

Michelle Lujan Grisham Governor

Michael R. Sandoval
Cabinet Secretary

February 19, 2020

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Manon A. Arnett District 2 Public Information Officer Manon.arnett@state.nm.us (575) 201-8283

## N.M. 2 dedicated as "Mike Smith Highway"

**DEXTER** – A dedication ceremony was held Tuesday evening at Eastern New Mexico Fair Grounds dedicating N.M. 2 as the "Mike Smith Highway." Representative Candy Ezzell, Chaves County Commissioner William Cavin, Municipality Representatives from Dexter, Hagerman, and Lake Arthur were all in favor of the name designation of the highway.

The New Mexico State Transportation Commission met this month and passed a resolution to name the N.M. 2 route in Chaves County as the "Mike Smith Highway."

State Transportation Commission Bruce Ellis said, "We are honored to name one of our highways after such an outstanding individual like Mike Smith."

Mike Smith, a native of Dexter, NM, is one of the leading riders in U.S. Thoroughbred racing since the early 1990s, was inducted into the National Museum of Racing and Hall of Fame in 2003, and has wont the most Breeders' Cup races of any jockey with 26 Breeders' Cup wins. In 2018, Smith rode Justify to win the Triple Crown.

The "Mike Smith Highway" signs will go up this week along the N.M. 2 corridor in Chaves County.

###