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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

August 25, 2025

## Short Film highlighting digital vulnerability wraps in Las Cruces

**Santa Fe, NM**—"Followed," a compelling short film exploring themes of digital vulnerability, online safety, and the blurred lines between virtual and physical threats, has officially wrapped principal photography in May.

Directed by homegrown talent **Andrew Jara** ("The Empty Space") and produced by fellow New Mexico filmmaker **Sheyla Rico** ("A Long Road to Tao"), the film is a testament to the power of our state's creative community.

New Mexico actress **Bianca Dumais** ("I'll Be Gone in June"), in her first lead role, alongside **Nicolas Check** ("Santa's Cousin"), bring to life the story of a popular streamer whose live broadcast is abruptly infiltrated, revealing a chilling and dangerously close stalker. This suspenseful narrative intensifies as the digital threat spills into her reality, challenging the perceived safety of her online persona.

"The completion of projects such as 'Followed' from our local filmmaking community, particularly those originating from Las Cruces," said **Steve Graham**, director of the New Mexico Film Office. "These short films are integral to our film ecosystem, providing valuable experience to emerging local talent, including skilled crews and promising actors, thereby contributing to the industry's sustained growth."

"It is a great short that shows the terrifying outcomes that can come from living in a world online," **Rico** stated. "I'm excited to bring a production to Las Cruces to show off the talent that Southern New Mexico has to offer."

The production employed over 20 New Mexico residents, including twenty resident crew members, two principal actors, and one background talent.

For more information, contact nothingventuredpictures1@gmail.com.

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The New Mexico Film Office (NMFO), a division of the Economic Development Department, works to ensure the longevity and progress of New Mexico's film incentive, grow the film, television, and digital media industry, and expand entertainment economic opportunities for New Mexico businesses and residents.

- Named one of <u>Deadline's Hot Spots</u>.
- Three New Mexico cities were selected as <u>"2025 Best Place to Live and Work as a Moviemaker"</u> by MovieMaker Magazine for the third consecutive year.

To learn more, visit <u>nmfilm.com</u>.

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## A division of the New Mexico Economic Development Department



The Economic Development Department's Mission is to improve the lives of New Mexico families by increasing economic opportunities and providing a place for businesses to thrive.





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