

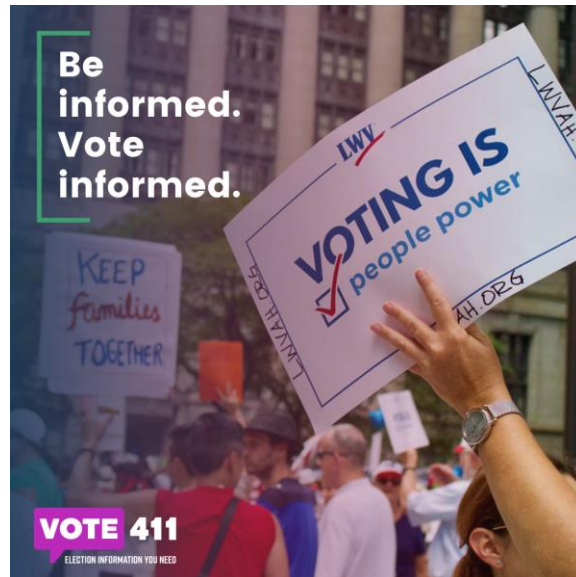
November 2022

The Voter

Vol.87 No. 10

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF CENTRAL NEW MEXICO

6739 Academy Rd. NE Suite 124, Albuquerque NM, 87109
lwvcnm.org



The Voter Guide Is On The Streets! By Karen Wentworth and Jeanne Logsdon

The printed edition of the Voter Guide has been distributed and is available in the Early Voting Centers in Bernalillo and Sandoval Counties when widespread early voting began on October 22, 2022. The Voter Guide is also available in Albuquerque and Bernalillo

County Public Libraries, at community and senior centers at Isleta Pueblo and in the community of Tohajilee. You can find it at student resource centers at the University of New Mexico. There are also a number of businesses that carry it, such as the Frontier Restaurant on Central, Tin Can Alley, Thrift Town, St. Vincent de Paul Thrift store, Page One, Whole Foods on Wyoming, Natural Grocers, Keller Farm Stores, the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center, Cabra Coffee, Rio Rancho Administrative Offices, and the Silver Street Market. You can also find it at Sandia Lab Federal Credit Union Offices, the Placitas Public Library, the Cuba Public Library and the Jemez Springs Public Library.

Lani Desaulniers made an extraordinary effort to place printed guides in the most underserved parts of our communities. Thank Lani when you see her, or better yet – join her team next year.

Please point your friends and family to the online guide as well. It can be found at VOTE411.org

Our league worked with the State League of Women Voters, the Santa Fe League, the Los Alamos League, and the Southern New Mexico League to cover the entire state for this election. We sent questions to every candidate in every race in the New Mexico. It was a tremendous effort, and we plan to do it again next year when we have local elections. If this interests you, it is a great opportunity to learn a lot about the different areas of our state, and we would really welcome the help.

We printed 30,000 guides this year, and our membership came forward to contribute to the cost of printing. We can't thank you enough for your generosity. We are now forming a committee to begin a fundraising operation because our members can't continue to bear the entire cost each year. If you are interested in aiding this effort, please contact Betsy Carlson and Mary Mulvaney.

Now, here is the most important part. ***Make sure you vote!*** Take your friends and family with you and take advantage of this terrific privilege. We hope to see you at the polls!



We each have the power to increase voter turnout. Make sure your friends and family are registered to vote.

VOTE 411
ELECTION INFORMATION YOU NEED



HEY, NEW MEXICO!

The November 8, 2022 general election is just around the corner. We know it can be difficult to get accurate, unbiased information about:

- How to register to vote or update your voter registration;
- How and where to vote;
- Which races and candidates will appear on your ballot; and
- What the candidates have to say about issues that are important to you.

So, we've created a Voter Guide covering every New Mexico federal, statewide, district and county level race, including legislative races.

Find it at Vote411.org where you can type in your address and get election information relevant to you.

Help us spread the word by sharing on social media, talking to local press, posting on bulletin boards, etc.



Voter Guide Distribution 2022 General Election

By Lani Desaulniers

Thanks to the many volunteers who assisted with the Print Voter Guide distribution effort!!

Our outstanding team of callers (Heather Balas, Laura Downing, Rita Getty, Mary Gibson, Lois Kennedy, Linda Miller, Patsy Nelson, Liz Shields, Mary Templeton, and Meg Wenten) did the advance work to identify and confirm delivery details for sites in the community who stock our guides. This year we added more sites on

the UNM, Highlands and CNM campuses, and were able to provide guides to number of diverse community organizations who are involved in voter education and outreach.

Guides were delivered to the Bernalillo and Sandoval County Clerks for use at the early voting centers, to library branches, as well as community and senior centers in Bernalillo and Sandoval Counties. The Native Voting Rights Liaison staff for Bernalillo and Sandoval Counties received copies of our guides to distribute to the 12 tribal communities. Our intrepid delivery crew (Jean Anderson, Ashley Benning, Judy Binder, Jennifer Black, Karen Douglas, Lisa Franzen, Mary Gibson, May Goldenberg, Elene and Robert Gusch, Lois Kennedy, Janet Kirkpatrick, Don and Michelle Meaders, Linda Miller, Ed Ripp, Shelley Roberts, Liz Shields, Vivian Skadron, Mary Ellen Smith, Sandie Spacek, Mary Templeton, and Meg Went) picked up guides and delivered them to 100+ locations in the community.

Valencia County printed their own edition of our voter guide for use at early voting centers. Karen Wentworth was not able to make contact with the Torrance County Clerk.

A special recognition goes to Sandie Spacek, who graciously hosted the guide distribution event from her garage. A sincere thanks also goes to Laura Stokes who offered her portale in Corrales as a distribution hub for Sandoval County guides as she has for many years.

Lastly, I would like to recognize the extraordinary dedication and tremendous efforts of Karen Wentworth and her crew in piecing together the VOTE411 interface and creating the guide.

Great teamwork, all around!! Thanks to all!

Membership Corner

By Liz Shields

Gentle Reminder:

Your annual membership dues were payable on the first day of October. Dues renewal letters were mailed to members as a reminder and to provide members an opportunity to update the information LWVCNM has on file. You may pay by check or use our PayPal account available at <https://www.lwvcnm.org/join-renew/>

Save the Date

We are planning a Holiday Celebration on Sunday, December 4th, 2 – 4 pm at the home of Donna Sandoval. Be on the lookout for an evite or a mailed invitation soon.



Let's take a breather before we wrap all the gifts, compose the annual Holiday Letter, address all the greeting cards.

Let's celebrate the start of the **Holiday Season!**

Join us at the home of Donna Sandoval, 6729, Promenade Ave. NE, Albuquerque from 2 – 4 pm on **Sunday, December 4th** for light refreshments and to share our latest accomplishments, our news, and our plans for the future.

RSVP: Liz Shields 559-578-5670 or elizs44@yahoo.com

November Educational Program Center for Electoral Quality and Integrity Zoom-Only



Mr. Kerry Bass, Executive Director of the
Center for Electoral Quality and Integrity

The November 10, 2022 LWVCNM General meeting will feature Mr. Kerry Bass, Executive Director of the Center for Electoral Quality and Integrity, who will discuss International standardization of electoral processes. International Standards Organization (ISO) is a nonpolitical, nonpartisan standards setting body, which collectively provides nonmandatory guidance permitting bodies to adopt methods recognized and practiced by other bodies with similar functions and objectives.

For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

Mr. Bass will walk us through several important organizational documents that explain quality management and the scope of international election standardization. As we emerge from the 2022 mid-term elections, placing elections in an international perspective is an especially relevant topic.

Kerry L. Bass, Founding Chair ASQ Center for Electoral Quality and Integrity (CEQI), CEO and Principal of Potential to Reality Consulting and is a Senior Member of ASQ. For more than 25 years, Kerry has led and supported transformation and major organizational change for large public and private sector organizations. During his eclectic career, he has served in a number of leadership roles, including CEO, board member and officer of community and professional non-profit organizations; Senior Executive roles for state technology and social services agencies; Senior Industry Leader, Director of Project Management and Global Manager of Service Quality and Customer Loyalty for IT Services of global IT and government consulting companies.

In addition to his CEQI role, in ASQ he is the incoming Corporate Treasurer and member of the Board of Directors Executive Committee, a member of the Center for Quality Standards in Government and a member of the ASQ Government Division leadership Council.

Kerry holds numerous certifications including Lean Six Sigma Master Black Belt, Certified Manager of Quality and Organizational Excellence and Certified Quality Auditor, Project Management Professional, Organization Change Management Practitioner and Talent optimization Consultant. He earned a Masters of Business Administration from Emory University.

Please join LWVCNM for this informative discussion Thursday November 10th at 12 – 1 PM, via Zoom only. Watch for Zoom login information in upcoming Topics announcements.

December Educational Program Preview

Native American Voter Education & Outreach in NM

Zoom-Only

Mark your calendars! Join LWVCNM on Thursday, December 8, 12-1 PM for the final 2022 session of our monthly educational program series. Mr. Peter Madalena, Senior Voting Rights Coordinator for Sandoval County Tribal Liaison Program, and Mr. Martin Aguilar, Native American Election Information Program Liaison for Office of NM Secretary of State, will join us to discuss Native American Voter Education and Outreach in NM—an especially timely topic as the 2022 mid-term season wraps up and we begin focusing on the 2023-24 elections. The meeting will be Zoom-only. **Full program details will be included in the December Voter and upcoming Topics announcements will provide Zoom login information.**

Report from the Observer Corps #1

Albuquerque City Council

Safe Outdoor Spaces

At the September 7th Council meeting, the Council voted to redirect \$750K funds designated for Safe Outdoor Spaces to supporting homeless, near homeless, or precariously housed veterans. Mayor Tim Keller vetoed this bill. The Council failed to override the veto by a 5-4 vote at the October 3rd meeting. As a result, the \$750K funding remains designated for Safe Outdoor Spaces, as originally budgeted.

The City of Albuquerque maintains a website with status of Safe Outdoor Spaces at <https://www.cabq.gov/planning/safe-outdoor-spaces>

Art in Municipal Places

The City Council voted unanimously at its October 3rd meeting to amend the Art in Municipal Places Ordinance to provide for increased conservation, maintenance funds, and to define digital and temporary public art. The measure increases funding for public arts from 1% of the city's general bond obligation package to 1.5%. It also allows up to 25% for maintenance of existing art, up from the previously allowed 20%.

Redistricting

At the September 19th meeting the City Council voted to accept Concept Map A, which was the map most highly rated by the 2022 Redistricting Committee. Amendments to this map were previously voted down at the September 7th meeting. Concept Map A made no changes to Districts 3 (Pena), 4 (Bassan), and 9 (Grout). Concept Map A expands District 2 (Benton) west of the Rio Grande to Coors between Central and I-40 which was previously in District 1 (Sanchez). District 6 (Davis) picked up the area north of Gibson from Buena Vista to I-25 from District 2. District 7 (Jones) added the area north of Comanche between Wyoming and Eubank from District 7 (Fiebelkorn). The new district boundaries take effect on October 20, 2022. The newly approved and prior district maps are available at the City's redistricting website:
<https://www.cabq.gov/council/projects/current-projects/2022-city-council-redistricting-process>

Interested in joining the LWVCNM Observer Corps? No better way to assist the League's mission to advocate on local public issues as a nonpartisan and impartial organization, as well as helping to insure transparency in local government bodies. Observers are needed for numerous municipal, county meetings, and, at times, state meetings. Call our office at 505-884-8441 and we will put you in touch with LWVCNM Advocacy Committee.

Report from the Observer Corps #2

External Force Investigation Team (EFIT)

U.S. District Judge James O. Browning presided over the Administrator's Fourth Quarterly EFIT report hearing on October 5th, 2022. The report covers the time period from April 22, 2022 to August 25, 2022. Items of note from the hearing:

The EFIT contract has been extended until May 2024. There is now a second team, the EFIT Backlog Team, also referred to as EFIT 2, to address the large number of backlog cases.

Use of Force (UOF) investigation statistics:

- 26 out of the 361 (7.20%) of the UOF investigations closed by EFIT/IAFD were found to be not within the APD UOF policies, down from 9.17%.
- 121 out of the 361 (33.51%) of the UOF investigations closed by EFIT/IAFD were out of compliance when evaluated against the Process Narrative utilized to assess investigations, down from 44.45%. This category is about nonadherence to policy and seems to be mostly a training issue.
- As of August 5th, there are a total of 502 UOF investigations.
- Investigation completion average was 53.84 days. (60 day maximum).
- 361 investigation closure average was of 87.10 days. (90 day maximum).

APD Internal Affairs Force Division (IAFD) status:

- Scott Norris is the new Commander of IAFD. He is highly regarded by EFIT and has changed the tone of IAPD.
- IAFD is mandated to have 25 Investigators/Detectives. Currently there are 15 civilians and 14 Detectives.
- Retirements, promotions, and transfers are expected to reduce the number of Detectives by at least 7 by year-end.
- Training IAFD personnel to conduct independent investigations is a long process with four phases. Currently 10 are progressing through the required phases. One has graduated; three more are close.

Albuquerque Police Officer Association (APOA):

- There was discussion about the civilians in IAFD joining APOA. This was not well received. It was noted that there is already a union that would be a better option.
- An injunction was requested by APOA concerning one of the UOF investigations. It was dismissed.
- EFIT reported unprofessional behavior by some members of APOA in investigation hearings. This behavior has improved.

Main Concerns Raised:

- Sustainability of the Internal Affairs Force Department. This was mentioned by several attendees at the hearing, including EFIT and Dr. Ginger.
- Detective/Investigator retention.
- Current number of days to conclude an investigation is too close to the maximum required number of days to complete.
- Still a very larger number of backlog cases.

Immigration Update By Meredith Machen LWVUS Immigration Interest Group Co-Leader/LWVNM Immigration Chair

For decades, the League of Women Voters has supported a fair and equitable immigration system and a path to citizenship. In June, LWVUS Convention 2022 delegates overwhelmingly approved elevating immigration advocacy as an important element in the Campaign for Making Democracy Work (767 to 32).^{*} Immigration advocacy is also part of the League's strong commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI).

While immigration is primarily a federal issue, LWVUS acknowledges the important roles state Leagues play in supporting legislation that integrates unauthorized immigrants into state systems. Using the national position as a basis, LWVNM, like many state Leagues, adopted our own immigration position.

We have successfully advocated for legislation that helps some of our non-citizen residents. Examples include eligibility for in-state tuition and certain scholarships for NM high school graduates, drivers' licenses for differently documented individuals; and provisions for emergency and limited health care. We recognize the many contributions our non-citizen residents make to our economy and our multicultural social fabric. We recognize the failure of Congress to pass any meaningful immigration reform in the past twenty years.

In the current tense hyper-partisan environment, immigration is more of a political football than ever. After the election, we will see renewed efforts to pass bipartisan legislation with popular and business support to increase employment permits and to expand lawful status for some of the millions of immigrants whose lives are in limbo. Some bills aim to address worker shortages in construction, hospitality, agriculture, and science and the needs of our population who lack adequate health care, elder care, and sanitation. Technical, medical, and scientific companies need trained experts. Teacher shortages abound. The list goes on. The US is a country of immigrants, and we can no longer fail to address this issue.

The trusted, respected, non-partisan voice of the League is needed now more than ever. LWWUS leaders have made significant statements about immigration policy, "Protecting the basic human rights of immigrants is critical to our mission and to the nation's promise of equality for all." "It is long past time to recognize that these individuals are part of the American family and merit protection from deportation, permanent status, and a path to eventual citizenship. Immigrant families and communities at long last deserve the peace of mind to build a better life, which so many of us born in this country take for granted."

<https://www.lww.org/other-issues/immigration>)

Immigration is a complex and far-reaching issue. The LWWUS Immigration Interest Group serves as a medium for League members across the country to:

- * learn about and discuss issues, legislation, litigation, and regulations concerning all immigrants and refugees;
- *share this information with the broader community; and
- *recommend advocacy to boards at all levels of League, consistent with League positions and policies.

I invite you to join League members across the country who discuss immigration legislation that addresses refugee, asylum and border issues; legal permanent residency and paths to citizenship; workforce shortages and employment permits; health care, education, and social services. **Please email me at projects@lwvnm.org, and I will add you to our Immigration Discussion and Interest Google Group.**

Our next Zoom meeting is at **5:30 p.m. MT on Tuesday, November 29**. Our speaker is Dr. Susan Martin, a LWVWA member, distinguished Georgetown Law School professor, and author of several books on immigration. She will share some her perspectives as an expert on the international refugee situation and US asylum issues. We have recently added Susan to our Steering Committee for the LWV Immigration Interest Group. We meet the last Tuesday every other month by Zoom at 5:30 MT.

Join Zoom Meeting (recurring Zoom ID-does not change)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86251945433>

Meeting ID: 862 5194 5433

One tap mobile

+16699006833,,86251945433# US (San Jose)

If you don't want to join the national group but want to know more about New Mexico's immigration policies and more about potential state and federal advocacy opportunities, please contact me at projects@lwvnm.org, 505 577-6337. Thank you.

SIDEBAR Immigration Article

LWVUS adopted a comprehensive immigration position in 2008 after a two-year national study that involved hundreds of Leagues throughout the country. Here is the summary of the position from Impact on Issues 2020-2022

The League of Women Voters believes that immigration policies should promote reunification of immediate families; meet the economic, business, and employment needs of the United States; and be responsive to those facing political persecution or humanitarian crises. Provision should also be

made for qualified persons to enter the United States on student visas. All persons should receive fair treatment under the law.

The League supports federal immigration law that provides an efficient, expeditious system (with minimal or no backlogs) for legal entry of immigrants into the United States. To complement these goals the League supports federal policies to improve economies, education, job opportunities, and living conditions in nations with large emigrating populations. <https://www.lwv.org/impact-issues/>, pp. 134-6.

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