB&J Family Services (2017–2018)
- **Board Member**, Albuquerque Affordable Housing Coalition (2016–2019)
- **Board Chair**, Barelas MainStreet & **Board Member**, Barelas Community Coalition (2014–2016)
- **Treasurer**, American Planning Association UNM Chapter (2013–2014)

REFERENCES

Name	Role & Organization	Contact Information
Alejandro Saavedra	Board President, Barelas Community Coalition	(505) 267-2057
Daniel Gutierrez	State Director, New Mexico MainStreet	(505) 629-5270
Synthia Jaramillo	Former Director, COA Economic Development Department	(505) 377-0339