

For Immediate Release: September 11, 2015 Contact: Erin Thompson, 505-480-9731

## "Great New Mexicans" to Lead New Mexico State Fair Parade Tomorrow

Thousands of people will line Central Avenue tomorrow morning to witness the 2015 New Mexico State Fair Parade, which will begin its procession at 8:30 AM from Gate 1 and proceed East on Central Avenue. The parade will end at the intersection of Central and Conchas Street.

This year's theme is Great New Mexicans, and the co-grand marshals epitomize the expression. Albuquerque Police Department Officer Lou Golson and Julie Benner, widow of Rio Rancho Police Officer Gregg "Nigel" Benner will serve in this important role. The New Mexico State Fair is honored to recognize Mrs. Benner on behalf of her late husband and as a tribute to their sacrifices, and Officer Golson for his courage and service in confronting a dangerous situation, when he survived being shot by an offender on a traffic stop earlier this year.

"We are honored to have the opportunity to pay tribute to Officer Golson and Julie Benner in order to recognize their extraordinary courage and unthinkable sacrifices. This is our chance to say thank you on behalf of an extremely grateful state and community," said Dan Mourning, General Manager of the New Mexico State Fair.

There are 237 entries in this year's parade. For more information on the 2015 New Mexico State Fair, please log onto www.exponm.com.