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# VOTER GUIDE

## GENERAL ELECTION

### NOVEMBER 5, 2024

A General Election will take place on Tuesday, November 5, 2024. 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 the General Election.

**Rio Arriba County Clerk Sarah Archuleta**

**Rio Arriba County Annex**, 1122 Industrial Park Rd, Espanola, NM 87532  
Phone (505) 753-1780

**Rio Arriba Archive Bldg**, 10 State Road 531, Tierra Amarilla, NM 87575  
Phone (575) 588-7724

Website:

[www.rio-arriba.org/departments and divisions/clerk's office/clerk .html](http://www.rio-arriba.org/departments_and_divisions/clerk's_office/clerk.html)

Election & Registration Inquiries: [elections@rio-arriba.org](mailto:elections@rio-arriba.org)

For Jicarilla Apache and Tewa assistance contact the County Clerk's Office.

*This is your free copy of this guide to the election.*

#### Absentee Ballots

Absentee ballots are available on request from the County Clerk's office, or from the Secretary of State at [www.NMVOTE.ORG](http://www.NMVOTE.ORG). They must be returned by mail to the County Clerk, in person or online at [www.NMVOTE.ORG](http://www.NMVOTE.ORG). Request an absentee ballot early and be sure to mail it in early. Absentee ballots must be received by the County Clerk or at a polling location no later than 7 pm on Election Day. If you request an absentee ballot you must use it to vote. If you decide to vote in person you must take the absentee ballot with you to the voting place.

#### Dates & Times for the General Election

**October 8, 2024:** First day of absentee/early voting at the County Courthouse, Mon -Fri 8 am to 5 pm

**October 19, 2024:** Early voting at alternate sites begins Tue - Sat 10 am to 6 pm

**October 22, 2024:** Last day County Clerk may receive applications and mail absentee ballots

**November 2, 2024:** Early voting at County Courthouse ends (This is the only Saturday voters may cast their ballot at the Courthouse 8 am to 5 pm)

**November 2, 2024:** Last day of early voting at alternate sites 10 am to 6 pm

**November 5, 2024:** Election Day - Polls will be open from 7:00 am to 7:00 pm

#### Voter Registration

You can register to vote or update your existing registration and vote on the same day at your County Clerk's Office. Forms of identification you will need are:

- 1) New Mexico drivers' license OR New Mexico identification card issued through the motor vehicle division;
- 2) any document that contains an address in the county together with a photo identification card; OR
- 3) a current valid student photo identification card from a post-secondary educational institution in New Mexico accompanied by a current student fee statement that contains the student's address in the county.

Some County Clerks will offer additional same day voter registration locations at expanded early voting sites. If you are already registered to vote, you do not have to show a photo ID when you go to vote.

The League of Women Voters of New Mexico is pleased to offer this Voter Guide for the 2024 General Election. The League believes that democratic government depends on the informed and active participation of its citizens. We are nonpartisan –we do not support or oppose any candidate or political party. For a complete Voter Guide with candidates' answers to our questions, go to [www.VOTE411.org](http://www.VOTE411.org) to see our online Voter Guide

#### Disclaimer

The information in this Voter Guide has been carefully assembled and compiled to assure maximum accuracy. However, the League assumes no responsibility for correctness of information furnished to the League by other organizations.

#### In The Voter Guide

##### FEDERAL OFFICES

United States Senator

United States Representative

##### NEW MEXICO DISTRICT OFFICES

State Senator

State Representative

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District Attorney

District Judge

##### RIO ARRIBA COUNTY OFFICES

County Clerk

County Treasurer

County Commission

##### JUDICIAL RETENTION

##### CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

##### BONDS

**Early In-Person Voting will not take place on Monday, October 14, 2024**

County Offices will be closed in observance of Indigenous Peoples Day.

## **FEDERAL OFFICES**

### **Questions:**

- Q1. Why do you want to run for this seat?
- Q2. What are the most important issues facing Congress in the next two years?
- Q3. How would you address them?
- Q4. What actions, if any, should Congress take regarding immigration?
- Q5. What, if anything, would you do to improve the functioning of Congress?

### **United States Senator**

This person represents New Mexico in the United States Senate. The Senate has 100 members, two from each state. Candidates must be at least 30 years old, a citizen of the United States for at least nine years, and a resident of the state from which elected. Senators are elected statewide for staggered six-year terms. One New Mexico seat is up for election in 2024.

### **Martin Heinrich**

Democratic

A1: As your Senator, we've passed legislation to deliver unprecedented investments for our children, our working families, and our seniors in New Mexico. Because of these investments, we've begun to see costs for things like groceries and prescription drugs go down and our economy grow, I'm running for reelection to the Senate because we still have more work to do, from tackling climate change to expanding access to health care to ensure that every New Mexican has the opportunity to thrive.

A2: If reelected, my priorities will be to grow rural economies, reduce costs for New Mexico families, raise workers' wages, expand access to health care, protect the rights of workers, and tackle climate change while creating high-quality jobs.

A3: We should build on the Inflation Reduction Act, Infrastructure Law, and CHIPS and Science Act that we've passed into law and New Mexico is starting to feel the impacts of. The Inflation Reduction Act is bringing jobs to rural New Mexico, especially in clean energy manufacturing. The Inflation Reduction Act also lowered costs for prescriptions for seniors on Medicare and is making health insurance more affordable. The Infrastructure Law is bringing billions of dollars to New Mexico to rebuild roads, bridges, and energy infrastructure, and the CHIPS Act is bringing thousands of good paying jobs to expand manufacturing and strengthen our national security. Now it's time to ensure every New Mexican can access the benefits of these historic laws.

A4: We need solutions, not political stunts. We need to tackle the huge backlog of lawful immigration, so it doesn't take years for a person's paperwork to be processed. And we need to invest in smart border security technology that detects and stops drugs like fentanyl before they get into our communities. We need to staff and support the law enforcement agencies at our border that are helping to maintain our national security and efficiently process cross-border trade with our largest trade partner, Mexico. We need more pathways for skilled immigrants eager to fill labor shortages in industries with severe workforce shortages, like agriculture and health care. And we need to finally ensure DREAMers have a swift path to full citizenship.

A5: Congress should pass legislation to get dark money out of our elections and give the American people transparency into who is attempting to influence their votes. Additionally, the Senate should end the filibuster to prevent a single Senator from disrupting the Democratic process and ensure working people in America have a real seat at the table in Washington.

### **Nella Louise Domenici**

Republican

The candidate has not yet responded.

### **United States Representative District 3**

This person represents New Mexico in the United States House of Representatives. The House has 435 members elected from districts based on population. New Mexico is entitled to three members. Candidates must be at least 25 years old, a United States citizen for seven years, and must be a resident of New Mexico. Representatives are elected by district for a two-year term.

### **Sharon E. Clahchischillige**

Republican

A1: There is a lack of representation in preserving the voice and livelihood of New Mexico constituents from out of touch politicians and failed leadership,

A2: Inflation, over regulation, decline of quality education, affordable and available health services, effective land management, water and agricultural advocacy and the funnel orchestrated by the progressive agenda, at the border.

A3: Advocate for minimizing over regulation, shutting down the border, and only allowing for strict, vetted legal immigration. This will stop illegal human and drug trafficking that are destroying New Mexico's communities.

A4: Address the laws regarding the border and enforce them.

A5: Win the Congressional District 3 election! Encourage congressional members to minimize their obsessions with personal agendas and concentrate on addressing the needs of their constituents.

### **Teresa Leger Fernandez**

Democratic

A1: Jeremiah 29:11 tells us that God's plan is for us to prosper, have hope and a future. My job in Congress is to help create that prosperity, hope and future for NM by creating opportunity and investing in hard-working families. I'm running for reelection because I want to continue to fight for our communities. In Congress, I have secured billions in funding for infrastructure, broadband, manufacturing; millions for community projects, including clean water projects; invested the most in rural America since the New Deal; passed the largest climate investments in U.S. history, and lowered prescription drug prices. I represent New Mexicans, regardless of party, and I know that together we can build a prosperous, hopeful future for us all.

A2: We must expand access and bring down energy and health care costs. We must address income inequality where the wealthiest CEOs and corporations don't pay their fair share. We must make housing affordable so our families can live in the communities they love. We also face a grave threat to our democracy as the Republican presidential candidate has denied election results, proclaimed he would be a dictator on day one, and would seek revenge on political opponents. We must protect women's freedom to reproductive health care. Women need health care, not handcuffs. We must also address Social Security to ensure the promise we have made to working Americans who have paid into the system is kept for generations to come.

A3: I'd lower healthcare costs by expanding prescription drug caps, increasing access to healthcare in rural NM, and strengthening the Affordable Care Act. The wealthiest and corporations must pay their fair share and we must make the Child Tax Credit permanent. I've introduced a Home Of Your Own Act and funded homeownership programs for NM. To protect democracy and voting rights we must pass the John Lewis Voting Rights Act and the key provisions in it I authored for tribal voters. I cosponsored the Women's Health Protection Act

and will fight Republicans' attempt to enact a federal abortion ban. I cosponsored Social Security 2100, which would have the wealthiest pay Social Security taxes, increase benefits, and keep the program solvent.

A4: We need to reform our broken immigration system, which includes strengthening the security of our borders and providing a pathway to citizenship for Dreamers and law-abiding undocumented workers currently in our country. Reforming our immigration system would be a \$1.3 trillion dollar benefit to the US economy. My first year in Congress the House passed on a bipartisan basis the American Dream and Promise Act and the Farm Worker Modernization Act, and the No Ban Act to prohibit discrimination on the basis of religion. Sadly, extreme Republicans blocked these bipartisan measures and recently House Republicans and Trump killed another bipartisan border deal. We need solutions not political maneuvering on this important issue.

A5: I was trained as a rebellious lawyer. Which means, I was trained to listen. I have taken this with me to Congress - where I both bring the voices and learnings of our NM communities and do the work to listen to my colleagues and find common ground where possible. The more we listen to each other, the more I believe we can get done. The vast majority of the legislation I have introduced and passed in the House and into law was bipartisan. Fundamentally, though - we also must recognize that the functioning of our Congress is tied to our access to democracy. We must protect and reform our democracy and ensure that every single eligible voter can access the ballot box. That is how we ensure that our democracy works for all of us.

## **NEW MEXICO LEGISLATURE**

### **State Senator**

In addition to other duties prescribed by law, senators enact "reasonable and appropriate laws," represent the constituents of their district, and serve on standing or interim committees. 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. Candidates must be at least 25 years old and must be a resident of the district from which elected. They serve a four-year term. Senators do not receive a salary, but they do receive a pre-set per diem.

#### **Questions: SD 5, 6 (LA)**

Q1: How can New Mexico improve access to physical and mental health care services?

Q2: What legislation would you support to reduce violent crime and improve public safety?

Q3: How can we protect New Mexico's economic future considering the reduced availability of water?

Q4: Do you support a paid legislature and/or longer legislative sessions? Why or why not?

Q5: What are the biggest problems facing New Mexico? How can they be addressed?

#### **Questions: SD 22 (CNM)**

Q1: What abilities do you have that qualify you for this office?

Q2: What is your top priority, and how do you plan to address it?

Q3: What additional water policies and actions, if any, are needed in New Mexico?

Q4: What, if anything, should be done to improve public safety?

Q5: What programs or actions, if any, would you support to provide more affordable housing?

Q6: How can New Mexico diversify its economy?

Q7: Should legislators be paid a salary? Why or why not?

### **State Senator District 5**

#### **Leo Jaramillo**

Democratic

A1: There are so many New Mexicans who do not have adequate access to healthcare and others who are finding themselves in medical debt. As a legislature, we need to expand and protect access to healthcare, including protecting pre-existing conditions, while also keeping out-of-pocket healthcare costs down. When it comes to mental health care, we need to treat it as we do physical health care. We need to embed behavioral health care specialists within the primary care setting.

A2: I would support legislation which prioritize rehabilitation programs to improve safety. Legislation which would establish incentives for eligible incarcerated individuals to participate in job and educational training, which has been proven not only to better prepare people leaving prison for the workforce, but also to reduce recidivism, save taxpayer dollars, and increase public safety. States like Minnesota and Ohio have seen an up to 20 percent drop in recidivism for people who participated.

A3: The state needs to develop a strategy which will require coordination with local, tribal, and federal partners to assist in developing new water through recycling and desalination while also improving all water management actions with better data, forecasting, conveyance, and administration of water rights. I believe it is critical that New Mexico must invest in water recycling projects.

A4: I support a paid legislature and served as the Senate Sponsor of the house bill two years ago which proposed a constitutional amendment which would provide legislative salaries. I believe that a paid legislature would make elected office more accessible to people of limited economic means which would help us diversify the House and Senate. I also support a longer legislative session. Longer session would allocate adequate time to write, debate and pass new laws.

A5: Affordable housing is a major issue we are facing in New Mexico. We must continue to invest in the Casa Connection Grant Program which provides housing for vulnerable populations, addressing homelessness and removing barriers to affordable housing. Fentanyl is also a major crisis; Increase access to mental health care and in preventing and treating opioid addiction, with funding for community-based prevention and treatment efforts, expanding health care instructor, and harm reduction services.

### **State Senator District 6**

#### **Roberto 'Bobby' Jesse Gonzales**

Democratic

A1: To improve healthcare access in New Mexico: - Invest in healthcare facilities and tech statewide. - Expand telemedicine and broadband. - Offer incentives for providers in underserved areas. - Support small practices with reduced insurance requirements and streamlined regulatory processes. - Fund community health centers. - Promote health education and outreach. - Train providers in cultural competency. - Advocate for better insurance and Medicaid coverage for mental health and telemedicine.

A2: To reduce violent crime and improve safety in New Mexico, I support: - Funding law enforcement and community programs targeted regionally. - Ensuring repeat offenders are effectively incarcerated. - Expanding job training, substance abuse treatment, mental health services, and housing for those reentering society following incarceration. - Using evidence to guide crime

policies and resource allocation. - Fostering trust and accountability between law enforcement and residents.

A3: To protect New Mexico's economic future amid reduced water availability:  
- Sustainable Development: Focus on projects like renewable energy and water efficiency. - Infrastructure Investment: Upgrade water storage, distribution, and treatment systems. - Incentivize water-saving technologies and water management. - Economic Diversification: Support industries that use less water. - Public-Private Partnerships: Collaborate to enhance resource use and project efficiency.

A4: I support a paid legislature as well as longer sessions for effective governance. Paying legislators ensures diverse, equitable representation and allows legislators to fully commit to public service. Longer sessions provide time for thorough research, debate, and decision-making on complex issues, leading to well-informed policies. These measures enhance responsiveness and inclusivity in the legislative process, benefiting all New Mexicans with thoughtful and effective governance.

A5: Including healthcare access, water scarcity, and crime/public safety, New Mexico faces challenges that can be addressed through policies and cross-sector collaboration: -Education: Boost funding, enhance teacher training, and address disparities -Economic Diversification: Promote renewable energy, tech sectors, and support small businesses -Poverty & Inequality: Invest in affordable housing, healthcare, and job training -Infrastructure: Modernize roads, bridges, broadband, and public transport

#### State Senator District 22

**Benny Shendo Jr**

Democratic

The candidate has not yet responded.

#### State Representative

In addition to other duties prescribed by law, representatives enact "reasonable and appropriate laws," represent the constituents of their district, and serve on standing or interim committees. 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. Candidates must be at least 21 years old and must be a resident of the district from which elected. They serve a two-year term. Representatives do not receive a salary, but they do receive a pre-set per diem and mileage; there is also a pension program for legislators serving a minimum period.

#### **Questions: HD 40 (NM)**

Q1: Why do you want to run for this seat?

Q2: How have your experience and education prepared you for this position?

Q3: What will be your highest priorities?

Q4: How can the legislature address water issues in an increasingly arid state?

Q5: What should the legislature do to improve public safety in New Mexico?

Q6: What, if any, changes to NM's tax structure do you support?

#### **Questions: HD 41 (SFC)**

Q1: What prior experience and/or education have prepared you for this position?

Q2: Why are you running for this position?

Q3: What would be your priorities for the next session?

Q4: What, if any, changes to New Mexico's tax structure would you support?

#### **Questions: HD 65 (CNM)**

Q1: What abilities do you have that qualify you for this office?

Q2: What is your top priority, and how do you plan to address it?

Q3: What additional water policies and actions, if any, are needed in New Mexico?

Q4: What, if anything, should be done to improve public safety?

Q5: What programs or actions, if any, would you support to provide more affordable housing?

Q6: How can New Mexico diversify its economy?

Q7: Should legislators be paid a salary? Why or why not?

#### State Representative District 40

**Diego Olivas**

Republican

A1: I believe that it is time my generation steps up and starts making decisions about our future.

A2: I've had the unique experience of living a full life in a short period of time. I've been blessed to see and experience from the top 1% in Martha's Vineyard and the Hamptons to the bayous to the great plains. I've spent time with the people in these areas and learned the differences between them and what they need to survive.

A3: Helping New Mexicans with lowering taxes while finding ways at the state level that will help with rising inflation.

A4: By providing funding that will build infrastructure to build and maintain water storage facilities such as dams that will also provide new habitat for fish. I will also like to push legislation that will provide funding to allow New Mexican farmers and ranchers to build or purchase simple sprinkler systems that allow for a better yield with less water usage than traditional flood irrigation.

A5: Increase public safety funding to provide more officers, better equipment, and activate national guard to assist at the southern border.

A6: Abolishing fuel taxes, abolishing the gross receipts tax, and lowering income tax rates as well as adding a tax to companies that are not providing jobs in New Mexico but selling their products.

**Joseph L Sanchez**

Democratic

A1: I live in one of the poorest counties in the state. I want to create opportunity for my district along with all of New Mexico.

A2: I have real life experience with small business and working with different government agencies. I have run an electric utility that serves five counties and eight tribes. I have first hand experience working with people who are among the poorest of our state. I have served in this position for almost two terms now.

A3: Creating jobs and preparing our native New Mexicans to pursue and obtain those jobs. I will continue to support education, veterans, and our senior citizens.

A4: Pursue opportunities with water resources that have not been tapped while also providing our state with funding to be competitive when going through legal situations with other states.

A5: We need to keep criminals behind bars and stop the catch and release practices that recent policy passed by our state has implemented. We also have to support our law enforcement agencies.

A6: We need to change the structure to attract businesses to our state. Right now it is more attractive for these businesses to set their roots in our surrounding states.

#### State Representative District 41

**Susan K Herrera**

Democratic

A1: Susan's legislative achievements in six years are remarkable. After four years, she was appointed Chair of the Agriculture, Acequias & Natural Resources Committee. Susan is a key leader of Water law in the House and has worked to pass several bills allowing small towns and villages to access state and federal funds for public water projects. In 2024, the state funding for water projects in District 41 is authorized at \$30 million. As a member of the Education Committee, she worked to raise salaries for teachers & legislative assistants. She helped create the Rural Library Endowment Fund, now at \$30.5 million. Susan ended a 20-year legislative battle to pass HR 132, reducing predatory commercial lending rates in NM from 175% to 36%.

A2: I decided to run for office the morning Donald Trump was elected. I knew we would need strong Democratic state legislatures to combat upcoming policies. We are at a turning point again this year, and the imperative is to elect President Joe Biden. After six years in office, I've learned to successfully steer key legislation through the legislative process. However, much work remains to be done. Water, drought, and climate change are the top priorities in my district and we must continue creating policy that changes our landscape. The underlying issue for most problems in my district and the state is poverty. And it will take thoughtful and carefully crafted legislation to bring about change.

A3: 1. To Increase state funding for clean & reliable drinking water for all citizens. 2. To increase waste-water systems to protect aquifers. 3. Address drug abuse and chronic behavioral health issues that destroy families. 4. To assist grandparents raising grandchildren. 5. School bus drivers, secretaries, cooks, and janitors work for a minimum wage of \$12 an hour. These guardians of our children are an integral part of the education system and need our support. 6. Paid Family Leave. We must protect our most vulnerable workers with a state paid family leave policy. 7. Legislative modernization: salaried legislators, salaried staff and longer sessions. This constitutional amendment will create a stronger future for all New Mexicans.

A4: I think our film tax credit is too high and needs to be reduced. The gross receipts tax is outdated and needs to be revamped so that it is equitable and fair for all cities and counties, especially small rural towns and counties. The most successful tax reform for reducing poverty is the Child Tax Credit. I hope to co-sponsor legislation that increases the tax credit for our poorest families.

**State Representative District 65**

**Derrick J Lente**

Democratic

The candidate has not yet responded.

**Public Education Commissioner District 10**

The Public Education Commission is a ten-person commission that is advisory to the Secretary of Education. The Commission authorizes and monitors all state-chartered charter schools. Commissioners must be 18 years of age, a United States citizen, and reside in the district he/she represents. There are four-year staggered terms. Districts 1, 4, 8, 9 and 10 are up for election in 2024.

**Questions:**

Q1. What experience would you bring to this position?

Q2. What would be your two highest priorities?

Q3. What programs or approaches, if any, should be developed to raise the graduation rate in the state?

Q4. Should there be a cap on the number of charter schools in New Mexico? Please explain.

**Steven J Carrillo**

Democratic

A1: Nine years on the Santa Fe Public Schools Board of Education - Proven success in leadership and the development and implementation of public school programs targeted at increasing student achievement. In the middle of my first term on the Public Education Commission - Completion of numerous education professional development programs. Collaborated with commissioners in increasing accountability standards for state authorized charter schools, updating policies and procedures, and making the PEC more transparent and accountable to all stakeholders. Santa Fe resident for 33 years. Son who attended public school and graduated from Santa Fe High.

A2: Increasing student achievement in the core subjects Holding the adults accountable that have failed our kids by allowing them to skate by with Ds and get their diploma. Providing increased school choice - Opportunities for students and families to find their best fit for program and school culture. In doing so, ensuring that the process to open a state authorized charter school remains very rigorous. As well, providing the oversight to make sure schools are performing at their highest level and keeping their commitments to families, kids, and taxpayers. And where a school demonstrates consistent underperformance, be willing to revoke their charter.

A3: It's NOT about graduation rates, It's about academic proficiency!

A4: No. The market determines the cap. As long as there is the need for schools that better meet the demands of kids and families, there should be charters that meet these needs. The education landscape includes district schools, local and state authorized charters, privates, parochial schools, home schooling, and virtual schools. There is immense competition in the education marketplace to attract and retain both students and staff. Those entities that continue to live in the real world and meet these needs will continue to grow and achieve success.

**District Attorney 1st Judicial District**

New Mexico District Courts handle civil suits involving real estate or claims over \$10,000, juvenile cases, divorce and child custody, criminal felony cases, and appeals from lower courts. The 1st Judicial District of New Mexico includes Los Alamos, Rio Arriba, and Santa Fe Counties. District Attorneys serve a four-year term.

**Questions:**

Q1: What are your qualifications for this position?

Q2: What are your highest priorities for this office?

Q3: How do you intend to accomplish them?

Q4: What, if any, alternatives to incarceration do you support for nonviolent crimes?

**Mary Virginia Carmack-Altwies**

Democratic

A1: I have had the honor of serving as New Mexico's First Judicial District Attorney since January 2021. With expertise in criminal law, I have seen both sides of the courtroom, working as a public defender and running my own practice. As DA, I carry a caseload and have prosecuted all kinds of cases. Since I took office, we have: \*Won over 95% of our homicide and violent crime

prosecutions, including cases against child abusers, sex offenders, and rapists. \*Increased our DWI conviction rate to over 85%. When I took office, the DA's office had a DWI conviction rate of under 40%. \*Cleared years-old backlogs in rape kit prosecutions, police-involved shootings, and homicides. I am a graduate of University of New Mexico School of Law.

A2: We have turned around the District Attorney's office in three years time, and I want to expand on the work we have started and develop new programs and processes to keep our community safe. We especially need to increase prosecution and sentencing for gun crimes and address mental health challenges. We've had such incredible success winning cases with our complex crime unit that we're expanding it to include a greater number of crimes. To combat crime at its root, we're starting a juvenile justice project that will give wraparound services to juveniles to keep them out of our criminal justice system as adults. True to my campaign promise in 2020, we've also expanded diversion programs and plan to continue their expansion and effectiveness.

A3: We've cleaned up outdated systems and implemented modernized, effective systems that will enable us to accomplish the work we set out to do. I intend to continue to implement the most effective systems to ensure our work is impactful. I'm working to implement systems that also will allow us to integrate with our law enforcement and community partners. We need to fight violent crime by getting guns out of the hands of criminals and supporting common sense gun violence prevention. We must work with the legislature to secure more funding for mental health and substance abuse treatment. I am working to secure more funding to ensure we are paying attorneys and staff competitively to recruit and retain the best and brightest in the field.

A4: First, to be clear: violent crimes must be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law to keep violent criminals off the streets. Non-violent crimes are often symptoms of societal issues like poverty, homelessness, behavioral health, and substance use. After I took office, we expanded diversion programs to pre-trial, pre-sentencing, and post-sentencing diversion and expanded our diversion partners. We will continue to pursue new partners for diversion and work to ensure diversion is used in all cases where it will be beneficial. As stated above, we need to work with the Legislature to secure more treatment for mental health and substance abuse. Treatment is not possible if no beds are available.

## **COUNTY OFFICES**

### **Rio Arriba County Clerk**

The County Clerk is the chief election officer responsible for administration of elections for the county. The Clerk serves as ex officio to the Board of County Commissioners and maintains the minutes from proceedings and all related material. The Clerk's Office is the repository for public documents including real estate records, marriage records, occupation licenses and informal probate. Four-year term.

#### **Questions:**

- Q1: What are your qualifications for this position?
- Q2: What are the biggest challenges in the county clerk's office?
- Q3: How would you address them?
- Q4: What steps would you take to increase voter turnout in the county?

Q5: Do you support sending every voter an absentee ballot application for all elections?

### **Sarah Archuleta**

Democratic

The candidate has not yet responded.

### **Rio Arriba County Treasurer**

The County Treasurer is responsible for keeping accounts of all county funds received and disbursed by the various county departments, keeping regular accounts of all checks and warrants drawn, and keeping the books, papers and money pertaining to the office. Four-year term.

#### **Questions:**

- Q1: What experience and education qualify you for this office?
- Q2: What are the highest priorities of the County Treasurer's office?
- Q3: As County Treasurer, what investment strategies would you follow?

### **Joshua Marlo Martinez**

Democratic

The candidate has not yet responded.

### **Rio Arriba County Commissioner District 3**

Together with other members of the County Commission, represents the County and its interests in all case not otherwise provided for by law. Appoints elections officials to fill vacancies. The Commission is responsible for the County budget, County ordinances and resolutions, and zoning and business regulation in unincorporated areas, and sets policy for the operations of County government. Must be at least 18 years of age and a resident of district from which elected. Four-year term, no more than two terms in succession.

#### **Questions:**

- Q1: How have your experience and education prepared you for this office?
- Q2: What are the biggest challenges facing the county?
- Q3: How would you address them?
- Q4: What should the county do to support economic development?
- Q5: How would you propose to balance growth with water scarcity in an increasingly arid state?

### **Moises A Morales Jr**

Democratic

The candidate has not yet responded.

## **JUDICIAL RETENTION**

### **Judicial Retention Justice of the Supreme Court**

There are five justices on the New Mexico Supreme Court, the highest court in the State. It is the court of last resort and has supervisory control over all lesser courts and attorneys licensed in the state. The Court is required to hear appeals from election challenges and criminal cases when a defendant is sentenced to the death penalty or life imprisonment. The Court has discretionary authority to

review rulings of the Court of Appeals and questions of law certified to it by the Court of Appeals or federal court. Candidates must be at least 35 years old, have practiced law for ten years and have resided in New Mexico for the last three years. Justices are elected statewide for eight-year terms. 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.

**Questions:**

Q1: What qualifies you for this position?

Q2: What changes, if any, would you recommend to the NM Supreme Court practices and why?

Q3: What improvements, if any, are needed in the Supreme Court?

**Briana H. Zamora**

Nonpartisan

A1: As a judge, I have served at all levels of the judiciary from the Metropolitan Court to the Supreme Court. I have presided in thousands of cases and well over a hundred jury trials. New Mexicans deserve experienced judges who are independent and have integrity. I have a wealth of judicial experience and a reputation of integrity and fairness. I hope to continue my service to New Mexico as a Supreme Court Justice.

A2: The Supreme Court oversees every court and judicial program in New Mexico. Overall, the judiciary in New Mexico is first rate. However, there are two areas I hope to improve. First, improving the efficacy and efficiency in how the judiciary implements its behavioral health programs would benefit the entire state. Second, working to ensure there is access to legal representation for all New Mexicans, particularly individuals in our rural communities.

A3: The Supreme Court and its employees work tirelessly to issue opinions that are accurate, fair and timely. Lack of resources is our greatest challenge. The Court needs additional attorneys and paralegals to assist the Court in more efficiently issuing the Court's opinions, orders and Supreme Court Rules.

**Judicial Retention Judge of the Court of Appeals**

There are ten judges on the New Mexico Court of Appeals. It is the intermediate court between the district courts and the Supreme Court. Judges sit in panels of three. The Court reviews appeals in all cases, except criminal cases involving sentences of death or life imprisonment, and cases involving habeas corpus. Judges must be at least 35 years old, have practiced law for ten years, and have resided in New Mexico for the last three years. Judges are elected statewide for eight-year terms. Judicial vacancies are filled through appointment by the Governor from a list of nominees submitted by a judicial nominating committee. At the next regular election the judicial position is filled in a partisan election in which the appointed judge must participate and win the most votes to retain the seat. Judges serve for terms of a set number of years, after which they must win a retention election. 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.

**Questions:**

Q1: What qualifies you for this position?

Q2: What changes, if any, would you recommend to the NM Court of Appeals practices and why?

Q3: What improvements, if any, are needed in the Court of Appeals?

**Judicial Retention Judge of the Court of Appeals Position 1**

**Jennifer Attrep**

Nonpartisan

A1: I have nearly two decades of experience on the bench and in private practice. I have served as a Court of Appeals Judge since 2018 and currently serve as the Chief Judge. As an appellate judge, I have resolved hundreds of appeals in all areas of the law and assisted with Court administration. I previously was a trial judge in Northern New Mexico where I managed a varied docket, presided over thousands of cases, and held over 50 trials. Prior to joining the bench, I served as an appellate attorney and litigator in a variety of civil and criminal cases and clerked for a federal trial judge.

A2: The Court of Appeals is responsible for resolving the vast majority of appeals in New Mexico and, as a result, has a busy and heavy docket. The Court has made significant progress in resolving cases more quickly. Through the tireless efforts of staff and judges, the Court has cleared its backlog that had previously been amassed due to judicial turnover. The Court is dedicated to building on this progress and has adopted programs to increase efficiencies. The Court piloted a program that streamlines the appeal process, and recently implemented a program that provides free mediation services to more expeditiously resolve appeals. We are working to expand these programs and continue to explore other ways to better serve New Mexicans.

A3: The Court of Appeals is focused on expanding public access and improving Court administration. During the pandemic, the Court began allowing unrepresented parties to electronically file court documents; and we are working to expand electronic access for unrepresented parties. The Court will be publishing self-help materials that explain the appellate process and assist unrepresented parties and attorneys in meeting their obligations on appeal. We will be rolling out live-streaming to increase access to our proceedings. The Court of Appeals also is working to obtain needed funding to build its administrative team, so the Court is more efficiently and effectively run. The current lack of staffing greatly overburdens our staff and judges.

**Judicial Retention Judge of the Court of Appeals Position 2**

**Shammara Henderson**

Nonpartisan

A1: I have been a judge on the NM Court of Appeals since my appointment by the Governor in 2020. In that time, I have gained valuable experience as an appellate judge. Prior to becoming a judge, I had a diverse career practicing in both criminal and civil law. I practiced in both state and federal court at the trial and appellate level. I have dedicated my career to ensuring diversity and equity in the judicial system.

A2: We have worked hard the last several years to reduce the time it takes for us to rule on cases before our court. We currently have two pilot projects that have dramatically decreased the time to file opinions in our cases. One impacts

our criminal cases, and we have seen our turnaround time dramatically improve. The other is our mediation program, which while new, has already helped with our civil cases. I am dedicated to continuing our efforts to reduce our caseload and find ways to ensure we are ruling on cases in a timely manner.

A3: The main issue that our court has faced is a lack of resources. It has been a priority of mine to ensure that we have more resources. We have used these resources to rebuild our administrative staff and building maintenance. Our priority as judges should be to focus on our cases and to do so, we need the proper resources to ensure our court functions at the level expected by the parties who appear before us. We still have some improvements to make, but we have done a lot to rebuild the past several years.

### **Judicial Retention Judge of the Court of Appeals Position 3**

#### **Megan Duffy**

Nonpartisan

A1: I have served as a judge on the Court of Appeals for nearly six years now and gained tremendous experience from working on hundreds of cases involving a broad range of legal issues. I take care with every case to show the parties that we have fully and fairly considered the issues, and to impartially explain what the law says about the issue so the parties understand our decision. Before joining the Court, I had 10 years of experience as an attorney. I began my legal career as a law clerk of Justice Richard Bosson at the New Mexico Supreme Court.

A2: The Court of Appeals experienced tremendous judicial turnover from 2015-2022, which resulted in a backlog of hundreds of cases. My colleagues and I have worked hard for several years to clear that backlog and I'm happy to report that we have done so. Stability on the Court (no turnover in the last 2 years), was important to accomplishing this goal. In addition, we received some additional resources from the Legislature in the last few years, which allowed the Court to restart a mediation program, fill vacant positions, and work with retired appellate judges on a pro tem basis. That was a wonderful experience, and having a robust pro tem program could benefit courts, especially during periods of turnover.

A3: While we are proud of our work in clearing the backlog, the Court still wants to move cases faster through the court. We have set a goal of resolving 95% of all cases within 720 days, or just under two years. We have made tremendous progress in our time-to-disposition, but still have work to do. We have been working to obtain the resources we need (both funding and personnel), and piloting programs that we hope will allow us to resolve cases quicker, including (1) a revamped mediation program, (2) a pilot project for criminal cases that produces briefing earlier in the case, and (3) a speech-to-text program that allows us to review trials and hearings more efficiently.

### **Judicial Retention District Court Judge First Judicial District**

District Court Judge Retention District courts hold jury trials in tort, contract, real property rights, estate cases and generally have exclusive jurisdiction over domestic relations and mental health cases. They also hear appeals for administrative agencies and lower courts, criminal appeals, and juvenile cases. To be eligible a person must be at least 35 years old, have practiced law for at least 6 years and reside in the district. Judges serve six-year terms. Under New

Mexico law, district court judges are required to run in one partisan election. The Judicial Performance Evaluation Committee's website, [www.nmjpec.org](http://www.nmjpec.org), includes evaluations and information about judicial retention candidates.

#### **Questions:**

Q1: What are your qualifications for this position?

Q2: What alternatives to incarceration do you support for nonviolent crimes?

Q3: What can be done to reduce the backlogs of court cases?

### **Judicial Retention District Court Judge First Judicial District Division 03**

#### **Shannon Broderick Bulman**

Nonpartisan

A1: I have been a licensed attorney in New Mexico for approximately 35 years, and I have served as a District Court Judge for approximately 4 ½ years. I am committed to continuing to diligently serve the residents of the First Judicial District in a thoughtful and fair manner.

A2: My current docket primarily includes family court matters and does not include criminal cases. I see many parties, however, who have child custody, domestic violence, divorce or kinship guardianship cases, in addition to pending criminal charges. These individuals often struggle with substance use disorder and mental health challenges. Readily available treatment services for substance use disorder and mental health conditions would allow some individuals to stay out of the criminal justice system and better care for and support their children and families.

A3: There is presently no backlog of court cases in my docket.

### **Judicial Retention District Court Judge First Judicial District Division 06**

#### **Bryan Paul Biedscheid**

Nonpartisan

A1: It has been my honor to serve as First Judicial District Judge for over five years and to serve as Chief Judge of the District for the past two and a half years. On the bench, I thoroughly prepare for every hearing and I listen carefully to the arguments of lawyers and self-represented parties alike. I try to thoughtfully communicate my rulings so that the parties, public, and reviewing courts are able to understand and consider their basis. I am a productive judge, in terms of adjudicating a full docket of cases while also serving as chief. In my administrative chief role, I work hard to secure and efficiently distribute resources to our magistrate and district courts. JPEC reviewed me as highly rated and recommends my retention.

A2: The Magistrate and District courts are impressively committed to public safety and creating positive judicial outcomes. In some instances, incarceration imposes justice and maintains safety in this district, where I, my family, and all of my colleagues live. However, in many cases, incarceration does not address the root cause of criminal behavior and, by limiting treatment in the present and eliminating options in the future, actually adds to community burden. Wise use of incarceration alternatives begins with Pretrial Services before trial, identifying those who must remain in jail and the conditions on which others are released. When drug and/or mental health treatment addresses the cause, supervised diversion programs are effective.



A3: The Magistrate and District judges in this district and our judicial staff work very hard to keep the continuous stream of cases moving through their courts. I am inspired by the commitment and tireless work of my colleagues who are also up for retention, Shannon Bulman and Matthew Wilson. I focus on reducing the time to disposition of my cases because that is what I can control. Resources are key to this goal: we are working to get new Magistrate Court facilities and office space in Santa Fe County and a new court facility in Rio Arriba County. Sufficient facilities will allow us to hold more trials. We are working, with respect for law enforcement and other stakeholders, to increase efficiency in criminal docket management.

### **Judicial Retention District Court Judge First Judicial District Division 09**

#### **Matthew Justin Wilson**

Nonpartisan

A1: What are your qualifications for this position?

Having been a district court judge for 11 years, I have presided over all different types of cases including family law matters, criminal proceedings, and civil litigation. I practiced as a lawyer for 16 years before being appointed to the bench, work that included numerous jury trials. I recognize the importance of listening to the parties and giving each case the time and attention it deserves, knowing the great stress that the parties may be experiencing. With hard work and dedication, I have received solid judicial performance evaluations through the years. As a judge, I have always sought to be fair and impartial, while following the law in each case and trying to establish justice one case at a time.

A2: What alternatives to incarceration do you support for nonviolent crimes?

One of the most difficult and demanding aspects of being a judge is deciding the appropriate sentence to impose on a person convicted of criminal conduct. For individuals convicted of a nonviolent crime, it is important to try to identify the underlying cause of the conduct so that the ultimate sentence will treat the fundamental reason for the behavior, in an effort to reduce recidivism rates and without compromising public safety. This can often be addressed by imposing a probationary sentence without incarceration that includes inpatient or outpatient substance abuse treatment. If appropriate, a judge can consider drug court or treatment court for individuals with substance abuse, mental health, or housing issues.

A3: What can be done to reduce the backlogs of court cases?

Besides increasing human resources to tackle rising caseloads, proper case management can reduce case backlogs. A judge should maintain time standards and deadlines by setting cases for trial and motions for hearing within reasonable timeframes. In addition, a judge should make decisions promptly, ideally from the bench at the conclusion of a hearing, to avoid the accumulation of unfinished work while also allowing the parties to move forward with their case. It is important for a judge to monitor the progress of cases on an ongoing basis by running frequent status reports to identify cases that need attention, as a means to reduce the time it takes to move a case from its initial opening to its final disposition or resolution.

### **CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS**

#### **Constitutional Amendment 1:**

**“Proposing an amendment to Article 8, Section 15 of the constitution of New Mexico to extend a property tax exemption, currently only allowed for one hundred percent disabled veterans and their widows and widowers, to veterans with less than a one hundred percent disability and their widows and widowers and basing the amount of the exemption on a veteran’s disability rating.”**

#### **ARGUMENTS FOR**

1. Exemption would provide disabled veterans protection from rising property taxes. Allowing the property tax exemption for veterans with a permanent service-connected disability will support property-owning disabled veterans and their widowed spouses in an amount proportional to the percentage of the veteran's disability rating.
2. Expanding the property tax exemption sends the message that anyone who suffers a disability while serving in the armed forces deserves to be taken care of equally, regardless of the severity of the injury.
3. Expresses support of the state for veterans.
4. A decrease in property tax could provide an incentive for veterans of the armed forces to move to and buy property in New Mexico, which may increase the state's population and tax base.
5. The estimated cost of an additional annual per capita burden of \$34.00 for the general population of the state is comparatively low to the benefit provided to the nearly 30,000 service-related disabled veterans with property tax liability in the state.

#### **ARGUMENTS AGAINST**

1. Exemption may benefit those who do not need financial assistance. If the purpose is to relieve the financial burden on those who are unable, due to their disability, to pay property taxes, then the exemption should target those with limited incomes.
2. Financial assistance is already available for disabled veterans through a number of programs. There are other social programs that disabled veterans may access to assist with living expenses. For instance, there are numerous state, federal and nonprofit programs that serve veterans.
3. Non-disabled-veteran property taxpayers will pay more due to exemption. By expanding eligibility for a property tax exemption, the property tax bills of other state residents will increase.
4. A property tax is traditionally based on the value and nature of the property, not the personal characteristics of the owner. Creating an exemption for certain individuals is a departure from the underlying principle of property taxation and could set a precedent for other groups to seek a similar exemption.
5. The federal government should help disabled veterans, not the state. If voters believe that more compensation is due to disabled veterans and their spouses, then they should ask their representatives in Congress to address the issue.
6. Property tax benefit for veterans already exists in the Constitution of New Mexico.
7. Exemption excludes other property taxpayers who are disabled due to work-related injuries. There are many dangerous but necessary occupations with a high chance of disability from injury, so it is unclear why disabled veterans warrant preferable treatment in comparison to other disabled persons.

#### **Constitutional Amendment No. 2**

**“Proposing an amendment to Article 8, Section 5 of the constitution of New Mexico to increase a property tax exemption for honorably discharged members of the armed forces and their widows and widowers.”**

#### **ARGUMENTS FOR**

1. Reducing the property tax paid by honorably discharged members of the armed forces and their widowed spouses supports property-owning veterans and their widows or widowers and helps them maintain homeownership.
2. Increasing property tax exemptions for honorably discharged veterans demonstrates New Mexico's support for and appreciation of members of the armed forces who risked their lives and served their country honorably.
3. A decrease in property tax could provide an incentive for veterans of the armed forces to move to and buy property in New Mexico, which may increase the state's population and tax base.
4. By adjusting the amount of the exemption for inflation, the amount of the exemption for veterans will increase without requiring a future constitutional amendment, which is a challenging, lengthy and costly process.
5. The increased exemption amount is fairer to veterans and their spouses in 2024. The current exemption was set in 2002 and, since then, the value of the dollar has increased approximately 72% while property values have increased by approximately 80%.

#### **ARGUMENTS AGAINST**

1. Congress should be responsible for providing veterans' benefits. It is inappropriate for state and local governments to bear the expense of providing extended benefits to veterans in return for their service in a branch of the United States armed forces. If more generous benefits are due to veterans and their spouses, Congress should provide those benefits.
2. Exemption could benefit those who chose to enlist. Special property tax benefits should not be extended to someone who makes the choice to work in a branch of the United States armed forces.
3. Unfair to other property taxpayers who will pay more due to exemption increase. An increase in this property tax exemption will shift the tax burden, and the tax bills of all other New Mexico property owners will increase.
4. Tax relief measures should be based on need. There is no evidence that veterans have lower incomes or a greater need for property tax relief than other taxpayers. It is possible that, with the passage of the proposed constitutional amendment, veterans who are financially stable and who own large, high-value homes will be relieved from contributing their property tax share.
5. Exemption for special groups of property taxpayers could set precedent for other individuals to seek tax relief. Property tax is based on the value and nature of the property, not the personal characteristics of the owner. Creating an exemption for certain individuals is a departure from the underlying principle of property taxation and could set a precedent for other groups to seek similar exemptions.
6. The exemption amount benefits a portion of veterans as it only applies to owner-occupied residences that are used as a principal place of residency and will exclude veterans who are institutionalized, homeless or renters.
7. Inflation provision would increase property taxes even more for non-veteran property taxpayers. The proposal to index the amount of exemption for inflation may continue to erode the property tax base and annually increase the property tax bills for those who are not eligible for the property tax exemption.

#### **Constitutional Amendment No. 3**

**“Proposing to amend Article 6, Section 35 of the constitution of New Mexico by allowing the dean of the University of New Mexico School of Law to appoint a designee to the Judicial Nominating Commission.”**

#### **ARGUMENTS FOR**

1. The role of chair of the Appellate Judges Nominating Commission is primarily administrative. The Rules Governing Judicial Nominating Commissions outline the role of the chair and task the chair with the duties of announcing the existence of a judicial vacancy to the public and members of the commission, scheduling meetings of the commission and providing the media with notice of the meetings, preparing application packets and preparing agendas for meetings. These are not tasks that require the legal mind of the dean of a school of law, but even if they were, this proposed amendment ensures that there will be an esteemed legal scholar serving as chair of the commission.
2. The University of New Mexico School of Law serves a vital interest to the state by educating a vast majority of the attorneys who practice here since it is the only school of law in New Mexico. Beyond the normal duties of being the dean of a school of law, and the current requirement to serve as chair of the Appellate Judges Nominating Commission, the dean is also required by statute to serve as the chair of the Judicial Compensation Commission. Allowing the dean's designee to serve on the Appellate Judges Nominating Commission would relieve the dean of a commitment that could be performed by others
3. The dean of the University of New Mexico School of Law is already permitted to have a designee for important commissions, including the New Mexico Sentencing Commission and the New Mexico Compilation Commission. The dean is also required to appoint three members to the Public Defender Commission. Each of these commissions have functioned adequately without requiring the dean to attend every meeting. The dean should be allowed to appoint a designee

#### **ARGUMENTS AGAINST**

1. Potentially removes a neutral tie-breaking vote from the commission. When the Appellate Judges Nominating Commission was created, there was a desire to have a neutral person who could break any of the commission's tie votes. The legislature, which passed the joint resolution to create the commission, and the people, who voted to pass the constitutional amendment in 1988, believed that the dean of the University of New Mexico School of Law was the best person to put into this neutral tie-breaking role.
2. Could remove one of New Mexico's most prominent legal scholars from the judicial appointment process. The Appellate Judges Nominating Commission serves a vital role in New Mexico's judicial system by vetting and nominating candidates for the most prominent judicial positions in the state. The dean is tapped into New Mexico's legal community by virtue of being the head of the state's only law school. The dean's connections in the legal community could provide insight into the careers and backgrounds of the applicants that the commission vets.

#### **Constitutional Amendment No. 4**

**“Proposing an amendment to Article 10, Section 1 of the constitution of New Mexico to provide that the salaries of county officers shall be established by the Board of County Commissioners, remove references to the First Legislative Session and clarify that any fees collected by a county official shall be paid into the treasury of the county.”**

#### **ARGUMENTS FOR**

1. While it made sense for the legislature to set county officer salaries when the state was new, the counties are now longstanding, established entities that handle their own affairs without such close state guidance. is amendment is a measure to modernize the system to better reflect the realities of day-to-day governance. The current law only sets maximum salaries for county officers and

already allows boards of county commissioners discretion in determining salary increases for their officers within the statutory limitations.

2. County officers manage complex bureaucracies and require executive experience and specialized skills to be effective on behalf of their constituents. To ensure that voters have the opportunity to elect qualified officers, counties need the flexibility to set salaries to attract experienced and skilled candidates. This amendment would allow counties to be more responsive to their own needs and provide for more professional management.

3. Constitutional and statutory safeguards exist to check the power of county commissioners in setting salaries. The constitution and laws of the state have measures that serve as a check on the powers of county commissioners in setting the salaries of county officers.

4. Will give voters more say in how their counties are managed. County officers are locally elected and directly accountable to their constituents. This amendment would localize salary decisions and make county officers more accountable to their constituents.

#### **ARGUMENTS AGAINST**

1. Without legislative oversight, county official salaries will be wide-ranging and inconsistent among counties. Pursuant to its current obligation to fix the salaries for county officers, the legislature has established a comprehensive classification system based on a combination of a county's population and the total value of real estate within the county. This system helps to ensure that salaries are uniform and proportional across the state. This proposed amendment empowers boards of county commissioners to establish officer salaries without any standards.

2. Removing legislature's authority could lead to negative consequences for counties. Allowing boards of county commissioners full discretion to determine salaries for their officers takes authority and power away from the legislature. The people of the state have an interest in the legislature retaining the power to set county officer salaries because it serves as a mutual check – it is a reasonable limit on counties' powers and requires accountability from the legislature.

3. County commissioners would set their own salaries. Currently, Article 10, Section 1 of the Constitution of New Mexico places the legislature in a neutral third-party role and provides assurances to the people of the state that county officer salaries are determined impartially. This proposed amendment may make these determinations more susceptible to short-term political or personal considerations.

#### **BONDS**

##### **Bond Question 1 – Aging and Long-Term Services Department**

Authorizes the state to issue up to \$30,758,100 in bonds to fund senior citizen facilities.

"The 2024 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 thirty million seven hundred fifty-eight thousand one hundred dollars (\$30,758,100) 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 Question 2 – Library Acquisitions**

Authorizes the state to issue up to \$19,305,000 in bonds to fund public, tribal, public school and academic libraries.

"The 2024 Capital Projects General Obligation Bond Act authorizes the issuance and sale of library acquisition bonds. Shall the state be authorized to issue general obligation bonds in an amount not to exceed nineteen million three hundred five thousand dollars (\$19,305,000) to make capital expenditures for academic, public school, tribal and public library resource 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\_\_\_"

##### **Bond Question 3 – Higher Education**

Authorizes the state to issue up to \$230,258,400 in bonds to fund public institutes of higher education, special schools and tribal schools.

"The 2024 Capital Projects General Obligation Bond Act authorizes the issuance and sale of higher education, special schools and tribal schools capital improvement and acquisition bonds. Shall the state be authorized to issue general obligation bonds in an amount not to exceed two hundred thirty million two hundred fifty-eight thousand four hundred dollars (\$230,258,400) to make capital expenditures for certain higher education, special schools and tribal schools 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\_\_\_"

##### **Bond Question 4: Public Safety**

Authorizes the state to issue up to \$10,297,100 in bonds to fund modernization of public safety radio communications systems.

"The 2024 Capital Projects General Obligation Bond Act authorizes the issuance and sale of public safety radio system improvement bonds. Shall the state be authorized to issue general obligation bonds in an amount not to exceed ten million two hundred ninety-seven thousand one hundred dollars (\$10,297,100) to make capital expenditures for public safety radio communications systems stabilization and modernization 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\_\_\_"

## 2024 Absentee & Early Voting Locations, Dates, & Times

### ABSENTEE

#### Tierra Amarilla Clerk's Office at 10 State Road 531, Tierra Amarilla

Absentee Applications are available at the County Clerk's Office in Española and Tierra Amarilla. Voters may also fill out an Absentee Application by visiting the Clerk's Department webpage at [www.rio-arriba.org](http://www.rio-arriba.org).

*Pursuant to Chapter 1 NMSA 1978, Section 1-6-5 absentee applications will be considered timely if received 14 days prior to election.*

Tuesday, Oct 8 thru Friday, Oct 11 ----- 8:00am - 5:00pm  
Monday, Oct 14 thru Friday, Oct 18 ----- 8:00am - 5:00pm  
Monday, Oct 21 thru Tuesday, Oct 22 ----- 8:00am - 5:00pm

### EARLY VOTING and SAME DAY VOTER REGISTRATION

#### Tierra Amarilla Clerk's Office at 10 State Road 531, Tierra Amarilla

Tuesday, Oct 8 thru Friday, Oct 11 ----- 8:00am - 5:00pm  
Monday, Oct 14 thru Friday, Oct 18 ----- 8:00am - 5:00pm  
Monday, Oct 21 thru Friday, Oct 25 ----- 8:00am - 5:00pm  
Monday, Oct 28 thru Friday, Nov 1 ----- 8:00am - 5:00pm  
Saturday, Nov 2 ----- 10:00am - 6:00pm

#### County Clerk's Election Warehouse at 714 Calle Don Diego, Española

Tuesday, Oct 8 thru Friday, Oct 11 ----- 8:00am - 5:00pm  
Monday, Oct 14 thru Friday, Oct 18 ----- 8:00am - 5:00pm  
Monday, Oct 21 thru Friday, Oct 25 ----- 8:00am - 5:00pm  
Monday, Oct 28 thru Friday, Nov 1 ----- 8:00am - 5:00pm  
Saturday, Nov 2 ----- 10:00am - 6:00pm

#### Hernandez Community Center, 19418A US 84/285, Hernandez

Saturday, Oct 19 ----- 10:00am - 6:00pm  
Tuesday, Oct 22 thru Saturday, Oct 26 ----- 10:00am - 6:00pm  
Tuesday, Oct 29 thru Saturday, Nov 2 ----- 10:00am - 6:00pm

#### Jicarilla Apache Nation Tribal Building, 25 Hawks Drive, Dulce

Tuesday, Oct 29 thru Friday, Nov 1 ----- 8:00am - 5:00pm

#### Ohkay Owingeh Senior Center, 217 N Cross Place, Ohkay Owingeh

Tuesday, Oct 22 thru Saturday, Oct 26 ----- 10:00am - 6:00pm

#### Santa Clara Senior Citizens Bldg., 636 One Kee Street, Española

Tuesday, Oct 29 thru Saturday, Nov 2 ----- 10:00am - 3:00pm

*To Learn More:*

Visit the County Clerk's Website:

<http://www.rio-arriba.org>

Follow us on Facebook!



<https://www.facebook.com/racclerk>



**Sarah Archuleta**

Rio Arriba County Clerk

[SArchuleta@rio-arriba.org](mailto:SArchuleta@rio-arriba.org)

### **County Seat**

Archive Building  
10 State Road 531  
Tierra Amarilla, NM 87575  
(575) 588-7724

### **Satellite Office**

1122 Industrial Park Road  
Española, NM 87532  
(505) 753-1780



Rio Arriba County Elections Information Page 2 of 3

Type	Precinct	Precinct Name	Polling Location	Location Address
VCC 1	1, 2, & 3	West/East Dulce, & Lumberton	Jicarilla Apache Nation Tribal Bldg	25 Hawks Drive, Dulce, NM 87528
VCC 2	4	Chama	Chama Senior Center	2449 US Hwy 84-64, Chama, NM 87520
MAIL	5	Los Pinos	Mail Ballot Election Precinct	Mail Ballot Election Precinct
VCC 3	10 & 11	Los Ojos & Tierra Amarilla	Tierra Amarilla Senior Center	1113A SR 162, Tierra Amarilla, NM 87575
VCC 4	12 & 25	Cebolla & Canjilon	Canjilon Community Center	3115 CR 455, Canjilon, NM 87515
VCC 5	13, 14, 28, & 39	Vallecitos, Petaca, La Madera, & Ojo Caliente	Mesa Vista School	HWY 285 Road 111, Ojo Caliente, NM 87549
MAIL	21	Lybrook	Mail Ballot Election Precinct	Mail Ballot Election Precinct
VCC 6	22	Lindrith	Lindrith Fire Department	1380 SR 595, Lindrith, NM 87029
VCC 7	23 & 24	Gallina & Coyote	Gallina School House	1 PR 1650, Gallina, NM 87017
VCC 8	26 & 35	Abiquiu & Canones	Abiquiu Rural Events Center	122A US Hwy 84, SR 554, Abiquiu, NM 87510
VCC 9	27	El Rito	El Rito Community Center	1115 SR 554, El Rito, NM 87530
VCC 10	36 & 37	West & East Hernandez	Hernandez Community Center	19418A US 84/285, Hernandez, NM 87537
VCC 11	38 & 40	East Rio Chama & West Rio Arriba	Medanales Community Center	214 CR 142, Medanales, NM 87548
VCC 12	45 & 47	North Velarde & South Velarde	Velarde Community Center	6 CR 60A, Velarde, NM 87582
VCC 13	46 & 56	El Guique & Chamita	Chamita Fire Department	46 CR 56A, Chamita, NM 87566
VCC 14	48 & 49	Lower & Upper Dixon	Dixon Community Center	318 ST RD 75, Dixon, NM 87527
VCC 13	56	Chamita	Chamita Fire Department	46 CR 56A, Chamita, NM 87566
VCC 15	57 & 58	Lower & Upper Alcalde	Alcade Community Center	26 CR 41A, Alcade, NM 87511
VCC 16	59	Ohkay Owingeh	Ohkay Owingeh Senior Center	217 N Cross Place, Ohkay Owingeh, NM 87566
VCC 17	60	Santa Clara	Santa Clara Senior Citizens Bldg	636 One Kee St., Espanola, NM 87532
VCC 18	61, 62, & 66	West & South Espanola & Espanola	Lucero Center Gym	313 N Paseo De Oate, Española, NM 87532
VCC 19	63, 64, & 65	Upper & Lower La Mesilla & San Pedro	San Pedro Community Center	30 CR 8, Espanola, NM 87532
VCC 20	67, 68, & 69	Fairview, El Llano, & Ranchitos	Fairview Elementary	1000 Zuni Lane, Espanola, NM 87532
VCC 21	70 & 71	Lower Chimayo & Upper Chimayo	Arboleda Senior Center	694 State Road 76, Chimayo, NM 87522
VCC 22	72, 73, 74	Cordova, Truchas, Ojo Sarco	Truchas Senior Center	58 CR 75, Truchas, NM 87578
ABS	ABS	Rio Arriba Absent Voter Precinct	TA Archive Center Conference Room	10 State Rd 531, Tierra Amarilla, NM 87575
EV	ESPEV	Espanola Clerk's Office Alternate	Clerk's Election Warehouse	714 Calle Don Diego, Espanola, NM 87532
EV	DUALT	Dulce	Jicarilla Apache Nation Tribal Bldg	25 Hawks Drive, Dulce, NM 87528
EV	ESPALT	Espanola Alternate Site	Hernandez Community Center	19418A US 84/285, Hernandez, NM 87537
EV	OOALT	Ohkay Owingeh	Ohkay Owingeh Senior Center	217 North Cross Place, Ohkay Owingeh, NM 87566
EV	SCALT	Santa Clara	Santa Clara Senior Citizens Bldg	636 One Kee St., Espanola, NM 87532
EV	TAEV	TA Clerk's Office	TA Clerk's Office	10 State Road 531, Tierra Amarilla, NM 87575



**Rio Arriba County  
Clerk's Office**

**General Election**

**Nov 5, 2024**

**7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.**

**Absentee Application Online:**

[portal.sos.state.nm.us/OVR/WebPages/AbsenteeApplication.aspx](https://portal.sos.state.nm.us/OVR/WebPages/AbsenteeApplication.aspx)

*Check Your Voter Information!*

*Are You Registered to Vote?*

*Has Your Address Changed?*

*Has Your Name Changed?*

*Register to vote in person*

*or to update your voter registration go to  
the Rio Arriba County Clerk's Office or  
online @*

[Rio Arriba County Clerk's Office \(rio-arriba.org\)](https://rio-arriba.org)

**OR**

[Voter Registration \(state.nm.us\)](https://state.nm.us)

**PERMANENT SECURED  
CONTAINERS**

Permanent Secured Containers/  
Permanent Ballot Drop Box locations

**Tierra Amarilla Clerk's Office  
10 State Road 531  
Tierra Amarilla, NM 87575**

**Española Clerk's Office  
1122 Industrial Park Road  
Española, NM 87532**

These containers will be available to  
drop off completed absentee ballots 24  
hours a day beginning

**Tuesday, Oct 8, 2024 8:00 am  
through November 5, 2024 until  
7:00 p.m.**

Pursuant to Chapter 1 NMSA 1978,  
Section 1-6-9 (E) “. . . it is a violation  
of law for any person who is not an  
immediate family member, . . . to  
collect and deliver a ballot for another  
person except as authorized by the  
election code.”

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NM Secretary of State [NMVOTE.GOV](http://NMVOTE.GOV)  
NM Legislative Council Service [NMLEGIS.GOV](http://NMLEGIS.GOV)