

VOTE 2016

GENERAL ELECTION Tuesday, November 8, 2016

ABSENTEE VOTING: October 11 – November 5, 2016
EARLY VOTING: October 22 – November 5, 2016



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF SANTA FE COUNTY

The League of Women Voters is a non-profit organization that seeks to promote informed citizen participation in government by providing unbiased information about political issues and candidates. The League does not support or oppose any political party or candidate. The League does adopt positions on policy issues after a process of study and consensus by its members.

The candidate information in this Voters Guide consists of the unedited responses of the candidates to a set of questions sent to the candidates by the League. The answers have been printed exactly as submitted (up to the stated word limit for each response). The candidates and their responses are listed in ballot order.

For more information, please visit the League website: www.lwvsfc.org

VOTER REQUIREMENTS - REGISTRATION DEADLINE WAS OCTOBER 11

To vote in the November 8, 2016 General Election, you must be registered to vote in, and a current resident of, the County of Santa Fe as of October 11, 2016. You can check the status of your voter registration at the NM Secretary of State's "Voter View" at <https://voterview.state.nm.us>.

QUESTIONS? NEED MORE INFO?

Santa Fe County Clerk: 505-986-6280,
http://www.santafecountynm.gov/clerk/elections_information
New Mexico Secretary of State: 505-827-3600, <http://www.sos.state.nm.us>

WHAT WILL BE ON THE BALLOT?

You can view your ballot on the website of the Secretary of State - <http://www.sos.state.nm.us>. You can enter your address to see which candidates and issues will be on the ballot for your precinct.

This Voters Guide contains the unedited answers to questions posed by the League to the candidates who have opponents in the General Election. Unopposed candidates will appear on your ballot, but these offices were decided by the Primary election.

WHEN AND WHERE TO VOTE

On Election Day, November 8, 2016, the polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Voters should vote at the polling place for the precinct in which they are registered.

Absentee-In Person Voting

County Clerk's office (102 Grant Avenue) from Tuesday, October 11th through Saturday, November 5th, during regular days and hours of business (Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.) and Saturday, November 5th ONLY for Early Voting from 10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m.

Early Voting

Saturday, October 22nd through Saturday, November 5th. Hours of voting are from 12:00 Noon until 8:00 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, and from 10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. on Saturdays. You can vote at any of these locations, regardless of where in the County you live:

Early Voting Sites are located at:

Santa Fe County Fair Building – 3229 Rodeo Road, Santa Fe
NEW Christian Life Church – 121 Siringo Road, Santa Fe
Eldorado Senior Center (new facility) – 16 Avenida Torreon, El Dorado
NEW Edgewood Fire Station – 1 Municipal Way, Edgewood
Pojoaque County Satellite Office – 5 W. Gutierrez – Ste. 9, Pojoaque Pueblo Plaza

Absentee Voting by Mail

You can request an application for an absentee ballot at any time by calling the County Clerk's office at 986-6280. When you receive the application, you may fill it out and return it to the Clerk's office.

You may also fill out an application in the Clerk's office at 102 Grant Avenue.

Office of the County Clerk

102 Grant Avenue, Santa Fe, NM 87501
P.O. Box 1985, Santa Fe, NM 87504-1985
Phone Number: 505-986-6280

Proposed Constitutional Amendment

PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 2, SECTION 13 OF THE CONSTITUTION OF NEW MEXICO TO PROTECT COMMUNITY SAFETY BY GRANTING COURTS NEW AUTHORITY TO DENY RELEASE ON BAIL PENDING TRIAL FOR DANGEROUS DEFENDANTS IN FELONY CASES WHILE RETAINING THE RIGHT TO PRETRIAL RELEASE FOR NON-DANGEROUS DEFENDANTS WHO DO NOT POSE A FLIGHT RISK.

Vote "For" or "Against"

Background: This proposed amendment came from a joint resolution of the New Mexico Legislature. It requires a simple majority to be approved.

Approximately 40 percent of defendants incarcerated in New Mexico are awaiting trials to determine their innocence or guilt. Defendants post bail to guarantee their appearance in court. Defendants who fail to appear lose the money they have posted. The proposed amendment would allow bail to be denied for a person charged with a felony who is awaiting trial if the evidence shows that the person poses a threat to the public. It would also guarantee that an accused person who is neither a danger nor a flight risk is not held in jail before trial simply because he lacks bail money.

ARGUMENTS FOR THIS AMENDMENT:

1. Allows judges to keep dangerous defendants off the streets. Judges could deny release to dangerous defendants who pose a threat to public safety. The proposed amendment would give judges the power to keep those who need to remain behind bars away from the community.
2. Allows release of people who do not pose a threat. Many defendants incarcerated in New Mexico jails who do not pose a danger to the community or a flight risk are held simply because they cannot afford bail. Being held in jail has significant negative impacts on defendants who have not yet been found guilty of any crime and on their families. Moreover, in states that have enacted reforms similar to the proposed amendment, there has been no corresponding negative impact on public safety.
3. Cost savings to counties. Holding large numbers of people pending trial imposes substantial costs on the counties, which house the vast majority of these defendants. Some counties have spent up to half of their budgets on jails and correctional officers.
4. Protection of basic constitutional rights. It is a fundamental right since the founding of this nation that people are innocent until proven guilty, and thus the state should have to prove why a defendant should remain incarcerated before any finding of guilt.

ARGUMENTS AGAINST

1. Bond may encourage defendants to appear in court. A defendant released without a bail bond has less financial incentive to appear in court.
2. Has possible negative impact on the bail bonding industry. The proposed amendment could reduce fees collected by bail bondsmen from defendants.
3. May lead to the pre-trial release of more defendants. Any defendant who is released before trial could still commit additional crimes.

For more background information and more complete analyses, please see: <https://www.nmlegis.gov/>

WITH THANKS

The 2016 General Election Voters' Guide was produced and distributed by the *Santa Fe New Mexican*, in partnership with the League of Women Voters of Santa Fe County and the League of Women Voters of New Mexico. The League appreciates the *New Mexican's* generous support of this project and commitment to educating the public.

Tax-deductible donations to the League's Education Fund are gratefully accepted to support voter services projects such as Voters' Guides, candidate forums, and voter registration efforts. If you would like to contribute to the LWVSFC to support voter services, please make your check payable to the LWV Education Fund.

League of Women Voters of Santa Fe County

1472 St. Francis Drive, Santa Fe, NM 87505
505-982-9766, www.lwvsfc.org

JOIN THE LEAGUE

Democracy is not a spectator sport.

Annual Membership:

\$54 per individual, \$80 per Household, \$30 per student

- I/we want to join the League of Women Voters of Santa Fe County
 I/We want to contribute to the LWVSFC Education Fund (No membership necessary.)

The LWVSFC Education Fund is a 501(c)3, tax exempt organization. Donations to this fund are tax-deductible. Make your check payable to LWVSFC Education Fund.

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

e-mail _____ Phone _____

Mail completed form with payment to: League of Women Voters of Santa Fe County
1472 St. Francis Drive
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505



LEARN MORE 505-982-9766

WWW.LWVSFC.ORG

2016 GENERAL ELECTION VOTERS GUIDE

CANDIDATES FOR PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

REPUBLICAN:
DONALD J TRUMP AND MICHAEL R PENCE
<https://www.donaldjtrump.com/>
 (646) 736-1779

DEMOCRATIC:
HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON AND TIMOTHY MICHAEL KAINE
<https://www.hillaryclinton.com/>
 (646) 854-1432

PARTY FOR SOCIALISM AND LIBERATION:
GLORIA LA RIVA AND DENNIS BANKS
<http://www.glorialariva4president.com/>
info@VotePSL.org

LIBERTARIAN:
GARY JOHNSON AND BILL WELD
<https://www.johnsonweld.com/>
info@johnsonweld.com

CONSTITUTION:
DARRELL CASTLE AND SCOTT BRADLEY
<http://castle2016.com/platform/>
info@castle2016.com

GREEN:
JILL STEIN AND AJAMU BARAKA
<http://www.jill2016.com/>

AMERICAN DELTA:
“ROCKY” ROQUE DE LA FUENTE AND MICHAEL STEINBERG
<https://www.rocky2016.com/meet-rocky>

BETTER FOR AMERICA:
EVAN MCMULLIN AND NATHAN JOHNSON
<https://www.evanmcmullin.com/about>

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, NM DISTRICT 3

The League asked:

1. Does Congress have a responsibility to address the impact of economic insecurity/poverty and racial/ethnic inequities? If so, what action would you support? Please explain.
2. What changes, if any, would you support in US immigration policy? Please address treatment of undocumented immigrants.
3. What actions, if any, should Congress take to address the influence of money in politics?
4. What would you do to ensure that every eligible American's right to vote is protected?
5. What would you do to improve health insurance coverage in the U.S.?

Michael H. Romero Republican NO RESPONSE NO RESPONSE NO RESPONSE NO RESPONSE NO RESPONSE



Ben Ray Lujan Democratic

1. Every hard-working American of every race, background, and economic status should have the opportunity to get ahead and stay ahead. One critical step is to provide a quality education to all children, particularly early education, that can open up the doors of opportunity and start them on the right path during their earliest years.
2. I support bipartisan comprehensive immigration reform. It is tough but fair, includes a path to citizenship and requires immigrants to pay back taxes and learn English. According to the Congressional Budget Office, reform would reduce the deficit by \$90 billion. Comprehensive reform is good for our economy and our security, while reflecting contributions immigrants make to our country.
3. Overturn Citizens United. I am fighting to reduce the influence of special-interest money in our campaign system. I cosponsored legislation to address the impact of Citizens United that opened the floodgates of secret money, including the DISCLOSE Act to increase public reporting of campaign related activity and a constitutional amendment to overturn Citizens United. I also introduced legislation to make political ad buy more accessible.
4. While times have changed since the Voting Rights Act was passed 50 years ago, voter disenfranchisement remains a challenge today. Tactics including voter ID laws, purging people from the rolls, and restricting hours and registration have made it harder to vote. Passing the Voter Rights Advancement Act will protect vulnerable communities from discriminatory practices and provide oversight for jurisdictions with a record of voter suppression.
5. The Affordable Care Act increased access to health care for millions of Americans, reducing the uninsured rate in New Mexico from 20.1 percent in 2013 to 12.8 percent last year. Lifetime and annual limits on insurance coverage have been eliminated and people with pre-existing conditions cannot be dropped or denied coverage. Congress should build on this law, taking steps to improve upon it where needed.

SECRETARY OF STATE

The League asked:

1. Would you support any changes to New Mexico's voting procedures, such as Same Day Voter Registration, mail-in voting, or requiring photo IDs at the polls? Please explain.
2. What actions would you take to increase voter registrations? Would you favor an "opt out" system at motor vehicle departments where eligible citizens are automatically registered to vote? If not, why not?
3. What changes, if any, would you support in campaign finance reporting?
4. How have your abilities and experience prepared you for the duties of this office?



Nora Espinoza Republican

1. Support Voter ID, with free IDs to those who don't have one. Albuquerque has had it for ten years, with zero complaints. The US is about the only country in the world without Voter ID. I oppose Same-Day Voter Registration. It allows non-New Mexicans to pass through on Election Day, register, vote, and leave the state. Once that vote is cast it cannot be un-counted.
2. Registration is extremely easy and can be done on-line at any time. The only thing preventing someone from registering to vote is not wanting to register. I oppose automatic registration because legal non-citizens, temporary visa holders, and certain felons are all eligible to apply for driver's licenses, but are ineligible to vote. Registering them "automatically," combined with the lack of Voter ID, decreases electoral integrity.
3. Our law is unenforceable due to three key federal court decisions in 2009, 2010 and 2012. We must have bright-line provisions that clearly define who must report and what has to be disclosed — including the dark money participants, such as George Soros, who funnel hundreds of thousands of dollars to candidates like my opponent, using multiple "shell" PACs. I support legislation to address these deficiencies.
4. My background as a businesswoman and legislator taught me the distinction between legislative discretion and administrative duties. My opponent, who's a professional political consultant, indicates she'll use the SOS position to impose her ideas. That's wrong. The office is administrative. The SOS must follow the law — not attempt to create law. The SOS must ensure elections integrity without favoring any one group over any other.



Maggie Toulouse Oliver Democratic

1. I support same-day registration as long as ballots are verified for eligibility before they are officially counted. I would also like to expand mail-in voting in New Mexico. I support our current voter identification laws and any legislation that improves the security and integrity of our elections, but not at the expense of diminishing access to the polls or restricting the right to vote.
2. I fully support an easier, more accessible registration process including Automatic Voter Registration linked to the MVD/online voter registration system. I support this concept whether the opt-out option is available at the time of registration or afterward. Once the majority of citizens are automatically registered, other resources can be dedicated to helping those who do not have contact with the MVD register to vote.
3. There are too many gaps in current systems. I will write rules that are easy to comply with so that information is reported in a way that the public can easily understand, and see the relationships between candidates and donors. I will work with legislators to make changes that require the highest levels of disclosure for every dollar spent in support or opposition of candidates.
4. As Bernalillo Clerk since 2007, I've made protecting the right to vote, improving the integrity of elections and ensuring accountable leadership top priorities.

My 9.5+ years of experience running elections in the largest county in the state, combined with my work toward ensuring accountability and transparency in my office, and elections, have prepared me to make much-needed changes in the Secretary of State's office.

CANDIDATES FOR NEW MEXICO SENATE

N.M. STATE SENATOR, DISTRICT 19 4-year term per diem only

The League asked:

1. If elected, what are your highest priorities? What specific actions would you take to address them?
2. Would you vote for creation of a Code of Ethics for elected and appointed officials and an independent ethics commission to enforce its provisions?
3. What are your specific ideas for increasing revenues and/or decreasing spending to support the long-term stability of the state budget?
4. Does New Mexico need to invest more in early childhood development? Explain. Would you support a constitutional amendment that would provide more funding for early childhood development?

James P White Republican NO RESPONSE NO RESPONSE NO RESPONSE NO RESPONSE



Harold W Murphree Democratic

1. Ensure clean, safe drinking water by protecting our surface and ground water. Decrease standardized testing to allow more time on the part of our teachers to be creative with their lesson plans, and for students to engage in critical thinking. Establish adequate Internet service throughout the state, particularly in rural areas. This is crucial to enhancing commerce throughout our state, thereby encouraging entrepreneurs to come to NM and remain.
2. Yes. Some other states have established such a commission and have had some success. It's worth a try, if only to help restore the public's faith in our state government. Legislation — even outstanding legislation — lacks credibility if the citizenry of New Mexico perceives the Statehouse as unethical, or even corrupt.
3. The long-term solution is high quality education. This means we will have a home grown, skilled work force to attract businesses from out of state. These businesses will, in turn, help our economy grow, thereby increasing our state's revenue. Even in the short run, a good education system helps a company attract talented workers — and keep them here in New Mexico — if they know their children are in good schools.
4. Yes. Early childhood development is crucial to treating special needs children. Even parents dedicated to their children's education may need professional help with conditions such as autism. Children will receive the attention they need early on, preventing more severe conditions later, and saving money in the long run. Early childhood treatment results in a well-educated, productive adult who contributes to our community.

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2016 GENERAL ELECTION VOTERS GUIDE

CANDIDATES FOR NEW MEXICO SENATE

N.M. STATE SENATOR, DISTRICT 39 4-year term per diem only

The League asked:

1. Should the legislature promote renewable energy in New Mexico? If so, what specific legislation do you propose?
2. What changes in New Mexico tax laws would you support to ensure sufficient funds are available for vital services, including education and health care?
3. What changes in the laws, if any, do you support to reduce violent crimes and improve public safety in New Mexico?
4. What legislation would you support to improve New Mexico's economy?
5. What is your one top priority if you are elected, and how do you propose to accomplish it?



(Ted) Theodore Barela Republican

1. Yes, having learned so much about the make-up of our state budget and how the bills are paid, it is very important that jobs and industry in one sector are not destroyed while trying to enhance or make another sustainable. Therefore legislation for renewables must be carefully considered for all involved.
2. I am opposed to raising taxes on New Mexicans. Currently 58% of the budget is used for education, which is \$3.60 billion dollars of the General Fund. 27% of the budget is used on Medicaid, which is close to 1.7 billion dollars of the General Fund. I would support a funding structure that ensures adequate support of these programs and requires the state to save during good times for times when earnings are low.
3. The laws must be tougher in order for them to be taken seriously. Our public servants should feel safe in performing their jobs. Victims of violent crimes and their families must know that when horrendous acts occur justice will be served. It is a shame when Bills like HB-68, HB-69 and HB-56 fail and do not protect the victims of our state.
4. Tax reform for small rural business is one of my priorities. I would also support the reduction or elimination of the burdensome costly requirements for the entrepreneur to start up a business. We have several entrepreneurs who would love to start a business in our communities and find that there is not enough support or direction for getting started; therefore, I would aid in closing this gap.
5. My top priority is infrastructure for small rural communities which will lead to jobs. Jobs will then lead to economic recovery. People want opportunities to thrive in rural New Mexico. As a legislator I will concentrate on the heritage of our rural communities by helping protect what is important to them and allowing the communities to grow how they want without the state interfering. Our kids need to know these communities will always be home.



Elizabeth (Liz) Stephanics Democratic

1. Utilize renewable energies in a variety of methods – solar, wind, geothermal, aquaponics, etc. Legislative ideas: renew the solar tax credit that expired; enable (allow) community wide alternative energy initiatives; enable and encourage public low interest loans which might require a change to the antidonation clause; provide support to our community colleges and other public educational institutions for job training in alternative energies; require government to utilize green building when building, renovating, or replacing.
2. Embrace the concept of economic fairness. Review and overhaul all tax credits, deductions, and rebates as mentioned in the Blue Ribbon Tax Reform Commission. Eliminate those that are no longer necessary. Return income tax to a progressive tax rate. Freeze corporate income tax cuts for two years. Approve a temporary increase in the state gasoline tax until the price of a barrel of oil exceeds a certain level. Increase the tax on alcohol and tobacco.
3. Poverty measures including raising the minimum wage; Strengthening systems for child abuse and neglect; Training for parents to foster emotionally stable and healthy environments; Programs for students and parents in the schools after hours and weekends; Recreating a behavioral health system in the state; Addiction and treatment programs; Drug courts; Reinstatement education in the corrections system as a portal back to the community; Comprehensive community policing training with a community partnership; Improved public safety technology.
4. Reading and literacy programs for all ages. Financial literacy initiatives. Technology training in community locations around the state. Early college opportunities for high school students. Increased job certificate programs. Apprenticeships for pre release incarcerated. Broadband and high speed internet throughout the state. LEDA incentives for locally owned and businesses in small communities. Loosened state regulations for communities to allow corporate energy farms with payment in lieu of taxes.
5. Support good government with transparency measures; an Independent Ethics Commission; and a Citizens Panel for Redistricting. Participate in balancing the state budget.

CANDIDATES FOR N. M. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

N.M. STATE REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 22 2-year term per diem only

The League asked:

1. If elected, what are your highest priorities? What specific actions would you take to address them?
2. Would you vote for creation of a Code of Ethics for elected and appointed officials and an independent ethics commission to enforce its provisions?
3. What are your specific ideas for increasing revenues and/or decreasing spending to support the long-term stability of the state budget?
4. Does New Mexico need to invest more in early childhood development? Explain. Would you support a constitutional amendment that would provide more funding for early childhood development?



James E Smith Republican

1. One of the biggest concerns I hear from constituents is the lack of adequate broadband, especially in rural areas. I intend to introduce legislation that provides a state-wide network, based on models from other states, that will use our universities as aggregation points. Another area I intend to work on is making sure Charter Schools receive the proper support, while making them more fiscally and academically accountable.
2. I voted for the creation of an ethics commission in committee and on the House floor last session. In addition, I passed HB105, which will make the Campaign Finance System more transparent and trackable. I believe that the residents of New Mexico should feel that their elected officials are being held accountable and that if they are not, there is a mechanism to remove them.
3. The legislature should take cuts where possible and provide support where necessary. We must look at where we've made investments and determine if there is a return on that investment. These include the film subsidies and LEDA funding. I also serve on the Investments and Pensions Oversight Committee and we are looking at the cost to taxpayers of our woefully underfunded pension system. I do not support raising taxes on hard-working New Mexicans.
4. New Mexico needs to continue to invest in early childhood development. It will take a long time to determine how much of an impact the increasing amounts we have put to this effort will have. At this point, we don't have enough adequate facilities to increase this spending. So, I would not support a constitutional amendment to raid our permanent funds without clearly defined places to put that money.



John M Wallace Democratic

1. I would increase funding for education including early childhood education and higher education. 2. I would create jobs by extending tax incentives for alternative energy consumers and manufacturers and release unused capital outlay money to repair our roads and expand Internet communications infrastructure across rural NM. 3. I would work to protect our water and environment by repairing and replacing water infrastructure and enacting environmental regulations that hold polluters accountable.
2. Yes. I believe that all elected and appointed government officials should be held to a high standard of conduct and practice while in office. I would vote to create a non-partisan ethics commission, although I am concerned as to the appointment process and qualifications for members. This commission should create and enforce a Code of Ethics.
3. Past administrations have been irresponsible in cutting business taxes. They have also been irresponsible in relying excessively on oil and gas taxes, which has always been volatile. We need to revise the tax code to provide for reliable budgeting and examine all State programs to determine where consolidation and cuts may be feasible. Advocating across the board cuts is just another irresponsible action on the part of this administration.
4. New Mexico needs to invest more in early childhood education and expand access to early learning centers for all children. I would support a constitutional amendment that would provide funding. I would support using the interest with certain caps of the Lang Grant Permanent Fund to provide this revenue. Early childhood education is a long term investment that will create jobs and a bright future for New Mexicans.

N.M. STATE REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 43 2-year term per diem only

(The 43rd District includes Los Alamos and parts of Sandoval and Santa Fe Counties.)

The League asked:

1. According to the Legislative Finance Committee, state government needs are expected to outstrip projected revenue by an average of \$120 million a year between FY18 and FY20. How would you address this situation?
2. What do you feel are the major problems in education in New Mexico? How can they be addressed?
3. Should the legislature promote renewable energy in NM? If so, how? If not, why not?
4. What should the state legislature do to improve the economy in New Mexico and ensure job growth?



Sharon Stover Republican

1. NM must diversify its economy so jobs and revenues are less dependent on federal spending or the oil & gas industry. We should prioritize needs, increase government efficiency, and enact tax reform to close loopholes. Tax hikes could compromise our competitive position with neighboring states and stress an already fragile economy. Draining permanent funds reduces future income and sets a dangerous precedent.
2. Policymakers should align educational goals with the state's economic vision. We should reward local educators for creating educational environments to support those goals while providing flexibility to meet the needs of students, recognizing family, cultural, and economic challenges. We must embrace innovative ideas. NM has the worst dropout rate in the country. We should adopt truancy intervention strategies to support kids towards graduation.
3. NM needs an "all of the above" energy strategy. The oil and gas industry remains critical to our state's economy. Renewable and nuclear power are resources for our future. Research at our national labs can be applied to private sector development to build a 21st-century energy infrastructure resulting in job and wealth creation. The state can help promote collaboration between the labs and private industry.
4. NM lags far behind other states in the region. Many state government processes can be modernized to be more business-friendly and transparent. Our gross receipts tax should be simplified. Capital funds should be invested strategically in prioritized infrastructure projects to support economic growth. The cost-of-business in NM is expensive. We should bring our worker's compensation and tort laws more in line with neighboring states.



Stephanie Garcia Richard Democratic

1. There are no easy choices. With the exception of cutting public education funding, I believe every action that could potentially bring us closer to solvency will have to be on the table. That includes cuts, ensuring businesses pay their fair share and using Tobacco Settlement Funds. In these tough budgetary times, we must be smart about investing the limited resources we have in proven programs.
2. Economic development has stalled in large part due to an untrained and uneducated workforce, yet research has shown that investments in early childhood education have the greatest impact. The lack of critical funding for our public schools have left them crumbling and cost our children the ability to read. Teachers shouldn't have to teach to the test. It is time to end high stakes testing.
3. Yes. I was proud to support efforts to extend the renewable energy tax credit and believe green energy is one of the many ways to spur economic development in New Mexico. With oil costs wavering and coal plants closing, it is time to invest and incentivize renewable energy.
4. I was proud to sponsor and pass legislation that guaranteed Los Alamos access to economic development funds. But we must do more to move our state forward by investing in early childhood education, supporting job-readiness training and apprenticeship programs, guaranteeing broadband, invest in empowerment zones and historically underutilized development opportunities, and increasing technology and research opportunities through the national laboratories.

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CANDIDATES FOR N. M. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

N.M. STATE REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 47 2-year term per diem only

The League asked:

1. Should the legislature promote renewable energy in New Mexico? If so, what specific legislation do you propose?
2. What changes in New Mexico tax laws would you support to ensure sufficient funds are available for vital services, including education and health care?
3. What changes in the laws, if any, do you support to reduce violent crimes and improve public safety in New Mexico?
4. What legislation would you support to improve New Mexico's economy?
5. What is your one top priority if you are elected, and how do you propose to accomplish it?



Roger Andrew Gonzales Republican

1. I believe that NM needs to diversify its energy portfolio by using new sources of clean renewable technologies that approaches energy production with a sustainable perspective while supporting innovation in traditional forms of energy being used. While I am still learning about the various forms of energy potential in NM and taking the infrastructure costs associated with the production needed to make affordable public consumption into consideration, I cannot offer any specific proposal.
2. We need to take a fair and comprehensive look at evaluating NM's tax laws, including tax incentives being offered, and amend those laws that are not providing an adequate return on investment for NM taxpayers. I believe a solution needed to improve the financial situation in NM must be reached using adjustments to both revenue and expenditures. We cannot continue to cut vital services, infrastructure improvements, and social investments to the citizens of NM.
3. I would look to community and law enforcement leaders within the public safety sector to advise me on opportunities to improve the situation. This, in my opinion, includes investments in early intervention and education, preventative and rehabilitation services, and community supports fundamental to ensuring public safety.
4. I believe that we need to balance our investment in NM's economy by investing in successful small businesses and entrepreneurs throughout this State, invest in our ability to attract new opportunities and implement a balanced approach to the asset versus economic-based theories that are dividing communities throughout NM. I believe the first approach should include that which supports rural communities and their economic revitalization, but it starts with an investment in their potential and infrastructure.
5. My two priorities as a legislator would be to support the development of an educational value-chain that encompasses a Pre-K through 20 continuum of effectiveness that evaluates opportunities for improvement, invests in aligned programming and supports a qualified workforce ready to meet the demands of the market. Secondly, I believe that an investment in agricultural producers and entrepreneurs by supporting production to meet market demand would revitalize NM economy and provide access to local food.



Brian F Egoft, Jr Democratic

1. Absolutely. Economic diversification is desperately needed in New Mexico, and the renewable energy industry is poised to make a big difference in the effort. I support continuing the progress in renewable portfolio standards, using true risk-based forecasting at the PRC, and expanding tax credits for all renewables, both for consumers and power producers.
2. Voters have a choice this year: bigger class sizes, or fair tax policy; reduced access to health care, or reasonable elimination of useless tax incentives; and fewer public safety resources, or out-of-state corporations paying their fair share. We can balance our budget with cuts alone, but the impact of those cuts would be unacceptable to the great majority of New Mexico. It's time to follow a balanced approach that is sustainable into the future.
3. The best thing we can do for a long-term fix to public safety in New Mexico is make large and sustained investments in early childhood education. This will result in changes throughout our state that will benefit communities for generations to come. I also support freezing further corporate income tax cuts and using that money for the recruitment, training and support of local law enforcement officers.
4. Large and sustained investments in early childhood education are the best thing we can do for New Mexico's long-term economic recovery and diversification. I also support creating a New Mexico Small Business Development Fund to help deserving New Mexico-based business have easier access to capital. I support our cultural economy in New Mexico (including film & TV production) and believe it's time make new capital investments in critical infrastructure.
5. My top priority will be to push for true economic diversification in New Mexico, so that we can have the economic base we need to guarantee a quality education and economic security to all New Mexico families.

STATE REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 50 2-year term per diem only

The League asked:

1. Should the legislature promote renewable energy in New Mexico? If so, what specific legislation do you propose.
2. What changes in New Mexico tax laws would you support to ensure sufficient funds are available for vital services, including education and healthcare.
3. What changes in the laws, if any, do you support to reduce violent crimes and improve public safety in New Mexico?
4. What legislation would you support to improve New Mexico's economy?
5. What is your one top priority if you are elected, and how do you propose to accomplish it?

Jeremy Ryan Tremco Republican

NO RESPONSE

NO RESPONSE

NO RESPONSE

NO RESPONSE

NO RESPONSE



Matthew McQueen Democratic

1. Yes. I believe renewable energy is the source of clean, sustainable power and good jobs for the future, and it will help us diversify our economy. I have and will continue to support tax incentives, the Renewable Portfolio Standards (RPS), and community solar legislation, among other initiatives.
2. I believe we need to consider "revenue enhancement" (i.e., taxes), including pausing and possibly rolling back previous income and corporate tax cuts. We need to restore progressivity to our tax code and make sure wealthy corporations and individuals are paying their fair share.
3. To reduce violent crime, we need to work to reduce poverty, provide meaningful opportunity for all New Mexicans, and expand diversion and treatment programs, especially for drug and alcohol abuse. Simply imposing draconian sentencing requirements will not reduce violent crime.
4. The most effective thing we can do to immediately improve the economy and help those most in need is raise the minimum wage. I believe the minimum wage should be at least \$10/hour, we should consider phasing it up to something higher, and after that it needs to be indexed to inflation. When we're all doing better our overall economy directly benefits.
5. I have many personal goals and ideas for legislation (ethics reform, eminent domain reform, financial literacy for our kids, land restoration incentives), but I believe the top two priorities for our Legislature need to be improving our educational system and economic development. The two go hand-in-hand; one will not succeed without the other.

* Per Diem Information: Each member of the N.M. Legislature shall receive:

- A. per diem at the internal revenue service per diem rate for the city of Santa Fe for each day's attendance during each session of the legislature and the internal revenue service standard mileage rate for each mile traveled in going to and returning from the seat of government by the usual traveled route, once each session as defined by Article 4, Section 5 of this constitution;
- B. per diem expense and mileage at the same rates as provided in Subsection A of this section for service at meetings required by legislative committees established by the

legislature to meet in the interim between sessions; and

C. no other compensation, perquisite or allowance. Article 4, Section 10 of the Constitution of New Mexico

Current per diem is \$163/day; local legislators received per diem in 2015 ranging from \$11,218-\$27,691. <http://www.lcsun-news.com/story/news/local/new-mexico/legislature/2016/02/09/nm-legislators-paid-23m-2015/80041628/>

PUBLIC EDUCATION COMMISSIONER DISTRICT 10 4-year term \$95/day per diem

The Public Education Commission consists of 10 elected members, whose role is advisory to the Secretary of Education. Members authorize and monitor all state-chartered charter schools in New Mexico, with authority to revoke charters

The League asked:

1. Describe your qualifications and pertinent experiences that have prepared you for this position.
2. What are the most important responsibilities of the PEC in terms of authorizing and revoking charter school contracts?
3. How will you ensure that state charter schools are meeting performance frameworks and achieving better outcomes than traditional public schools?
4. List the primary elements of legislation you think NM needs to enact to ensure fair funding of charter schools?



Tim Crone Democratic

1. I earned the M.A. in 1971 in Sociology with a minor in Anthropology. I began teaching in 1970 as a Teaching Assistant. I continued instructing Sociology and Anthropology classes at the undergraduate and graduate level until the present at six colleges and two community colleges, earning tenure at NNMC. I serve on the AFT-NM Executive Council where charter schools are a major concern and am familiar with the issues and problems.
2. The most important responsibility in authorizing charters is determining that adequate performance frameworks are provided and that the school will achieve better outcomes. The PEC must be diligent in assessing the performance of existing charters and revoking the charters of schools that fail to meet these standards, do not fulfill their stated mission or violate other laws and standards.
3. I would have one of ten votes but I would do everything in my power to ensure that the PEC adheres to the Vision and Mission statement and follow the Charter School Rules and Regulations by rejecting applications that do not provide adequate performance frameworks, that do not promise to achieve better outcomes, and by revoking or not renewing the charters of schools who fail to continue to meet these standards.
4. 1. Exclude urban charter schools from the small school funding formula.
2. Improve regulations for charter schools to align with other public schools.
3. A moratorium on new charters.
4. More funding.
5. Resolve the problems identified in NACSA Evaluation.
6. Regulations for hiring adequately qualified financial officers.

Anthony Justin Trujillo Democratic

NO RESPONSE

NO RESPONSE

NO RESPONSE

NO RESPONSE

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2016 GENERAL ELECTION VOTERS GUIDE

FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT ATTORNEY 4-year term Annual Salary \$116,000

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 First Judicial District of New Mexico includes Los Alamos, Rio Arriba, and Santa Fe Counties.

The League asked:

1. What are your qualifications for this position?
2. How would you deal with repeat DWI offenders?
3. How should non-violent drug offenders be treated?



Yvonne M Chicoine Republican

1. I am a licensed attorney and accomplished leader with decades of experience. I prosecuted hundreds of cases as an assistant district attorney in our First Judicial District. I argued dozens of cases before our Supreme Court and Court of Appeals as an assistant attorney general. I have built and led many successful organizations, programs and teams. My complete biography is available on my webpage, www.Respect4theLaw.com.
2. I will prosecute all DWI offenders to the full extent of the law. Every impaired driver poses a threat. I will not routinely plead midemeanor second and third DWIs down to "DWI firsts." This practice fails to respect the law; it effectively negates the intent and effect of the escalating penalties our Legislature enacted for second and third DWI offenses, and undermines DWI prevention efforts.
3. I will prosecute all offenders consistent with the laws enacted by our Legislature. I will also expand use of our State's 1981 Pre-prosecution Diversion Act. This Act (1) allows removal from the criminal justice system of eligible individuals that are most amenable to rehabilitation and least likely to commit future offenses, and (2) provides them with services designed to help them avoid future criminal activity.



Marco Peter Serna Democratic

1. I have experience prosecuting offenders of domestic violence, crimes against children, and homicides in the Valencia and Sandoval DA's office. I was second in command in Sandoval County, supervising the office both administratively and regarding prosecutorial efforts. I was the domestic violence division director for both Valencia and Sandoval Counties. Finally, I prosecuted offenders of elder abuse with the Attorney General's office.
2. First, we need to educate our youth on the dangers of all substance abuse. I intend to work with school officials to accomplish this. Second, I will seek treatment for first time offenders to help ensure that they do not fall into the trap of addiction. Finally, I will not tolerate habitual offenders, and will implement stricter sentencing efforts to curb habitual abuse.
3. The call of this question is key to the answer — we need to treat drug addiction if we are ever going to beat it. I will implement a sentencing and plea policy that focuses on long-term treatment; programs like Delancey Street and LEAD (Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion) show us that treatment is an effective tool to beat drug addiction.

JUDICIAL CANDIDATES

JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT

The five justices on the Supreme Court are elected by all voters in the state and serve eight-year terms. The Supreme Court serves as the administrative head of the New Mexico judicial branch of government and is the highest court. It is required to hear appeals from the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission, election challenges, and criminal cases when a defendant was sentenced to the death penalty or life imprisonment. It has the discretionary authority to review rulings of the state Court of Appeals and questions of law certified to it by the Court of Appeals or a federal court. Annual salaries: Justice, \$131,174; Chief Justice, \$133, 174.

The League asked:

1. How have your training, professional experience, and interests prepared you to serve on this court?
2. What programs or changes would improve the NM Supreme Court?
3. What is your judicial philosophy?
4. What has been your greatest achievement as a judge?



Judith K Nakamura Republican

1. As one of five Supreme Court Justices, I help resolve a wide spectrum of complex legal issues and supervise state courts. My extensive civil law experience — private, corporate and governmental — and my past service as a former Metropolitan Court and District Court criminal trial judge, is unique on our Court. My four terms as the Metropolitan Court's Chief Judge provide invaluable court managerial skills.
2. Difficult economic times have led to a stark diminution of judicial resources, without a corresponding decrease in cases. Improved resource availability, along with better allocation to need areas and core support staffing, can best facilitate the most important objective: improving the timely disposition of court cases. People's lives hang in the balance when justice is delayed; my goal is to speed the process up.
3. My philosophy is to correctly resolve the cases that come before the Supreme Court. To do so, the Constitution is to be followed, as are laws written by our Legislators. Jurists must non-creatively and faithfully honor precedent. Fairness, punctuality, evenhandedness and respect for litigants are the philosophic hallmarks of judicial service.
4. My greatest achievement is the unprecedented privilege of serving at every level of our Court system, currently as a Supreme Court Justice. Along the way, I was honored by MADD as its national judge of the year for combating DWI. I sped up and tried dozens of delayed criminal cases at District Court. I have now authored or participated in dozens of Supreme Court decisions.



Michael E Vigil Democratic

1. I am Chief Judge of the New Mexico Court of Appeals, on which I have served since 2005. I have sat on over 3,000 appellate cases and written over 1,000 appellate opinions. I appeared as counsel in every NM judicial district and was appellate counsel in over 50 precedent-setting cases as a practicing attorney for 27 years before serving on the Court of Appeals.
2. The Supreme Court can provide for the safety of our children and communities by implementing practical rules for district attorneys and courts and by creating tools that laboratories and police officers need to do their jobs.
3. My judicial philosophy is that everyone, regardless of their race, religion, sex, national origin, social class, or sexual orientation should have their day in court and be heard because justice isn't only about laws, it's about lives.
4. My greatest achievement has been working hard for the last 13 years on the Court of Appeals for all the people of New Mexico to enforce the laws and protect their rights: their personal rights, their property rights, their constitutional rights. I have twice been recommended as qualified for the NM Supreme Court by the bi-partisan Appellate Judges Nominating Commission.

JUDGE OF COURT OF APPEALS

The ten judges on the Court of Appeals are elected statewide and serve eight-year terms. As the intermediate court between the district courts and the Supreme Court, the Court of Appeals reviews appeals in all cases, except criminal cases involving sentences of death or life imprisonment, appeals from the Public Regulation Commission, and cases involving habeas corpus. The judges sit in panels of three judges to decide cases. Annual salaries: Judge, \$124,616; Chief Judge, \$126,516.

The League asked:

1. How have your training, professional experience, and interests prepared you to serve on this court?
2. What programs or changes would improve the Court of Appeals?
3. What is your judicial philosophy?
4. What has been your greatest achievement as a judge?



Stephen G French Republican

1. For 35 years, I had the pleasure of meeting the legal needs of New Mexicans, as a prosecutor, criminal defense attorney, and a civil attorney. I handled over 110 appeals. I have been as a mediator and successfully resolved hundreds of complex cases. Now as a sitting Judge, I am familiar with the process and I have already decided several important matters before the Court.
2. We need to continue to focus on the efficient administration of justice. I would like to see the Court of Appeals implement an electronic filing system. This would bring efficiency to the Court and the litigants.
3. Fairness must always come before politics. Every person, regardless of who they are, where they come from, or their political party is entitled to a full and fair hearing before the Court. That is the kind of Judge I am and that's the kind of Judge I will continue to be.
4. In the short time I have been on the Court of Appeals, I have demonstrated my clear commitment to the fair and equal administration of justice, to resolving cases expeditiously, and to fostering the collegiality and dignity of the Court.



Julie J Vargas Democratic

1. I was born and raised in Old Town, Albuquerque, where I still live. For 23 years, I've protected the rights of New Mexican families and New Mexico small businesses. I've dedicated my career to improving the legal profession, especially in the area of legal ethics. I've volunteered my time and services for NM Museum of Natural History Foundation, Children's Cancer Fund and Special Olympics.
2. The Court of Appeals lags behind other New Mexico courts in the area of technology. While other courts are equipped for electronic filing and allow online access to court documents, the Court of Appeals does not have those capabilities. Budget constraints over the past several years have prevented the much-needed technological upgrades that would modernize the Court and make it more accessible to the public.
3. Know the law, understand the facts, and apply the law fairly and equally to everyone who comes before you, without exception.
4. My greatest professional achievement is my work on lawyer ethics. I am a member of the Disciplinary Board, making disciplinary recommendations to the Supreme Court about lawyers who violate ethical rules. I am an 18-year member of the Bar's Ethics Advisory Committee, advising lawyers on ethical dilemmas. I have chaired that committee since 2008. I have also taught legal ethics at the UNM Law School.

JUDICIAL RETENTION

Must receive a 57% "yes" vote out of all the votes cast on the question of whether the justice or judge should remain in office. For more information, see the Judicial Performance Evaluation Commission's reports at www.nmjpec.org.

JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT
BARBARA VIGIL

JUDGES OF THE COURT OF APPEALS
TIMOTHY L. GARCIA
JONATHAN B. SUTIN
M. MONICA ZAMORA

2016 GENERAL ELECTION VOTERS GUIDE

STATE BOND ISSUES

General Obligation Bonds and Tax Impacts

The New Mexico Legislature passed the 2016 Capital Projects General Obligation Bond Act to fund certain projects. The bonds will be listed on the ballot separately, and you will be asked to vote “For” or “Against” each one. Based on the assumption that all four bond issues will be passed by voters, the property tax year 2016 mill levy has been set at 1.36 mills, which is the same as the 2015 rate. **The State Board of Finance estimates that over a ten-year period, the four issues on the ballot would increase the average annual property tax bill by approximately \$9.34 per \$100,000 of asset value.**

Bond Issue A, in an amount not to exceed \$15,440,000 to make capital expenditures for senior citizen facility improvements, construction, and equipment acquisition projects. **Of the annual average tax increase of \$9.34, Bond Issue A accounts for \$0.78.** Here are the Santa Fe County entities that would benefit:

EDGEWOOD SENIOR CENTER-VEHICLES \$97,000
MARY ESTHER GONZALES SENIOR CENTER-IMPROVE CODE \$236,500
MARY ESTHER GONZALES SENIOR CENTER-RENOVATE \$70,300
MARY ESTHER GONZALES SENIOR CENTER-VEHICLES \$496,800
NAMBE PUEBLO SENIOR CENTER-RENOVATE \$38,000
PASATIEMPO SENIOR CENTER-IMPROVE CODE \$198,500
POJOAQUE PUEBLO SENIOR CENTER-RENOVATE \$190,000
SANTA CRUZ SENIOR CENTER-VEHICLES \$150,000
VILLA CONSUELO SENIOR CENTER-IMPROVE CODE \$198,000
VILLA CONSUELO SENIOR CENTER-MEALS EQUIP \$80,900

Bond Issue B, in an amount not to exceed \$10,167,000 to make capital expenditures for academic, public school, tribal, and public library resource acquisitions. **Of the annual average tax increase of \$9.34, Bond Issue B accounts for \$0.51.** No Santa Fe County institutions are listed to benefit.

Bond Issue C, in an amount not to exceed \$142,356,000 to make capital expenditures for certain higher educational, tribal, and special schools capital improvements and acquisitions. **Of the annual average tax increase of \$9.34, Bond Issue C accounts for \$7.14.** Here are the Santa Fe County institutions that would benefit:

IAIA MULTIPURPOSE FITNESS & PERFORMING ARTS CENTER \$2,000,000
NMSD DELGADO HALL RENOVATE \$2,000,000
SFCC ROOFING & INFRA IMPROVE \$1,500,000

Here are the State institutions that would benefit:

Eastern New Mexico University	Total \$12,700,000
Community Colleges various schools	Total \$32,350,000
NM School for the Blind and Visually Impaired	Total \$1,200,000
Highlands University	Total \$4,500,000
Mining and Technology, NM Institute	Total \$5,500,000
Military Institute	Total \$4,856,200
NM School for the Deaf	Total \$2,000,000
New Mexico State University	Total \$27,500,000
Northern New Mexico State School	Total \$1,000,000
University of New Mexico	Total \$34,500,000
Western New Mexico University	Total \$5,000,000

Bond Issue D, in an amount not to exceed \$18,196,000 to make capital expenditures for capital improvements and acquisitions for state police, public safety communications and national guard facilities statewide. **Of the annual average tax increase of \$9.34, Bond Issue D accounts for \$0.91.** Here is the Santa Fe County entity that would benefit:

DEPT. of PUBLIC SAFETY SANTA FE EVIDENCE CTR AND CRIME LAB \$7,000,000

The total for all four bond issues, including bond issuance costs, is \$186,159,000. A complete breakdown of the designated projects under each bond issue can be found on the New Mexico Legislature’s website: <https://www.nmlegis.gov/Sessions/16%20Regular/final/SBo122.pdf>

General Obligation Bond Projects Chart by County

https://www.nmlegis.gov/Publications/Capital_Outlay/Chart%20Funded%20Projects%20by%20County%203A%20GOB%202016.pdf

General Obligation Bond Projects Chart by Agency

https://www.nmlegis.gov/Publications/Capital_Outlay/Chart%20Funded%20Projects%20by%20Agency%203A%20GOB%202016.pdf

SANTA FE COUNTY BOND ISSUES

General Obligation Bonds and Tax Impacts

If all five proposed bond issues are passed, the mill rate will rise from the current \$1.97 to \$2.12. The estimated impact on property taxes, based on projected property values, would be a \$10 yearly tax increase on a home valued at \$200,000.

Vote “yes” or “no” on each bond issue.

A. Shall Santa Fe County issue up to \$13,600,000 in general obligation bonds payable from general (*ad valorem*) taxes to acquire, construct, design, equip, and improve roads within the County?

B. Shall Santa Fe County issue up to \$4,800,000 in general obligation bonds payable from general (*ad valorem*) taxes to acquire, construct, design, equip, and improve water and wastewater projects within the County?

C. Shall Santa Fe County issue up to \$7,000,000 in general obligation bonds payable from general (*ad valorem*) taxes to acquire, construct, design, equip, and improve fire and other public safety facilities within the County?

D. Shall Santa Fe County issue up to \$4,600,000 in general obligation bonds payable from general (*ad valorem*) taxes to acquire, construct, design, equip, improve, and restore open space, trails and parks within the County?

E. Shall Santa Fe County issue up to \$5,000,000 in general obligation bonds payable from general (*ad valorem*) taxes to acquire, construct, design, equip, and improve community health facilities within the County?

Santa Fe County Advisory Question

The Santa Fe County Council on September 13, 2016, approved placing the following advisory question on the ballot:

Should Santa Fe County enact a countrywide gross receipts tax for behavioral health services txt would increase the aggregate gross receipts tax rate by up to one-eighth of one percent (0.125%).

This is an advisory question only, and a majority of “yes” votes will not put the tax increase into effect. This ballot item is a sort of opinion poll to determine the sentiment of the voters.

Proponents say that approximately 2,500 Santa Fe County adults have a serious mental illness and that about 30,000 residents abuse drugs and/or alcohol. A tax increase for behavioral health services would enable the County to meet more of the needs for behavioral/mental health services. If this tax were eventually imposed, assuming the gross receipts tax is passed on to consumers, it would add 2-1/2 cents tax to a \$20 purchase.

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