



# VOTERS' GUIDE

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF CENTRAL NEW MEXICO

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# GENERAL ELECTION NOVEMBER 6, 2012

A General Election will be held on Tuesday, November 6, 2012. A General Election is held the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November in each even-numbered year. This General Election will fill the offices of President, United States Senator, United States Representative, and districted New Mexico offices and county positions.

If you are a citizen of the United States, 18 years of age or older on Election Day, and registered to vote, you may vote in this General Election.

If you have a question concerning the election or voter registration, please phone your County Clerk: Bernalillo County Clerk's office 468-1291 <http://www.bernco.gov/clerk>; Sandoval County Clerk's office 867-7574 <http://boe.sandovalcountynm.gov/>. The Voters' Guide is also available on the Internet at [www.lwvcnm.org](http://www.lwvcnm.org).

## VOTING INFORMATION

### REGISTERING TO VOTE

**You must be registered to vote with the County Clerk by Tuesday, October 9, to vote in the November 6 General Election.** If you are not already registered to vote, you may obtain a voter registration application form from various places including the County Clerk, all public libraries, and the Motor Vehicle Division offices.

**When is identification required?** You need to present identification when you register to vote only if you are registering for the first time in your county and you register by mail. If you do not submit the proper identification, you will be asked to provide it before you vote in your first election. Accepted identification, if you are registering for the first time by mail, includes a copy of any current and valid photo ID, a utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or any other government document that shows your current and valid name and address. If you do not provide the required identification before Election Day or if you request an absentee ballot, you will be required to show identification at the polls or provide copies when you mail your ballot.

### ABSENTEE VOTING BY MAIL

Any person qualified to vote may vote by absentee ballot. Apply for an absentee ballot by phone or mail at your County Clerk's Office: Bernalillo County Clerk's office, 468-1291, One Civic Plaza NW, Albuquerque, NM 87102; Sandoval County Clerk's

office, 867-7574, 1500 Idalia Road, Bldg D, Bernalillo, NM 87004. The County Clerk's office will verify the application information and mail your absentee ballot to you. Friday, October 29, is the last day the County Clerk's office will mail out absentee ballots. The ballot contains instructions for completion and return.

If you apply for an absentee ballot and receive it, you must vote that ballot. You will not be issued another ballot if the original ballot is destroyed, discarded, or delivered to the polls unvoted. If you apply for, but do not receive, the absentee ballot, you may go to the county clerk's office until Monday, November 1, and apply for a replacement ballot. You may also go to your polling place and vote on a provisional ballot in lieu of an absentee ballot on Election Day. You will be required to sign a sworn statement that you did not receive your ballot.

**Your completed ballot must be received in the County Clerk's office no later than 7:00 p.m. on Election Day, November 6. Please note that no absentee ballot packet delivered in person will be accepted when delivered by someone other than the voter who signed the packet or a member of the voter's immediate family or a caregiver.**

When voting early, your absentee ballot will be placed in a secrecy envelope and counted with the rest of the absentee ballots on election night.

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**The League of Women Voters of Central New Mexico** is a nonpartisan organization that provides information about political issues and candidates for public office in order to promote greater responsibility and participation in government. Because the League is nonpartisan, it DOES NOT support or oppose any political party or candidate. It does publish and distribute factual information for citizens to use when preparing to vote.

The information in this Voters' Guide was obtained by means of questionnaires sent to all the candidates, except those who are unopposed. Their answers are printed exactly as received by the League. Because of space restrictions, candidates are limited to a specific number of words. Also, lists contained in responses are converted to normal paragraph form. All candidates are listed in the order they will appear on the November 6, 2012 ballot.

#### Disclaimer

The information in this Voters' Guide has been carefully assembled and compiled to assure maximum accuracy. However, the LWVCNM and the LWVCNM Education Fund assume no responsibility either for correctness of all the information furnished to the League by candidates or other organizations or for errors or omissions. In instances where there is a question of potentially defamatory content, the League will defer to the opinion of counsel.

## EARLY VOTING

### Bernalillo County Residents

Beginning **October 9** you may vote “absentee in person” at the Bernalillo County Clerk’s office location, **Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5 p.m.** and **Saturday, November 3, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.:** County Clerk’s Office Annex, 620 Lomas NW (6th and Lomas), Albuquerque.

From **Saturday, October 20 through Saturday, November 3**, (closed Sundays), you may vote early at following alternative voting sites throughout Bernalillo County. The hours are: **8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.**

**98th & Central Shopping Center** 120 98th St NW

**Caracol Plaza Shopping Center**

12500 Montgomery Blvd NE, Suite 101

**Central & Juan Tabo Plaza** 11816 Central Av SE, Suite C

**Clerk’s Annex** 620 Lomas Blvd NW (West Section)

**Conejos Office Park** 6700 Jefferson St NE, Building A

**Coors Plaza** 3200 Coors Blvd NW, Suites A & G

**Daskalos Center** 5339 & 5339-A Menaul Blvd NE

**Goff Plaza** 1720 Bridge Blvd SW, Suite G-1

**Guadalupe Plaza** 6211 4th St NW, Suite 40

**Montgomery Crossing** 8510 Montgomery Blvd NE, Suite A3B

**Paseo Crossing Shopping Center**

8000 Paseo Del Norte NE, Suite A2

**Paseo Del Norte Shopping Center**

8521 Golf Course Rd NW, Suite 112

**Rio Bravo Senior Meal Site** 3910 Isleta Blvd SW

**Siesta Hills Shopping Center** 5405 Gibson Blvd SE

**Sun Country Plaza** 9421 Coors Blvd NW, Suites G & H

**University of New Mexico** Student Union Building,

Cochiti Lounge, 2nd floor

**Tijeras City Hall** 12 Camino Municipal, Tijeras, NM

**Desiderio Community Center** ToHajiilee, NM

**Isleta Recreation Center** Building 60,

Tribal Road 40, Isleta, NM

### Sandoval County Residents

Beginning **October 9** you may vote “absentee in person” at the following Sandoval County Clerk’s office location, **Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5 p.m.**

1500 Idalia Rd. Sandoval County Admin Building D and

1500 Idalia Rd. Sandoval County Transit Center Building C

and **Saturday, November 3, 10 a.m. to 7 pm:**

1500 Idalia Rd. Sandoval County Transit Center Building C

From **Saturday, October 20 through Saturday, November 3**, (closed Sundays), you may vote early at following alternative voting sites throughout Sandoval County.

The hours are: **10:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.**

800 South Hill Rd. Sandoval County Voting Machine Warehouse

3200 Civic Center Circle Rio Rancho City Hall

4330 Meadowlark Ln. Meadowlark Senior Center

1041 Commercial Dr. SSCAFCA Office Building

4326 Corrales Rd. Corrales Community Center

**October 23 & October 24, 10:00 am to 7:00 pm**

**(Tuesday & Wednesday)**

5 Cedar Rd. San Felipe Pueblo Senior Center

Tesuque St. Santo Domingo Pueblo Community Center

**October 26 & October 27, 10:00 am to 7:00 pm**

**(Friday & Saturday) Early/In-Person**

255 Cochiti St. Cochiti Pueblo Community Center

**October 30 & October 31, 10:00 am to 7:00 pm**

**(Tuesday & Wednesday)**

135 Capital Square Dr. Zia Pueblo Community Center

**November 2 & November 3, 10:00 am to 7:00 pm**

**(Friday & Saturday)**

5117 Highway 4, Jemez Pueblo Civic Center

## VOTER IDENTIFICATION

When you present yourself at your polling place for early voting or voting on Election Day, you are required to give **one of the following** forms of voter identification:

- A verbal or written statement by the voter of the voter’s name, year of birth, and registered address; **or**
- a physical form of identification including, but not limited to, a valid photo ID (with or without address) or an original or copy of a utility bill, government check, a paycheck, or a student or tribal ID that shows your name and address. The address is not required to match the voter’s certificate of registration.

## WRITE-IN VOTING

Write-in voting is permitted on either the electronic ballot or on the paper ballot as long as the person you vote for is qualified as a write-in candidate. You must write the candidate’s first and last names on the ballot.

## PROVISIONAL BALLOT

You will be issued a provisional ballot if your name does not appear on the roster at your polling place, or if you are a first-time voter who registered by mail and you do not provide the required identification.

## VOTING OFFENSES

Voters are obligated to report voting offenses to the County Clerk, the District Attorney, or the Secretary of State. Voting offenses are:

- Any form of campaigning within 100 feet of a building containing a polling place.
- Using or possessing or carrying alcoholic beverages within 200 feet of a polling place.
- False voting, such as voting or offering to vote although not qualified, voting in another’s name, voting more than once during a single election, or asking or assisting another person in committing a voting offense.

## ELECTION DAY

On November 6 the polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. For further information about voting locations please check online at the Secretary of State’s **Voter View** site <https://voterview.state.nm.us/> or for Bernalillo County residents go to <http://www.bernco.gov/myvotecenter/> or call the Bernalillo County Clerk’s office at 468-1291 and the Sandoval County Clerk’s office at 867-7574.

### **Vote Centers**

The 2010 New Mexico Legislature passed a bill allowing county commissioners to consolidate up to 10 precincts into a “consolidated precinct” for general, primary, municipal and school elections. These are called Vote Centers.

### **Bernalillo County Vote Centers**

On Election Day, any voter will be allowed to vote at any Consolidated Voting Center in Bernalillo County much like they already do at Early Voting sites. In Bernalillo County there will no longer be voting at the precinct level on Election Day. The Early Voting locations and Consolidated Voting Centers are in addition to the voter’s option to vote by Absentee Ballot. For further information about Bernalillo County Vote Centers please go to <http://www.bernco.gov/vcc>

### **Sandoval County Vote Centers and Precinct Voting**

In Sandoval County there will be Vote Centers in Rio Rancho. The remainder of Sandoval County voters will vote at their designated precincts.

### **Vote Centers**

On Election Day the following Rio Rancho precincts are consolidated for Vote Centers and any voter from these precincts can vote at any of these Voting Convenience Centers:

### **Pct. No.**

30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 52, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86.

### **Polling Locations**

Rio Rancho City Hall, 3200 Civic Center Circle.

Rio Rancho Elementary School, 4601 Pepe Ortiz Road.

Rio Rancho Middle School, 1600 40th Street.

Mountain View Middle School, 4101 Montreal Loop.

Puesta Del Sol Elementary School, 450 Southern Boulevard.

# ELECCIONES GENERALES DE ALBUQUERQUE - 6 de noviembre de 2012

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## ELECCION GENERAL 6 de noviembre 2012

Una elección general se llevará a cabo el martes, 6 de noviembre de 2012. Una elección general siempre se lleva a cabo el primer martes después del primer lunes de noviembre en cada año par. Esta elección general designará los puestos federales de Presidente de Estados Unidos, Senador de Estados Unidos, Representante en el Congreso de Estados Unidos, y puestos distritales de oficinas del estado y condados de Nuevo México.

Usted tiene derecho de votar en esta elección general si tiene la ciudadanía de Estados Unidos, cumplirá 18 años de edad o más en el día de la elección y se ha registrado para votar.

Si tiene cualquier pregunta acerca de la elección, puede llamar a la oficina del Escribano del condado que le corresponde: oficina del Escribano de Condado de Bernalillo 468-1291 <http://www.berncogov/clerk> oficina del Escribano de Condado de Sandoval 867-7574 <http://boe.sandovalcountynm.gov/> Esta Guía de Votantes también se encuentra en el internet: [www.lwvncm.org](http://www.lwvncm.org).

## INFORMACION SOBRE LA VOTACION INSCRIPCION

Hay que inscribirse para votar en la oficina del Escribano de Condado antes de martes el 9 de octubre para votar el la Elección General del 6 de noviembre. Si aún no está registrado para votar, puede obtener una solicitud para registrarse en varios lugares, incluyendo, la oficina del Escribano de Condado, todas las bibliotecas públicas, y las oficinas del Departamento de Vehículos Motorizados.

**¿Cuándo se requiere identificación?** Hay que presentar identificación cuando se registra para votar solo si está registrándose por primera vez en su condado y se registra por correo. Si Ud. no manda la identificación necesaria, se le pedirá antes de votar en una elección. La identificación que se acepta si está registrándose por primera vez por correo, incluye una copia de identificación con foto válida y corriente; recibo de pagos por servicios domésticos (utility bill), un estado de cuenta de banco, cheque del gobierno, cheque de pago del trabajo, o cualquier otro documento del gobierno que muestra su dirección y nombre válido y corriente. Si no provee la información requerida antes del día de la elección, va a tener que mostrar su identificación en las casillas de la elección, o proveer copias de identificación cuando envía su papeleta por correo.

## VOTACIÓN-EN-AUSENCIA POR CORREO

Cualquier persona calificada para votar, puede hacerlo por papeleta-en-ausencia. Puede solicitar la papeleta-en-ausencia por teléfono o por correo en la oficina del Escribano de su condado: oficina del Escribano de Bernalillo, 468-1291, One Civic Plaza NW, Albuquerque, NM 87102 oficina del Escribano de Sandoval, 867-7574, 1500 Idalia Road, Blg D, Bernalillo, NM 87004

La oficina del Escribano de Condado verificará la información de su solicitud y le enviará su papeleta-en-ausencia. El último día que las papeletas serán enviadas es el viernes, el 29 de octubre que es el último día en que las papeletas serán enviadas. La papeleta-en-ausencia contiene instrucciones para llenarla y devolverla.

Si usted pide una papeleta-en-ausencia y la recibe, hay que votar con esa papeleta. No le dan otra papeleta si la original está destruida, tirada, o entregada a las casillas sin haberla llenado. Si usted pide, pero no recibe una papeleta-en-ausencia, puede ir a la oficina del Escribano de Condado hasta el lunes, 1 de noviembre y aplicar por una papeleta-en-ausencia para reemplazarla. También puede ir a su lugar de votación y votar con una papeleta provisional, en vez de la papeleta-en-ausencia, el día de la elección.

La papeleta ya llena con su voto, tendrá que haberse recibido en las oficinas del Escribano de la Ciudad (City Clerk) antes de las 7:00 pm el día de la elección, el 6 de noviembre. Por favor note que no se aceptará ninguna papeleta-en-ausencia entregada en persona cuando sea entregada por cualquier otra persona que no sea el votante quien firmó la papeleta o un miembro de su familia inmediata, o una persona que le cuida.

Cuando usted entrega su papeleta antes del día de la elección, su papeleta será puesta en un sobre oscuro y será contada con las demás papeletas en la noche de la elección.

## VOTACIÓN TEMPRANA

### Condado de Bernalillo

A partir del 9 de octubre usted puede votar como "ausente en persona" en la Oficina del Escribano del Condado, de lunes a **sábado, 8:00 am a 8 pm**. La Oficina del Escribano del Condado se ubica en el 620 Lomas NW (calle 6a y Lomas), Albuquerque. Entre el **sábado, 20 de octubre hasta el sábado, 3 de noviembre**, usted puede ejercer el voto temprano en las urnas alternativas del Condado de Bernalillo indicadas a continuación. Las horas son: **8:00 am a 8:00 pm**. (Las oficinas permanecen cerradas los domingos.)

**98th & Central Shopping Center** 120 98th St NW  
**Caracol Plaza Shopping Center**  
12500 Montgomery Blvd NE, Suite 101

**Central & Juan Tabo Plaza** 11816 Central Av SE, Suite C  
**Clerk's Annex** 620 Lomas Blvd NW (West Section)

**Conejos Office Park** 6700 Jefferson St NE, Building A

**Coors Plaza** 3200 Coors Blvd NW, Suites A & G

**Daskalos Center** 5339 & 5339-A Menaul Blvd NE

**Goff Plaza** 1720 Bridge Blvd SW, Suite G-1

**Guadalupe Plaza** 6211 4th St NW, Suite 40

**Montgomery Crossing** 8510 Montgomery Blvd NE, Suite A3B

**Paseo Crossing Shopping Center**  
8000 Paseo Del Norte NE, Suite A2

**Paseo Del Norte Shopping Center**  
8521 Golf Course Rd NW, Suite 112

**Rio Bravo Senior Meal Site** 3910 Isleta Blvd SW

**Siesta Hills Shopping Center** 5405 Gibson Blvd SE

**Sun Country Plaza** 9421 Coors Blvd NW, Suites G & H

**University of New Mexico Student Union Building,**  
Cochiti Lounge, 2nd floor

**Tijeras City Hall** 12 Camino Municipal, Tijeras, NM

**Desiderio Community Center** ToHajiilee, NM

**Isleta Recreation Center** Building 60,  
Tribal Road 40, Isleta, NM

### Residentes del Condado de Sandoval

A partir del 9 de octubre usted puede votar como "ausente en persona" en la siguiente oficina del Escribano del Condado, de **lunes a viernes, 8:00 am a 5 p.m.** 1500 Idalia Rd. Sandoval County Admin Building D and 1500 Idalia Rd. Sandoval County Transit Center Building C y el sábado, 3 de noviembre, 10 am a 7 pm 1500 Idalia Rd. Sandoval County Transit Center Building C:

Entre el **sábado, 20 de octubre hasta el sábado, 3 de noviembre** usted puede ejercer el voto temprano en las urnas alternativas del Condado de Sandoval indicadas a continuación. Las horas son: **10:00 am a 7:00 pm**. (Las oficinas permanecen cerradas los domingos.)  
800 South Hill Rd. Sandoval County Voting Machine Warehouse  
3200 Civic Center Circle Rio Rancho City Hall  
4330 Meadowlark Ln. Meadowlark Senior Center  
1041 Commercial Dr. SCAFCFA Office Building  
4326 Corrales Rd. Corrales Community Center

**Octubre 23 y octubre 24, 10:00 am to 7:00 pm (martes y miercoles)**  
5 Cedar Rd. San Felipe Pueblo Senior Center  
Tesuque St. Santo Domingo Pueblo Community Center

**Octubre 26 y octubre 27, 10:00 am to 7:00 pm (viernes y sabado)**  
**"Early/In-Person** 255 Cochiti St. Cochiti Pueblo Community Center

**Octubre 30 y octubre 31, 10:00 am to 7:00 pm (martes y miercoles)**  
135 Capital Square Dr. Zia Pueblo Community Center

**Noviembre 2 y noviembre 3, 10:00 am to 7:00 pm (viernes y sabado)** 5117 Highway 4, Jemez Pueblo Civic Center

## VOTACIÓN POR CANDIDATOS AÑADIDOS

Se permite votar por candidatos añadidos ya que la persona para quien usted vota sea certificada como candidato/a añadido. Debe de escribir el nombre y el apellido del candidato en la papeleta.

## PAPELETA PROVISIONAL

Le entregarán una papeleta provisional si su nombre no aparece en la lista en su lugar de votación o si usted está votando por primera vez y se ha registrado por correo y no ha proveído la identificación necesaria.

## IDENTIFICACIÓN DEL VOTANTE

Cuando usted se presenta para votar temprano o votar el día de la elección, se requiere presentar una de las siguientes formas de identificación:

- Una declaración oral o escrita de su nombre, fecha de nacimiento, y los últimos cuatro dígitos de su número de seguro social, también llamado su identificador único, o:
- Una forma física de identificación, incluyendo, pero no limitado a, una copia de identificación con foto válida y corriente (con o sin su domicilio), una copia o el mismo recibo de pagos por servicios domésticos (utility bill), un cheque del gobierno, un cheque de pago del trabajo, una identificación estudiantil o de su tribu natal que muestra su nombre y domicilio. El domicilio no tiene que ser el mismo que está inscrito en el certificado de registro de votante.

## OFENSAS DE VOTACIÓN

Los votantes están obligados a denunciar ofensas de votación a la oficina del Escribano de Condado o al Abogado del Distrito. Las ofensas de votación son:

- Cualquier forma de campaña dentro de los 100 pies de un edificio que contiene un lugar de votación.
- Usar, poseer o traer bebidas alcohólicas dentro de los 200 pies de un lugar de votación.
- Votación falsa, por ejemplo, votar o ofrecer de votar aunque no esté calificado, o votar en un distrito donde no esté registrado, votar con nombre de otra persona, votar más de una vez durante una elección, o pedir o asistir a otra persona en cometer una ofensa de votación.

## DÍA DE LA ELECCIÓN

El 6 de noviembre, las casillas para votar estarán abiertas desde las 7:00 a.m. hasta las 7:00 p.m. Para información de los lugares de votación, puede buscarlo en el sitio de internet "Voter View" (muestra de votantes) del Secretario de Estado a <https://voter.view.state.nm.us/>. Residentes de los siguientes condados pueden llamar a la Oficina del Escribano de Condado de Bernalillo a 468-1291 o <http://www.berncogov/myvotecenter/> o la Oficina del Escribano de Condado de Sandoval a 867-7574.

## Centros de Votación

En 2010, la legislatura de Nuevo México aprobó un proyecto de ley que permite a los comisionados del condado consolidar hasta 10 distritos en un "distrito consolidado" para las elecciones generales, primarias, municipales y escolares. A éstos les llaman Centros de Votación.

### Centros de Votación en el Condado de Bernalillo

El día de la elección, todos los votantes pueden votar en cualquier Centro de Votación Consolidado en el Condado de Bernalillo, tal cual como ya lo hacen en los sitios de Votación Temprana. En el Condado de Bernalillo, ya no habrá votación a nivel distrital el día de la elección. La Votación Temprana y votar en los Centros de Votación Consolidados son opciones para votar adicionales a la votación-en-ausencia. Para más información de los Centros de Votación del Condado de Bernalillo vaya a <http://www.berncogov/vcc>.

### Centros de Votación en el Condado de Sandoval y Votación a Nivel Distrital

En el Condado de Sandoval tendrá los siguientes Centros de Votación ubicados en Rio Rancho. En otras zonas del Condado de Sandoval, los votantes votarán en sus distritos designados.

### Vote Centers

On Election Day the following Rio Rancho precincts are consolidated for Vote Centers and any voter from these precincts can vote at any of these Voting Convenience Centers:

### Pct. No.

30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 52, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86.

### Polling Locations

Rio Rancho City Hall, 3200 Civic Center Circle.  
Rio Rancho Elementary School, 4601 Pepe Ortiz Road.  
Rio Rancho Middle School, 1600 40th Street.  
Mountain View Middle School, 4101 Montreal Loop.  
Puesta Del Sol Elementary School, 450 Southern Boulevard.  
Spanish: Christine Nelson UNM

# CANDIDATES

**GENERAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL STATE, DISTRICT AND COUNTY CANDIDATES:** A candidate must be a registered voter in New Mexico affiliated with the political party for which he/she is seeking office. A candidate for district office must reside in the district of voter registration. Additional requirements for each office are given on the following pages.

## FEDERAL OFFICES

### UNITED STATES SENATOR

Two United States Senators are elected to six-year staggered terms by the entire state. Candidates must be at least 30 years old, a citizen of the United States at least nine years, and a resident of the state from which elected. The United States Senate has 100 members. One New Mexico Senate seat is up for election this year. The annual salary for U.S. Senator is \$174,000.

*Describe your specific experience and abilities that prepare you for the office of United States Senator. (75 words)*

*What should the federal government do to strengthen the national economy and create jobs? (75 words)*

*What, if anything, should the federal government do to improve affordability and access to quality health care? (75 words)*

*What, if anything, should the federal government do to slow climate change? (75 words)*

**Martin T. HEINRICH**  
Democrat



As the son of an electrician and a factory worker, I am a committed advocate for New Mexico's middle class families. I am one of only a handful of members of Congress with a background in science and technology and bring a unique perspective to create good, sustainable jobs in growing industries like clean energy and biotechnology.

The federal government needs trade and tax policies that put the US and every other country on a level playing field. Right now, countries like China have a huge advantage because of their low wages and terrible working conditions. I have fought bad trade deals that send our jobs overseas and will work to close tax loopholes for US companies that outsource American jobs, while providing incentives for companies to return to the US.

I have consistently fought to protect the benefits our seniors have earned from constant attacks by those who would rather give tax breaks to the super-rich and big corporations than keep this country's promises to our parents and grandparents. We can and must reduce our deficit - but I will never agree to do so on the backs of New Mexico's seniors.

I have always fought to make our country energy independent. In Congress, I introduced the Clean Energy Promotion Act, bipartisan legislation to promote renewable energy projects on public lands. I also voted for the American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009. New Mexico, with its abundant wind and solar resources, can and should be the epicenter of the clean energy economy and I am committed to make that belief a reality.

**Heather A. WILSON**  
Republican



My record of service started when I enrolled at the U.S. Air Force Academy. As an Air Force officer, I served on the U.S. mission to NATO and later worked in the White House under the first President Bush. In 1995, I became cabinet secretary of New Mexico's Children, Youth and Families Department where we led efforts to reform welfare laws and improve early childhood education. I also served in the Congress for 10 years.

There is nothing more important in America right now than creating jobs and growing the economy. That means low taxes, a moratorium on job-killing regulations, an all-of-the-above energy strategy and government reform that will control the unsustainable growth in government spending. We also need a balanced long-term energy policy that makes America more energy independent and keeps costs of energy down so that we can attract business and create jobs.

The health care act was a mistake. It should be repealed and replaced. It drives up health insurance costs, cuts Medicare, increases taxes and could devastate rural healthcare. I will continue my work to improve the health status of low income Americans and quality of patient care. We must allow doctors and patients to make decisions about care, make healthcare more affordable, pass medical liability reform, and continue to lead the world in healthcare research.

The earth has been in a period of warming for the last 11,900 years, since the last ice age. The question is how much of warming in recent centuries is due to human activity and what, if anything, can and should be done about it. We must improve the science to reduce the high level of uncertainty that exists in our models and increase the amount of data from which to draw conclusions.

**Jon Ross BARRIE**  
Independent American



I am a USAF Vietnam Veteran. My experience has been in aviation and alternative health (Homeopathic Practitioner.) I managed large budgets and kept costs under control. My employment with the Federal Aviation Administration has given me the experience and awareness of government involvement in the private sector. I will not continue the present practice of taxing, spending and overregulating our nation. I will donate 1/2 of my salary to children with disabilities in New Mexico.

Our citizens are being overtaxed and overregulated. The nation must return to a free market society. The federal government has to be reduced to its' constitutional limits and then prosperity will increase. We the people can create jobs without government interference. The government is not the answer. Ask any business owner and they will tell you two things: reduce taxes and eliminate burdensome, unnecessary regulations. That alone will create jobs and strengthen the economy!

The federal government should not be in the health care business. Their huge tax program is not the answer. The free market can and will provide affordable access to quality health care. This is a compassionate nation and the states and individuals will develop alternatives for low income and those in need. If we de-regulate and lower taxes our health care system will enjoy immediate benefits to us all.

My research into this issue has revealed that there are no definitive human causes of climate change of any significance. The majority of reputable scientists have concluded that man-caused global warming is not an issue.

**CANDIDATE'S RESPONSES AND WORD LIMITS:** The responses of candidates to our questionnaire are printed exactly as received by the League. The League assumes no responsibility for the content of any candidate's reply. Further, the League publishes this information neither to endorse nor reject the views of any candidate. The League has in no way edited for meaning, grammar, punctuation, or spelling. Because of space restrictions, the League has pre-advised the candidates of the word limits on the responses.

## UNITED STATES SENATOR (continued)

*Describe your specific experience and abilities that prepare you for the office of United States Senator. (75 words)*

*What should the federal government do to strengthen the national economy and create jobs? (75 words)*

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*What, if anything, should the federal government do to slow climate change? (75 words)*

**Robert L. ANDERSON**  
Independent - Write In



Have been a professor of political science and other liberal arts fields for nearly 20 years now. Obtained a PhD from UNM. Lived in New Mexico for 40 years. Served in the Air Force during the Vietnam War, saw combat, honorably discharged. Am a client of the Veterans Administration medical services. Worked as a steelworker. Ran a community center for 8 years working with low income and unemployed. Worked for peace and justice campaigns for . . .

Abandon trickle down economics and implement a progressive tax structure (tax the rich, not workers), close corporate tax shelters and loop holes, roll back the outrageous military budget and put that savings towards investment in our state's education, health environmental needs and a solar based green New Deal. Higher education should be free and home mortgage foreclosures cancelled to keep families in their homes. Support worker ownership programs and decolonize New Mexico's economy.

Remove private sector insurance companies from controlling access to health care for private profit. The problem is not affordable insurance but the building of a Medicare-for -all system for the whole country. Combat veterans like me already have this through the Veterans hospital system and it could be expanded to all Americans. It is just a political will question. Funds could come by recovering the welfare given to Wall Street banks and the military . . .

Stop using fossil fuels which are causing atmospheric warming from use in industry, cars and home heating. We need a crash program to go to sustainable energy sources and stop nuclear power like Japan is doing before we have a similar major disaster. A major solar, wind power, bio-fuels and other programs need to be developed immediately which should employ the under 25 age workers so we can build a new middle class.

## UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVES

Two-year term. Candidates must be at least 25 years old, a United States citizen of seven years, and must be an inhabitant of New Mexico. The United States House of Representatives has 435 members of which New Mexico is entitled to three. The annual salary for a United States Representative is \$169,300 with annual COLA.

*Describe your specific experience and abilities that prepare you for the office of United States Representative. (75 words)*

*What should the federal government do to strengthen the national economy and create jobs. (75 words)*

*What is your position on the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act? What, if anything, do you think needs to be done to improve affordability and access to quality health care for all New Mexicans. (75 words)*

*What can the federal government do to ensure America's energy needs are met while preserving the environment? Please address the issues of climate change and the Keystone Excel pipeline. (75 words)*

### DISTRICT 1

**Michelle LUJAN GRISHAM**  
Democrat



After earning my law degree, I worked as director of the state Agency on Aging and protected seniors from scam artists. As Health Secretary, I fought for women's health and doubled the number of school-based health centers and banned junk food in schools. As a Bernalillo County Commissioner, I held leaders accountable and created hundreds of new jobs. I own a small-business that provides health care access to residents who were denied health insurance.

During my first year in Congress, I will fight to end the Bush Tax Cuts on millionaires and get rid of loopholes for corporate interests. We must show the American people that we are serious about putting the Middle Class first. I will also support a plan to help small businesses get access to capital.

The Affordable Care Act is a good start. I will advocate for healthcare programs to manage the underlying causes of chronic diseases like diabetes, hypertension and heart disease, not just treat the symptoms. I would start by creating pilot programs with medical professionals and lower-cost but well-trained paraprofessionals that effectively treat prevent and treat obesity so that these diseases and their associated costs do not occur at the rates that we see today.

I will stand up to corporate polluters and Big Oil, and protect our land, our air and our water. As the home to two national labs, New Mexico can be a leader in the development of Clean Energy technologies. In Congress, I will invest in the development of clean, renewable energy to protect the environment and our citizens while growing the economy, rather than old, inefficient technologies proposed for the Keystone pipeline.

**Janice E. ARNOLD-JONES**  
Republican



As a four-term NM House Representative, I earned a reputation as a leader committed to honesty, transparency, and a willingness to build consensus. I'll do the same in Congress. As a private citizen, I built a business and worked with business owners to provide jobs and make a payroll. With experience both in the private and public sectors, I have the experience to serve the needs and values of our district.

We must look past the policy failures that created this economic downturn and implement common sense solutions such as eliminating loopholes, ending duplicated regulations, revising financial industry rules so small businesses have access to loans and developing our own domestic energy production. These changes will create an environment for job growth throughout New Mexico. With more consistent and reliable regulations, job creators will have the tools to plan for their future and start hiring.

I support proposals that would remove the bureaucracies that inflate costs and interfere with a patient's direct relationship with their physician. Affordability and access to health care will improve significantly if government engages the private sector. When insurance companies are forced to compete in an open market, patients will always choose the provider offering the best care at the best price. Providers must adapt to patient needs and provide great care at a great price.

With so many of America's working families struggling, we must take a balanced approach to curbing harmful emissions that would contaminate our water or pollute our air. The solution lies in pursuing a policy of American energy independence; a solution that includes energy programs that keep Americans employed. The broader our energy base, the lower our reliance on a single energy component, and the stronger our country becomes by assuring affordable, accessible energy.

# UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVES

Two-year term. Candidates must be at least 25 years old, a United States citizen of seven years, and must be an inhabitant of New Mexico. The United States House of Representatives has 435 members of which New Mexico is entitled to three. The annual salary for a United States Representative is \$174,000 with annual COLA.

*Describe your specific experience and abilities that prepare you for the office of United States Representative. (75 words)*

*What should the federal government do to strengthen the national economy and create jobs. (75 words)*

*What is your position on the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act? What, if anything, do you think needs to be done to improve affordability and access to quality health care for all New Mexicans. (75 words)*

*What can the federal government do to ensure America's energy needs are met while preserving the environment? Please address the issues of climate change and the Keystone Excel pipeline. (75 words)*

## DISTRICT 1 (continued)

### Jeanne PAHLS

Green - Write In



Worked with affordable housing issues and the homeless; Lived in inner city housing cooperatives and reservations; witnessed the obstacles that marginalized peoples experience in the U.S.; Worked with refugees; organized to support children in war-torn impoverished areas overseas; went and saw firsthand the devastation wrought there by our own foreign policy; Worked for nuclear disarmament; peace activist; Extensive experience in the field of education and working with at-risk children; [www.PahlsforCongress.org](http://www.PahlsforCongress.org).

We must do the following: Eliminate tax cuts to the wealthy; Require corporations to pay their share in taxes; Cut the Defense budget; Nationalize companies that require bailouts/tax cuts; return those companies' profits to workers (eliminating stockholders); require banks to return equity to homeowners when foreclosing; support small businesses, which hire locally, rather than corporations which exploit overseas; adequately fund education; require entities to honor employee pension agreements; increase affordable housing.

It is a good first step, initiating a discussion about the right to adequate health care and probably saving many lives at the same time. It unfortunately requires more people to turn to the insurance companies, which currently suck more than \$400 billion of our health care dollars per year (<http://www.pnhp.org/facts/single-payer-resources>). We need a government non-profit, which will guarantee health care for all and keep costs down. This is single-payer healthcare.

We must fully pursue positive energy options: solar, wind, water power; local food sources and local production; electric (not gas powered) vehicles; mass transit, bicycling, pedestrian efforts. Coal and nuclear power are unacceptable. They involve pollution and radioactive waste. Climate change is a serious reality. Corporations must be regulated to prevent pollution and energy consumption. The Keystone Excel pipeline is not an option. It furthers our energy and climate change problems.

## DISTRICT 2

*Describe your specific experience and abilities that prepare you for the office of United States Representative. (75 words)*

*What should the federal government do to strengthen the national economy and create jobs. (75 words)*

*What, if anything, should the federal government do to improve affordability and access to quality health care? (75 words)*

*What should the federal government do to slow climate change? (75 words)*

### Evelyn Madrid ERHARD

Democrat



My M.A. degree in Speech/Communication Studies, teaching at NMSU, Doña Ana Community College, and to soldiers at White Sands Missile Range, owning and managing a small business, and being a Democratic political activist who knocks on doors and listens to voters' needs have prepared me to serve the people of NM Congressional District 2. Learning, having empathy for others, and being self-assertive are my greatest strengths.

Raising taxes on incomes over \$250,000, continuing to cut waste and fraud from government programs, creating clean, renewable wind and solar energy jobs, encouraging small business growth, bringing jobs back from overseas, repairing roads, bridges, and public schools will help. Furthermore, people will have personal financial security if we preserve Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, and the Affordable Care Act along with making sure that jobs are full time with retirement and health benefits.

Preserving Medicare, Medicaid, and the Affordable Care Act (Obama Care) will continue to improve affordability and access to quality health care until we work towards a single payer system like Medicare for everyone. Taking the middle man (insurance companies) out of our health care will save lots of money. In addition, when veterans have an emergency, they should be able to go to the nearest hospital; many live far from the nearest V.A. Hospital.

Investing in clean renewable energy will help slow down climate change and the need for the Keystone XL pipeline transporting dirty tar sand oil meant for other countries It's important that laws protecting our environment during gas, oil, coal, and nuclear production, transportation, usage, and waste disposal are upheld. Furthermore, teaching about the science of climate change is critical. Moreover, continuing to put pressure on the auto industry for better gas mileage vehicles will help.

### Steve PEARCE

Republican



My parents were not well off. We ended up in Hobbs, NM because the car broke down here while my father was searching for work. I joined the Air Force and flew missions during the Vietnam War. I earned an economics degree in College and started my own business. I understand the suffering families feel in this difficult economy. Those experiences allow me to tackle the serious issues to make government work better.

The Federal Government needs to get its finances in order by moving rapidly toward a balanced budget. The deficit and taxes are taking money out of the system that is needed for businesses to grow and hire more people. Simultaneously we need to reform the policies and regulations that stifle jobs and create a path to prosperity for the middle class. Both of these are needed so New Mexico's small business can start hiring locally.

The Government's massive takeover of health care is going to drive up costs and rural New Mexico in particular is going to suffer from reduced access to doctors and hospitals. So first we repeal it. Then we make sure that people with pre-existing conditions and young people are covered by insurance. We reform frivolous lawsuits that drive up costs by nearly 17% and allow insurance to be purchased across state lines.

Start with a massive reform of our energy policy. We are too dependent on foreign oil. We can't function without electricity and power for our cars, homes and businesses. So let's expand and diversify U.S. energy production in every way. Expand wind, solar, nuclear, bio-fuels along with natural gas and domestic oil production. We stop buying oil from dictatorships then we can invest in making our energy production cleaner.

*"Politics ought to be the part-time profession of every citizen who would protect the rights and privileges of free people and who would preserve what is good and fruitful in our national heritage."*

*- Dwight D. Eisenhower*

**UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVES (continued)**

*Describe your specific experience and abilities that prepare you for the office of United States Representative. (75 words)*

*What should the federal government do to strengthen the national economy and create jobs. (75 words)*

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*What should the federal government do to slow climate change? (75 words)*

**DISTRICT 2 (continued)**

**Jack Arthur McGRANN**  
Republican - Write In



www.jackmcgrann.com I've lived here approximately eighteen years. Including six years enlisted at Holloman AFB then assigned as a B-52 Pilot until honorably discharged returning to New Mexico in 1999. I love my country, my family, my countrymen and the American way of life. I will protect the U.S. Constitution remembering: that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with unalienable rights. I will serve faithfully as your representative.

The government should get out of the way and let the private sector grow the economy. The U.S. Chamber plan: Control deficits and the national debt this year to stop draining the economy of its capital. Make adjustments to Medicare, Medicaid, and Social Security to save these programs and prevent them from consuming the entire budget. Reform the tax code that is driving businesses, jobs, and investors away.

Elect Mitt Romney. "What the Court did not do on its last day in session I will do on my first ... I will act to repeal Obamacare. ... It was bad policy yesterday. It's bad policy today." "The reforms I propose for the country could not be more different from Barack Obama's. They entail no new taxes, no massive diversions of funds away from Medicare... and no new bureaucracies." - Mitt Romney

I believe there are too many uncertainties in research results to make any final conclusions regarding global warming. The United States has made significant technological progress over the years to help prevent air pollution. Our best contribution may be to help China, Russia, India and other countries reduce their pollution. The Progressive's have used this issue to gain political control and certain organizations and individuals are using this as a worldwide money making scheme!

**DISTRICT 3**

**Ben R. LUJAN**  
Democrat



I was born and raised in the community of Nambé where I tended to our acequias, land, and animals. I learned the values, culture, and traditions that make Northern New Mexico such a special place. Over the past four years I have been honored to represent Northern New Mexico in Congress, and I hope to continue my efforts to protect our land and water, strengthen our economy, and preserve Social Security and Medicare for our ...

The federal government must make responsible investments in innovation and education that strengthen our manufacturing sector. We need to prepare our young people with the skills and training for jobs in the science and technology fields so they can out-innovate the rest of the world. In addition, government investments in renewable energy can pave the way for a clean energy economy that creates new jobs by harnessing New Mexico's abundant renewable resources.

The Affordable Care Act took important steps that are already benefiting seniors, children, young adults, and small businesses in New Mexico. Seniors receive free preventive care through Medicare and discounts on prescription drugs. Children can no longer be discriminated against because of a pre-existing condition. Young adults can stay on their parents' plans until age 26. And small businesses are receiving tax credits to help them afford health insurance for their workers.

With more than half of the country suffering from drought conditions, we cannot wait to address climate change. Through investments in renewable energy and natural gas, we can reduce carbon emissions and our dependence on foreign oil. I have been a strong supporter of net metering, which encourages the use of renewable energy in homes and offices by allowing consumers to produce their own power through renewable sources and sell excess power to utility companies.

**Jefferson L. BYRD**  
Republican



I have a lifetime of experience in agriculture and the energy industry, and today run my own small business on a ranch outside of Tucumcari. We need a Congressman who understands the district and where the jobs come from, who will stand up for New Mexicans and fight for New Mexico. I'll be a true representative for northern New Mexico who will represent real New Mexico values.

I will fight for and introduce legislation that will stimulate America's economy and get New Mexicans back to work again. I will work to implement an ambitious "New Jobs New Mexico" plan that will reduce regulations and boost private sector jobs in industries important to Northern New Mexico. Simplifying our tax code and regulatory system will go a long way to creating a climate where businesses can grow and thrive.

I would like to repeal the Affordable Healthcare Act and address each issue separately. I believe health insurance providers should be allowed to compete in order to reduce prices, much like car insurance companies do now. I believe insurance should cover those who have pre-existing conditions. I believe we need to address tort reform in order to reduce frivolous lawsuits. I believe that states should be allowed to implement their own healthcare reforms.

Being an Environmental Engineer I do not believe in the "Man Made Global Warming Theory". This theory is based in very poorly founded science. Although we have to work to protect the environment, this is not a factor of concern. Science is not a "consensus" but the facts. For those who want to read more about this I encourage them to see: <http://www.middlebury.net/op-ed/global-warming-01.html>. Climate Change is natural occurrence.

**JUDICIAL OFFICES**

Vacancies for courts in New Mexico are filled through gubernatorial appointment from a slate of potential nominees submitted by a judicial nominating committee. The newly-appointed judge must then run in a contested, partisan election at the next general election. Thereafter, the judge runs in nonpartisan retention elections for set terms. To be retained a judge must receive at least 57% in affirmative votes cast in the retention election.

**JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT**

The five justices on the Supreme Court are elected by all voters in the state and serve eight-year terms. To be eligible to hold the office of Justice of the Supreme Court, a person must be 35 years old, have practiced law for at least 10 years, and have resided in New Mexico for the last 3 years. The Supreme Court serves as the administrative head of the New Mexico judicial branch of government. It is the "court of last resort" for state appellate actions, regulates attorneys and judges, and has superintending control over all lower state courts. It has jurisdiction over civil cases where jurisdiction is not specifically vested in the state Court of Appeals, appeals from criminal cases imposing the death penalty or life imprisonment, appeals from decisions of the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission, certiorari review of state Court of Appeals decisions, and cases certified to it by the state Court of Appeals or any federal court. Annual salaries: Chief Justice, \$125,691; Justice, \$123,691

## JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT (continued)

	<i>What attributes and experience prepare you for service as a New Mexico Supreme Court Justice? (65 words)</i>	<i>What ethical practices are critical in keeping the judiciary independent from political influence? (65 words)</i>	<i>What programs and changes to improve the New Mexico Supreme Court would you like to see implemented? (65 words)</i>
<p><b>Barbara J. VIGIL</b> Democrat</p> 	<p>As a District Court Judge for 12 years I have extensive judicial experience which is the most significant experience for service on the Supreme Court. As Chief Judge I am responsible for the oversight of court operations. My values are shaped by my experiences. Having lived a life knowing tragedy, hardship, the importance of family and hard work I understand the challenges people face.</p>	<p>An independent, fair, and impartial judiciary is indispensable to our system of justice. The Code of Judicial Conduct governs the political activities of judges in order to maintain those principles which sustain an independent, impartial and competent judiciary. All judges including myself must obey the Code of Judicial Conduct in order to preserve these principles.</p>	<p>The Supreme Court along with the entire judiciary has been forced to incur significant budget decreases. Although the judiciary is an equal branch of government, its total budget is 2.5% of the entire state budget. Large cutbacks affect the administration of justice by limiting the number of new judgeships, the implementation of necessary technology needed to manage cases and to pay competitive salaries.</p>
<p><b>Paul KENNEDY</b> Republican</p> 	<p>When I was appointed to the Supreme Court ten years ago, I helped clear a large backlog of cases, some of which had been pending for over a year. Additionally, I have practiced law in New Mexico for over 35 years, first serving as a public defender and then in private practice where I have focused on both civil and criminal cases.</p>	<p>The laws of the land, of New Mexico, and of the United States, are the expressed will of the people. It is fundamental, in fact critical, that judges guard against the temptation to substitute their individual preferences for the law itself-for what is already in our statutes-effectively overriding the judgment of all New Mexicans. A truly independent judiciary must adhere to these principles.</p>	<p>Courts should be more responsive to the people. Delays cost New Mexicans, and impede the cause of justice. We should adopt procedures that provide for timely resolution of cases, and because we serve the people, not the other way round, we should endeavor to publish written opinions of every decision. The people deserve to know what judges rule, as well as how and why.</p>

## JUDGE OF THE COURT OF APPEALS

The ten judges on the Court of Appeals are elected by all voters in the state and serve eight-year terms. To be eligible to hold the office of Judge of the Court of Appeals, a person must be 35 years old, have practiced law for at least 10 years, and have resided in New Mexico for the last 3 years. As the intermediate appellate court between the district courts and the Supreme Court, the Court of Appeals currently reviews appeals in all cases, except criminal cases involving sentences of death or life imprisonment, appeals from the Public Regulation Commission, and cases involving habeas corpus. The judges sit in panels of three judges to decide cases. Annual salaries: Chief Judge, \$119,406; Judge, \$117,506.

	<i>How have your training, professional experience, and interests prepared you to serve on the New Mexico Court of Appeals? (65 words)</i>	<i>What improvements are needed in the Court of Appeals and how could those improvements be implemented? (65 words)</i>	<i>What ethical practices are critical in keeping the judiciary independent from political influence? (65 words)</i>
<p><b>M. Monica ZAMORA</b> Democrat</p> 	<p>I have served as a District Court Judge for the past seven years. As a civil trial attorney for over 18 years, I practiced throughout the State and in Federal Courts, including the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals and the U.S. Supreme Court. My extensive experience of arguing cases as well as presiding over trials has prepared me for this position.</p>	<p>We currently have a very good Court of Appeals bench. I would not propose improvements, but rather propose to enhance the Court of Appeals by expanding its collective experience to include juvenile justice, abuse and neglect cases and adoptions. There is no current sitting Court of Appeals judge with this experience.</p>	<p>Under the Code of Judicial Conduct, judges are required to establish, maintain and enforce high standards of conduct. We are also required to personally observe those standards so that the integrity and independence of the judiciary will be preserved. When we are sworn in as judges and we put on that black robe, we accept those restrictions freely and willingly. There are no exceptions.</p>

*“The moral test of a government is how that government treats those who are in the dawn of life – the children; the twilight of life – the elderly; and the shadows of life – the sick, the needy and the handicapped.”*

*– Hubert Humphrey, Vice-President of the United States 1965-1969*

**JUDGE OF THE COURT OF APPEALS** (continued)

*How have your training, professional experience, and interests prepared you to serve on the New Mexico Court of Appeals? (65 words)*

*What improvements are needed in the Court of Appeals and how could those improvements be implemented? (65 words)*

*What ethical practices are critical in keeping the judiciary independent from political influence? (65 words)*

**J. Miles HANISEE**  
Republican



My service as a Court of Appeals Judge follows seventeen years of extensive appellate practice. Having worked for three federal appeals judges, represented the United States in appellate litigation for a decade, and now been a participant in dozens of appellate rulings, I add specific experience and passion for appellate law to our ten-member court that resolves nearly 1000 cases per year.

Citizens will see their access to courts suffer if funding to the Judiciary is not meaningfully increased. Our appellate and district courts operate under budgetary constraints that result in hardship to both litigants and court personnel. Adverse effects include delay in case resolution, less access to indigent services, and a decrease in the capacity to resolve disputes outside of the courtroom.

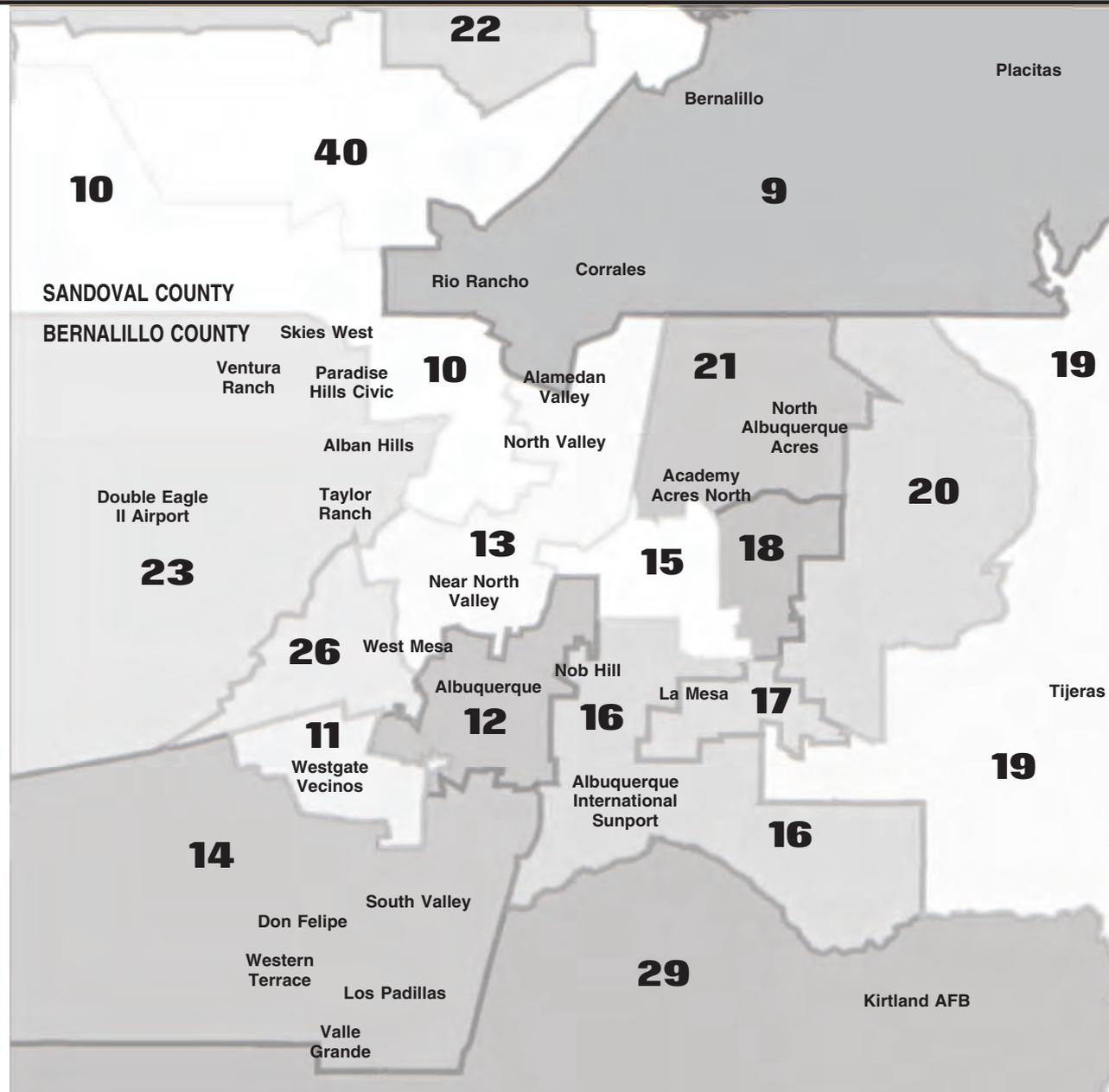
The most significant ethical dilemma preventing our judiciary from achieving political independence are elections based upon party affiliation. Appointed jurists like myself serve only after recommendation by Bi-partisan Judicial Nominating Commissions and selection by the sitting governor, regardless of party. It disserves the public that immediately afterward we are required to associate with a single political entity in order to be elected.

**NEW MEXICO STATE DISTRICT OFFICES**

**STATE SENATORS**

Four-year term. Must be at least 25 years of age and reside in the district from which elected. The legislature meets each year beginning in January. In odd-numbered years, it meets for 60 days; in even-numbered years, for 30 days. The Governor may call special sessions. Compensation as of September 2009: \$153 per day while in session or at a legislative function. Other compensation: 55.5 cents per mile for transportation to and from the seat of government by the usual route each session.

**BERNALILLO AND SANDOVAL COUNTY SENATE DISTRICTS**



**STATE SENATORS (continued)**

*Describe your specific experience and abilities that prepare you for the office of New Mexico State Senator. (65 words)*

*If elected, what are your two highest priorities for your district and for New Mexico? What specific actions will you take to accomplish them? (65 words)*

*The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act mandates a health insurance exchange and provides federal funding for expanding Medicaid coverage. How should the state address these provisions? (65 words)*

*How can the legislature help New Mexico schools and colleges provide public education that prepares our children for the opportunities, responsibilities and challenges of the next 20 years? (65 words)*

**SENATE 9****John M. SAPIEN**

Democrat



As the owner of a proven business in the service/insurance industry I have the ability to build solid relationships which has enabled me to become an effective legislator over the last 4 years in my first term as a NM State Senator. Compromise and persuasive dialogue enabled me to pass 13 pieces of legislation signed into law in 2010 by Governor Martinez.

Jobs and Early Childhood Education (ECE). Continue advocating and voting for measures which encourage economic growth of our current industries and increase the creation of new business in NM. Advocate for increased funding for the age 0-5 ECE system which will improve education success in the K-12 system and provide a better educated workforce.

In 2010 the Legislature passed enabling legislation for the creation of a Healthcare Exchange bill. The system would have supported the Federal Act already in place in the form of High Risk and Business Pool programs. The bill would bring these two operations together and increased the effectiveness of the system. The Exchange legislation needs to be signed.

85% of the human brain develops between ages 0-5, investing in a robust ECE system would better prepare our children for k-12 and higher education. Short term solutions as mandatory retention programs do not improve our long term system. We must implement programs looking at a resulting goal rather than the band aids we try to pass from year to year.

**David L. DOYLE**

Republican



Currently I am a state representative for district 23 and have owned my own business for the last 24 years. The legislative experience in my first term has been a tremendous learning experience about our state government and how it works or doesn't work. Owning my own business gives me the understanding of the struggles in our private sector and what we need to do . . .

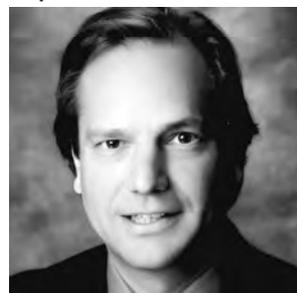
Jobs and education will be my priorities. Making sure our children can read by the end of the third grade. Getting parents involved early with their children is the key to ending social promotion. Without improving our education system we cannot grow jobs.

We must ensure that all New Mexicans have access to affordable healthcare. Market-based solutions is the best way to accomplish this, including allowing competition across state lines (something not currently permitted), lawsuit reform, and the development of commonsense-based risk pools.

Making sure the money is spent in the classroom and not on the bureaucracy of running our schools. Passing legislation that makes sure our children can read at the end of the third grade. Getting the parents involved early and providing them the tools to help their children.

**SENATE 10****John Christopher RYAN**

Republican



I have spent eight years serving New Mexicans as the Senator for District 10. I am fortunate to have lived and worked in Washington D.C. for Senator Pete Domenici, Congressman Joe Skeen. I also gained valuable experience working for the City of Los Angeles on water and power issues. I run my own business and work to solve issues for New Mexicans ever day.

My highest priorities are improving the economy by creating jobs and keeping taxes low and improving our educational system by eliminating the practice of "social promotion". Passing children from one grade to the next when they haven't mastered the basics is immoral. Instead, we must give struggling students the help they need. We must find ways to keep our best and brightest in New Mexico.

While I agree that we need to take care of the most vulnerable in our society, I do not support massive tax increases, bigger government, and higher deficits that will lead to increasing numbers of unemployed and placing great burdens on business owners.

Educating children early in their lives will produce more successful adults and better outcomes later in life. Eliminating the practice of "social promotion" is a key first step. I have also introduced bills which would take money out of the bureaucracy and put it in the classrooms. I also support evaluating teachers and school personnel based on student progress and reward top performers.

**Joseph J. CARRARO**

Independent



State Senator of twenty years always representing people before politics. A former stockbroker and one-man restaurant owner, I understood the economy and how tough it was to make a living. I was always there to provide solutions whether the issue involved those developmentally disabled, balancing the budget, providing energy innovations, and fighting to make sure my constituents could maintain their quality of life.

While completing Paseo Road project I started, I will provide relief from rising costs of living, and offer affordable and effective educational opportunities. Serving people by fighting increases in taxes and utilities that drive those who founded our communities from their homes. Our education goals need to change from being first in our community to being first in nation to attract economic development and jobs.

We need to develop a health care system balancing costs with care. 170,000 New Mexicans are uninsured with the capability to receive medical care at hospitals that taxpayers and those currently insured end up paying for. Bernalillo County property taxes pay \$90 million/year to help fund those uninsured. So we pay either way until we utilize exchanges and efficiency making healthcare affordable and sustainable.

For twenty years I provided schools in my district with the most advanced technology available helping teachers provide effective and efficient learning environments. Too much time and money is spent on college remedial classes for those not receiving adequate public school educations. College students should just have to pay for the career courses they need without having to pay for overburdened athletic fees and books.

**STATE SENATORS** (continued)

*Describe your specific experience and abilities that prepare you for the office of New Mexico State Senator. (65 words)*

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*How can the legislature help New Mexico schools and colleges provide public education that prepares our children for the opportunities, responsibilities and challenges of the next 20 years? (65 words)*

**SENATE 11**

**Linda M. LOPEZ**

UNOPPOSED

Democrat

**SENATE 12**

**Gerald ORTIZ y PINO**

UNOPPOSED

Democrat

**SENATE 13**

**Bill B. ONEILL**

UNOPPOSED

Democrat

**SENATE 14**

**Michael PADILLA**

Democrat



I grew up in foster homes, the all faiths receiving home, and with various families, which has given me an appreciation for what families are dealing with right now; I have built a business that has created thousands of jobs across NM; and, I have also been an active member of my party and have served on multiple boards and commissions. More information VOTEPADILLA.COM

District: Economic Development focused on new job creation, worker and union rights, retraining for displaced workers, and small business success; Rebuilding our schools at manageable sizes, with special needs, and early childhood funding; and, Getting our fair share of public services. State: Economic Development; Education Reform; and, Tax Reform. How to accomplish: Change the way Santa Fe works, compromise, and making government accountable.

NM should expand Medicaid access to all that are not covered today to reduce the need for emergency care, and exponentially the overall cost of health care in NM. An exchange should be created that is regularly reviewed by professionals, citizens, and the legislature, to: increase quality, retain healthcare professionals, expand rural access and services; and, provide for increased specialized services for women and children.

Proper funding of early childhood programs across NM will result in our children being better prepared for all aspects of school. The return on investment for high quality early childhood programs has conservatively been estimated by the Nobel Prize winning economist from the University of Chicago, Dr. James Heckman to be 10% per year, per child for the rest of that child's life.

**Robert A. SCHILLER**

Independent



I've been involved in politics as a statesman since college. I represented EMU, BA Math, Physics, at the Great Lakes Leadership Conference. I was a teacher's representative and a member of their negotiating team. I am presently a Board member of two neighborhood community associations in Senate District 14 and regularly attend Coalition meetings. I am a statesman who gets things done.

Eliminate the stink from the sewage plant by learning from similar plants. Keep the Valley green and bring jobs to the Mesas in District 14 by giving tax relief for Farmers and Ranchers and add water, sewers, and upgraded roads to the Mesas. Repeal the law allowing driver's licenses for illegals plus bring our troops home to better protect our borders. Fence doesn't work!

Provide Medicaid for all who qualify: those earning less than 138% of poverty level. According to the NM center on law and poverty, struggling rural hospitals will benefit and local governments would pay less for indigent care, because federal government pays 100% of the costs for the first three years and 90% thereafter greatly reducing state expenditures presently spent on uncompensated care.

Bring our 15th century educational system into the 21st century by teaching abstracts (the 3Rs) only when children's young fragile minds are ready. Forcing abstracts on concrete (the five senses) thinking minds before they are ready is child, teacher and parental abuse. Do this and graduation rates soar-95%. Students would be proficient in Reading, Writing, Math, Sciences, definitely college prepared.

**SENATE 15**

**Daniel Ivey SOTO**

Democrat



Current Executive Director for County Clerks. Former State Elections Director, prosecutor, and teacher. Successful entrepreneur, having started and grown two small businesses focused on helping others and improving our community. Broad base of experience in public/private sector. Have written over a dozen bills that have passed the Legislature. Member, national Uniform Law Commission. All legislative work to date based on good government and accountability.

(1) Protecting the right of every citizen to vote: Voting should be convenient and accessible for every citizen eligible to vote. (2) Administrative rulemaking reform: Administrative Procedures Act in New Mexico is outdated and flawed; those affected by administrative rules should have a greater voice in the process and state agencies must be accountable for their rules. For more information on positions, go to: www.iveysoto.com.

Expanding Medicaid eligibility must be seriously considered. Under PPACA, the federal government reimburses the state for expanded eligibility participants at 100% for the first 3 years, and thereafter at 90%. Estimates are that half of NM's uninsured (over 150,000) would be covered. Whether we expand eligibility or not, Medicaid costs for current participants will increase by over \$200 million by 2020, which must be addressed.

Long-Term Solution: Create master plan for education (Pre-K through College) with input by educators; then stick with it. Short-Term Solution: PED needs to do a better job communicating attainable and understandable metrics which hold schools, teachers, students and parents appropriately accountable for goals toward achieving excellence. For both: Fund early childhood education. Community colleges should focus on access; universities should focus on research.

**STATE SENATORS (continued)**

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**SENATE 15 (continued)**

**H. Diane SNYDER**  
Republican



As State Senator (2001-2008) I had the opportunity to serve the residents of SD15 as a dedicated public servant who read bills, evaluated them on their merits, and voted for the best option. I earned a reputation for independence - for asking tough questions and making educated decisions. Votes were guided by the needs of SD 15 residents and of New Mexico.

The number one priority for Senate District 15 is to get residents back to work, with good-paying jobs for all. My second priority will be a joint focus on education and addressing the problem of drug overdose deaths. The development of more - good-paying jobs - requires business-friendly state and local governments, an educated work force, and a tax structure that helps small, locally. . .

Crucial first step: address the shortage of healthcare providers! Health Insurance Exchanges can, if properly established, assist in better coordinated care for patients. NM must first work to enroll citizens in currently funded healthcare programs prior to Medicaid expansion. Federal dollars decrease in future years. Planning for future funding prior to expansion is required so that patients are not cut from services in the future.

Implement programs insuring students achieve appropriate educational skills at every level. Modify teacher-education curriculum to include understanding that some students need different learning environments to insure higher graduation rates and lower truancy statistics. Student, parent, educator, and community accountability is part of the improvement process. Excellent teachers should be identified, recognized and rewarded. Colleges should focus on their mission: advanced education, rather than remedial . . .

**SENATE 16**

**Cisco McSORLEY**  
Democrat

UNOPPOSED

**SENATE 17**

**Timothy M. KELLER**  
Democrat



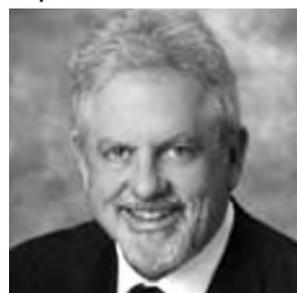
In my first term I challenged the status quo and tackled tough issues. I sponsored into law impactful bi-partisan legislation including sweeping governance reform of the State Investment Council, an effective bidding preference for local businesses contracting with public entities, and a 40% solar tax credit. Born and raised in Albuquerque, I attended St. Piux X, Notre Dame and Harvard, where I received my MBA.

To create sustainable jobs for all levels of our economy and to reform broken state government. To create jobs I will focus on local economic initiatives and enabling NM to become a national leader in energy and water technologies. To reform broken government I will fight to fix our confusing and outdated tax code, combat corruption and reduce the influence of money in elections.

NM should take advantage of the economic benefits this legislation will bring our state. To do this, we should implement the healthcare exchange ASAP, leverage out of state funds and provide insurance for New Mexicans who currently are forced to emergency rooms as a last resort. By increasing the number of insured, healthcare costs will drop because of reduced ER visits and increased preventative medicine.

It's time to get beyond minor tweaks like testing requirements. Education needs to be completely transformed. To compete globally, we have to consider big changes that increase the number of learning hours and teacher/student ratios and enable meaningful, diverse curriculums with digital learning. Also, it's time to invest seriously in early childhood education where we can generate the highest impact from education tax dollars.

**Shannon ROBINSON**  
Republican



Since 1988 I represented District 17 as the New Mexico State Senator for the Democratic Party. In 2001 I carried the School Reform bill. This was bipartisan legislation that created the Secretary of Education position. The concealed carry law, the film finance program and building the New Mexico Veteran's and Bataan Veteran's Memorials are a few of my accomplishments. I have been conservative legislator.

As the Republican nominee I will continue my work for a common sense attitude in the legislature. I was a leader of Independent votes in the Senate which infuriated the Progressives. We referred to our group of conservative Democrats and Republicans as the "Bull Moose" alliance. Any issue that affected the outdoors and personal liberty we called a "Bull Moose" vote. We played good defense.

We must increase the compensation for physicians with Medicaid and Medicare if we want Senior citizens, families and children to be able to access necessary health care. I carried legislation twice to increase doctors' reimbursement to no avail and yet physicians continue to leave the state. When we add 9,000 recipients of Medicaid how will anyone get a doctor's office appointment.

I sponsored legislation to lower class size. Teachers in overcrowded classrooms are restricted. APS constantly changes the mandates for teachers. There is a one to one correlation between poverty and lack of success on achievement tests. We need better teacher support and consistency from the administration. APS is top heavy in administrators and balances its budget by cutting athletics, art, and electives at neighborhood schools.

*"Let us never forget that government is ourselves and not an alien power over us. The ultimate rulers are not a President or senators and congressmen and government officials, but the voters of this country."*

*– President Franklin D. Roosevelt*

**STATE SENATORS** (continued)

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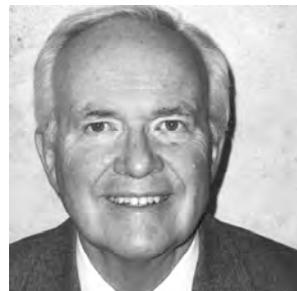
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**SENATE 18**

**Bill G. TALLMAN**  
Democrat



I am a retired professional city manager with over 33 years experience. I helped communities run efficiently while also saving tens of millions of dollars. I have a considerable amount of experience creating jobs since that was always a top priority with City Councils. Another big part of my job involved bringing people together to solve problems. Consequently, compromise isn't a dirty word with me.

1. Jobs: Reduce pyramiding of the GRT, review the various tax exemptions with the idea of enacting a broad base of lower taxes with fewer exemptions, create an Albuquerque regional economic development plan by coordinating the efforts of the state, county and city, invest in infrastructure, invest in technology development, reduce government duplication of services, and attract renewable energy jobs. 2. Education: see Question 4

Many experts warn that state exchanges won't work. What is needed is a one big national exchange. NM ranks #2 in uninsured. Expansion would reduce the number of uninsured working poor, reduce costs by providing preventive care, create 50,000 new jobs and provide more resources for substance abuse treatment. Expanding Medicare should be undertaken only if the feds reduce costs and make other reforms.

Reduce the bureaucracy by transferring certain decisions to the individual schools; hold all stakeholders accountable for performance; focus on programs such as early intervention, summer school, reading coaches and parent involvement; improve the teacher training programs at the college level; reward excellent teachers; help parents become more involved in the education of their children and teach skills that match the revolving needs of employers.

**Lisa TORRACO**  
Republican



I am a mother of four, successful small business owner, and skilled attorney. I am a former foster parent, former rape crisis volunteer, and a published author. I served 16 years as a criminal prosecutor, ten years as an adjunct law professor. I served as legal adviser to several police departments. In addition to my law practice, I currently advocate for victims and children's rights.

Two of my many priorities include the repeal of driver's license for illegals, which is a public safety issue. If not repealed, our drivers' licenses will not be nationally recognized within two years. Education is also a top priority. New Mexico children must be taught to read. We are failing them and their parents when we let them go through school without basic skills.

Our overall goal must be to ensure that all New Mexicans, especially our most vulnerable populations, have access to affordable healthcare. However, the cost of this Act will force cuts in other budgets such as education. Moreover, it will force the removal of \$710 billion from Medicare, which will cause serious problems for our seniors. These two consequences are simply unacceptable.

I believe in public education and in as wide a range of educational choice as we can provide our children. We must focus on reading skills; our children should be strong readers by third grade. We must emphasize basic skills in the earlier grades and provide vocational choices as an option in high school. Successful teachers must be recognized and rewarded. We must empower parents.

**SENATE 19**

**Sue Wilson BEFFORT**  
Republican

UNOPPOSED

**SENATE 20**

**Cornelia W. LANGE**  
Democrat



My education as a physician, experience in research and teaching gives me a unique set of skills as a future New Mexico State Senator. I also have experience in manufacturing and business. I am committed to substantive bipartisan work since my family, as other families in my District, has different party registrations in the same household.

With two high schools in my district, Eldorado and Manzano, one of my priorities will be working to guarantee all our New Mexico students the best in education. My other priority is guaranteeing that our small New Mexico businesses have a level playing field with larger out of state businesses. Big Box stores should pay their fair share in taxes.

I support protecting the lives of our New Mexico citizens. We currently have 300 to 400 thousand uninsured New Mexicans. Expanding Medicaid will save New Mexican lives, as reported in recent New England Journal of Medicine articles. For our New Mexico \$500 million contribution we will receive \$6.2 billion over 6 years, and over 9,000 new jobs will be created.

We must keep our class size down in K-12 with appropriate funding. Pre K education should be available so that our children entering the public schools will not be set up for failure. For our parents, we must hold them accountable to provide an appropriate home environment for their children to succeed. Our colleges must be competitive in the global market.

**William H. PAYNE**  
Republican

NO REPLY RECEIVED

**STATE SENATORS** (continued)

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**SENATE 21**

**Lisa K. CURTIS**

Democrat



Having trained in the law, run my own successful business for 19 years and raised my four teenagers, I have had to develop a set of skills that transfer well to bringing about real change to the State. I have a reputation for being passionate about keeping NM's families safe, building bridges and I transfer that to standing up for the people of my District.

We must (1) fundamentally change the way we do business by growing our New Mexico businesses through investment, sound tax policy and innovation; and (2) strengthen our schools by reducing class size and insuring our good teachers have what's needed to successfully teach our children. Both must occur for our families and our kids to have the high paying jobs necessary to improve New Mexico.

This is the most important financial decision we will make this Session. This law insures the uninsured and provides federal dollars to do it. It will unclog our ERs, give needed preventive care and mandate safer care. It will decrease our property taxes under my Bill that reduces what we pay for indigent care, since this need will reduce by 90%. It makes NM safer.

We must start teaching to the 21st century world. Adopting the Common Core Standards for teaching will put us level with most other states. However, NM's educational problem is generational. I know, I went our public schools. We must value public education as a Legislature, the way good parents do for their children by expecting hard work, accountability and excellence, and mandating it through legislation.

**Mark MOORES**

Republican



I served as Chief of Staff for former Lt. Governor Walter Bradley, and was most recently part of the team that organized the NM Mission of Mercy free dental clinic, the largest charity event in New Mexico history. I am committed representing the values of my district, and ending the culture of corruption that seems to have taken over in Santa Fe.

First, I'll stand by Governor Martinez and vote to repeal the law that gives driver's licenses to illegal immigrants. Ending this practice is critical to our public safety. Second, we need smarter tax policies to encourage small business, and that will reduce out of control government spending. It's time we look at ways to eliminate bureaucracies that hurt our ability to grow our economy.

While we need to maintain the safety net, the high cost of expanding Medicaid might be unsustainable. We need to carefully balance this cost against funding for other important programs like education and law enforcement.

My wife is a teacher at La Cueva HS where our daughter attends. I feel passionately that we need to improve our schools. The status quo isn't acceptable. I'll support Governor Martinez's efforts to provide letter grades to our schools, and end social promotion. New Mexico is at the bottom of too many lists when it comes to education. That has to change.

**SENATE 22**

**Benny SHENDO Jr.**

Democrat

UNOPPOSED

**SENATE 23**

**Sander RUE**

Republican

UNOPPOSED

**SENATE 26**

**Jacob CANDELARIA**

Democrat

UNOPPOSED

**SENATE 29**

**Michael S. SANCHEZ**

Democrat



I think my experience in the legislature speaks for itself. The ability that best prepares me for this office is my ability to listen to the concerns the people of our state have. I'm able to listen and then move to solve the problems we face. Working with both sides of the aisle is always the key in getting issues solved.

Number one priority is protecting the middle class. Doing this includes assuring that families can stay in their homes, send kids to good schools, earn a fair living wage. I hope to reintroduce The Mortgage Fair Foreclosures Act and continue supporting our teachers and education initiatives. To earn a fair wage and support families we must be innovative in supporting business in New Mexico.

Legislation has been introduced and Human Services Department has formed a health exchange task force. They're meeting to address the creation of the exchange. I hope they figure out a system to drive down insurance costs so families can get good insurance at lower costs. Those who don't make enough money will be eligible to receive federal Medicaid insurance. We must accept federal expansion.

The legislature has to stay dedicated to Early Childhood Education. Study after study shows that early education is the way to the top of the class. We must work with our University's to prepare our students for the jobs of the future - raising and retaining students interest in math and science through dual education is one step that has been taken recently.

**STATE SENATORS** (continued)

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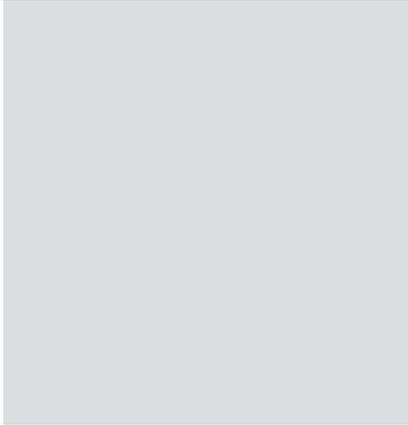
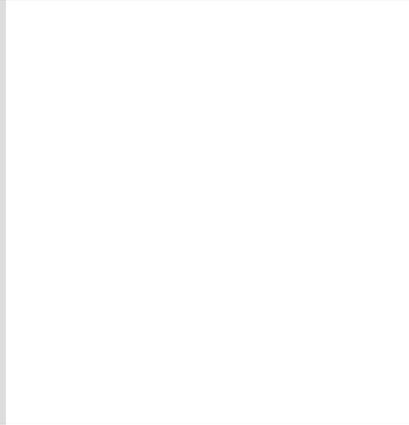
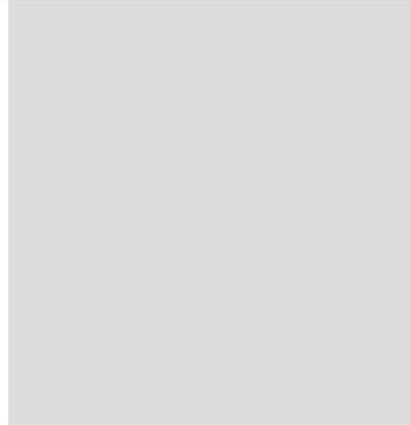
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**SENATE 29** (continued)

**David C. CHAVEZ**  
Republican

NO REPLY RECEIVED



**SENATE 40**

**Linda ALLISON**  
Democrat



I am a single mother of two. My son served in Iraq and Afghanistan; I understand issues facing military families. I was an Intel Program Manager for 25 years, created the Manufacturing Lab Training Center improving technicians' skills. An experienced businessperson, I understand government must live within its means. I have a degree in Business Management and 40+ years experience in Human Resources and Training.

**Create Jobs:** Seek clean energy corporations to establish their businesses in New Mexico. Work to create incentives and provide training for New Mexicans in the clean energy industry. Sponsor legislation the help finance small entrepreneurial businesses.  
**Improve Education:** Focus on learning and not just test scores. Sponsor legislation that dictates testing only when necessary and when they show results in student development. Provide professional development ...

Educate the public as to the benefits of Affordable Care Act. Pass legislation to accept the federal funding and support efforts to get all New Mexicans healthcare coverage, which, in the long run will save the people of the state millions of dollars. Help establish insurance exchanges.

Pass legislation to design and pilot model schools from countries that are successful. Create smaller schools and classrooms. Provide teachers with professional development. Pay teachers professional salaries. We need to develop systems that will recruit, train and retain the very best teachers in New Mexico. An educated workforce and good educational systems are the best way to create good jobs and recruit corporations to relocate.

**Craig W. BRANDT**  
Republican



I served for seven years in the USAF, served as a pastor for 12 years, served on the Rio Rancho School board for almost 4 years and served as a bill analyst during the 2011 legislative session. This vast experience has given me the unique abilities needed to serve the people of Rio Rancho. For more information please go to my website at [craigbrandt4nm.com](http://craigbrandt4nm.com).

My highest priority is job growth. Rio Rancho needs good paying jobs in Rio Rancho. Tax reform will make us more competitive as a state and as a community for those jobs. Second, is education, Rio Rancho has the best school district in the state and is the lowest funded. We must change the "equitable" funding formula and stop punishing middle class communities.

A massive increase in Medicaid beneficiaries will leave New Mexico with crippling financial obligations once federal match rates are rolled back. That money will be unavailable for education, roads, and other programs. The real answer is to create a business friendly environment. Good paying jobs will reduce dependence on Medicaid. This would address Medicaid costs as well as our extremely high rate of poverty.

We need to bring greater accountability and common sense to the funding process. We spend around \$11,000 per student on K-12 education in NM, that is the 14th highest in the nation yet we are 49th in education. Changing the funding formula is vital. One district should not receive over \$30,000 per student while Rio Rancho receives only \$6,000.

*"I would rather belong to a poor nation that was free than to a rich nation that had ceased to be in love with liberty."*

*- Woodrow Wilson*

# STATE REPRESENTATIVES

Two-year term. Must be at least twenty-one years old and must be a resident of the district from which elected. The legislature meets each year beginning in January. In odd-numbered years, it meets for 60 days; in even-numbered years, it meets for 30 days. The Governor may call special sessions. In addition to other duties prescribed by law, the person in this legislative office, together with other representatives, enacts "reasonable and appropriate laws," represents the constituents in his or her district, and serves on standing or interim committees. Compensation as of September 2009: \$153 per day while in session or at a legislative function. Other compensation: 55.5 cents per mile for transportation to and from the seat of government by the usual route each session.

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## DISTRICT 10

**Henry "Kiki" SAAVEDRA**  
UNOPPOSED  
Democrat

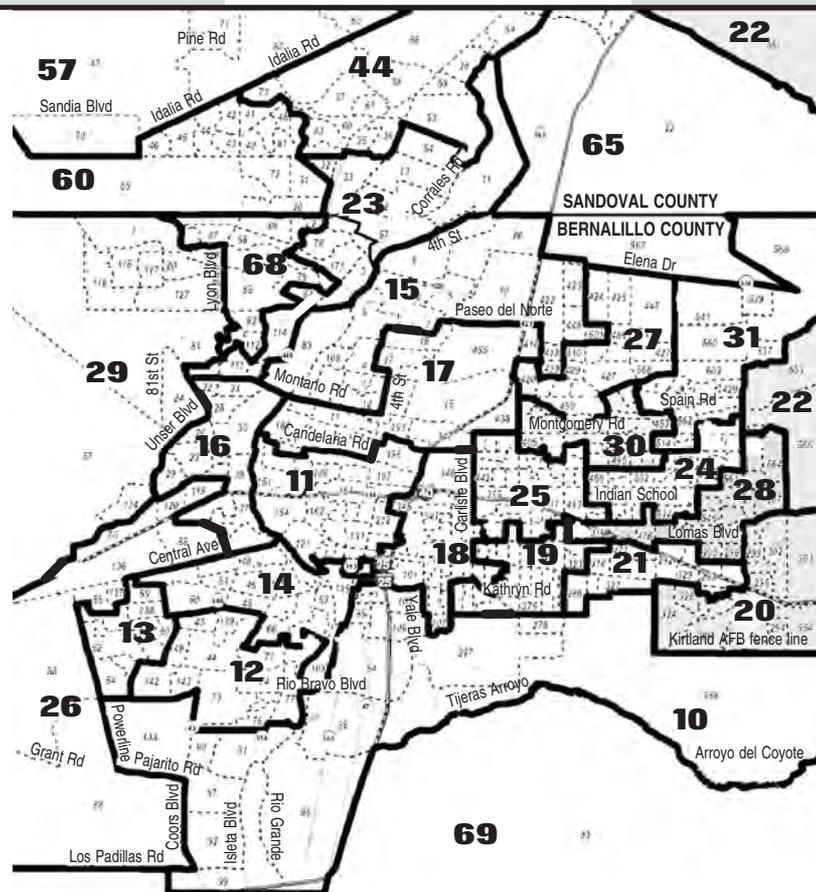
## DISTRICT 11

**Rick S. MIERA**  
UNOPPOSED  
Democrat

## DISTRICT 12

**Ernest H. CHAVEZ**  
NO REPLY RECEIVED  
Democrat

## BERNALILLO AND SANDOVAL COUNTY STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICTS



**STATE REPRESENTATIVES (continued)**

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**DISTRICT 12 (continued)**

**Clyde C. WHEELER**  
Republican



I graduated from San Jose State University with a BS in Industrial Administration (a business/engineering degree) and retired from PG&E where I worked as a Power Production Engineer for 26 years. In 2008, I worked as a Legislative Assistant in Santa Fe. Currently, I am president of the Anderson Hills Neighborhood Association. NM Right to Life has endorsed my candidacy.

District 12 has been under-served by its current representative for years and, if elected, I will change that. Our police, judicial and correction systems need strengthening. I will also work to improve public safety. We certainly need better performing schools. Other issues I support are head of household jobs, retail businesses people want in Southwest Albuquerque and South Valley preservation.

NM has had a system of sliding scale clinics for years. As a result, state residents are covered by some level of medical care. However, the system is overloaded. Funds to support this system come from Medicaid, Bernalillo County property taxes, etc. Increased participation in Medicaid would benefit the state. For the insurance pool, legislators will have to consult with representatives from the insurance industry.

I favor schools competing for students at all levels. A pilot program that increased the number of school days for disadvantaged students showed success. Therefore, I favor increasing the number of school days per year. Social promotion victimizes students and needs to be eliminated. Increasing the school day at the middle and high school levels would also be beneficial.

**DISTRICT 13**

**Patricia A ROYBAL CABALLERO**  
Democrat



I worked 36 years as Community Economic Developer and Non-Profit Social Services Administrator and have over 40 years experience as Community and Labor Organizer. I am a lifelong community activist and advocate. I am a trained and active Parliamentarian with expertise in organizational behavior and development. My grassroots community and practitioner experience and commitment will be an asset to this office.

Families want economic freedom, stability, livable wages and opportunities to train for jobs in newly growing industries. We have to implement economic development from the neighborhood to the state's regional areas with a focus on home grown small business, agriculture and manufacturing. I will direct resources towards this opportunity and align policy priorities to assist small businesses to prosper. Medicaid expansion is economic development.

As a public administrator, I know the state has to determine whether existing agencies have the resources, capabilities and authority to carry out the insurance exchange mandates. If a new agency would better serve fulfilling the underlying purposes of the mandates, then we should consider this option. Improvement in budget balancing and income generation is now critical to sustain all needs.

We need to act with a sense of urgency and provide resources to strategies that will deliver an educated workforce. We must change policies and laws to address this urgency. We have to increase our investment in our children as our resource for the future giving a valuable return to our communities. Creative and bold approaches are imperative to increase achievement and graduation rates.

**Jose OROZCO**  
Republican

NO REPLY RECEIVED

**DISTRICT 14**

**Miguel P. GARCIA**  
Democrat



Active community leader in Atrisco, Barelitas, and the South Valley for 23 years prior to being elected State Representative in 1996. My tenure as Representative has elevated me to two chairmanship positions; 1) Chairman of the House Labor & Human Resources Committee, and 2) Co-Chairman of the Legislative Land Grant Interim Committee. Still have that "fire in the belly" to fight for what's right.

State Economy-State budget shortfalls and layoffs in the private sector have had devastating effects on working families and the middle class. Having the rich making over \$250,000, and having profitable multi state corporations pay their fair share of taxes are solutions to recovery. Education-we need to enhance the resources, hire highly qualified teachers, and lower class sizes in our schools.

We must create an insurance exchange by January 1, 2014 that serves the people and provides consumer protections while connecting them with insurance providers thus reducing the number of uninsured and improving healthcare access. We must expand Medicaid. The opportunity will provide healthcare insurance for 150,000 people and create thousands of jobs. The expansion will bring billions of federal dollars generating revenues from existing taxes.

Fund and expand early childhood reading programs such as Pre-K and K-3 plus. Legislators must understand education reform as a partnership between teachers and policymakers that includes funding for full implementation. Expect high standards of academic performance. Reforms should honor the sophistication of today's students, building on skills and technology needed for the future. Every student should graduate fluent in at least two languages.

**STATE REPRESENTATIVES (continued)**

*Describe your specific experience and abilities that prepare you for the office of New Mexico State Representative. (65 words)*

*If elected, what are your two highest priorities for your district and for New Mexico? What specific actions will you take to accomplish them? (65 words)*

*The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act mandates a health insurance exchange and provides federal funding for expanding Medicaid coverage. How should the state address these provisions? (65 words)*

*How can the legislature help New Mexico schools and colleges provide public education that prepares our children for the opportunities, responsibilities and challenges of the next 20 years? (65 words)*

**DISTRICT 14 (continued)**

**Clara A. PENA**

Republican



Member of DWI Council/Bridge Blvd Corridor Committee-Appointed by Commissioner Art DeLaCruz. Help create the Gateway Park with Commissioner Gallegos, Cordova & DeLaCruz. Worked to get Capital Outlay to create park with Representative Chavez & Commissioner Cordova. Appointed to Committee by Commissioner Gallegos for Fire station, Police station & Isleta Phase One-Two. Past legislative secretary for Representative Larranaga. Co-founder SV Academy Charter

In district 14 concentrating on Economic development with Senior housing in mind, road and drainage improvements. It is important to create a business friendly environment (Bridge Blvd Committee). Work with the County, AMAFCA, Capital Outlay and business owners. Attract business that benefit and enrich the community.

New Mexico's responsibility, design a benefit package for the Medicaid expansion group; set Medicaid payment rates, secure access to providers; determine responses to numerous grant, demonstration project opportunities; implement insurance reforms; choose whether and how to design, govern and implement health insurance, coordinate Medicaid, the new Exchanges while ensuring access to coverage/transitions between different sources of coverage, control growth and future costs.

The education is already there, (teachers/administrations are working hard to make improvements)but without jobs it makes it difficult for our future generations to become successful. The legislature needs to find ways to become creative in attracting companies that fit well within our state, plan to stay long term and open the doors for our future graduates.

**DISTRICT 15**

**Emily A. KANE**

Democrat



I have been serving the community for 25 years providing emergency service to all with compassion and integrity. I am cooperative, principled, and not easily discouraged. I am a Captain, an educator and a leader in my field. I also served on the Workers Comp Advisory Council, and the Fire Protection Grant Council. I have worked successfully to pass health and safety legislation.

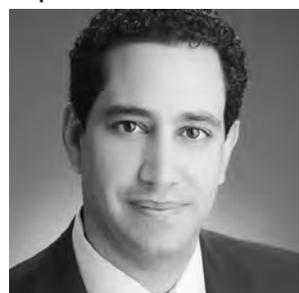
Encouraging good clean jobs for New Mexicans with incentives for businesses and by working with business and our education systems to provide and develop more job specific training. Working with the Governor in a task-force setting to develop and implement a healthcare system that addresses improving access to quality healthcare, which is affordable and makes sense for New Mexico.

The state should address them with vigor, recognizing an opportunity to improve our healthcare statewide. With over 20% of our state's population uninsured, placing the burden of cost for their care on other taxpayers and property owners it's time to utilize the federal funding to insure as many as 300,000 new New Mexicans. Increased costs will be defrayed by increased collection of insurance tax.

Early childhood education needs expansion, better funding and a progressive curriculum to jump start our students and prepare them for mastery of reading and math in middle school and more job specific education in the high school grades. Our job market and local businesses should be encouraged to assist with these programs. Parental support is key and attendance critical. Our good teachers must be supported.

**Christopher T. SAUCEDO**

Republican



As a husband, father, attorney and active community member, I am fully vested in New Mexico's future. I shall support initiatives that promote New Mexico's growth while maintaining its rich culture. I shall do so by continuing my practice of working with individuals, not political parties, to solve New Mexico's problems.

My priorities are jobs and jobs. To create jobs in New Mexico, we must lower taxes and reduce the regulatory burden that hampers our local and small-businesses. We must also create an environment that attracts good-paying jobs to New Mexico. This includes improving our infrastructure and schools.

The State of New Mexico should take a common sense approach to address each issue. We need to make sure that the Exchange is designed to help individuals and businesses find affordable coverage for their employees and families. As for Medicaid, the State needs to know what the long term costs will be in order to make the right determination about expansion.

The legislature must provide teachers, parents and students the tools they need to be successful. We must set high but reasonable expectations for our students to ensure that they are prepared for the competitive world.

**DISTRICT 16**

**Antonio "Moe" MAESTAS**

Democrat

UNOPPOSED

*"If liberty and equality are chiefly to be found in democracy, they will be best attained when all persons alike share in the government to the utmost."*

*- Aristotle*

**STATE REPRESENTATIVES (continued)**

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**DISTRICT 17**

**Edward C. SANDOVAL**  
Democrat



State Senator 1975-1976. State Representative 1983 to Present. Chaired Voters and Elections Committee for over 20 years. Chair Taxation and Revenue Committee for past 6 years. Chaired Capital Outlay Subcommittee for 8 years passing legislation of multi-millions of dollars for infrastructure needs throughout NM. Passed legislation to establish and chaired Health and Human Services Committee first 5 years of committee's existence.

Work toward improving educational system. Work toward fair tax policy by simplifying the state's tax structure, which hopefully, will entice businesses to come to NM. The word jobs, jobs, jobs.

I support the Affordable Care Act. We need to provide care for our most vulnerable citizens. I support the state spending the dollars needed to expand Medicaid to address health needs of New Mexicans. Feds match at a minimum of 90%. NM has the highest rate of uninsured. We would have the most to gain.

In addition to all other suggestions we need to attempt to assure that every child has access to 3 square meals a day/365 days. Access to quality health care i.e.: eye exam, hearing tests. Access to books, educational materials, and supplies. Children cannot learn if they are hungry, ill or don't have tools to learn. Increase focus on early childhood learning.

**Robert D. CAIN**  
Republican

NO REPLY RECEIVED

**DISTRICT 18**

**Gail CHASEY**  
Democrat



My strength, patience, ability to listen, and perseverance are born of experience - as mother, wife, teacher, advocate for children with disabilities, attorney and 8-term legislator. Our legislative process is deliberate, often frustrating, necessitating strong interpersonal skills. Leading the successful 12-year effort to repeal the death penalty in 2009, an accomplishment shared with hundreds, from all political persuasions, exemplifies how I get things done. [www.gailchasey.com](http://www.gailchasey.com).

First, make our public schools the best in the country. Public education is under attack, but today we are funding schools at lower than the 2008 level, which a recent scientific study proved was inadequate. I will fight to increase school funding substantially and to invest more heavily in early childhood programs. Second, guarantee that federal health care reform is meaningful to New Mexicans.

Our Health Insurance Exchange must be responsive to the needs of NM. It can't merely be a web-page with options listed; instead, people need help to be linked reliably to comprehensive, affordable care. It would be unconscionable for NM, with the second highest rate of uninsured, not to expand Medicaid rolls. Costs will be recouped by healthcare savings, which will help stabilize our economy.

The legislature must enact evidence-based reform, not bumper-sticker slogans. We need to invest in early education, improve reading instruction, support teachers to become excellent, and commit to their continuing development as professionals. Doing so would ease the burden for institutions of higher education to offer remedial courses. Higher education needs greater legislative attention, stable instructional funding, and an end to disincentives (e.g., tuition credit).

**Tyson Jerald COSPER**  
Republican



I grew up in my parents' small business learning all about how to run it (P/L sheets, payroll, taxes, ect.) I ran my own business for a year to help pay for college. Graduated from UNM with a degree in entrepreneurial studies. Over the last 5 years I have helped business owners and families create financial security for themselves and their families through financial planning.

I would work to make sure there are no more drivers license for illegal immigrants in the state of NM. It is not only a concern for NM security but national security as well. 2.Gov. Martinez has been working on the financial responsibility of the state and I would help her continue to balance the budget while keeping NM's needs in mind.

A major quarrel I have with Medicaid is the fact that less fortunate single individuals with no kids cannot get it. This will cause these individuals to experience a lower quality of life. Medicaid needs to be reformed.

Social promotion is a problem in the state of NM. Parents should not be able to veto teachers and principals when it comes to holding their kids back because they can't read at their level. The pride of parents should be less important than the fact that their kids are not at the correct reading level.

**STATE REPRESENTATIVES (continued)**

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**DISTRICT 19**

**Sheryl M. WILLIAMS STAPLETON**  
Democrat



I am an Educator, Mother, Activist, Organizer and elected by my district to represent their interest as the current State Representative. My colleagues elected me 5 terms to a leadership position in the House. I understand the day to day challenges of working families, small businesses, single parents and the concerns of Senior Citizens. When needed, I have always been able to compromise on issues . . .

Job creation, job training. Create a better opportunity for small business to succeed. I will be proactive in working with my colleagues to streamline the ability of small business to work with the least restrictive costs that takes them away from building their business. Protect working families and Seniors by investing in our schools, and opposing cuts to Medicaid that would harm the most vulnerable.

By organizing "one-stop" shop for purchasing health insurance. Subsidizing the cost of coverage with federal dollars for families up to 400% of federal poverty and enrolling eligible New Mexicans in Medicaid. There will be no cost to the state for developing the Exchange. The Exchange will make healthcare affordable and enable small businesses to have the same purchasing power as large businesses.

Invest in our schools and improve education outcomes for our children. It starts with healthy babies and well child programs and continues with strong family support for at risk populations. Fund and Strengthen early childhood and family programs with a sound versatile curriculum that challenges our kids. Support highly qualified teachers in the classroom. Give Higher Education everything we can to help students succeed.

**Erica J. LANDRY**  
Republican



I had an idea to start a business incubator in District 19. The process began with in-depth research. After forming a board, efforts focused on economic redevelopment by supporting small businesses through relevant entrepreneurial education. These efforts culminated in the formation of a 501(c)3. I received support and funding from federal, state, city, and county agencies, which in turn prepared me for legislative action.

First priority is for an Economic Blueprint to develop community-based economic engine to promote distressed areas to simulate Nob Hill business success, and work to make our community a place where business can prosper. Second is to support education reform efforts and target tax dollars to the classroom where it belongs.

New Mexico is one of 17 states where no legislative action has been passed. So first step will be for officials is to analyze the actual costs and benefits of the Medicaid expansion and making an informed decision that best serves New Mexicans.

Schools should have a multi-tiered instructional plan in place to support New Mexico's 30% mobility rate. Also, technology can transform schools; modernize curriculum, student assignments, parental connections, and administration. Finally, schools can reduce administrative costs by using technology providing more classroom funding. As for colleges, legislators must facilitate the way to attract the best professors and make New Mexico a magnet for higher education.

**Hessel E. YNTEMA III**  
Independent



I have lived in the district nearly 30 years and have paid attention to community issues. I represented the area on the Albuquerque City Council for two terms, 1987- 1991 and 1999-2003. I am not associated with and am not indebted to either the Democratic Party or the Republican Party.

Listen to and represent constituents fairly and without regard to party affiliation Support measures to make productive and reasonably paid employment more widely available

New Mexico should work carefully and quickly to craft the most effective Health Insurance Exchange possible to expand available medical care at reasonable cost and with appropriate consumer protections. New Mexico should accept the offered expansion of Medicaid to expand available medical care and take advantage of employment and educational opportunities.

The legislature should focus on an appropriately funded and measured framework for the public education system, from pre-kindergarten care through advanced graduate study including dental and veterinarian degrees. Our schools should start with basic literacy skills, and develop and support each student's skills and talents to participate meaningfully in our community and in the expansion of knowledge taking place throughout the world today.

**DISTRICT 20**

**James P. WHITE**  
Republican

UNOPPOSED

**DISTRICT 21**

**Mimi STEWART**  
Democrat

UNOPPOSED

**DISTRICT 22**

**James E. SMITH**  
Republican

UNOPPOSED

**STATE REPRESENTATIVES (continued)**

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**DISTRICT 23**

**Marci S. BLAZE**

Democrat



We need Representatives who can break through the clutter and get things done. I'm a successful entrepreneur with the communication and creative thinking skills our legislature needs. My career has been dedicated to helping companies grow and develop the relationships they need to be successful. I have also served our community on the boards of nonprofits including Animal Humane NM and Haven House.

Education - We should fully fund early childhood education - the best investment we can make for our children. The goal of education reforms must be to prepare kids to compete in the global economy. Renewable Energy - Clean energy infrastructure is the future of our local economy. We must foster tech-transfer from the bases/labs and help local innovators grow their businesses to create green jobs.

Expanding Medicaid will bring in more federal dollars which will generate over \$400 million in tax revenue as well as \$7 billion in economic activity and create more than 10,000 new jobs. The legislature needs to work with the Governor to ensure that Medicaid is expanded in NM to cover 150,000 New Mexicans currently without healthcare.

Proper funding of schools is essential to student success as is having professional, competent teachers in the classroom. Professional development for teachers will ensure that they have the best possible tools and knowledge to teach our students. The current method of evaluating teachers isn't acceptable. To the extent that schools can become community centers, we can more fully engage parents with their children's education experience.

**Paul A. PACHECO**

Republican



I had the privilege and honor of serving families, rescuing victims and saving lives in my 27 years as an Albuquerque police officer. I've also had the privilege and experience of starting and running my own small business. Both opportunities have given me great insights into our community, our state's struggles, and the opportunities and challenges we face.

My priorities are jobs and education reform; they're highly interconnected. When our educational system doesn't prepare children to enter the workforce, it's not contributing to the state's economic vitality. Our children must be able to read by the end of third grade. We need to end social promotion, involve parents and listen to them--we cannot grow jobs without improving education.

Our overall goal must be to ensure that all New Mexicans have access to affordable healthcare. This is best accomplished through market-based solutions, including allowing competition across state lines (something not currently permitted), lawsuit reform, and the development of common sense-based risk pools.

We must focus on results-whether and how much our children are learning-rather than how much we spend. We must re-prioritize our spending, taking money out of the bureaucracy and putting it in the classroom. Ensuring our children can read by grade three, rewarding successful teachers, providing incentives to schools and involving parents in decision-making will make our students globally competitive again.

**DISTRICT 24**

**Elizabeth L. THOMSON**

Democrat



Resident of District for over 21 years. Graduate of UNM. Pediatric physical therapist. Mother of 2 sons both products of public schools, one has autism. President of NM Autism Society 8 years, Legislative Committee Chair 6 years. NM Developmental Disabilities Planning Council Chair 3 years and Policy Committee Chair 2+ years. Board Member NM Chapter American Physical Therapy Association 7 years, Legislative Committee 8 years.

My top priorities would be to provide access to healthcare for all New Mexicans and make early education available for all families. I would work hard to get onto the committees that address these issues and reach across the aisle to open a dialogue with other legislators to see how we can most efficiently reach these common goals.

An insurance exchange must be developed that serves people and provides consumer protections while connecting them with insurance providers. Medicaid must be expanded, which will cover 150,000 New Mexicans and will create 1000's of good jobs. The expected result is to be at no net cost to the state because billions of federal dollars will flow in, which will generate tax revenue and business activity.

Legislators must realize that education reform must be collaboration between educators, communities, and policy-makers that includes full funding. Early education is imperative so that all children come to Kindergarten ready. We must prepare all students to be employed in the 21st century, offering options in what form that will take. Reforms cannot be based on a business model, because schools must operate differently.

**Conrad D. JAMES**

Republican



I am the current incumbent in House District 24 and I have spent my first term on the appropriations and voters & elections committees learning about the state budget and elections policy. My training as a scientist and engineer has provided me with research and analysis skills that I am applying to address policy problems in New Mexico.

Improve the state's business climate and improve government services. Reduce burdensome taxation on businesses and focus on broad policy reforms that encourage property and payroll investments in NM. Streamline the process for licensing and regulation with regard to starting and maintaining a business.

Craft an exchange that is flexible to meet the needs of NM. Rebalance the Medicaid eligibility and benefits portfolio to prioritize assistance to the most vulnerable - those with the lowest incomes and/or highest medical costs. Partner with advocacy groups to explore organizing statewide enrollment days to sign-up uninsured persons eligible for current programs.

Ensure that academic and vocational educational opportunities are available to all students. Encourage STEM and entrepreneurship education in K-12 and postsecondary levels. Continue to support legislative efforts that ensure students reach grade-level mastery of core skills before moving to the next grade. Encourage partnerships between communities and schools to increase parent involvement, raise academic expectations, and improve student attendance.

## STATE REPRESENTATIVES (continued)

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### DISTRICT 25

**Christine TRUJILLO**  
Democrat



I served as an elected Commissioner on the State Board of Education for 8 years from District 3 in Albuquerque; I have been a lobbyist for public education for a 20 years and I am a strong community activist.

See answer number 4. I would also support access to funding to ensure that good healthcare is available to all; It is important to provide good, well-paying jobs in NM and providing opportunities for small businesses to make sure their companies are successful here helps us all.

New Mexico has received \$35 million for planning and creating the health insurance exchange. Participating in the exchange will get us federal benefits to purchase insurance amounting to more than \$4 billion over the first seven years, 2014-2020. I would vote to expand the state's Medicaid program because New Mexico stands to receive between \$4.5 and \$6.2 billion in federal funding over the seven . .

By funding public education adequately and by recognizing that investment in early childhood learning, teacher professional development and affordable access to college will provide the necessary learning and life skills that help mitigate all of the other issues that impact learning. One cannot argue that money is being "thrown" at public education when it was never funded adequately in the first place.

**Elisabeth L. KEEN**  
Republican



Resided in District 25 for 32 years. Degrees in English and Nursing. Completed the course work for a Masters in Computer Information Systems. Employed at UNM Hospital and at St. Joe's and St. Vincent's Hospitals. Previous experience following legislation in all 50 states. Detail oriented - will work hard to understand the specifics and ramifications of legislation before voting. For questions, email is ElectKeen@Q.com. Website www.electkeen.com.

First, I will support the effort to eliminate driver's licenses for undocumented aliens. Second, many residents of District 25 have expressed frustration regarding increasing property crime. Using my background as a nurse, I want to attack this problem by supporting increased drug and alcohol treatment options, expanded use of drug courts, and alternative pathways for nonviolent drug offenders.

Legislators cannot make a decision on this issue until the federal government provides implementation guidelines. We have an obligation to provide a safety net for our most vulnerable citizens, but we must do so in a manner that does not commit us to following rigid and complex rules from distant federal bureaucrats while consuming ever increasing percentages of the state's budget.

I support the Governor's efforts to decrease social promotion, provide parents and taxpayers with meaningful evaluations of individual schools, and to tie a portion of teachers' evaluations to student progress. I also support increased funding to provide teachers with more opportunities for professional development and peer support.

### DISTRICT 26

**Georgene LOUIS**  
Democrat



As a single mother, I balanced providing for my daughter while going to law school; it was a matter of carefully determining what was essential to survive with limited resources to meet an end goal. As an attorney, I listen to my clients' needs, research all available avenues then work with various parties to reach a successful outcome. I'll do the same to be an. . .

Jobs: I will work to find solutions to create good-paying, sustainable jobs in our state to build a strong economy and not reward out-of-state corporations. Quality Education: I will work to ensure that we provide quality education for our children by funding our public schools adequately, including funds for early childhood education and professional development for our educators.

We must implement the Medicaid expansion not only to provide access to health care for an estimated 170,000 people, but to generate thousands of jobs in our state. With little or no net cost to the state, we should allow federal dollars to help our state generate revenue and impact the overall cost to the state that can be reduced through preventative care.

Legislators must enact true public education reform by establishing a partnership between educators and policymakers to begin effective measures of accountability for increased performances and work to fund/expand early childhood reading programs like Pre-K and K-3 PLUS. It is crucial for us to invest in quality education to prepare our children for the future and in order to build a strong economy.

**Louis TAFOYA**  
Republican



I have not gone to any type school to prepare me for this endeavor. However, I spend close to 40-years (25 Active & 15 Civilian) in the U.S. Navy, most in a Leadership position. In addition, I have been actively involved in my Community and my Church for about the last 15 years so that and my Navy Service prepared me. Therefore, I have. . .

In Albuquerque, South of I-40 and/or Central Avenue there is Institutional Racism that excludes us the amenities that are readily available to residents north of us. I will rectify that. #1-The Sewer Stench at Yucca Drive NW and Central Avenue will be eliminated by fixing the engineering error; the South Valley citizens that live West of Coors Boulevard will be provided equal Water. .

I am not that knowledgeable about the insurance exchange, but we need to ensure NM residents receive fair treatment. The State must also study the Medicaid issue carefully so that the Federal Government does not leave the State holding the bag down the road.

The schools need to retain the better teachers by paying a good fair wage compatible with surrounding states, and retrain mediocre teachers, or get rid of those that cannot do the job-rewrite termination process to protect the student not the bad teacher. Tuitions are too high and the colleges are too top heavy-UNM has 19-vice presidents. Too many colleges in too many. . .

**STATE REPRESENTATIVES (continued)**

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**DISTRICT 27**

**Ronald E. KRISE**

Democrat



As a small businessman I have made payrolls, budgets and business plans. I am a fiscal conservative, not a bureaucrat. I believe most constituents are more concerned about the bottom-line than party- lines. As a commercial real estate broker I must bring all parties to a consensus to obtain the results they desire. I will always put my constituent's first, not special interests.

Our education system needs to be reformed and properly funded. I will work tirelessly to see that reform happens. We must prepare our workforce and entice industries which provide high paying jobs to locate here. We are losing the best and brightest children raised here because we have failed to attract such industries. I will make an economy that works for all of us.

We need to accept expansion of Medicaid. New Mexico will receive 6 billion dollars over the next several years from federal funding for the expansion of Medicaid, 170,000 more people will have coverage, and 50,000 new jobs will be created. Hospitals have urged the Governor to accept expansion and to form a task force to prepare the exchange.

We should pursue additional funding by the Fed's. create a desirable learning environment for students, ensures students receive proper nutrition, allow educators to teach deep conceptual understanding of subject matter, get policy makers out of the classroom, reduce classroom sizes, modernize our facilities, and provide the necessary tools to our educators so we can out educate the rest of the world.

**Lorenzo A. LARRANAGA**

Republican



I have an extensive background in local, and state public policy, private business experience and community service. I have served as NM Secretary of Highways, City of Albuquerque Deputy Chief CAO, owner/partner of Bohannon Huston Consulting Engineering for 17 years. Owner of a Ranching Business for 30 years. I have been appointed by Presidents, Governors, and Mayors to numerous Boards and Commissions. I earned . . .

My highest priorities are jobs and education. We need to make changes to our tax structure, policies and regulations to create a business friendly environment to grow our economy, and provide more good jobs with our existing businesses and bring in new businesses. In education we need to provide resources for early intervention and reduce the dropout rate and demand accountability.

More clarification in needed on how much flexibility states have in implementing the Act. Statues and Administrative rules need to be structured to allow for a phased expansion and allow for co-pay contribution on a sliding scale from participants to offset the \$500 million cost of the full implementation.

We need to: Set high expectations for our students and educators and provide the necessary resources for them to succeed. Reward highly qualified and motivated teachers to increase student achievement. Place emphasis on early intervention to keep student progress at grade level and reduce dropouts. Create a good system for accountability and place higher responsibility on the parent/guardian in their child's education.

**DISTRICT 28**

**Jimmie C. HALL**

Republican

UNOPPOSED

**DISTRICT 29**

**Lloyd S. GINSBERG**

Democrat



As a manager in a Fortune 100 corporation for 25 years (before starting my own small business in Albuquerque), I chaired committees, conducted research, recommended and implemented solutions to complex and controversial problems. While I will never compromise on my values or core principles, my talent for finding common ground and bringing opposing viewpoints together will be essential in breaking the gridlock in Santa Fe.

In addition to expanding Medicaid (#3) we need to create a Health Insurance exchange which includes a not-for-profit Public Option. We also need to develop a fair and comprehensive school and teacher evaluation matrix which accurately tracks individual student improvement in multiple disciplines over time. I will work with all stakeholders to address these needs during my first term in office.

The State should expand the Medicaid rolls as soon as possible. The Federal Government will pay 100% of the additional cost for 3 years and 90% thereafter. Moreover, in 2011 alone, New Mexicans spent \$362 million providing health care for the uninsured. Expanding Medicaid will eliminate most (if not all) of this expense and will actually save money while creating up to 50,000 additional jobs.

The best way to improve outcomes and ensure that our students are prepared to take full advantage of the opportunities of a 21st Century America is to make sure that as preschoolers their natural curiosity is encouraged and nurtured while they receive the basic skills needed to enter public school ready to learn. We should devote adequate funding to pre-K and K-3 early childhood development . . .

*“Democracy cannot be forced upon a society, neither is it a gift that can be held forever. It has to be struggled hard for and defended everyday anew.”*

*– Heinz Galinski*

**STATE REPRESENTATIVES (continued)**

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**DISTRICT 29 (continued)**

**Thomas Anthony ANDERSON**  
Republican



I have successfully held the Office of NM State representative, for the past ten years. I have been returned to the Office on five previous occasions by my constituents, and have been honored to have the second highest vote count for a State Representative in NM history.

When I am re-elected, my highest priority will be to continue my efforts to complete the most important transportation interchange project in NM, Paseo del Norte, and I-25. I will continue to concentrate on obtaining a full service Library, and a standalone senior center for the citizens living on the northwest side of Albuquerque.

First, I will do everything I am able to do at the State level to cause the repeal of this horrible law. Barring that, I will support with all the energy and skill I can muster, the efforts of Governor Martinez, to protect the citizens of NM from its' provisions.

Those who control education in NM should make every effort to return more parental influence to the system at the Elementary level. The State must discover, and implement, what the vast majority of the states of this Union seem to already know about how to effectively educate. Simply, go back to the basics, and give more local control to the professionals, the teachers themselves.

**DISTRICT 30**

**Maryellen BRODERICK**  
Democrat



My experience as an architect taught me excellent negotiating skills, and strategic thinking, to look at solving problems from the foundation up. I am the co-founder of the progressive Democratic blog and meetup - Democracy for New Mexico. Since 2004 we have worked for the betterment of New Mexico. This is my first run for office, I intend on bringing a fresh voice to the Roundhouse.

First: Jobs, we must stimulate the economy, we must make tough decisions to bring more revenue to the state. We should invest in solar panels installation on our public buildings. Second: Education - We must bring all stakeholders to the table including teachers, parents, administrator, school boards and local government when considering reforms that will better prepare our children to compete in the global economy.

America is the only industrialized democratized country that does not provide health insurance for our people. The insurance exchange is a positive step towards coverage and we must expand Medicaid. The opportunity will provide healthcare insurance for 150,000 people and create thousands of jobs. We are a rich, civilized, caring nation, we must take care of each other. I support the Affordable Care Act.

Public education is the path of our future excellence and our collective future. We should look at other countries that are excelling in education for comprehensive reform paths. We should fully fund education and respect the ability of our teachers and our students. We need to nurture a student's quest for knowledge by having state of the art learning tools, programs and implementation techniques.

**Nate GENTRY**  
Republican



Since graduating college fifteen years ago, I have spent most of that time working on behalf of the people of New Mexico. I worked for Senator Pete Domenici in Washington in numerous capacities from 1998 to 2007 and was elected to the NM House of Representatives in 2010. During this time, I have been successful in working across party lines to improve New Mexicans' lives.

My priorities are to improve the state's economic condition and our public education system. I have supported various initiatives that would make New Mexico a more appealing place for businesses to invest and reduce burdens on small business. I also voted to increase classroom spending for education and for legislation that requires that students master basic skills before being moved on to the next grade.

This is a complicated issue that requires careful study. The implications of the Supreme Court decision on this law are still under review and I have been monitoring them closely. In general, I support expanding coverage to protect our most vulnerable populations. However, we need additional assurances from the federal government that it will pay for 90% of any expansion after the year 2020.

Currently, 80% of our 4th graders are not reading proficiently. As stated above, we need to ensure that our school children master the basic skills necessary to succeed in life before we move them on to the next grade. For struggling students, I have repeatedly supported funding to provide them with tutoring to bring them up to grade level.

**DISTRICT 31**

**Joanne J. ALLEN**  
Democrat



I established and operated a successful dental practice in Albuquerque for 34 years delivering dental care to both public and private arenas and for a time was the only woman practicing in Albuquerque. I combine innovation, creativity and good common sense. As a former small business owner I overcame many challenges. Working alongside community organizations I advocate real world solutions with a team approach.

Economy and Education. Small and mid-sized businesses equal job creation. I will encourage growth of new businesses, especially high value jobs. When we aggressively invest in education New Mexico will become the model for the new energy economy with workers trained in innovative technologies. I will work to keep our most talented scientists, engineers, technicians and academics here to develop and stimulate our economy.

Health insurance exchanges are essential to stimulate competition between insurance companies, produce better care, customer service and accessibility. End political posturing and move forward with the establishment of exchanges and recognize the value of the Medicaid expansion to our state. We all do better when we are healthier. We need the 10,000 jobs a year the expansion will create.

Strengthen early childhood education: reduce class size: base our teacher evaluations on tested criteria with multifaceted, diverse input: work to end adversarial relationship between teachers, administrators and NMED: promote vocational/ industrial training and education end unnecessary, wasteful and expensive testing: support and supply teachers with the tools and equipment for effective teaching: reject political catch phrases and invest in proven solutions.

**STATE REPRESENTATIVES (continued)**

*Describe your specific experience and abilities that prepare you for the office of New Mexico State Representative. (65 words)*

*If elected, what are your two highest priorities for your district and for New Mexico? What specific actions will you take to accomplish them? (65 words)*

*The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act mandates a health insurance exchange and provides federal funding for expanding Medicaid coverage. How should the state address these provisions? (65 words)*

*How can the legislature help New Mexico schools and colleges provide public education that prepares our children for the opportunities, responsibilities and challenges of the next 20 years? (65 words)*

**DISTRICT 31 (continued)**

**William R. REHM**

Republican



"Bill Rehm, the three-term incumbent for District 31, has shown the political courage to work in a bi-partisan fashion to fight for legislation that promotes job creation and has served on the House Judiciary Committee."-Association of Commerce and Industry Chairman Perry Benkicken 2010 Albuquerque Chamber of Commerce "budget bulldog" supporting reducing State budget rather tax increases 2007 NM District Attorney's- "Legislator of the . . .

1. Repeal of driver's license to illegal immigrants-I have been the co-sponsor of the past legislation to end this practice and have spoken openly on the House floor to end this practice. 2. School reform at Albuquerque Public Schools-continue to support Governor Martinez's efforts to improve our school system.

I support the concept of insurance for everyone. Medicaid currently accounts for approximately 13% or \$900 million of our overall budget. The proposed increase in the program will cost an additional \$500 million; there is not a firm agreement with the Federal government what those costs will become after 2020. Additionally the Federal government can change this reimbursement rate during any fiscal year.

School grading allows us to identify the excelling schools and devote more resources to the failing school. All employees are evaluated at work based upon their production. Teacher production is the success of their class. We must examine the success of the teacher with an understanding of any issues a particular school may have.

**DISTRICT 43**

**Stephanie Garcia RICHARD**

Democrat



Originally from Silver City, NM, I attended Barnard College, Columbia University, and received my teaching certification at California State University-LA. Working well with others, being goal oriented, and demonstrating leadership and energy are the skills that prepare me for office. Working overseas in communities with considerably less than ours, and as a mother, I've learned how to be economical while keeping an eye on budgets.

Priorities: creating jobs to improve our economy, investing in education and establishing equitable healthcare. The State has cut over \$700M from the budget in the last four years and at some point, cuts become counterproductive-especially in education. Let's examine the over \$1B in tax exemptions special interests receive annually. Furthermore, let's take advantage of the economic benefits of the new healthcare law.

We must move as fast as possible to establish a strong NM Health Insurance Exchange. I support adopting the expansion of Medicaid services provided for under the new law. I will push for improved access to a wide variety of healthcare services, increasing the number of New Mexican's who have health insurance coverage and support prevention efforts and non-traditional medicine.

To address major problems to improve education and graduate more students, we need a comprehensive reform agenda that addresses learning challenges children face long before third grade that does not primary focus on standardized tests. I support reducing class sizes, setting higher standards in the classroom, rewarding our top performing teachers, and an end to damaging school budget cuts and teacher layoffs.

**James W. HALL**

Republican



I have 40 years of experience in Northern NM in manual labor, management, consulting, and public service. I have a Bachelor degree in Math and a Masters in Management. I have been a construction worker, firefighter, LANL division leader, successful consultant, NM cabinet secretary, and small business owner. I was elected twice to, and chaired, both the LA School Board and the LA County Council.

Priorities are jobs and education. I will fight for LANL funding and grow private jobs by doing three things. First, improve K-12 education. Second, reform the business tax code, especially gross receipts taxes on services and multiple "tax incentives" that distort a "level playing field" among New Mexico businesses. Finally, streamline the state's regulatory obstacle course to bring predictability and confidence to our investment climate.

The state should implement a health insurance exchange that offers people multiple complete options for acquiring health care insurance-I was part of an initial planning group. Second, reform Medicaid to allow coverage to be expanded at an acceptable cost. Third, expand the population covered by Medicaid in accordance with the PPACA. Finally, ensure sliding scale primary clinics are widely available in NM.

There is no single problem or simple solutions-no "silver bullets". Challenges vary by district and include unprepared students, uninvolved parents, "one size fits all" educational programs, excessive paperwork, and/or poorly performing staff. Solutions vary and, accordingly, administrators and teachers need broad flexibility to innovate and implement programs and policies for their schools. The public needs trustworthy measures to assess and reward resulting student ...

**DISTRICT 44**

**Jane E. POWDRELL-CULBERT**

Republican

UNOPPOSED

*"Democracy is not something you believe in or a place to hang your hat, but it's something you do. You participate. If you stop doing it, democracy crumbles."*

*- Abbie Hoffman*

**STATE REPRESENTATIVES (continued)**

*Describe your specific experience and abilities that prepare you for the office of New Mexico State Representative. (65 words)*

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**DISTRICT 50**

**Stephen P. EASLEY**

Democrat



I earned a Ph.D. and worked as a university professor and research scientist for 20 years. I have owned an Information Technology services company for 17 years. I understand the needs of small businesses. I served on the Alamogordo City Commission. I worked for seven years as a top IT executive in NM state government and am experienced with the executive and legislative branches.

My two highest priorities for HD 50 are educational reform and clean air, land, and water protections. Several of the current attempts at educational reform are misguided. I would oppose those efforts and work on more effective reforms. There have been recent attempts to diminish or eliminate rules that protect our clean air, land, and water. I would oppose those efforts.

The state should follow the provisions of the Affordable Care Act. Expansion of Medicaid will provide health care insurance to 150,000 citizens who are currently uninsured. The Federal government will pay 100% of the cost for several years and 90% thereafter. Respected economists show that this approach will bring billions of dollars to NM, leaving a net cost to the state of \$0.

Educational reform for the 21st century must include better systems of performance evaluation for students and teachers, full transparency and accountability, adequate funding, and optimum use of current and new technologies. The legislature must revise and rationalize the state educational funding formula, and assure that the school districts will have sufficient funds to prepare our young people for a future in the workforce.

**Charles Larry MILLER**

Republican



I have had the privilege to serve New Mexicans through education: 9 years as School Superintendent; 15 years at Moriarty High School as Counselor/Assistant Principal; 2 years at TVI; currently serving as Principal of Estancia Valley Classical Academy. My experience extends to the US Department of Interior, 7 years and NM State Planning Office, 3 years. I moved my family to Edgewood in 1981.

In education students must have a solid foundation of the basics, be able to analyze data, and to express the knowledge they have gained. My action: decrease regulations that hamper schools of choice. Encourage job opportunities by developing superior schools that prepare students to join the work force with the skills and work ethic required. In addition, decrease tax regulations that discourage businesses.

The key to real reform is to give control of health care to patients and their health care providers, not bureaucrats in government or business. Before we can decide how to address these provisions, we must determine how it will be funded. In New Mexico, we must be aware of the need for care in rural areas, realizing that insurance does not guarantee health care.

New Mexico schools must focus on proven educational methods that provide for a solid foundation in the basics of literature including the classics, grammar, composition, math, history as represented through the original documents developed by the Founders of our country, and science. Streamline regulations to encourage the development of charter school choices. Streamline teacher certification processes.

**DISTRICT 57**

**Donna I. TILLMAN**

Democrat



California Southern University, Juris Doctorate; DePaul University Graduate School of Business Master of Business Administration (MBA), Chicago, ILL; St. Louis University Ph.D., Sociology; St. Louis University M.A. (Research) Lincoln University, B.S. Education. Five advanced degrees including Juris Doctorate means I have the education, experience, and enthusiasm to represent my district. I was a former Academic Senate Chair of over 1,000 faculty, CSU Pomona.

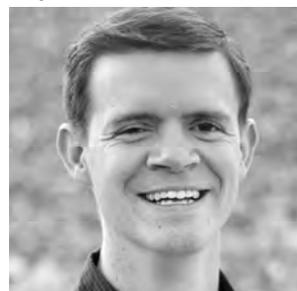
1. Implementation of the ACA and bringing high tech jobs to this district are my two highest priorities. I will vote in favor of accepting Federal funding for the ACA if given the opportunity and will continue to approach the City Council of Rio Rancho to bring high quality employers to Rio Rancho.

First of all the Governor has to agree to accept the Federal funding and then the Legislature will have to implement the provisions by 2014. I am very much in favor of the Governor accepting this funding as it provides for full Federal funding for 3 years and 90% Federal funding after that.

First of all State funding has to be provided at the level required to accomplish the job and this is currently not the case. Secondly, if required the Permanent Fund may have to be tapped to provide full funding. Thirdly, I have 40 years experience as an educational administration and/or professor to bring to bear to education in NM.

**Jason Carl HARPER**

Republican



A lifelong Rio Ranchoan, I grew up here, married my high school sweetheart, and now we're raising our own family here, too. I know firsthand how important it is to create good local jobs and improve our classrooms. I'm not a politician-I'm a husband and a dad, who will always put my community's interests ahead of the political status quo and special interests.

First, we must get New Mexico's job creation engine going by lowering taxes and cutting red tape so that New Mexico will be competitive with neighboring states and show we are "open for business." Second, we must repeal the current law allowing New Mexico driver's licenses to be issued to illegal immigrants and significantly strengthen DWI laws to keep repeat DWI offenders off our roads.

We currently don't have the federal guidelines to answer this question. I support caring for the disabled, orphaned, and most vulnerable. Medicaid in NM serves about 550,000 people, or about 1 in 4 residents. Perhaps a better question is, why do so many people have to resort to Medicaid? We need more effective education and more high quality jobs so families can be self reliant.

Personally, we made the difficult decision of retaining one of our kids in first grade. This was the best decision we ever made. He is now at the top of his class and a leader. Social promotion does no favors for anyone. We must help struggling children reach the standards, not set them up for failure. I support ending social promotion and rewarding effective teachers.

**STATE REPRESENTATIVES (continued)**

*Describe your specific experience and abilities that prepare you for the office of New Mexico State Representative. (65 words)*

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**DISTRICT 60**

**Tim LEWIS**  
UNOPPOSED  
Republican

**DISTRICT 65**

**James Roger MADALENA**  
UNOPPOSED  
Democrat

**DISTRICT 68**

**Eloise GIFT**  
Democrat



I have home-grown values and held leadership roles in education, business and my community. I learned early to value hard work, education and cooperation. I will use skills developed from my experiences as a homemaker, successful small business owner, elementary and secondary teacher, school principal, HOA president and board member for various local and state business, professional and civic organizations.

Public education and job creation. Restore adequate funding for teacher training, professional development, classroom instruction and remediation. Team up with lawmakers to explore innovative and creative ways to bring jobs to New Mexico. Make job creation a fundamental part of long and short-term economic development plans so graduating students can get the good-paying jobs they earned.

With more people insured, ACA provides win-win outcomes leading to a healthier, more productive state. ACA cuts costs, shores up the Medicaid Trust Fund, helps improve the economy. First three years, federal funds pay 100 percent for newly insured; subsequently 90%. Expansion will create jobs and generate revenue to cover costs. Quality of care and life will improve for thousands of New Mexicans.

To keep up with the needs of students in a changing world, schools and colleges must anticipate change. We have a responsibility to commit to adequate funding for research, teacher training, professional development; curriculum planning, classroom instruction, assessment, buildings and infrastructure.

**Monica Christina YOUNGBLOOD**  
Republican



Being a wife, mom and small business owner contribute to my ability to make critical decisions and negotiate which make me successful. Serving in leadership roles such as the Associate Leadership Council at my previous brokerage, a graduate of Leadership New Mexico's Connect Program the "Next Generation of Leadership", and have volunteered for several organizations that benefit our community.

My priorities will be on jobs, the economy and education, all which help a community thrive. I will be a strong voice for the I-25/Paseo del Norte upgrade infrastructure project, improving education, tax reform that helps New Mexican's keep more of the money they earn, repealing the law that gives illegal immigrants drivers licenses.

The State needs to make sure we can provide care for those most vulnerable, while also being good stewards of taxpayer dollars.

The legislature can support education by ensuring all students have the tools they need to learn and master the fundamentals of reading and mathematics. This gives students the sense of accomplishment and gives them a good foundation that they can continue to build on.

**DISTRICT 69**

**W. Ken MARTINEZ**  
UNOPPOSED  
Democrat

**PUBLIC REGULATION COMMISSION**

Elected by district for staggered four-year term. Districts 1 and 3 are up for election. Must be at least eighteen years old, a citizen of the United States, and must reside in the district he/she represents. The Public Regulation Commission is charged with regulating public utilities, telecommunications companies, and insurance companies to the extent necessary to provide just and reasonable rates and to assure reasonable, adequate and efficient service for the public. In addition, the Commission is charged with the duties of assuring pipeline and fire safety and with the registration of corporations and compliance with applicable laws. Salary: \$90,000 per year.

*"We in America do not have government by the majority. We have government by the majority who participate.."*

*– Thomas Jefferson*

**PUBLIC REGULATION COMMISSION (continued)**

The Public Regulation Commission (PRC) is responsible for regulating insurance, telephone and utility rates, corporations, pipelines, public transportation, trucking, and water works. What specific experience have you had in these areas that qualifies you to be a Public Regulation Commissioner? (65 words)

Decisions made by the PRC affect the daily lives and wallets of New Mexicans. When evaluating requests for insurance and utility rate increases, what factors should be taken into account to ensure fairness to both the public and the companies involved? (65 words)

There are three proposed Constitutional Amendments on the ballot that will impact the PRC: Constitutional Amendment 2 would increase the qualifications and education requirements to qualify as a PRC Commissioner. Constitutional Amendment 3 would remove responsibility for corporate chartering and regulation from the PRC, and Amendment 4 would remove the duty to regulate insurance companies and others engaged in risk assumption from the PRC. What is your position on each of these Constitutional Amendments? (65 words)

**DISTRICT 1****Karen Louise MONTOYA**

Democrat



As Bernalillo County Assessor I work with complex financial and legal matters on a daily basis, often in formal "on the record" decision making processes, similar to what the PRC uses. I have had to decide complex and controversial issues, such as "tax lightning" in a manner that was transparent and fair. With over 20 years of public service my background is diverse.

The PRC is legally required to permit utilities and insurers to recover their reasonable cost of providing service through rates. I will carefully scrutinize rate requests to make sure that consumers are not asked to pay for unjustified costs, waste, or windfall profits.

I do not agree with the argument that a law degree would ensure ethical behavior or result in electing PRC members who would be better for New Mexico. The Secretary of State would be a more appropriate office to register corporations and LLC's as there is no regulation involved. It is important to have elected officials ultimately accountable for regulating insurance with PRC oversight.

**Christopher OCKSRIDER**

Republican



PRC commissioner is a "quasi-judicial" position. As such, a strong knowledge and background in the law is essential to understand the procedural and substantive issues involved in complex cases before the PRC. I have been practicing law in the areas of estate planning, business and tax law for 17 years. In addition, I received an MBA from UNM and a BA in Accounting from NMSU.

A balancing standard should be applied to ensure fairness to all stakeholders in rate increase cases. This standard weighs the reasonableness of the burden placed on the consumer against the benefit to the provider. In other words, the provider must demonstrate why a rate increase is needed, how this increase will improve product and service, and why the increase is reasonable to the consumer.

Amendment 2: Do not support. The amendment as written is too vague because the qualifications are not defined. Therefore, voters cannot judge the merits of the standard. Amendment 3: Support. Moving corporate registration and reporting to the SOS will reduce the regulatory burden on businesses. Amendment 4: Support. It would reduce the scope of the PRC and mitigate political influence on the position of Superintendent.

**DISTRICT 3****Valerie L. ESPINOZA**

Democrat

UNOPPOSED

**PUBLIC EDUCATION COMMISSION**

The Public Education Commission was formed as a result the passage of Constitutional Amendment #1 passed by the voters in a special election in September 2003. The Commission consists of 10 elected members. The Commission determines public school and vocational education policy and controls, manages, and directs all public schools under provisions of applicable laws. Four-year term. Must be at least eighteen years of age, must be a United States citizen and must reside in the district he/she represents. Ten members are elected to represent districts.

*"Elections belong to the people. It is their decision. If they decide to turn their back on the fire and burn their behinds, then they will just have to sit on their blisters."*

– Abraham Lincoln

**PUBLIC EDUCATION COMMISSION (continued)**

*Describe your specific experience and abilities that prepare you for the office of Public Education Commissioner. (65 words)*

*If elected, what are your two highest priorities? What specific actions will you take to accomplish them? (65 words)*

*How can the Public Education Commission help New Mexico schools and colleges provide public education that prepares our children for the opportunities, responsibilities and challenges of the next 20 years? (65 words)*

**DISTRICT 3**

**Carmie Lynn TOULOUSE**  
Democrat



I was on the CNM governing board for 12 years. I was on the Association Community College Trustees national board for 5 years. I am also the mother of two and grandmother of five, 3 of which attend charter schools.

My first priority is to learn exactly how this commission works with the Department of Public of Education and then I will use my skills to help the two entities work more closely together. My second priority is to work with the smaller school districts to help facilitate their connection with the large State Department of Education.

The Public Education Commission can help by serving as the communications connection between the Department and various boards and commissions.

**Vanessa Leigh GUTIERREZ**  
Write In - Democrat



As an Education Activist, I have worked closely with those who inhabit the classroom; Educators and Students. These individuals have provided me with accounts of the necessities needed to bring success not only to the classroom, but to the students, as I have educated them academically, socially, and emotionally through programs aimed to increase resources and success in their lives as well as their communities

Reform of Strategic Issues and Student/Teacher Achievement. Priority of Strategic Issues needs to be reformed and implemented. This includes the education budget as it needs to be reallocated towards realistic goals that can be accomplished in the near future. Reallocation of funding towards resources and teachers will lead to an exponential growth in Student/Teacher Achievement as well as higher education participation.

The PEC will help New Mexico schools by remaining educated on the needs of the Public Education System as we provide responsible decisions for the greater good of the educators and students. Thus, maintaining and implementing the efficiency needed to provide Educators and Students the tools necessary to grow and sustain New Mexico now, and in 20 years.

**DISTRICT 8**

**Vince N. BERGMAN**  
Republican

UNOPPOSED

**DISTRICT 10**

**Jeff CARR**  
Democrat

UNOPPOSED

**DISTRICT JUDGE - Partisan**

There are thirteen different district court districts in New Mexico. These are courts of general jurisdiction that hold jury trials in these types of civil cases: Tort, contract, real property rights and estate contests. The district courts in New Mexico generally have exclusive jurisdiction over domestic relations, mental health, appeals for administrative agencies and lower courts, criminal appeals jurisdiction, and juvenile jurisdiction. However, in the 2nd Judicial District (Bernalillo County) only felony DWI cases and felony domestic violence cases are heard in district court.

Judicial vacancies in New Mexico are filled through gubernatorial appointment from a slate of potential nominees submitted by a judicial nominating committee. The newly-appointed judge must then run in a contested, partisan election at the next general election. Thereafter, the judge runs in nonpartisan retention elections. To be retained, a judge must receive at least 57% in affirmative votes cast in the retention election.

Six-year term. Must be at least thirty-five years old, been engaged in actual practice of law for at least six years preceding assumption of office, and must be a resident of the district from which elected. Salary: \$111,631 annually.

*“The highest measure of democracy is neither the ‘extent of freedom’ nor the ‘extent of equality’, but rather the highest measure of participation.”*

*– A. d. Benoist*

**DISTRICT JUDGE – PARTISAN (continued)**

*Describe your specific experience and abilities that prepare you to be a district court judge. (65 words)*

*What programs or changes to existing programs would you recommend to improve the District Court system? (65 words)*

*Given that current DWI laws deal with repeat offenders, how would you balance the interests of rehabilitation and safety? (65 words)*

*How do you define "judicial independence" and how important is it to our judicial system? (65 words)*

**DISTRICT 2 (Comprised of Bernalillo County)****DIVISION 6****Briana H. ZAMORA**

Democrat



I have a proven track record of judicial fairness, integrity and sound judgment. I have served on the Metropolitan Court for several years and have ruled in over 20,000 cases, including cases involving DWI, domestic violence and property crimes. Prior to taking the bench, I was a trial attorney representing a broad array of clients such as child abuse victims, injured workers and indigent defendants.

Increasing caseloads within the District Court often cause hearings to be delayed. I will review efficiency procedures within the Court to ensure each case is heard within a reasonable amount of time. This is critical to fundamental fairness. I will champion a specialty court for felony domestic violence cases. This approach will streamline cases and provide focus on the various issues associated with domestic violence.

Balancing public safety with a defendant's need for rehabilitation requires experience, especially in DWI cases. As a Judge, I have presided over thousands of DWI cases. Every day, I balance public safety with the defendant's rehabilitative needs. I ensure that each case is given the individualized attention it deserves by utilizing a broad array of sentences to ensure justice for all.

Judicial independence is crucial to a fair and impartial Court. Decisions must be made on the law and the facts of each case without regard to outside influence. My Court rulings are based solely on the applicable law, the facts of each case and statements by victims and defendants. In my courtroom, everyone is treated with respect and dignity. For more information please visit: [www.electjudgezamora.com](http://www.electjudgezamora.com).

**Brett Rogers LOVELESS**

Republican



After graduating from UNM Law School 17 years ago, I practiced exclusively before the District Court, including 12 years as a prosecutor, 10 of which involved prosecuting the murder, abuse and rapes of children. I am familiar with every aspect of felony cases. Now on the bench, I am presiding over 1,500 felony cases deciding the very issues I handled as a prosecutor. Visit [www.KeepJudgeLoveless.com](http://www.KeepJudgeLoveless.com).

Given the substantial number of cases in which offenders have long-standing substance abuse problems, there is a need for greater resources for in-patient treatment programs in Bernalillo County to address significant substance abuse problems while affording the District Court the ability to monitor offenders and ensure public safety. In non-violent cases, this could serve as an alternative to jail.

As a prosecutor, I handled cases where children were killed by drunk drivers and am fully aware of the potential for tragedy in DWI cases. In District Court, we only deal with those who have 3 prior DWI convictions or who kill or seriously injure another. Although rehabilitation is important with long term treatment for those sincere about changing, public safety is my primary concern.

"Judicial independence" concerns a judge's ability to apply the law to the parties free of external influences unrelated to the merits of the case to ensure fairness. This is the foundation of our judicial system. Everyone deserves a fair opportunity to be heard and treated as the law requires. In my courtroom, everyone is treated fairly regardless of race, gender, socioeconomic status, or other circumstance.

**DIVISION 10****Christina ARGYRES**

Democrat



My entire legal career has focused on criminal law. I worked at the U. S. Atty's Office, and as a Public Defender. In private practice I defended individuals for more than a decade. As Metro Court Judge, I have an open mind, and a well balanced view of the issues before me and look forward to taking my knowledge and experience to District Court.

The Second Judicial District Court is the busiest District Court in the state. "Specialty Courts" such as Adult Drug Court, Veterans Court, Mental Health Court and Judicial Supervision programs are a must. Offenders in these programs are subject to strict supervision, counseling, drug and alcohol screening. The result of developing these types of courts is fewer repeat offenders, which only helps our community.

DWI laws need to have stiffer penalties and harsher sentencing at the felony level. Individuals who put others at risk while driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol, must take responsibility for their actions. The courts can emphasize treatment of the disease of alcoholism, and education, but it is up to our legislators to pass laws to ensure the safety of our community.

I define "judicial independence" as being free from executive and legislative powers. This of course is the basis of how our country is run. True judicial independence means that as judge, I must always uphold my oath, as well as the law, and make the best decisions possible without fear of retaliation from the executive or legislative powers or unwarranted criticism from the media.

**Sharon D. WALTON**

Republican



With 25 years experience in the criminal justice system, 13 years as a Judge, I have demonstrated an ability to efficiently handle a tremendous workload, make complicated decisions after careful deliberation, and to be firm but fair. I have a strong working knowledge of evidence and criminal procedure and teach those courses at CNM.

Advance preparation is vital to timely and just deliberations. I would thoroughly review pending matters in advance of hearings and carefully research the issues, resulting in efficient use of Court time. I would also utilize the reporting capabilities of the new case management system, Odyssey, to insure cases are resolved in a timely manner.

DWI cases demand firm, fair, individualized decisions with input from victims and an understanding of the potential deterrent impact of a sentence. In the 13 years serving as a judge I have utilized a variety of tools to address DWI sentences: ignition interlock, various alcohol detecting ankle bracelets and technologies, Drug Courts, Community Custody Programs, the Addiction Treatment Program in jail and other meaningful treatment.

Judicial independence is not a concept designed to protect judges but instead to protect justice and maintain public trust and confidence in the courts. Judges serve the people of the community and must protect and enforce the rights of the people. The Judiciary must make fair decisions in accordance with the facts of the case and demonstrate integrity both personally and professionally.

**DISTRICT JUDGE - Partisan (continued)**

*Describe your specific experience and abilities that prepare you to be a district court judge. (65 words)*

*What programs or changes to existing programs would you recommend to improve the District Court system? (65 words)*

*Given that current DWI laws deal with repeat offenders, how would you balance the interests of rehabilitation and safety? (65 words)*

*How do you define "judicial independence" and how important is it to our judicial system? (65 words)*

**DIVISION 19**

**Benjamin CHAVEZ**

Democrat



After approximately 8 years as a Criminal Court Judge at Metropolitan Court with tens of thousands of cases adjudicated, and very high JPEC reviews, I have earned the experience needed to be a fair, ethical, hard-working and effective District Court Judge, protecting and defending the Constitution, always mindful of public safety. For more information please visit [www.nmjpec.org](http://www.nmjpec.org) under "Benjamin Chavez," and visit [www.JudgeBenChavez.com](http://www.JudgeBenChavez.com).

I highly recommend the Drug Court for drug-addicted defendants. In tough economic times I am supportive of the Self-Help Center for people who can't afford lawyers, and have volunteered for the Law-La-Palooza Free Legal Fair organized by District Court. As Presiding Judge of the Homeless Court I have a proven judicial record of volunteer program work for the courts.

As a former DWI Prosecutor and now a Criminal Court Judge with approximately 8 years experience on the bench, I have studied the issue of DWI extensively. Public safety is an absolute must, and can only be accomplished by an experienced, knowledgeable and fair application of the right balance of rehabilitation, personal deterrence, and when necessary incapacitation through jail.

Judicial independence is the foundation of our constitutional democracy, ensuring that judges who apply the written law are free from political influence, and independent of any and all external influence. Judicial independence must be vigorously defended and preserved, so that the Third Branch applies the law evenly and fairly, consistent with the founding principles of the nation, to always provide Equal Justice for All.

**Samuel L. WINDER**

Republican



A rigorous bipartisan judicial nominating committee reviewed my experience and qualifications and then recommended my appointment to the Governor. I was a federal prosecutor for 13 years and practiced law for 23 years. Since 10/24/11 (my first day on the bench), I have closed hundreds of cases. I have demonstrated my qualities of being a fair and decisive judge. Please visit [www.keepjudgwinder.com](http://www.keepjudgwinder.com) for more information.

The Veterans Court Program is the newest program developed to address the unique needs of those who have defended our Nation. The Program has been in existence for the past 10 months. The Program should be reviewed at the end of the year to ensure that it adequately meets the goals of punishment, deterrence and rehabilitation. Please visit [www.keepjudgewinder.com](http://www.keepjudgewinder.com) for more information.

The safety of the community is the first priority. As a district judge, I have sentenced numerous persons who are guilty of felony DWI offenses (more than 3 DWIs). I review each case to impose a sentence to protect the community. I have imposed sentences on DWI defendants severely under the unique individual circumstances while addressing the needs for rehabilitation.

The judiciary is an independent branch of the government. The judiciary cannot maintain its integrity if the judiciary substitutes itself for the other two branches of government. As judge, my role is not to legislate from the bench. My role is to administer the criminal laws fairly and impartially and not inject myself into the political process. Please visit [www.keepjudgerwinder.com](http://www.keepjudgerwinder.com) for more information.

**DIVISION 21**

**Alisa Ann HADFIELD**

Democrat



I am a District Court Judge in the Domestic Violence Division of Family Court. I have served as a neutral decision maker for 9 years, including 7 years as Domestic Violence Special Commissioner and Hearing Officer. Prior to my service with the court, I practiced family law, served as a guardian ad litem, Assistant District Attorney and Public Defender. My experience makes me especially qualified.

I served as the Judicial Director of the FAIR Program, a collaboration between the Second Judicial District Court and the UNM Psychology Clinic. FAIR provided services to co-parents of children exposed to domestic violence, breaking the cycle and perpetuation of violence. I advocate restoring the program cut during a budget crisis in 2009. More information is available at [www.judgehadfield.com](http://www.judgehadfield.com).

As the judge in the Domestic Violence Division of Family Court, I do not preside over criminal cases, however, my cases often concern substance abuse impacting families. I have the knowledge necessary to address intervention services to assist in implementing positive changes for families, directing parents to appropriate services that will improve their lives and reduce the need for them to return to court.

Judicial independence is the ability of a judge to decide cases according to the law and facts, without regard to outside influences such as politics, social media, or personal religious beliefs. Judicial independence is critical to our justice system and a core principle of our democracy. The public deserves to have confidence in the judicial system, and their confidence erodes without an independent judiciary.

**David A. STANDRIDGE**

Republican



I have practiced family law in Albuquerque for over 15 years. I was counsel on multiple published opinions from the Court of Appeals involving family law cases. My main experience comes from representing men, women, and children through the difficulties with family court. I also have two children, ages 13 and 9. I understand the challenges of parenting. You can find more information at [www.StandridgeForJudge.com](http://www.StandridgeForJudge.com).

The biggest problem citizens face in Family Court is the cost. I suggest three changes: 1. Hold a scheduling conference for all cases. Each side will know what is expected of them. 2. Not every motion requires a hearing thereby cutting down on court time. 3. Make decisions. Listen to the evidence and rule. For more on how I will improve Family Court visit [www.StandridgeForJudge.com](http://www.StandridgeForJudge.com).

As a Family Court Judge this question would not pertain to me. However, DWI impacts on family law issues in that DWI and any illegal activity should be a consideration in awarding custody of children. While the criminal court balances the interests of rehabilitation and safety, the Family Court needs to ensure the safety of children with parents who break the law.

"Judicial independence" is the separation of power of the judiciary and the other branches of government. This concept is important to the protection of liberty and justice. "The accumulation of all powers . . . in the same hands . . . may justly be pronounced the very definition of tyranny." Federalist #47. I discuss this more at [www.StandridgeForJudge.com](http://www.StandridgeForJudge.com).

## DISTRICT JUDGE - Partisan (continued)

*Describe your specific experience and abilities that prepare you to be a district court judge. (65 words)*

*What programs or changes to existing programs would you recommend to improve the District Court system? (65 words)*

*Given that current DWI laws deal with repeat offenders, how would you balance the interests of rehabilitation and safety? (65 words)*

*How do you define "judicial independence" and how important is it to our judicial system? (65 words)*

### DISTRICT 13 - DIVISION 1

**LaDonna L. GIRON**

Democrat



I am a 43 year-old single mother of two daughters and attorney; I attended UNM School of law and graduated with clinical honors. I've practiced over 12 years in both the government and private sector. I owned and operated my own law firm for 7 years. I served on the NM Adult Parole Board. Please visit [www.gironforjudge.com](http://www.gironforjudge.com)

I favor expanding pro-se services to help people who can't afford a lawyer in domestic relations cases; and would happily work with the court administrators to implement court improvements.

The position I seek is the family and children's court; and DWI impacts families and children in many ways. It's incumbent upon all legal professionals to help stop DWI by knowing where to send people for help. I'd draw upon my experience as a prosecutor, defense attorney, and as a past member of the parole board to make balanced decisions.

Judicial Independence is the tenet that our Judiciary must remain free from the influence of the other two branches of government and the appearance of outside influence. It is crucial to maintaining trust in our courts. Judges should behave in a manner that inspires trust in the independence and integrity of the Judiciary at all times.

**James Lawrence SANCHEZ**

Republican



I practiced law for 25+ years before I was appointed to the bench in May, 2012. I have extensive experience in civil law, which is the most difficult area for a District Judge to handle, because there is so much civil law. My experience has helped me move my docket quickly, as I have handled as a lawyer similar cases that I now rule on.

We need to help educate people to represent themselves better in Court. Many cases before me are handled by people without lawyers, which makes it very difficult for me to rule on because the same rules of procedure and evidence apply with or without an attorney handling the case. We are now working on forms to assist people in preparing and presenting their cases.

Repeat offender laws should be strictly enforced. By repeating a DWI offense, the offender has demonstrated that rehabilitation after the first offense has been unsuccessful. Drunk drivers are too dangerous for our innocent citizens, and should not be heard to ask for leniency after a first offense. We should not have to wait for multiple offenses before we take steps to protect the public.

An independent judiciary, means one that is completely insulated from the political will of any political party, group or elected official. The judiciary was intended by our founding fathers to be an independent branch of government, and it is a vital part of the checks and balances system. The judiciary's function is to ensure that the Constitutional rights of all citizens is fully protected.

## DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Four year term. Must be at least 21 years of age and a resident of New Mexico for 3 years, learned in the law, and a resident of the district from which elected. Duties include to prosecute and defend for the state in Bernalillo County courts, civil and criminal cases in which the state or county is interested, represent the county before the county commissioners, advise county and state officers upon request, and represent the county in civil cases in higher courts, except in suits brought in the name of the state. District attorneys operate under the Executive Branch of government because they are law enforcement officers as well as officers of the court. Salary: \$109,000 Bernalillo County; \$103,725 Thirteenth Judicial District Attorney.

*Describe your specific experience and abilities that prepare you for the office of District Attorney. (65 words)*

*Please address the timely processing of cases, including DWI and domestic violence, and the dismissal of cases before trial. (65 words)*

*How would you, as district attorney, coordinate with various interested parties such as law enforcement, prosecutors and defense counsel, detention facilities, victims and their advocates to achieve fair, consistent, and timely justice? (65 words)*

### SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT (Comprised of Bernalillo County)

**Kari E. BRANDENBURG**

Democrat



I have been an attorney for over 30 years. For the past 12 years, I've managed the largest law firm in the state, the Second Judicial District Attorney's Office. As District Attorney, I have taken a multi-faceted approach to my job, trying high profile cases, lobbying the legislature on critical criminal laws and leading initiatives to make our community safer and healthier.

Justice delayed can be justice denied. Over the past four years, the time it takes to conclude a case has been reduced by an average of 141 days, or almost 5 months. Cases aren't dismissed unless the state cannot meet its burden of proof. Every attempt is made to see that cases are satisfactorily resolved in the interest of justice and public safety.

We work with the courts, the defense bar, law enforcement, over 100 neighborhood associations, victims' groups and many other agencies and organizations to ensure that we address the important issues, are effective in our work and give the community our best efforts. I often say we all need to be part of the solution and we practice that by being involved and reaching out.

**Chris L. STURGESS**

Republican Write In

NO REPLY RECEIVED

**DISTRICT ATTORNEY (continued)**

*Describe your specific experience and abilities that prepare you for the office of District Attorney. (65 words)*

*Please address the timely processing of cases, including DWI and domestic violence, and the dismissal of cases before trial. (65 words)*

*How would you, as district attorney, coordinate with various interested parties such as law enforcement, prosecutors and defense counsel, detention facilities, victims and their advocates to achieve fair, consistent, and timely justice? (65 words)*

**THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT (Comprised of Sandoval, Valencia and Cibola Counties)**

**Lemuel L. MARTINEZ**

Democrat



I have run the largest law firm in 3 counties for 12 years, with a budget of over 4 million dollars. We have prosecuted criminals, recruited the best attorneys and have one of the highest conviction rates in the state. We have worked with the Legislature and NGOs and law enforcement in order to make our community to live, work and go to school.

Since becoming District Attorney we have had assistants prosecuting DWI and domestic violence cases. We do this within the 6 month rule and constantly prepare cases on time and object to continuances by the defense. We try to work with law enforcement to be sure they are there for every case and will continue to do so to keep our community safe.

Our fist mission is to do justice. We do this in every case for victims, defendants and other members of the law enforcement community. We provide training for law enforcements, conferences for attorneys and provide community crime-prevention projects throughout the district. We will continue to do this in order to reduce crime, keep our communities safe and hold criminals responsible for violations of law.

**Kenneth E. FLADAGER**

Republican



As a young naval officer I quickly learned to lead and mentor divisions of over 100 individuals. I have been a trial attorney for 20 years, and a career trial prosecutor for over 13 years. I teach and mentor new prosecutors in what cases should or should not be prosecuted, and how to quickly resolve them or win those cases at trial.

As someone who actually has tried cases, I am acutely aware of the need to move cases in a timely fashion. Nothing is gained by letting cases languish when the DA's office has what they need to go forward. Sloppy case management will not be tolerated in my offices. No case should ever be dismissed if we have what we need to go to trial.

For the last 13 years I have been intimately involved with just such issues in Bernalillo County. I have dealt on a frequent, personal level with all of those individuals and maintain a high degree of trust and cooperation with them. As District Attorney, I will personally establish and maintain those relationships with all of those individuals in the 13th Judicial District.

**BERNALILLO COUNTY OFFICES**

**METROPOLITAN COURT JUDGES – Partisan**

Four-year term. Must be at least eighteen years old and a member of the New Mexico Bar engaged in actual practice in the state for three years. The Bernalillo County Metropolitan Court is part of the statewide Magistrate Court System and is state funded.

Judicial vacancies in New Mexico are filled through gubernatorial appointment from a slate of potential nominees submitted by a judicial nominating committee. The newly-appointed judge must then run in a contested, partisan election at the next general election. Thereafter, the judge runs in nonpartisan retention elections. To be retained, a judge must receive at least 57% in affirmative votes cast in the retention election.

This court has jurisdiction over civil actions under \$10,000, felony first appearances, misdemeanors, misdemeanor DWI/DUI and misdemeanor Domestic Violence and other traffic violations. Yearly salary: \$106, 050.

**DIVISION 17**

**Henry A. ALANIZ**

Republican

UNOPOSED

*“A citizen of America will cross the ocean to fight for democracy, but won’t cross the street to vote in a national election.”*

*– Bill Vaughan*

# BERNALILLO COUNTY COMMISSIONER

Four-year term. Must be at least 18 years old and must be a resident of the district from which elected. The person in this office, together with other members of the County Commission, represents the County and its interests in all cases not otherwise provided for by law, and appoints elections officials to fill vacancies. The commission is responsible for County government budget, County ordinances and resolutions, and zoning and business regulation in unincorporated areas, and sets policy for the operations of County government. Salary: Approximately \$29,000 annually.

*Describe your specific experience and abilities that prepare you for the office of County Commissioner. (65 words)*

*If elected, what are your two highest priorities for your district and the county? What specific actions will you take to accomplish them? (65 words)*

*County revenues have declined. What county programs and services would you propose to fund, modify or cut to bring revenues and expenditures into balance? What standards and criteria would you use? (65 words)*

*How would you, as County Commissioner, manage development in the county so that adequate infrastructure and services, including roads, transportation systems and public safety are available? (65 words)*

## DISTRICT 1

### Debbie O'MALLEY

Democrat



I bring over twenty years of strong, effective public service to the position, first as a neighborhood leader, fighting for redevelopment of my low-income Hispanic community, to nine years as a City Councilor, focusing on workforce housing, neighborhood planning and redevelopment. I have served as City Council President and currently chair the MRCOG. An Albuquerque native, I have lived the economic challenges facing working . . .

My priorities are creating liveable-wage jobs and promoting sustainable economic development. At the Council, I sponsored the "Small Business Purchasing Ordinance," to give local small businesses preference over big out-of-state companies when bidding for City goods and services. At the County, I will sponsor similar legislation, and support the County's "Increment of 1 Initiative," helping local business hire additional employees.

I will insist that the County continue to hold the budget at maintenance levels until economic conditions improve. At the same time, we must properly fund public safety so that our fire and sheriff's departments have the resources they need. I will support the County's Economic Development Department in its efforts to create jobs and recruit industry.

Everyone benefits when there are clear, predictable requirements for development. We all benefit when the County, City, State and Federal governments coordinate around projects of shared benefit, like fixing the Paseo del Norte interchange. I will continue to seek funding for this important regional facility until it is properly completed. I support MRCOG's effort at regional planning, which helps us look at the big picture.

### Simon KUBIAK

Republican



I was born and raised in Bernalillo County's North Valley and currently reside with my family on the Westside. I operate a small business in the North Valley and I understand the issues facing Bernalillo County from a familial, personal and professional perspective. I'm a practicing attorney with excellent communication and problem solving skills. I know how to listen and negotiate a solution to problems.

Infrastructure and Public Safety are my top priorities. I will fight for the I-25/Paseo interchange renovation to be completed correctly, on-time and within budget. I will fight against the proposed roundabouts in the North Valley and look into other solutions to infrastructure. This will ease traffic congestion and create jobs. I will work to properly fund our Sheriff's department, fire department and first . . .

I will keep programs related to Public Safety, Infrastructure and Economic Development intact. Other programs and expenditures are subject to reduced funding. I will start with programs not authorized under the Constitution and programs created to benefit the few instead of the County as a whole. I will not engage in deficit spending or tax increases. I will fight to lower your property taxes.

As Commissioner, I am fighting for you and restoring the County to its core functions of providing infrastructure and public safety. I am currently pursuing that the I-25/Paseo interchange renovation be completed expeditiously. I am currently engaged in discussions with the Sheriff and Fire Departments to ensure they are adequately funded. I am in daily communications with the community to identify and address your . . .

## DISTRICT 2

### Art De La Cruz

Democrat

UNOPPOSED

## DISTRICT 3

### Maggie Hart STEBBINS

Democrat

UNOPPOSED

## DISTRICT 4

### Lonnie C. TALBERT

Republican

UNOPPOSED

# BERNALILLO COUNTY CLERK

Four-year term. Must be at least 18 years of age and a resident of the county from which elected. The Clerk is the ex-officio recorder of Bernalillo County and may legally record any document that is certified. The office also issues marriage and occupational licenses. The County Clerk's Bureau of Elections administers all elections in the county. Salary: Approximately \$65,400.

### Maggie Toulouse OLIVER

Democrat

UNOPPOSED

# BERNALILLO COUNTY TREASURER

Four-year term. Must be at least 18 years of age and a resident of the county from which elected. The Treasurer is responsible for collecting property taxes in Bernalillo County and for the supervision and investment of funds. The Treasurer's office collects and distributes property taxes to different government agencies, including the City of Albuquerque. Salary: approximately \$65,400.

*Describe your specific experience and abilities that prepare you for the office of County Treasurer. (65 words)*

*If elected, what are your two highest priorities? What specific actions will you take to accomplish them? (65 words)*

*Are improvements needed at the County Treasurer's office? If so, how would you address these needs if elected Treasurer? (65 words)*

## Manny ORTIZ

Democrat



Graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from WNMU. Serving New Mexico in both the public and private sectors for over thirty-plus years. Worked with the SBA and IRS in auditing, federal tax and law application, business management. Own accounting firm since 1980 helping individuals and businesses. Currently, BC Investment Officer for past seven-plus years managing BC finances. Involved in the community . . .

Continuity: Maintaining AAA rating for BC. NM is the only county in NM with this rating and one of 38 counties nationwide. This keeps the cost of borrowing money lower and property taxes lower. Work with existing personnel, Commissioners, partner with private sector, legislature. Legislation: pursue legislation to lower property taxes for individuals 65 years and older, and assure property owners have availability to the. . .

There is always need for improvement to maintain the demands of the public and state of the art technology. Knowing and understanding statutes all levels is utmost important to update our investment policies that will benefit our citizens. Interaction with management. Knowledge and utilization of resources within the BC is a necessity.

## George E TORRES

Republican



I am and have been a successful Real Estate Broker and business owner for well over 31 years. In that time I have worn many hats, including Treasurer of The Greater Albuquerque Association of Realtors, Treasurer for Southwest Multiple Listing Service, both multi million dollar Corporations. I have served on the Audit and Finance Committee, for both corporations.

In Real Estate we always act in the best interest of our principle. It is no different in government, always use due diligence, be accountable and always be transparent. Never forget you are a public servant as Treasurer. I will always adhere to these principles. Say what you will do! Do what you say!

At this time I have not done an efficiency audit of the office, however it is my understanding that at the current time the office runs as a group (good cop, bad cop concept). My expertise is turning a group into a team, (coaching concept), which will greatly improve moral, efficiency and service.

# Albuquerque Metropolitan Arroyo And Flood Control Authority (AMAFCA)

Board Directors are elected on staggered six-year terms. AMAFCA is the local governmental agency responsible for planning, construction and maintenance of the major flood control facilities in the greater Albuquerque area. A five-member Board of Directors, elected from five districts, governs AMAFCA. Districts 3 and 4 are up for election. The Board is charged with establishing policy for drainage regulation, and is charged with implementing AMAFCA's capital improvement program. The Board approves cost-share agreements and joint use projects with the city, the county, the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District, and private parties. No salary, but Directors may choose to accept a per diem of \$95 a day when conducting AMAFCA business.

## DISTRICT 3

### Tim EICHENBERG

UNOPPOSED

## DISTRICT 4

### Ronald D. BROWN

UNOPPOSED

# SANDOVAL COUNTY OFFICES

## SANDOVAL COUNTY COMMISSIONER

Four-year term. Must be at least 18 years old and must be a resident of the district from which elected. The person in this office, together with other members of the County Commission, represents the County and its interests in all cases not otherwise provided for by law, and appoints elections officials to fill vacancies. The commission is responsible for County government budget, County ordinances and resolutions, and zoning and business regulation in unincorporated areas, and sets policy for the operations of County government. Salary Maximum: \$29,000.

*"Evolution of democracy is not possible if we are not prepared to hear the other side."*

*- Mahatma Gandhi*

**SANDOVAL COUNTY COMMISSIONER (continued)**

*Describe your specific experience and abilities that prepare you for the office of County Commissioner. (65 words)*

*If elected, what are your two highest priorities for your district and the county? What specific actions will you take to accomplish them? (65 words)*

*County revenues have declined. What county programs and services would you propose to fund, modify or cut to bring revenues and expenditures into balance? What standards and criteria would you use? (65 words)*

*How would you, as County Commissioner, manage development in the county so that adequate infrastructure and services, including roads, transportation systems and public safety are available? (65 words)*

**DISTRICT 2**

**Nora SCHERZINGER**  
Democrat



In this time, of limited resources, my experience planning, managing, and analyzing multi-million dollar budgets as a school district superintendent and village administrator will be an asset to the county commission. I understand the value of partnerships and leveraging with federal, state, and local entities. As a 60 year resident of Sandoval County, I know each city, town, village and pueblo.

Economic development and responsible governance are my top priorities. I will advocate for timely, thorough permitting processes and low environmental impact business in our rural areas. The county has numerous tools to attract jobs including tax incentives, recruitment of businesses, and educational programs for the workforce through collaboration with our educational institutions. Fiscal responsibility, accountability and efficiency are key to responsible governance.

I will examine each agency's budget for efficiency and eliminate any services that are redundant with other agencies. I would not support reductions to public safety that could jeopardize the safety and security of county residents. Budget reductions must not risk our county's potential for economic success. I will assess any proposed reductions for both short-term and long-term consequences to our county.

Providing adequate infrastructure for our diverse county requires careful, thoughtful planning. I advocate a long-range planning approach that requires the commission to prepare a roadmap of critical infrastructure and services needed to support economic development. The commission would conduct an annual review of schedule and priorities to determine whether the county is on track or if adjustments are required.

**Michael H. FRESE**  
Republican



I have a BSME and an MS in Mathematics from NMSU, and a PhD in Applied Mathematics from MIT. I took economics coursework at every level, and I have continued to study and write on topics in economics. Since 1988, I have operated and managed a successful small research and development business that I founded, and am very familiar with government accounting.

I will work to make Sandoval County the most economically attractive place to do business in New Mexico. Once we lay the foundation for Rio Rancho to become the Dallas to Albuquerque's Fort Worth, Sandoval County District 2 residents won't have to cross the Rio Grande to work. Essential to that will be lower taxes and fairer, more predictable county regulations.

Sandoval County property tax revenues remain by law at the level required to fund the county expenditures. I will insist that all County expenditures be reviewed to identify non-essential functions and will propose that those non-essential functions be reduced or eliminated in order to reduce Sandoval County property tax rates.

The Board of County Commissioners does not directly manage development in the county. Rather, it hires the county manager and sets policy for that management. My approach to that policy will be to require that all non-essential functions be reduced and all essential functions be performed as efficiently as possible. Adequacy in all forms of infrastructure will be determined from essentiality.

**DISTRICT 4**

**Ramon M. MONTAÑO**  
Democrat

NO REPLY RECEIVED

**Glenn WALTERS**  
Republican



Elected 11-04-08 and presently your County Commissioner. Served on the Mid Region Council of Governments and the NM Association of Counties Property Tax Study Committee. Over 34 years of public sector experience in creating efficient and effective government organizations and systems, including 10 years Inspector General experience, 6 years as a Senior Analyst for the NM House of Representatives and 8 years in law enforcement.

Establishing a clear economic development vision for Sandoval County would be my first priority. This vision would be documented in a County strategic plan and include job growth targets and specific actions to embrace to make the vision a reality. Second, I would continue to champion transparency and public awareness of County issues and activities including revenues, expenditures, ordinances, resolutions, bonds and citizen involvement opportunities.

Public safety including DWI prevention, fire and emergency response, senior programs, road maintenance and solid waste disposal would continue to be funding priorities. Smart partnerships with federal, state, municipal governments, county residents and private enterprise can extend resources and minimize the need for cuts. Using established performance measures to evaluate program efficiency, effectiveness, accomplishments and results along with public inputs would help guide decisions.

The annual budget process provides the basic structure to manage County development. Public and community input on a continuing basis is a necessity. Maintaining an accurate assessment of current basic infrastructure needs such as roadways, drainage systems, waste management and safety concerns is required. Finally, systematic review of County ordinances and eliminating, modifying or creating new ordinances to manage County development is also a must.

**SANDOVAL COUNTY COMMISSIONER (continued)**

**DISTRICT 5**

**Darryl F. MADALENA**

UNOPPOSED

Democrat

**SANDOVAL COUNTY CLERK**

Four year term. Must be at least 18 years of age and a resident of the county from which elected. The Clerk is the ex-officio recorder of Sandoval County and may legally record any document that is certified. The office also issues marriage and occupational licenses. The County Clerk's Bureau of Elections administers all elections in the county. Salary: Approximately \$65,400 a year.

*Describe your specific experience and abilities that prepare you for the office of County Clerk. (65 words)*

*What changes or actions, if any, would you recommend to improve public access to county public information and records?*

*What specific actions would you take to ensure that voter registration is efficient and accurate and that the voter rolls are current and correct? (65 words)*

*What will you do to ensure that all eligible voters can vote without undue obstruction, hardship and expense? (65 words)*

**Eileen (Moreno) GARBAGNI**

Democrat



My experience with the County Clerk, as an employee, Deputy and Chief Deputy Clerk has been an experience of 23 plus years. In this time I have thoroughly learned every aspect of the County Clerk's office - from software, hardware, policies and procedures, to legislative mandates, to managing and training employees in every aspect of the office.

I would collaborate with the members of the NM Association of County Clerks and my legislators to amend and strengthen any changes that need to be changed. I would also bring in electronic recording to eliminate to traffic into the Clerks office. Set up a web site for the constituent of Sandoval County to make it easier for them to search and retrieve information and . . .

People who register voters must be trained by a department of the County Clerk, be issued assigned affidavit of registration forms and sign an affidavit stating they will comply with the law requiring voter registration requirements are carefully audited and enforced by the County Clerk. However the voter roll database is controlled by the secretary of State, not the County Clerk.

I will be there to ensure that all eligible voters can vote without having undue obstruction by publicizing all Election dates and polling places. Further, I would make it a priority to amend and strengthen the election laws. I would allow any registered voter to vote at any polling place set in Sandoval County. I would also fully advertise to the public where every polling . . .

**Paula PAPPONI**

Republican



Outstanding abilities and successful CEO experience in budgeting, implementing programs, advanced technology, leadership, and communications. Achievements: Fulbright Memorial Fund Scholar; Executive Board Member on Compact for Learning and Citizenship the U.S. Education Commission of the States, DC; presented doctoral research Oxford University, England, Peking University, China; presented Celebrating Educational Opportunities for Hispanic Students, San Diego, CA; Cooperative Leadership Award, National School Development Council.

I would improve public access by developing opportunities through mobile technology, providing access enhancing tools on the website, incorporating continuous improvement strategies to ensure quality and easy access of information for all residents including the outlying areas and Pueblos. Improvements can also be made through an e-Recording system for title and lending companies to simplify submissions and recording processes, thereby increasing efficiency and lowering cost.

Improved efficiency and accuracy requires a modernized voter registration system that uses multiple official data sources to eliminate duplicate, ineligible and invalid registrations providing greater accuracy and fewer opportunities for fraud; establishes a failsafe method for voters who are omitted from the rolls to cast a ballot; and ensures control of voter rolls while allowing for common standards and data exchanges across state lines.

To ensure that eligible voters can vote without obstruction they must be guaranteed full participation in all aspects of the election process; provided with honest and secure transmission of their votes; offered transparency, accuracy, and integrity in counting and reporting the results; provided with voter education to communicate facts, offered assistance and basic information through all forms of consistent and effective communication. No voter disenfranchised.

**SANDOVAL COUNTY TREASURER**

Four year term. Must be at least 18 years of age and a resident of the county from which elected. The Treasurer is responsible for collecting property taxes in Sandoval County and for the supervision and investment of funds. The Treasurer's office collects and distributes property taxes to different government agencies. Salary Maximum: \$65,400

*Describe your specific experience and abilities that prepare you for the office of County Treasurer. (65 words)*

*If elected, what are your two highest priorities? What specific actions will you take to accomplish them? (65 words)*

*Are improvements needed at the County Treasurer's office? If so, how would you address these needs if elected Treasurer? (65 words)*

**Laura M. MONTOYA**

Democrat



I earned a degree in Political Science/Psychology and a MA in Public Affairs. I have been blessed to serve my community in several capacities in both state and local government. I have had my own small business for several years; analyzed legislations; managed employees; assisted with Capital Outlay; produced, re-written and implemented policy; and been the go-to person to improve departments and businesses.

The two highest goals that I am interested in accomplishing as Sandoval County Treasurer would be to have a friendly office environment that is efficient with transparency and accountability and to continue smart profitable investments. Specific actions would be to document all information that is processed through the office, have an informative working relationship with our constituents and Sandoval commissioners. For more info: [www.laurammontoya.com](http://www.laurammontoya.com).

I believe that the Treasurer's office has done a great job in recent years at improving services and functions. I appreciate that the Treasurer's office is directly involved in the analysis and decision making of county contracts before decisions are made that impact our county. I want to continue to be at the table on issues that impact our daily operations and contracts.

**SANDOVAL COUNTY TREASURER (continued)**

*Describe your specific experience and abilities that prepare you for the office of County Treasurer. (65 words)*

*If elected, what are your two highest priorities? What specific actions will you take to accomplish them? (65 words)*

*Are improvements needed at the County Treasurer's office? If so, how would you address these needs if elected Treasurer? (65 words)*

**David L. BENCY**  
Republican



As a C.P.A. (ret.) and 25 year Accounting instructor, I have the unique background to accomplish the goals of being the Treasurer. I have 15 years of budgetary experience as a former Rio Rancho City Councilor and Sandoval County Commissioner. As Deputy Mayor and Vice-Chair, I have served on the investment advisory committees at both entities.

First priority is to follow the Nepotism clause of the employee code and follow the Procurement Code to the letter. Second priority is to better communication between the Treasurer's office and the Clerk's office and the Assessor's office. PID's and SAD's have been missed in prior years.

Pie Charts and Bar Graphs should be included in tax bills to inform taxpayers about the source and use of their taxes. Warrants should be posted on line for transparency.

**SANDOVAL COUNTY PROBATE JUDGE**

Four-year term. Must be at least eighteen years of age and a resident of the county from which elected. The Sandoval County Probate Judge serves the public in exercising jurisdiction over cases of informal probate necessary to the proper settlement of estates of deceased persons. Salary: \$28,820 annually.

*Describe your specific knowledge of New Mexico's probate laws that prepare you for the office of Probate Judge. (65 words)*

*What programs or changes to existing programs would you recommend to improve the Probate Court system? (65 words)*

*What do you believe the role of a Probate Judge should be in resolving cases filed at the Court? (65 words)*

**Charles J. AGUILAR**  
Democrat



I have served as Probate Judge for one term 2007-2010. During my tenure I attended the yearly training provided by the New Mexico Association of Counties. During the four years I processed a number of probates/appointments proceedings. I feel that I have a working knowledge of the probate process.

I personally feel that the Probate Court system is designed to allow for the orderly distribution of property and I don't see a need for any changes. Changes to the law would have to be recommended to the legislature so that changes can be made to the New Mexico state statute.

The role of the Probate Judge is to assure that the pleadings (paper work submitted to the court) are complete and accurate under New Mexico law. The judge appoints a personal representative who has the legal authority to act on behalf of the estate in passing the decedents property.

**Lawrence D. McCLAIN**  
Republican



I am experienced in insurance contract administration, claims arbitration, real estate contracts and in banking. I am currently a planning and zoning commissioner district 3 sandoval county.

Our probate court in sandoval county and or state of New Mexico sets the standards and statutes that we must follow and there is little if any room to change existing programs.

I will promise you that there will be regular office hours to assist you and I will provide professional and caring guidance to promptly settle your loved ones estate and also perform weddings when requested. I am motivated by a desire to contribute to my community in a meaningful way. I am dedicated to being the best that I can be.

**Sandoval County Arroyo Flood Control Authorities**

As communities around the state have grown, flood control authorities have been established by the New Mexico Legislature to protect the environment from flooding and damage. Southern Sandoval County Arroyo Flood Control Authority (SSCAFCA) and Eastern Sandoval County Flood Control Authority (ESCAFCA) are independent political bodies with elected boards entrusted with flood and storm water control. They are authorized to acquire, improve, maintain and operate flood and storm water control facilities on streams and watersheds that enter, originate in or cross their area of authority.

# Southern Sandoval County Arroyo Flood Control Authority (SSCAFCA)

SSCAFCA was established by the legislature in 1990 and generally covers Sandoval County west of the Rio Grande to the Rio Puerco, north to US 550 and south to Bernalillo County line. [www.sscafca.com](http://www.sscafca.com). Five at-large directors are elected for staggered six-year terms. Two director positions are up for election. The two candidates receiving the highest number of votes will be elected. No salary, but Directors may choose to accept a per diem of \$95 a day when conducting SSCAFCA business.

*The Southern Sandoval County Arroyo Flood Control Authority, SSCAFCA, is the local governmental agency responsible for planning, construction and maintenance of the major flood control facilities in Sandoval County west of the Rio Grande to the Rio Puerco, north to US 550 and south to Bernalillo County line. Describe your specific experience and abilities that prepare and qualify you for the office of SSCAFCA Commissioner. (65 words)*

*What are the two or three most important issues that fall within SSCAFCA's jurisdiction? As a board member, how would you address these issues? (65 words)*

*How can communication between SSCAFCA and the public be improved? How can the taxpayers' interests be protected in the management of SSCAFCA bonds? (65 words)*

*How do you think SSCAFCA affects the quality of life of district residents? (65 words)*

## John CHANEY



I have served on the SSCAFCA Board since its inception in 1990. I have been chairman twice and vice chair for many years. I believe it is important to SSCAFCA to retain a member with an institutional memory of the history and of the decisions and precedents set in determining policy in order to protect the taxpayers and citizens from arroyo flooding.

The most important goal of SSCAFCA is to protect private property from flooding. The second important goal is to provide the public with a system of undeveloped parks throughout the arroyos within SSCAFCA's jurisdiction that may be used as open space, wildlife habitat and multi-use recreational facilities.

The taxpayers is protected by SSCAFCA's historic policy of refusing to raise the mill levy on property within its jurisdiction. I have been determined to do this throughout my service on the Board. As the area experiences increased development, SSCAFCA's revenue will increase while taxes remain constant. Through its website, SSCAFCA needs to continue to communicate that its mission can be accomplished without increasing the. . .

Without SSCAFCA to protect the public from arroyo flooding, individuals and developers would build in flood plains and, when the flood damage occurred, expect the taxpayers to pay for damage and/or repairs. Without SSCAFCA protecting the arroyos, valuable open space and habitat, as well as multi-use parks, would be lost forever. SSCAFCA's vision of naturalistic arroyos protects our community from dangerous concrete structures and . . .

## Mark CONKLING



I have 12 years experience as a SSCAFCA Commissioner, and served as Chairman for three years. My knowledge of SSCAFCA brings a significant contribution. In addition, my homebuilding experience and knowledge of real estate in Sandoval County is helpful, and I am dedicated to doing a good job.

A. Manage our watersheds for future generations: I would continue developing drainage watershed management plans, creating rainwater-harvesting techniques, and manage our tax money prudently. B. Quality of Life: All drainage plans should contain multi-use features for the public such as parks, bicycle trails, and walkways. C. Standards of Government: Insist on honesty, integrity, transparency, and careful management of tax dollars.

Communication: We have developed an outstanding website, and we invite public comments at all SSCAFCA Board Meetings. We strive to address every public request quickly, and we welcome participation. Management of Bonds: As Commissioner and as Chairman, I have insisted on a prudent reserve for debt service, and have helped lead SSCAFCA to achieve a AAA Bond Rating. We are very careful with public tax dollars.

Our land, drainage, and water conservation are foundations of our infrastructure and quality of life. Our ability to use public lands for parks and trails promotes the health and welfare of our citizens, and our leadership in rainwater harvesting and recycling promotes responsible use of our fragile environment.

## Randall CARROLL



I have been the Floodplain Manager and Drainage Engineer for the City of Rio Rancho for approximately six years. My development review of drainage reports and plans throughout the area provide me with a very in depth knowledge of the area needs. During this time I have worked very closely with SSCAFCA engineering to develop design and regulatory requirements.

SSCAFCA's main concerns are to protect the health and welfare and attempt to improve quality of life for those within in its jurisdiction to the best of its ability while spending their resources in the most effective manner possible. As a member of the board I will assure proposed projects are focused in these areas and utilize SSCAFCA's resources as effectively as possible.

SSCAFCA is currently improving its public outreach through the schools and other educational programs. Major project information may also be incorporated into newscast interviews to reach an even greater population. Bond funds should be applied to projects that have the highest ratio of persons protected per dollar spent.

Quality of life enhancements may be incorporated into SSCAFCA projects by combining art and function into the project designs. Attempt should be made to keep the visual aspects of drainage facilities as natural as possible. After all, nature created very effective storm water management facilities long before man became involved. No adverse impact should be a prime directive.

# Eastern Sandoval County Arroyo Flood Control Authority (ESCAFCA)

ESCAFCA was established by the legislature in 2007 and covers Sandoval County east of the Rio Grande including Bernalillo and Algodones. [www.escafca.com](http://www.escafca.com). Two positions are up for election. The two candidates with the greatest number of votes will be elected. No salary, but Directors may choose to accept a per diem of \$95 a day when conducting ESCAFCA business.

**Vacant**

**DISTRICT 1** (six-year term)

**Jack TORRES**

**DISTRICT 3** (four-year term)

UNOPOSED

# JUDICIAL RETENTION

Vacancies for courts in New Mexico are filled through gubernatorial appointment from a slate of potential nominees submitted by a judicial nominating committee. The newly-appointed judge must then run in a contested, partisan election at the next general election. Thereafter, the judge runs in nonpartisan retention elections for set terms. To be retained, a judge must receive at least 57% in affirmative votes cast in the retention election.

## THE NEW MEXICO SUPREME COURT

The five justices on the Supreme Court are elected by all voters in the state and serve eight-year terms. To be eligible to hold the office of Justice of the Supreme Court, a person must be 35 years old, have practiced law for at least 10 years, and have resided in New Mexico for the last 3 years. The Supreme Court serves as the administrative head of the New Mexico judicial branch of government. It is the "court of last resort" for state appellate actions, regulates attorneys and judges, and has superintending control over all lower state courts. It has jurisdiction over civil cases where jurisdiction is not specifically vested in the state Court of Appeals, appeals from criminal cases imposing the death penalty or life imprisonment, appeals from decisions of the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission, certiorari review of state Court of Appeals decisions, and cases certified to it by the state Court of Appeals or any federal court. Annual salaries: Chief Justice, \$125,691; Justice, \$123,691.

### JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT – Retention

Voters at a retention election may vote either "yes" or "no" for each individual justice for retention. To retain the office, a justice standing for retention must receive 57% "yes" votes of all the votes cast on the question of retention.

*What attributes and experience do you bring to your service as a current New Mexico Supreme Court Justice? (65 words)*

*What ethical practices are critical in keeping the judiciary independent from political influence? (65 words)*

*What programs and changes to improve the New Mexico Supreme Court would you like to see implemented? (65 words)*

#### Richard C. BOSSON



With 18 years on the bench, 8 with the Ct/App (two as Chief Judge) and 10 on the Supreme Court (two as Chief Justice), I have the most appellate experience of any sitting judge and more than almost anyone over the past 50 years. Despite the longevity, I work hard each day and am passionate about the pursuit of fairness and equal justice for all.

Judges must remain free of partisanship and the appearance of being political. This means avoiding partisan gatherings, fund raisers, endorsements, or even just associating in a manner that could be construed as political. And this includes your private life as well and even your family. It can be lonely, but that is the price of being part of the judiciary.

The Supreme Court functions well as long as good people get on the Court. Unfortunately, the present pay scale and requirement of running a state-wide political race discourages many excellent applicants from pursuing an interest. I would like to see some changes affecting the political requirements for appellate judges, perhaps as they do in Arizona where only trial judges run in partisan elections.

## THE NEW MEXICO COURT OF APPEALS

The ten judges on the Court of Appeals are elected by all voters in the state and serve eight-year terms. To be eligible to hold the office of Judge of the Court of Appeals, a person must be 35 years old, have practiced law for at least 10 years, and have resided in New Mexico for the last 3 years. As the intermediate appellate court between the district courts and the Supreme Court, the Court of Appeals currently reviews appeals in all cases, except criminal cases involving sentences of death or life imprisonment, appeals from the Public Regulation Commission, and cases involving habeas corpus. The judges sit in panels of three judges to decide cases. Annual salaries: Chief Judge, \$119,406; Judge, \$117,506.

### JUDGE OF THE COURT OF APPEALS – Retention

Voters at a retention election may vote either "yes" or "no" for each individual judge for retention. To retain the office, a judge standing for retention must receive 57% "yes" votes of all the votes cast on the question of retention.

*What attributes and experience do you bring to your service as a current Judge of the Court of Appeals? (65 words)*

*What ethical practices are critical in keeping the judiciary independent from political influence? (65 words)*

*Given your experience as a Judge of the Court of Appeals, what improvements are needed in the Court of Appeals and how could those improvements be implemented? (65 words)*

#### Roderick T. KENNEDY



23 years judging, 11 on Court of Appeals. Recommended for retention by bipartisan commission. Have presided in magistrate, Metropolitan, tribal and district courts throughout New Mexico. Handled more than 65,000 cases, civil and criminal, in Metro Court. Human experience informs my decisions. Awards: ABOTA 2011 Outstanding Appellate Judge, British Forensic Society; NM Bar. Write and teach about science and the law, including at UNM Law.

The speed of justice is slowed by lack of resources. Cases are more complicated every year. Budget cuts result in slower appeals and less personnel to handle them efficiently. Lower courts have trouble moving appeals to us on time for the same reasons. Courts use about 3% of total state budget, and there is no slack left. Priority setting with legislature and Governor is required.

My Constitutional duty is to be independent and impartial. Courts referee disputes, sometimes saying the "will of the majority" is wrong. Forcing partisan elections on judges selected on their merit by bi-partisan commissions conflicts with judges responsibility to the judicial oath of impartiality. Retention races, and current evaluation commissions protect the public interest in judicial quality and independence better than the current system.

## JUDGE OF THE COURT OF APPEALS – RETENTION (continued)

Voters at a retention election may vote either “yes” or “no” for each individual judge for retention. To retain the office, a judge standing for retention must receive 57% “yes” votes of all the votes cast on the question of retention.

*What attributes and experience do you bring to your service as a current Judge of the Court of Appeals? (65 words)*

*What ethical practices are critical in keeping the judiciary independent from political influence? (65 words)*

*Given your experience as a Judge of the Court of Appeals, what improvements are needed in the Court of Appeals and how could those improvements be implemented? (65 words)*

### Michael E. VIGIL



I have been an attorney since 1976. As a private attorney, I handled a wide variety of civil and criminal cases, and served as appellate counsel in over 50 formal published cases of first impression. I have been a Judge since February, 2003, and I am the author of dozens of cases of first impression, both civil and criminal.

The court must seek to find ways to render quicker decisions while maintaining a high level of quality.

I would abolish partisan, political elections of all judges.

## PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

On November 6, 2012, five proposed constitutional amendments will appear on the New Mexico general election ballot as the result of passage of joint resolutions by the New Mexico Legislature in its 2011 and 2012 regular legislative sessions. For adoption, a constitutional amendment requires ratification by a majority of those voting on the constitutional amendment. Proposed constitutional amendments become effective upon approval by the voters unless an effective date is provided within the text of the proposed amendment.

### BRIEF ANALYSIS AND ARGUMENTS FOR AND AGAINST

The full text of each amendment with “for and against” arguments prepared by Legislative Council Services staff can be found on the New Mexico Legislature’s website: <http://www.nmlegis.gov/lcs/reports.aspx>. The following information includes the text of each proposed amendment with a brief analysis of the amendment and a summary of arguments for and against the amendment.

### CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT 1

Proposing an amendment to Article 6, Section 32 of the Constitution of New Mexico to provide for two additional members to sit on the judicial standards commission, a municipal judge and a public member.

#### Brief Analysis:

Constitutional Amendment 1 would amend Article 6, Section 32 of the New Mexico Constitution and increase the membership of the Commission from 11 to 13 by adding two commissioner positions. One new commissioner would be a municipal judge, selected in a manner set by the Legislature to serve a four-year term. The second would be a citizen who is neither a judge nor an attorney, appointed by the Governor to serve a five-year term.

#### Arguments For:

- 1) Municipal judges represent the largest category of judges in the state, and yet there is no dedicated slot for a municipal judge on the commission. Adding a municipal judge to the commission provides equal representation on the oversight body that monitors their job performance.
- 2) It is unfair for complaints regarding a municipal judge’s job performance to be resolved solely by people who lack the current, firsthand experiences and views of a municipal judge. Thus, adding a municipal judge as a member of the Commission increases fairness.
- 3) Adding a municipal judge and a citizen member would retain the current balance of power on the Commission. This change would ensure that views of municipal judges would be heard along with those of the other judges, attorneys, and citizen members. This is especially important when a municipal judge is the subject of a complaint alleging misconduct.

#### Arguments Against:

- 1) Adding two more members to the Commission, for a total of 13, would make its work unnecessarily difficult. It is always challenging to reach consensus when more people are involved in a process. All disciplinary recommendations of the Commission require a majority consensus. It is not in the best interests of the citizenry to slow down the judicial oversight process.

- 2) A Constitutional Amendment is unnecessary because such changes could be accomplished by amending current law through the Legislature instead of permanently changing the Constitution. A bill requiring that a municipal judge be a member of the Commission could be passed by the Legislature.

- 3) Adding more members to the Judicial Standards Commission would increase the costs to the taxpayer for funding the Commission’s work. Members of the Commission are entitled to per diem and mileage reimbursement.

### CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT 2

Proposing an amendment to Article 11, Section 1 of the Constitution of New Mexico to increase the qualifications for Public Regulation Commissioners.

#### Brief Analysis:

Constitutional Amendment 2 would amend Article 11, Section 1 of the New Mexico Constitution to require the Legislature to enact a statute increasing the qualifications of Public Regulation Commission (“PRC”) commissioners. Currently, PRC commissioners are only required to be at least 18 years of age, not convicted felons, and registered to vote in New Mexico. The increased qualifications would apply starting with commissioners elected at the 2014 general election, as well as any commissioner appointed to fill a vacancy after July 1, 2013.

#### Arguments For:

- 1) The New Mexico PRC has a broader jurisdiction than any other regulatory agency in the country and makes decisions that impact the daily lives of all of New Mexico’s citizens, ranging from setting utility rates to regulating motor carrier safety and prices. Increasing the qualifications for commissioners would help make sure that they have a basic understanding of the complex industries they regulate.
- 2) Because PRC commissioners are expected to act much like judges, making their decisions by applying the relevant law to the evidence on the record, it is critical that commissioners understand the law and the specifics of the subject areas they regulate. Too often, and at too high a cost, the New Mexico Supreme Court has overruled PRC decisions because commissioners have not understood the law.
- 3) Many other states already require their utility commissioners to have educational or professional experience in a field relevant to utility regulation, such as accounting, finance, engineering, public or business administration, administrative law, or economics.

# PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS (continued)

## Arguments Against:

- 1) The amendment leaves it up to the Legislature to establish the specific qualifications for PRC commissioners, meaning that voters would not know exactly what those qualifications would be before they vote on the amendment.
- 2) Depending on what qualifications are enacted into law, some citizens may not be qualified to run for the office of PRC commissioner, even though they would be qualified to run for other elected positions in state and local government.
- 3) It is unclear whether the Legislature is actually committed to enacting serious, substantive qualifications that are rigorous enough to ensure that PRC commissioners are truly qualified to do the job.

## CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT 3

Proposing to amend Article 11, Section 2 of the Constitution of New Mexico and to enact a new section of Article 11 to remove authority to charter and regulate corporations from the Public Regulation Commission and provide authority to charter corporations to the Secretary of State.

### Brief Analysis:

Constitutional Amendment 3 proposes to amend Article 11, Section 2 of the Constitution of New Mexico to remove the responsibility for chartering and regulating corporations from the Public Regulation Commission ("PRC") and transfer the responsibility for chartering corporations to the Secretary of State's office.

### Arguments For:

- 1) According to the National Conference of State Legislatures, 41 of the 50 states assign responsibility for chartering corporations to their Secretaries of State. Aligning New Mexico with the overwhelming majority of states would make it easier for businesses, particularly those that are new to New Mexico, to know where to file their documents.
- 2) Transferring the responsibility for corporate filings to the Secretary of State would create a "one-stop shop" for all businesses filings. Currently, the Secretary of State registers some businesses, like Limited Liability Partnerships, while the PRC registers others, like Limited Liability Companies. The Secretary of State also registers state trademarks and service marks and files documents required by the Uniform Commercial Code.
- 3) Removing responsibility for chartering businesses would allow the PRC to focus on its core duties of regulating utilities, which are very different from the secretarial duty of filing business documents.

### Arguments Against:

- 1) There would be a one-time cost associated with transferring the PRC's corporate registration responsibilities to the Secretary of State.
- 2) The Legislature has not studied whether the Secretary of State's office is the ideal state agency in which to place the responsibility for corporate registration, so that duty should remain with the PRC until the Legislature undertakes such a study.
- 3) The corporate registration division has not been the source of most of the scandals or corruption that have plagued the PRC, so moving it would not address those problems.

## CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT 4

Proposing to amend Article 11 of the Constitution of New Mexico to remove the regulation of insurance companies and others engaged in risk assumption from the Public Regulation Commission and place it under a Superintendent of Insurance appointed by the Insurance Nominating Committee as provided by law.

### Brief Analysis:

Constitutional Amendment 4 proposes to amend Article 11 of the Constitution of New Mexico to remove the responsibility for regulating insurance from the Public Regulation Commission ("PRC") and create an Office of the Superintendent of Insurance to regulate insurance companies and others engaged in risk-assumption in the state. The amendment would establish an Insurance Nominating Committee to appoint the Superintendent of Insurance based upon qualifications for the position established by the Legislature. The Legislature would also establish how the members of the Insurance Nominating Committee are appointed.

### Arguments For:

- 1) The insurance industry is so complex and so important to the lives of New Mexicans that it should be overseen by an independent agency that is solely focused on that task. PRC commissioners lack the specialized expertise to successfully oversee the insurance industry.

2) Removing insurance regulation from the PRC and placing it within an independent agency would help to insulate it from politics. The political pressure placed on the Insurance Division by the PRC (for example, to hire unqualified staff) is a major reason why the National Association of Insurance Commissioners placed the division on probation for several years and a 2012 review by the Center for Integrity gave the Division an "F."

3) This amendment would align New Mexico with the 35 other states that have stand-alone departments of insurance.

### Arguments Against:

- 1) The amendment leaves it up to the Legislature to establish the membership of the nominating committee and the qualifications of the Insurance Superintendent, meaning that voters would not know exactly what those will be before they vote on the amendment.
- 2) Although the PRC's Insurance Division has suffered from numerous problems, the PRC has been working to improve it and should be allowed to continue the process.
- 3) Having the Superintendent of Insurance appointed by a nominating committee rather than by the PRC means that voters would no longer vote directly for the people who appoint the Superintendent.

## CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT 5

Proposing an amendment to Article 6 of the Constitution of New Mexico to add a new section that provides for the organization of an independent Public Defender Department.

### Brief Analysis:

Constitutional Amendment 5 would amend Article 6 of the New Mexico Constitution to establish the Public Defender Department as an independent state agency not under the Governor's authority. It would create a Public Defender Commission empowered to appoint and provide guidance to the Chief Public Defender and oversee administrative aspects of the Department. The amendment would also allow the Legislature to establish the term, manner of appointment, and qualifications for the Chief Public Defender and members of the Commission.

### Arguments For:

- 1) Funding for the Department is currently inadequate. An independent Public Defender Department may be better able to secure the resources to properly perform its constitutional mandate of protecting the rights of people accused of crimes who can not afford attorneys. Funding the defense of alleged criminals is often politically unpopular, particularly with officials seeking re-election. Many other states have independent public defender departments that can lobby more effectively for necessary funding removed from the political process.
- 2) Having an independent Department would ensure compliance with the Rules of Professional Conduct for Attorneys. Because the Chief Public Defender is appointed by and serves at the pleasure of the Governor, there is potential for interference with the attorney's independent judgment, especially when defending a notorious or unpopular alleged criminal. As an independent state agency, the Department would be less susceptible to political influence.
- 3) The Governor already sets many policies of the criminal justice system by appointments to various departments and through the executive's legislative initiatives and priorities. The Governor currently appoints the Chief Public Defender and oversees the Public Defender Department, giving the executive branch too much power in determining the policies and practices of the criminal justice system. Having an independent department would offer a clear way to balance this power.

### Arguments Against:

- 1) Making the Public Defender Department an independent state agency and requiring the creation of a Public Defender Commission to oversee it could be costly to taxpayers. The current per diem rate is \$95, and voters have no way of knowing how many members would be on the Commission nor how many days of work-related travel and expenses the state would incur for those members.
- 2) This amendment creates yet another level of unnecessary bureaucracy. The proposed Commission would not actually assist in representing indigent defendants or performing core functions. It would add a superfluous layer of management, requiring consultation on and oversight of decisions better left to a qualified Chief Public Defender. A Commission would cause unnecessary delays in the Department's operations.
- 3) Concerns about undue political influence in representing indigent defendants are effectively addressed by the rules of professional conduct that prohibit attorneys from permitting a non-client, including the Governor, to influence their judgment in rendering legal services to a client. Changing the Department's executive agency status to avoid political pressure is unnecessary.

# State Capital Projects General Obligation Bonds and Tax Questions

General obligation bonds allow the state to borrow money to finance capital improvement projects. The principal and interest on the bonds are paid out of property taxes. The specific amount of property taxes collected in a given year is attributable to a number of factors, including the amount of debt service required for existing general obligation bonds, the projected debt service required for the new bond issue, the latest assessed valuation of net taxable property, cash balances in bond debt service accounts, the date of issuance, and the actual interest rate obtained on the bond sale.

Based on current projections, the State Board of Finance estimates that the three bonds will generate a maximum of \$140.2 million at the current State property tax mill levy rate of 1.36 mills. If all three bonds are approved by the voters in November 2012, the average cost to the owner of a property worth \$100,000 over a 10-year period will stay at a flat rate of \$8.04 per year. Of that \$8.04 average cost per year, \$6.88 is attributable to the higher education bond, \$0.59 to the senior facilities bond, and \$0.56 to the library acquisitions bond. If any of the bonds are not approved, the State property tax mill rate could decline slightly.

A complete breakdown of the capital projects designated in each bond issue can be found on the New Mexico Legislature's website: [www.nmlegis.gov](http://www.nmlegis.gov)

The ballots used at the 2012 general election shall contain substantially the following language:

## Bond A - \$10,335,000 for senior citizen facilities (construction and improvement)

A. "The 2012 Capital Projects General Obligation Bond Act authorizes the issuance and sale of senior citizen facility improvement, construction and equipment acquisition bonds. Shall the state be authorized to issue general obligation bonds in an amount not to exceed ten million three hundred thirty-five thousand dollars (\$10,335,000) to make capital expenditures for certain senior citizen facility improvement, construction and equipment acquisition projects and provide for a general property tax imposition and levy for the payment of principal of, interest on and expenses incurred in connection with the issuance of the bonds and the collection of the tax as permitted by law?"

For----- Against-----

## Bond B - \$9,830,000 for acquisitions and construction expenditures at academic, public, and tribal libraries

B. "The 2012 Capital Projects General Obligation Bond Act authorizes the issuance and sale of library acquisition and construction bonds. Shall the state be authorized to issue general obligation bonds in an amount not to exceed nine million eight hundred thirty thousand dollars (\$9,830,000) to make capital expenditures for academic, public school, tribal and public library resource acquisitions and construction and provide for a general property tax imposition and levy for the payment of principal of, interest on and expenses incurred in connection with the issuance of the bonds and the collection of the tax as permitted by law?"

For----- Against-----

## Bond C - \$120,000,000 for higher education and special school facilities

C. "The 2012 Capital Projects General Obligation Bond Act authorizes the issuance and sale of higher education and special schools capital improvement and acquisition bonds. Shall the state be authorized to issue general obligation bonds in an amount not to exceed one hundred twenty million dollars (\$120,000,000) to make capital expenditures for certain higher education and special school capital improvements and acquisitions and provide for a general property tax imposition and levy for the payment of principal of, interest on and expenses incurred in connection with the issuance of the bonds and the collection of the tax as permitted by law?"

For----- Against-----

# BERNALILLO COUNTY BALLOT QUESTIONS

## GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND

### General Obligation Bonds and Taxes

A bond represents a sum of money borrowed by a government to finance capital improvement projects. The government promises to repay the amount borrowed, plus interest, over a period of time. The bonds are called "General Obligation" because payment of the debt service (principal plus interest) is a general obligation of the county and its property owners. That is, the bonds are backed by the full faith and credit of the county.

General Obligation bonds require approval by the voters and are repaid from a portion of the property taxes. The current tax for county bond obligation is 89.7 cents per thousand on debt service for the county. The owner of property assessed at \$100,000 would pay \$29.90 in debt service on bonds. Because old bonds are being retired as the new bonds are requested, passage of the bonds will generally not result in property tax increases.

### Bernalillo County General Obligation Bonds

Bernalillo County will ask the voters to authorize the issuance of General Obligation bonds for the 2012 bond cycle (years 2013-2014) totaling \$20,100,000. The projects have been grouped according to their general purposes into six ballot questions. General Obligation Bonds are grouped by purpose so that voters have the option of approving one purpose and not another. Once approved, the funds must be used for the approved purposes only.

#### Bond Question No. 1 - Library

**Shall Bernalillo County, New Mexico be authorized to issue its general obligation bonds, in one series or more, in an aggregate principal amount not exceeding \$1,300,000, for the purpose of securing funds for the purchase of library books and library resources for the libraries within Bernalillo County, New Mexico, said bonds to be payable from general (ad valorem) taxes to be issued and sold at such time or times, upon such terms and conditions as the Board of County Commissioners may determine and as permitted by law?**

#### Bond Question No. 2 - Public Safety

**Shall Bernalillo County, New Mexico, be authorized to issue its general obligation bonds, in one series or more, in an aggregate principal amount not exceeding \$3,500,000, for the purpose of the acquiring property, constructing, and equipping County buildings used for public safety purposes, said bonds to be payable from general (ad valorem) taxes and to be issued and sold at such time or times, upon such terms and conditions as the Board of County Commissioners may determine and as permitted by law?**

Of this amount, \$1,500,000 will be used to plan, design, construct and equip an animal shelter. The county will spend \$2,000,000 to plan, design, construct, furnish and equip county fire facilities including fire stations 41 and 46.

#### Bond Question No. 3 - Parks and Recreation

**Shall Bernalillo County, New Mexico be authorized to issue its general obligation bonds, in one series or more, in an aggregate principal amount not exceeding \$1,800,000 for the purpose of acquiring property, constructing, and equipping recreational facilities, including compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, within the County, said bonds to be payable from general (ad valorem) taxes and to be issued and sold at such time or times, upon such terms and conditions as the Board of County Commissioners may determine and as permitted by law?**

Of this amount, \$200,000 will be used to plan, design, and construct the expansion of the Paradise Hills Community Center parking area. The county will use \$1,600,000 to plan, design, construct, furnish, equip, redevelop and improve county facilities including parks, playgrounds, pools and little league fields.

#### Bond Question No. 4 - County Buildings

**Shall Bernalillo County, New Mexico, be authorized to issue its general obligation bonds, in one series or more, in an aggregate principal amount not exceeding \$1,000,000 for the purpose of acquiring, planning, designing, constructing and equipping County buildings including but not limited to, facilities construction and improvements required by the Americans with Disabilities Act, within Bernalillo County, New Mexico, said bonds to be payable from general (ad valorem) taxes and to be issued and sold at such time or times, upon such terms and conditions as the Board of County Commissioners may determine and as permitted by law?**

This money will be allocated for the purpose of acquiring, facilities construction and improvements, including necessary remodeling of county buildings including but not limited to facilities construction, improvements, planning, designing, constructing, equipping and furnishing.

#### Bond Question No. 5 - Roads

**Shall Bernalillo County, New Mexico, be authorized to issue its general obligation bonds, in one series or more, in an aggregate principal amount not exceeding \$10,000,000 for the purpose of securing funds for the acquisition of property, design, construction and repair of roads and related non-motor vehicle pathways within Bernalillo County, New Mexico, said bonds to be payable from general (ad valorem) taxes and to be issued and sold at such time or times, upon such terms and conditions as the Board of County Commissioners may determine and as permitted by law?**

Of this amount, \$5,000,000 is set aside to rebuild the Paseo del Norte interchange at I-25 including flyover ramps for northbound to westbound and eastbound to southbound directions; improving I-25 frontage roads, grade separating Paseo del Norte through Jefferson Center; and connecting east-west bike trail system across I-25. The amount of \$4,000,000 is set aside to extend Sunport Blvd. from Broadway Blvd. to I-25 using 4-lane construction. This will serve as south valley access to the airport and industrial growth areas. The amount of \$600,000 will be used for placement of asphalt pavement to unincorporated area dirt and graveled roadways or replacement of substantially deteriorated paved roadways that are maintained by the county as certified by the Board of County Commissioners. Also includes funding for repaving/repairing county roads. The amount of \$400,000 will be used to match NMDOT grants for improvements to various school bus routes, paving, drainage and safety improvements.

# BERNALILLO COUNTY BALLOT QUESTIONS

## GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND (continued)

### Bond Question No. 6 - Storm and Wastewater

Shall Bernalillo County, New Mexico, be authorized to issue its general obligation bonds, in one series or more, in an aggregate principal amount not exceeding \$2,500,000 for the purpose of securing funds for the acquisition of property, design, construction and repair of storm sewer and wastewater systems within Bernalillo County, New Mexico, said bonds to be payable from general (ad valorem) taxes and to be issued and sold at such time or times, upon such terms and conditions as the Board of County Commissioners may determine and as permitted by law?

The entire amount of \$2,500,000 will be used to provide storm drainage facilities to collect and remove water from the Blake-Isleta to the Perry Pond area. The bond provides money for 38 storm drains to be constructed under roadways to collect and convey water to a detention pond. Curb and gutter will be installed to prevent water from entering private property.

## Albuquerque Metropolitan Flood Control Authority Bond Issue

Shall the Albuquerque Metropolitan Arroyo Flood Control Authority be authorized to issue the Authority's general obligation bonds, in the aggregate principal amount not exceeding \$25,000,000, for the extension, betterment, alteration, reconstruction, repair and other improvement of the Authority's flood control system?

AMAFCA is the local governmental agency responsible for planning, construction and maintenance of the major flood control facilities in the greater Albuquerque area. AMAFCA was created in 1963 by the State Legislature to be the local agency mandated with the single purpose of flood control within its boundaries, which include most of the developed area of Bernalillo County, with the exceptions of the East Mountain area.

AMAFCA has taxing authority and is funded through its mill levy assessment on property tax bills. AMAFCA has an operating budget of approximately \$3.6 million per year that funds the operation and maintenance of the flood control system. Additionally, AMAFCA issues bonds to fund its capital program. This election, a \$25,000,000 bond authorization is sought to fund construction of flood control and storm water quality projects throughout the AMAFCA district and to ensure compliance with Environmental Protection Act standards. Voting for the bonds will not raise property taxes, due to the retirement of previously issued bonds. For specific projects to be funded by this bond issue, please see [www.amafca.org](http://www.amafca.org)

*“Many forms of Government have been tried, and will be tried in this world of sin and woe. No one pretends that democracy is perfect or all-wise. Indeed, it has been said that democracy is the worst form of Government except all those other forms that have been tried from time to time.”*

*– Winston Churchill*

# CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE BALLOT QUESTIONS

## Albuquerque Gross Receipts Tax Revenue Bonds for Paseo del Norte and I-25 Interchange Improvements

### Gross Receipt Taxes

New Mexico does not have a sales tax. It has a gross receipts tax instead. This tax is imposed on persons engaged in business in New Mexico, but in almost every case the person engaged in business passes the tax to the consumer. In that way the gross receipts tax resembles a sales tax. Gross Receipts Tax Revenue bonds for the proposed Paseo del Norte and I-25 interchange improvements would be issued against the expectations of gross receipts tax revenue to be collected by the City of Albuquerque.

### Paseo del Norte and I-25 Interchange Bond Question

Shall the City of Albuquerque issue up to \$50,000,000 of its gross receipts tax revenue bonds to study, acquire property for, design, develop, improve, construct, reconstruct, rehabilitate, renovate, modernize, sign, enhance, landscape and otherwise improve the Paseo del Norte and I-25 interchange?

### Proposition to Amend Albuquerque's Minimum Wage Ordinance

Proposing to amend Albuquerque's 2006 minimum wage ordinance to raise the minimum wage in the city from the current rate of \$7.50 to \$8.50 per hour starting in 2013, and to adjust the minimum wage each year after that to keep up with the rising cost of living. The ordinance will also require that, starting in 2013, employers of tipped employees like waitresses and waiters be paid at least 45% of the minimum wage in cash wages from their employers, and that starting in 2014, tipped employees be paid at least 60% of the minimum wage in cash wages from their employers, with the rest of the minimum wage provided either in tips or cash wages. Currently tipped employees are allowed to be paid mostly with tips. The measure will continue the current ordinance's provision allowing employers that provide certain health care or child care benefits to pay \$1.00 less than the minimum wage.

There is a typographic error in the phrasing of this proposition that makes it appear that employees will owe employers money. The New Mexico Supreme Court has ruled that the wording of the original petition should appear intact on the general election ballot. The court noted that there was sufficient public attention to the proposition to allow voters to understand the nature of the typographic error and to vote on the merits of the proposition.

## VOTERS' GUIDE, 2012

Prepared by the League of Women Voters of Central New Mexico Education Fund and the League of Women Voters of New Mexico

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## Mission

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

## Vision, Beliefs, and Intentions

The goal of the League of Women Voters is to empower people to shape better communities worldwide. We are a nonpartisan political membership organization. The League never supports or opposes any political party or candidate. However, the League does take action in supporting or opposing government issues.

### We:

- **act** after study and member agreement to achieve solutions in the public interest on key community issues at all government levels.
- **build** citizen participation in the democratic process.
- **engage** communities in promoting positive solutions to public policy issues through education and advocacy.

### We believe in:

- respect for individuals.
- the value of diversity.
- the empowerment of the grassroots, both within the League and in communities.
- the power of collective decision-making for the common good.

### We will:

- act with trust, integrity and professionalism.
- operate in an open effective manner to meet the needs of those we serve, both members and the public.
- take the initiative in seeking diversity in membership.
- acknowledge our heritage as we seek our path to the future.

**If this guide helped in making your decision, please consider joining our organization.**

## LWVCNM Membership Application

The Membership year for LWVCNM is October 1 to September 30. Join anytime. For those joining during the membership year, dues will be prorated at the October 1 renewal time.

With membership in the local LWVCNM, you also belong to the state LWV/NM and the national LWV/US.

**Yes! I want to join LWVCNM, LWV/NM and LWV/US! The first membership in a household costs \$60. Add \$30 for each additional membership in a household at the same address. Make check payable to LWVCNM.**

Mail to: **LWVCNM Membership, 2315 San Pedro NW, Suite F-6, Albuquerque, NM 87110.**

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (H) \_\_\_\_\_ (W) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

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**I do not want to join the League, but I would like to contribute to the LWVCNM Education Fund in support of future Voters' Guides. Make check payable to LWVCNM Education Fund.**

For more information, call LWVCNM office at 884-8441 weekday mornings. 9:30 a.m. - noon.  
Membership dues to LWVCNM are not tax deductible. Contributions to LWVCNM Education Fund are tax deductible.

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