

2022 Election

*New Mexico
Primary Election
Voter Guide*

A nonpartisan, comprehensive
resource for the everyday voter



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Intro

Strategies 360 is proud to bring you the 2022 New Mexico Primary Election guide. The primary is set for June 7. In New Mexico, it is a closed primary system, meaning you can only vote for a candidate within your registered party. In this cycle, all statewide races are up for reelection and the US and New Mexico State House of Representatives.

Overall, there are 40 Democrats and 18 Republican incumbents running for reelection. There are 12 (6 - Ds, 5 - Rs, and 1 Decline to State) not running. There are eight incumbent representatives (6 - D, 2 - R) with primary reelection opposition only. There are five incumbent representatives (3 - D, 2 - R) with primary and general election opposition. For the general election, we will see 23 contested races (17 - D, 4 - R). Of the remaining, there are 24 without any opposition in either race.

In this guide, for all candidates who have a contested primary race, you will find a candidate bio, their hopeful seat, and, where applicable, their respective district. Please note this document is completely nonpartisan and simply intended as a guide for the contested primary races.

Strategies 360 is a full-service governmental affairs, research, and public relations firm. We are a firm of New Mexicans working to further better New Mexicans' quality of lives and economic opportunities. For more information please visit <https://www.strategies360.com/> or contact us directly.

Incumbants are marked with an asterisk (*)

US House of Representatives

District 1

Louie Sanchez (R)



Louie Sanchez is a native New Mexican who grew up in the South Valley of Albuquerque, in a traditional Hispanic family. Louie worked his way through high school as a maintenance man, cleaning bathrooms and mowing grass at Putt-Putt Golf, and put himself through college washing dishes. Louie was proud to become the first of nearly 40 cousins to graduate from college, earning his degree from the University of New Mexico.

Louie has been an advocate for New Mexico families; appearing on Fox News and speaking at numerous rallies and gatherings throughout the state. Louie believes that all our lives and livelihoods are essential, that our fundamental rights to support our families and practice our traditional way of life should be safeguarded, and he is active in ensuring that happens.

Louie and his wife of 25 years, Cassie, are the proud parents of two sons, who both attend college. Louie is the owner of Calibers and has worked in the healthcare field for over 27 years, bringing innovative and life-saving medical technologies to New Mexicans each day. Louie also enjoys working at the VA with veterans and has a special place in his heart for those who have served our country.

Website: <https://sanchezform.com>.

US House of Representatives

District 1

Michelle Garcia Holmes (R)



Holmes has experience of 30 years as a commissioned law enforcement officer, chief of staff for Attorney General Gary King, and an advocate for children. As Chief of Staff for the state's top law enforcement officer, Michelle Garcia Holmes oversaw projects that provided outreach and education to rural and tribal communities. She worked across cultural backgrounds to educate New Mexicans on the dangers of methamphetamine. She also worked on collaborative efforts to fight government corruption, starting New Mexico's first Government Accountability Division.

Holmes worked on the creation of the first Government Corruption Division, legislation against child predators and human traffickers, as well as overseeing agency grants, budget review, hiring, and training. Additional projects include managing statewide education on internet predators, the dangers of methamphetamine, prescription drug issues in New Mexico, teen dating violence outreach, and education and legal services. She has served as the liaison to the Joint Terrorism Task Force and New Mexico's congressional delegation. Served 20 years and retired at the rank of detective from the Albuquerque Police Department. Served 30 years as a commissioned police officer. Held positions in the Violent Crimes Against Children Unit, Sexual Assault Unit, Property Crimes Unit, Auto Theft Unit, and Chief's Staff.

Website: <https://www.votemgh.com/>

US House of Representatives

District 2

Darshan Patel (D)



Darshan Patel was raised in Albuquerque, is openly gay and is a first-generation American. He currently lives in Hobbs.

Before entering medicine, Patel taught high school-level math in the public schools system in Philadelphia through Teach for America. He's served since last year as president of the Committee of Interns and Residents, a national labor union representing over 20,000 hospital residents, interns and fellows. His father, he said, is a unionized postal worker and Patel stressed the importance of labor organization in his life.

Patel, volunteered to medically assist asylum seekers dropped off in Deming in 2019, and previously cared for indigenous patients at a primary care clinic while working for the Indian Health Service during his residency. He was appointed to the Governor's Advisory Council for Racial Justice in 2020.

Website: <https://patelform.com>

US House of Representatives

Gabriel Vasquez (D)

District 2



Gabe is a first-generation American who grew up in the borderlands. As the first in his family to be born in the United States, he's made the most of his opportunity and has worked hard to make a positive difference in his community and in the lives of others.

Growing up, Gabe lived on both sides of the border and spent much of his time in his grandfather's TV repair shop in the Chaveña Neighborhood of Ciudad Juarez. He saw firsthand the important cross-border connections and relationships that support families and businesses in New Mexico. In 2013, after helping build a startup company, he joined Senator Heinrich's staff and worked across southern New Mexico. He was also instrumental in the designation of the Organ Mountains Desert Peaks National Monument. In 2017, he was elected to the Las Cruces City Council with over 70 percent of the vote. In this role, Gabe delivered millions of dollars in investment to create and improve parks, updated the district's infrastructure, promoted policy that created thousands of jobs, and helped craft a comprehensive development plan that focused on lifting families out of poverty. In prior years, Gabe has served as the executive director of the Las Cruces Hispano Chamber of Commerce, worked in public lands conservation, and as a policy advocate promoting child welfare and family wellbeing at the federal level.

Website: <https://gabeforcongress.com>

Governor

Karen Bedonie (L)



Karen is a wife, a mother of eight wonderful children, a business owner, an educator, a Diné historian by traditional teachings and a Constitutionalist. She has been a New Mexican her entire life and she makes her home in a place called Tòdiildò, NM in McKinley County, NM. Karen entirely believes in self-resiliency and individual freedom to chase the individual American Dream. Social dependence is the death of prosperity and heavy taxation is the only vein for government to bloom socialist platforms. Karen believes that the freedom and safety of the individual should always rest with the individual.

Website: <https://bedonietough.com.com>

Governor

Ginger Grider (L)



Ginger Grider is a medical cannabis patient and works with the New Mexico Medical Cannabis Patients Advocate Alliance.

Governor

Jay Block (R)



In 1989, Jay graduated from high school and began his service immediately by enlisting in the USAF Reserve. He transferred to the Air National Guard in North Dakota in 1990 to attend college at North Dakota State University, where he interned for a U.S. Senator in 1993 and graduated in 1995 with a Political Science degree and a commission through the Air Force ROTC program. He served for over two decades as a nuclear weapons officer, volunteered for a combat tour in Afghanistan, commanded twice on foreign soil representing our country, and finally retired in 2016 as a Lt Col..

Jay retired as a Lieutenant Colonel in 2016 from Kirtland AFB, NM. He fell in love with New Mexico and decided to stay in Rio Rancho. Due to his vast experience working in the Air Force nuclear enterprise, Jay started a second career as a nuclear weapons consultant leading teams and conducting business development.

Jay decided to continue to serve his community after his military service by running for Sandoval County Commissioner in 2016. Jay was the first Republican to win his district's seat on the Sandoval County Commission and he was re-elected in 2020. On the Commission, Jay focused on economic development, illegal dumping, ethics, passed a 2nd Amendment sanctuary county resolution, sponsored and passed the first-ever Right to Work ordinance at the county level, and focused on public safety.

Website: <https://blockfornewmexico.com>

Governor

Rebecca Dow (R)



Dow earned an associate's degree from Tulsa Community College and a Bachelor of Science degree in business management from Oral Roberts University. She is a wife, mother, and new grandmother.

Rebecca has represented District 38 in the New Mexico House since 2017. As a service to her community, Rebecca founded AppleTree Educational Center which provides much-needed educational services including early care and education, home visiting, college and career preparation, and comprehensive family support. Along with co-owning a technology company, Rebecca also provides consultation services to for-profit and community-based early childhood providers operating in the Rocky Mountain region.

Website: <https://dowform.com>

Governor

Gregory Joseph Zanetti (R)



Greg Zanetti grew up in Albuquerque and graduated from Valley High School in 1976. He was accepted to the United States Military Academy and graduated from West Point in 1980. After six years of active duty, Zanetti earned his master's degree in business from Boston University, and returned home to New Mexico. He went to work as a financial advisor for E.F. Hutton. Simultaneously, he continued to serve his country and joined the New Mexico Army National Guard. Greg became an independent financial advisor in 1991. Greg was promoted to Brigadier General in 2005. He was then deployed to Guantanamo Bay in 2008 where he served as Deputy Commander, Joint Task Force Guantanamo (JTF GTMO). Serving on the New Mexico Right to Life board for 15 years and as the chairman of the New Mexico Chapter of U.S. Term Limits and New Mexico Right to Work. Further, Greg has been the two-time elected Chair of the Bernalillo County GOP.

Greg and his wife Teresa currently live in Albuquerque and have two adult sons. Teresa also went to Valley High School and is a Harvard graduate. She has been a school teacher, State School Board Member, and member of the New Mexico State House of Representatives.

Website: <https://zanettiforgovernor.com>

Governor

Ethel Maharg (R)



Ethel Rose Maharg was born in Cuba, New Mexico. Her mother's side of the family has been in New Mexico since Coronado's conquest. Her grandmother, Isabella Cordova, married a German Immigrant, Aron Eichwald. Ethel's family has a long history in the politics of New Mexico. Ethel was the first woman to be elected Mayor of Cuba. Ethel is an alumna of University of Phoenix where she received her degree in business administration. She has owned and operated several small businesses, been an educator, and managed two bank branches. Ethel serves on the Leadership Team for Women's Leadership Development and the board of New Beginnings Church of God where she is an active member and commissioned AACC lay counselor. She served at Care Net Pregnancy Center of Albuquerque as the Client Services Director for five years.

She is currently serving the state as the Executive Director for Right to Life Committee of New Mexico. Ethel and her husband, Dean, have been married for 37 years. They have 3 children and 6 grandchildren.

Website: <https://mahargforgovernor.com>

Governor

Mark Ronchetti (R)



Mark Ronchetti lives in Albuquerque, where he and his wife, Krysty, are raising two young daughters. One of five children himself, Mark was raised by two loving parents. His father is a first-generation American who became an electrical engineer, and his grandfather came to the United States from Italy in the 1920's unable to read or write. Mark graduated Washington State University in 1996. After a stint working at a television station in Colorado, he moved to New Mexico in 1998 to work for a local station in Albuquerque. He became a certified meteorologist and became the Chief Meteorologist for Albuquerque's CBS and FOX affiliates. In 2020, Ronchetti ran for the New Mexico D1 Senate Seat, however he lost to Senator Ben Ray Lujan.

Website: <https://markronchetti.com>

Lt. Governor

Ant Thornton (R)



In 1978 he graduated from the University of Colorado with a degree in aerospace engineering and went to work at Sandia National Laboratories. He obtained his Masters (Stanford University) and eventually his Ph.D. (Purdue). Spending 27 years at Sandia, he became the first African American Director in Sandia's history. Transferring to Lockheed Martin's Advanced Development Programs, his work earned the praise of many, and he received the Professional Achievement in Industry National 2001 Black Engineer of the Year Award. Returning to Sandia in 2005, he rose to the position of Deputy to the Vice President of Defense Systems and Assessments. After retiring from Sandia, he worked for Universities Space Research Association as a Corporate Director, growing the company from \$100 million to \$160 million in revenue. Dr. Thornton and his wife Glenna live in the East Mountains of Albuquerque where they are active in their local community and church. He has served on a number of Boards and supports local charitable activities including the East Mountain High School Foundation. He also spent 7 years as a Naval Reservist. Like many Black Americans, "Ant" Thornton was raised a Democrat. During the first Obama administration, he became disillusioned with the Democrat Party so he became a "Walk-Away Democrat" and changed his party affiliation to Republican in 2011. In 2021 he was elected as the 1st Vice Chair of the Republican Party of Bernalillo County, the most populous county in New Mexico, where he is a strong advocate for individual liberty and freedom.

Website: <https://thenextlg.com>

Lt. Governor

Peggy Muller-Aragon(R)



Born and raised in New Mexico, Muller-Aragon graduated from West Mesa High School. She earned a bachelor's degree in elementary education and master's in education administration from the University of New Mexico. Muller-Aragon retired as a teacher after serving her entire career with Albuquerque Public Schools. She and her husband have three daughters.

Peggy Muller-Aragon is a member of the Albuquerque Public Schools Board of Education in New Mexico, representing District 2. Muller-Aragon assumed office in 2015. Muller-Aragon's current term ends on December 31, 2023.

Muller-Aragon was first elected to the school board on February 3, 2015, after defeating former incumbent Kathy Korte. Muller-Aragon was the target of a recall effort in September 2015, but the petition to recall her was withdrawn due to lack of legal representation. At issue was her participation in a unanimous vote to buyout former Superintendent Luis Valentino's contract amidst a number of controversies. She was also accused of refusing to listen to her constituents and instead answering to New Mexico Gov. Susana Martinez (R).

Website: <https://www.facebook.com/peggymulleraragon>

Attorney General

Raul Torrez (D)



Born and raised here in New Mexico, Raúl attended Harvard University, the London School of Economics, and Stanford Law School. He returned home and worked as an assistant district attorney and assistant attorney general. He was appointed to serve as a White House Fellow by President Barack Obama and served as a senior advisor to the Department of Justice.

Prior to his legal career, Raúl helped a start-up company dedicated to good government and also served as the Development Officer for the César E. Chávez Foundation. He is a former American Bar Association/Young Lawyers Division Scholar, a past Deputy Regional President of the Hispanic National Bar Association, a former Treasurer for the New Mexico Hispanic Bar Association and a past board member of the Rio Grande Community Development Corporation, a community-based, non-profit organization established to pursue, foster and promote economic development in Albuquerque's South Valley.

Raúl graduated from Harvard University, went on to receive a Master's Degree from the London School of Economics, and attained his law degree from Stanford University. He currently lives in Albuquerque with his wife and their two children.

Website: www.raultorrez.com

Attorney General

Brian Colon (D)



Brian was raised in Los Lunas, Bosque Farms and Albuquerque, New Mexico by his parents Rafael and Shelly Colón. Brian received his Bachelor's Degree from New Mexico State University—where he was Vice President of the Student Body--and went on to receive his law degree from the University of New Mexico School of Law and served as Graduate & Professional Student Body President. He has practiced law since 2001, worked at Robles, Rael & Anaya since 2006. He was elected Chairman of the Democratic Party of New Mexico. In 2010, he ran for Lieutenant Governor where he won a heavily competitive 5-way state primary election. His major platform issues include holding the powerful in New Mexico accountable for state's tax dollars.

For more than 24 years, Brian has been married to Aleli Colón, an educator at Van Buren Middle School in Albuquerque's International District. Their son, Rafael, is a graduate of Albuquerque High School, recently completed a biomedical engineering degree and works at a local biomedical engineering firm in Albuquerque.

Website:www.colonformm.com

State Auditor

Joseph Maestas (D)



Joseph is a native New Mexican, land grant heir, and acequia water rights owner. He is the great-grandson of a constitutional delegate, Jose Amado Lucero, and proud product of our public school system. Joseph has a bachelor's and a master's degree in Civil Engineering from the University of New Mexico and Arizona State University, respectively. He is a registered professional engineer in the states of New Mexico, Arizona, and Texas. Joseph has one son and currently resides in Santa Fe. Joseph served as a Federal civil servant for over 30 years working at all levels (State, Regional, and Headquarters in Washington, DC) of the Federal government as a regulator. He spent the last three years working as a business development manager for a private engineering consulting firm. Joseph specializes in Federal regulation, transportation, and water resources.

Joseph also served as a local elected official for 14 years, including as a Santa Fe City Councilor and an Espanola Councilor and as Mayor of Espanola,.

Currently serving as the Public Regulation Commissioner representing District 3. Prior to his election to the PRC, Joseph served in a number of leadership roles, including: President, New Mexico Municipal League; Chair, New Mexico Voices for Children Board of Directors; Vice-Chair, Conservation Voters of New Mexico Board of Directors; and Member, National League of Cities Board of Directors.

Website: www.maestas4nm.com

State Auditor

Zackary Quintero (D)



The son of a public school teacher and plumber, a lifelong New Mexican, Zack has worked to improve our communities on the local, county, and state levels, most recently serving on the state Medical Advisory Team and as the State Ombudsman for New Mexico. In these roles, he supported the statewide response in keeping New Mexicans safe and carried out investigations into predatory practices of abuse, neglect, and financial exploitation of the most vulnerable New Mexicans.

Zack graduated from New Mexico State University and University of New Mexico School of Law. He has two degrees from NMSU, one in Economics and the other in Government. While attending UNM Law, he served on the New Mexico Law Review and was on the executive board of the Mexican American Law Student Association and the New Mexico Hispanic Bar Association.

Website: www.zqfor nm.com

State Treasurer

Laura Montoya (D)



Laura M. Montoya was elected Sandoval County Treasurer in 2012. She has been a public servant for more than two decades, having worked in several capacities in both the New Mexico House of Representatives and the New Mexico Senate.

Montoya got her start in government in 2001, working for a ranking member of the Senate Finance Committee. Following that, Montoya worked as a Constituent Services Representative for U.S. Senator Jeff Bingaman. At the time, she was the youngest Latina woman working in that capacity in the United States, managing five counties in Northern New Mexico, all while working on her Master's degree at New Mexico Highlands University.

Treasurer Montoya has served as Legislative Chairwoman for the past seven years for the Treasurer's Affiliate. In that capacity she has assisted in the passage of over 20 pieces of legislation that remove tax loopholes; effect efficiency of tax collections; equitability of taxes; assisted our Veterans, Seniors, and Disabled; and expanded the permissibility of investments in New Mexico for Class A counties and municipalities in a Class A county.

Website: www.lauramontoya4nm.com

State Treasurer

Heather Benavidez (D)



Heather grew up in Belen and graduated from Belen High School. During high school she worked in the kitchen of a nursing home facility and after graduating, worked at the local RAKS building supply. She had her daughter, Maddy, while working in the information technology industry and, like too many women, had the unfortunate experience of being laid off upon returning from maternity leave. At 25, with a newborn daughter, she began working for the Thirteenth Judicial District Court. Heather completed her Bachelor's degree in 2010 when Maddy was 7 years old. Heather married the love of her life, Joshua in 2015, and received her Master's in Public Administration at UNM in 2019 while working as an Executive at the Treasurer's office under current State Treasurer, Tim Eichenberg. Heather has served New Mexicans for 18 years on the local and state level, including being appointed by Governor Lujan Grisham to serve as Magistrate judge in Valencia County, and was elected two terms as municipal judge for the City of Rio Communities.

Website:<http://heatherform.com>

House of Representatives

District 4

Christina Aspaas (D)

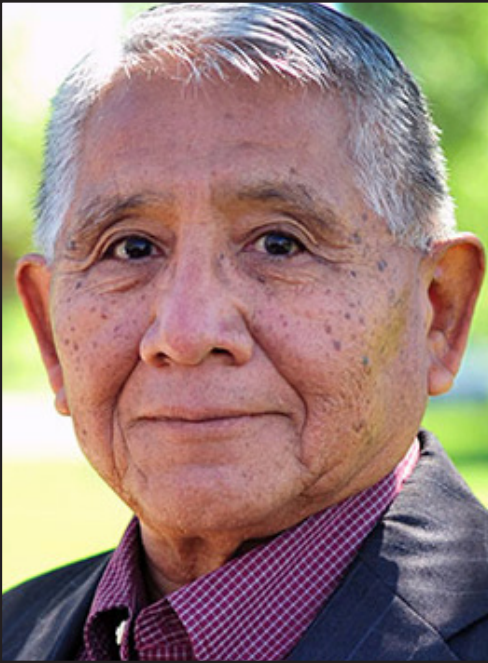
Aspaas is a member of the Central Consolidated School District Board of Education, where she has served for many years.



House of Representatives

District 4

Anthony Allison (D)*



Anthony is a husband, a father, a grandfather, a retired journeyman electrician, and a dedicated public servant. Allison is a member of the Navajo Nation. After graduating from Gallup High School, Allison attended Eastern New Mexico University for two years. He works with the Navajo Voters Coalition to give the community the ability to elect the leader of their choice. He has stated that he will fight for infrastructure and also stated his district needs better roads, and potable drinking water for all residents. Allison believes that rural communities need access to primary care and medical services. Allison worked in the coal mine industry for several years, and believes that mines have an opportunity to lead the charge on the transition to renewable energy. Prior to his retirement, Allison worked as a journeyman electrician. He also founded Navajo Voters Coalition, an organization specializing in the expansion of voting rights in his district.

Website: <https://www.facebook.com/Anthony4NM>

House of Representatives

District 5

Doreen Wonda Johnson (D)*



Johnson was born in Crownpoint, New Mexico. Johnson earned her B.A. from Marymount University in 2009. Her professional experience includes being the owner of Wonda Johnson Consulting, as an executive staff assistant for the Navajo Nation office of the president and vice president from 2011 to 2013, as a convention and events director for the National Indian Education Association from 2004 to 2011, and as an intergovernmental liaison and consultant for special projects for the Arizona State Governor's Office from 1992 to 2003.

House of Representatives

District 5

Kevin Mitchell (D)

No information found on this Candidate.



House of Representatives

District 11

Adrian Anthony Trujillo(R)

No information found on this Candidate.



House of Representatives

District 11

Lisa Meyer-Hagan (R)



Lisa has been married for 36 years and raised four children. She has served as an Associate broker, literacy specialist, director of Care Net Pregnancy Center, and staff member for Sen. Pete V. Dominici. Lisa has a BA in psychology from UNM and a minor in human services-literacy specialist.

Website: <https://www.facebook.com/LisaForNewMexico/about>

House of Representatives

District 12

Art de la Cruz (D)*



Born in Albuquerque, New Mexico, De La Cruz earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in university studies from the University of New Mexico and a Master of Science in management and human relations from the University of Phoenix. De La Cruz served as an employee of the Public Employees Retirement Association of New Mexico for 46 years. He has also operated a small business. In September 2020, De La Cruz was appointed to the New Mexico House of Representatives after the resignation of Patricio Ruiloba. In the 2020 election for the seat, De La Cruz was a Democratic write-in candidate, losing to independent candidate Brittney Barreras. He left office on January 19, 2021. On January 28, 2022, Barreras announced her resignation from the House of Representatives. On February 2, 2022, De La Cruz was appointed by the Bernalillo County commission to fill Barrera's position

Website: <https://www.artdelacruz.com/>

House of Representatives

District 12

Melissa D Armijo (D)



Melissa currently works as the Office Administrator at the National Hispanic Cultural Center Foundation where she helps raise money for the Center's many educational programs dedicated to the preservation and promotion of Hispanic culture, arts, and humanities. She previously served as the Special Assistant to the Dean of Students at the University of New Mexico and, while at UNM, served as the co-chair of the Staff Council Student Success Committee. Melissa serves as the Board President of the Mark Armijo Academy Charter High School, an APS chartered charter school serving at risk youth, which was named after her late husband Mark who passed away in 2015. She is the co-founder and serves as the Vice President of the Armijo Family Scholarship Fund. In addition, she serves on the Technical Customer Advisory Committee of the Bernalillo County Albuquerque Water Utility Authority. Melissa previously served as the Board President of the Gutierrez-Hubbell House Alliance, and on the Central New Mexico Community College governing board. Serving in various roles with Las Mujeres, Inc., she helped raise more than \$250,000 for scholarships for New Mexico women to attend New Mexico universities. Melissa attended both New Mexico State University and the University of New Mexico. She is a 2018 graduate of Emerge New Mexico and has certifications in Women in Leadership and Non-Profit Management from UNM's Anderson School of Management.

Melissa is a lifelong resident of Albuquerque's South Valley who has spent her professional and volunteer career dedicated to providing educational opportunities to New Mexicans. Melissa and late husband Mark have two adult children, Aja and Christian, who are her most impressive accomplishments. Christian graduated from the College of Fine Arts in December 2018 at the University of New Mexico and Aja completed her Master's degree at UNM's department of Speech & Hearing Sciences in May 2017.

House of Representatives

District 12

Nicole Michelle Olonovich (D)



Nicole Michelle Olonovich is a disabled veteran of Operation Iraq Freedom. She is a victim of environmental toxins from being downwind of burn-pits 12 hours a day during her service to this country in Iraqi Freedom (2004). A Hispanic woman who comes from a large loving family with two loving lesbian mothers. Nicole is well versed in communications and a published author in multiple mediums. Earning two masters, degrees one in social work, as well as a masters degree in business.

Website: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/nicole-m-olonovich-b825b068>

House of Representatives

District 17

Darrell Deaguero (D)



Darrell Deaguero is a father, husband, union leader, and proud Democrat whose day-to-day job is to help others find meaningful work. Darrell is the President of the Laborers union (Laborers' International Union of North America Local 16, or LiUNA) and he helps people secure jobs that lead to careers that provide steady income, reliable healthcare, and security for their families.

Darrell was born and raised in Farmington and credits his parents for his strong blue collar work ethic. His father, who is from Chimayo, served in the Army during World War II and was a longtime LiUNA Local 16 member. Darrell's mother worked in the food service industry and as a custodian. Darrell is proud to have followed in his father's footsteps to become a second-generation construction laborer and a second-generation member of the Laborers Union Local 16. For over twenty years Darrell has worked as a construction laborer and has been a union member where he worked his way through the ranks and now serves as both a staff member and President of LIUNA.

Darrell and his wife Ruanne have three adult children who they raised in Albuquerque.

Website: <https://www.darrellform.com/about-darrell>

House of Representatives

District 17

Cynthia Borrego (D)



Cynthia, a Native New Mexican, is a two-time UNM grad, with a Bachelor of Science in Education and Master's in public Administration. Borrego served as the Albuquerque City Council's Vice-President in 2019, and chaired the Council's Land Use and Zoning Committee. Borrego worked for the City of Albuquerque as a City Planner for over 28 years. Borrego was the Vice-Chair of the Mid Region Council of Governments Transportation Board in 2021. She is the former Board Chair of the Rio Grande Credit Union and the ABC Community Schools Board. She was also elected to serve on the Executive Board of Albuquerque Metropolitan Arroyo Flood Control Authority, and serves as president of the UNM School of Public Administration Advisory Alumni Board. She is the owner of a small retail business showcasing artisan jewelry and collectibles in Los Ranchos de Albuquerque.

Website: <https://cynthiaborrego.com/about-cynthia/>

House of Representatives

District 17

Ellis McMath (R)



Born in Albuquerque, he is familiar with issues that affect New Mexico both urban and rural. As a retired Albuquerque Reserve Police Officer he is familiar with what makes criminals fear. Ellis McMath is currently certified by the New Mexico Department of Public Safety as a Concealed Carry Instructor. Ellis McMath is a decorated Navy Veteran and is the namesake of his uncle who gave his life in WWII in an aircraft accident. Ellis is a former New Mexico State University Commercial Pilot and retired FAA Air Traffic Controller. Ellis McMath has for 17 years been actively involved in the leadership of non-profit work with orphans and is a team leader at Sagebrush Church. He has actively participated in Dan Lewis's campaign for Mayor & City Council. He has also testified in legislative committees during recent sessions.

Website: <https://www.ellismcmath.com/>

House of Representatives

District 17

Joshua Taylor Neal (R)

No information was found on this Candidate.



House of Representatives

District 19

Janelle Anaynonu (D)

Janelle is from Albuquerque NM, a graduate of Monzano High School, with a Bachelor's degree in Applied Sciences from Wayland Baptist University. She is the daughter of an immigrant and passionate supporter of STEM programs for our youth.



Website: <https://www.janellefornewmexico.com/about>

House of Representatives

District 19

Colton Dean (D)

No information was found on this Candidate.



House of Representatives

District26

Cherise Quezada (D)

She is a wife, mother, grand-mother and active member of the community.



Website: <https://www.facebook.com/CheriseForNM>

House of Representatives

District 26

Eleanor Chavez (D)



Chavez was born in Las Cruces, New Mexico. She earned a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Washington and a Master of Social Work from the University of Washington School of Social Work. After earning her master's degree, Chavez returned to New Mexico, where she worked as a community organizer. From 1997 to 2008, she was the director of the National Union of Hospital and Health Care Employee. In 2008, she was elected to the New Mexico House of Representatives for the 13th district. In 2012, she opted not to seek re-election and instead run for the New Mexico Senate. In the 2012 Democratic primary, Chavez placed second after incumbent Michael Padilla.

In 2014, Chavez was elected to the New Mexico Public Education Commission. She declined to seek re-election in 2016. Since retiring from government service, Chavez has resumed working for the National Union of Hospital and Health Care Employee as chapter director.

House of Representatives

District 27

Elisa Maria Martinez (R)



Elisa is a native New Mexican; she attended the University of Notre Dame and graduated from the University of New Mexico with a BA in Economics. She has lived in Albuquerque for over 25 years and worked as a small business owner as well as a family and community advocate.

Most recently, Elisa helped to spearhead the effort to defeat radical legislation in New Mexico including a ‘green energy’ measure that would increase gas prices 50¢ a gallon for every New Mexican. Elisa has experience working with every level of government including the White House, Congress, as well as state, city, and county governments across the state for over 10 years for a safer.

She is a nationally recognized speaker on economic and social policy issues, and has been featured in national media from Fox News to the New York Times. Elisa has worked on policy issues for over 10 years and is passionate about youth, Hispanic and Native American engagement in politics.

Website: <https://elisamartinezform.com>

House of Representatives

District 27

Robert Godshall (R)



Born in Texas, raised in Philadelphia, Godshall moved to New Mexico in 1976 and, except for the 3 years he spent with the U.S. Border Patrol in Sierra Blanca, Tx., this state has been his home ever since. He is retired from the Department of Homeland Security after a 28 year career with Federal Law Enforcement. That career began after he completed a Bachelor of Arts degree program in Political Science at the University of New Mexico in 1980. A long-time homeowner in the district, Bob is Vice Chairman of Ward 27 of the county Republican Party. He is recently a proud grandfather.

Website: <https://www.godshallfordistrict27.com>

House of Representatives

District 29

Adelious De Smith (R)



Adelious d. Stith is a proud father of five, grandfather of four, and married for 35 years. Adelious and his wife both served in the USAF and has dedicated their live to serving. Their oldest son, Adelious II, currently serves in the USAF. Adelious has a B.A. in Organizational Management and has a M.A. in International Relations.

Website:<https://www.adelious4nm.com/>

House of Representatives

District29

Gregory Cunningham (R)



Greg was born and raised in Albuquerque. He went to High School at Menaul High School. Although he started college at the University of Albuquerque where he played basketball, he believed in service. So, Greg joined the Marine Corps to serve our country. He was a Recon Marine that received the Combat Action Ribbon in Desert Storm. After his service to our country in the Marine Corps he returned to Albuquerque. He continued his service as an Albuquerque Police Officer working every day to keep our community safe. Since Greg retired in 2011 he opened his own small business.

Website: <https://www.avoicefornewmexico.com/AboutGreg>

House of Representatives

District 38

Tara Jaramillo (D)



Tara Jaramillo is a Speech Language Pathologist who co-founded Positive Outcomes, Inc., in 1999 after recognizing the gap of services for families like hers who have children with disabilities. Based in Socorro, Positive Outcomes provides home healthcare, early intervention, DD Waiver, and school-based and outpatient services throughout central New Mexico to thousands of children and families.

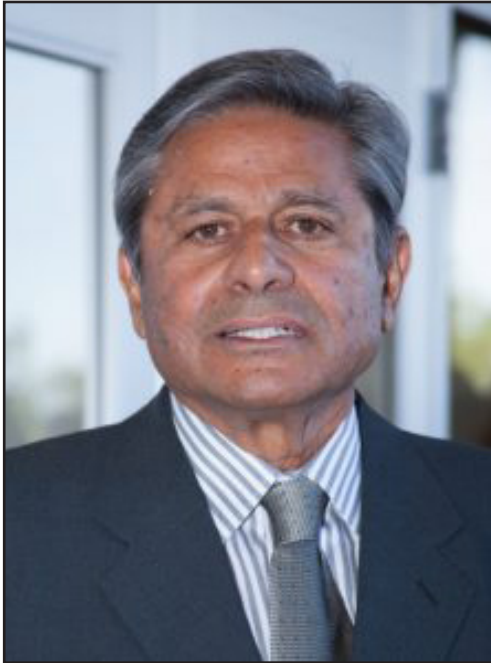
Tara Jaramillo was born and raised in Socorro County and her family has roots in the area from before New Mexico was a state. Her family has been miners, entrepreneurs, ranchers, and educators. Tara grew up close to the land on a ranch in Lemitar.

Website: <https://www.tarajaramilloform.com/>

House of Representatives

District38

Ravi Bhasker (D)



No information found on this Candidate.

House of Representatives

District 38

Melba Aguilar (R)



Aguilar was born in Alaska and grew up in New Mexico. She got a chemical engineering degree at New Mexico Tech. She began a Masters in materials engineering but decided to become a high school teacher instead. She has worked for the Socorro Consolidated School District for four years and has never held public office before.

Aguilar is a devout Catholic and committed to being pro-life and she is a gun owner whose campaign website discusses second amendment rights, but neither of those issues is the focus of her campaign. Instead she is focused on crime, education and the economy, which she believes are intertwined issues.

House of Representatives

District38

Sandra Kay Hammack (R)

No information found on this Candidate.

House of Representatives

District 39

Karen Whitlock (D)

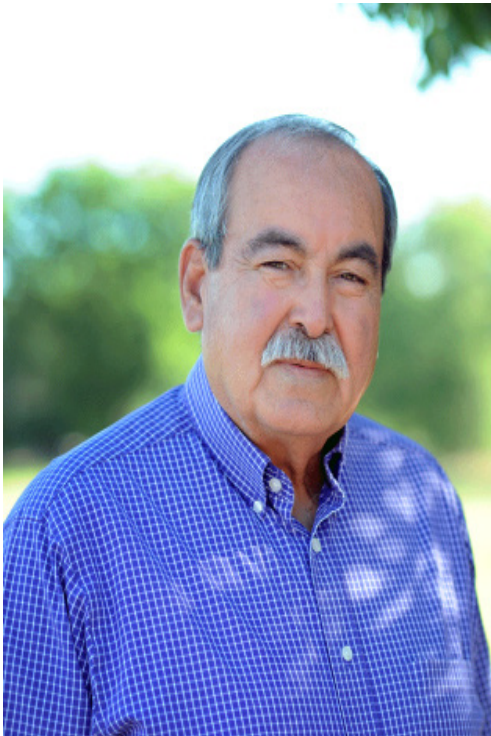


Karen earned her BS in political science at American University in Washington and her Masters in Social Work at Western New Mexico University. She is currently an adjunct professor at WNMU and previously taught at Cobre High School. In 2015, she served as a legislative intern for the National Association of Social Workers and before then worked as an environmental consultant for Phelps Dodge at the Tyrone mine. In 2015, Karen was awarded the Student Social Worker of the year at both Western New Mexico University and the National Association of Social Workers - New Mexico Chapter. In addition, Karen was awarded the Social Work Student Advocate Award at Western. Since moving to Grant County, Karen has done extensive volunteer service, including working with Healthy Kids, Healthy Communities through the Grant County Community Health Council, the Volunteer Center, serving on the Fitness and Nutrition in the Community Committee, at the Disabilities Resource Center, and with the Leukemia Lymphoma Society.

House of Representatives

District 39

Rodolpho Martinez (D)



Rodolpho “Rudy” Martinez represented District 39 from 2008-2014. Martinez was born and raised in southern New Mexico, is a Vietnam veteran, and was employed with Chino Mines for 33 years. Rodolpho supports the needs of behavior health providers and early childhood education. He wants to fix the corporate tax structure and invest in basic infrastructure, improve benefits for veterans, and improve water conservation.

House of Representatives

District 40

Roger Montoya (D)*



Montoya is a native New Mexican, growing up in Northern NM, spending summers and winter breaks on his grandparent's farm in Penasco. He is an artist and has worked in all different mediums including; Gymnast, Dancer, Painter, Actor, Choreographer, Producer, Teacher, and Gardener. He began dancing in LA and NYC, returning to New Mexico in 1990. He then began his 30 year career as a professional landscape painter. Montoya along with his life-partner Salvador Ruiz Esquivel, are committed to serving their community.

Website: <https://www.rogerform.com/meet-roger>

House of Representatives

District 40

Joseph Sanchez (D)



Sanchez was “born and raised” northern New Mexican. His family is from Alcalde, a small farming community north of Española. Sanchez hold a Bachelor’s Degree in Electrical Engineering from the University of New Mexico and two Master’s Degrees, one in Electrical Engineering from the University of New Mexico and one in Business Administration, from New Mexico State University. Sanchez has over 15 years of Executive Management and Technical experience in the Energy Industry Sector, and in the Construction and Operation of Nuclear Facilities for Waste and Research Operations. Sanchez supports early childhood education, affordable community mental health support, veterans initiatives, local farmers, ranchers and acequias, upholding family and community values, and improved support for law enforcement agencies.

House of Representatives

District 41

Susan Herrera (D)*



Herrera is the retired CEO of the Los Alamos National Laboratory Foundation, and former director of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus in Washington, D.C. Susan serves on the statewide board of New Mexico Voices for Children and the boards of the Family Learning Center in Española and the Northwest First Born Program in Farmington and Gallup. She was instrumental in bringing \$2 million in Kellogg Foundation grant money to New Mexico for early childhood development. Herrera left the LANL Foundation in 2016 having granted \$51 million to Northern New Mexico school districts and community-based non-profits. Today the Foundation has an \$84 million endowment. She volunteers at Dixon Elementary, where her grandson is a student. Herrera's platform includes efforts to improve public education, create good jobs, and build a better, sustainable health and behavioral health system. She supports an overhaul of the New Mexico tax system so that working families in New Mexico are the priority.

House of Representatives

District41

Marlo Martinez (D)

No information found on this Candidate

House of Representatives

District42

Kristina Ortez (D)*



Kristina was elected to serve as State Representative for HD42 in 2020. She has spent her career dedicated to improving her community and protecting the environment. When she's not engaged in public service, Kristina loves to hang out with her family reading, playing board games and watching MCU movies.

Website: <https://www.ortez4nm.com/about-kristina>

House of Representatives

District42

Florence Miera (D)

No information found on this Candidate



Website: <https://www.florencemierataos.com/>

House of Representatives

District 44

Jane Podrell-Culbert (R)*



Jane received a Bachelor's degree from the University of New Mexico along with numerous training certifications. She is currently serving her sixth term in the New Mexico Legislature. Her experience includes working with the law enforcement, financial management community groups and organizations. Jane has worked with families to address concerns of death and funeral arrangements of a loved one, prison issues, veteran issues, school enrollment, employment and retirement concerns, foreclosures and business development to name a few.

House of Representatives

District 44

Frida Susana Vasquez (R)

No information found on this Candidate.

House of Representatives

District 46

Andrea Romero (D)*



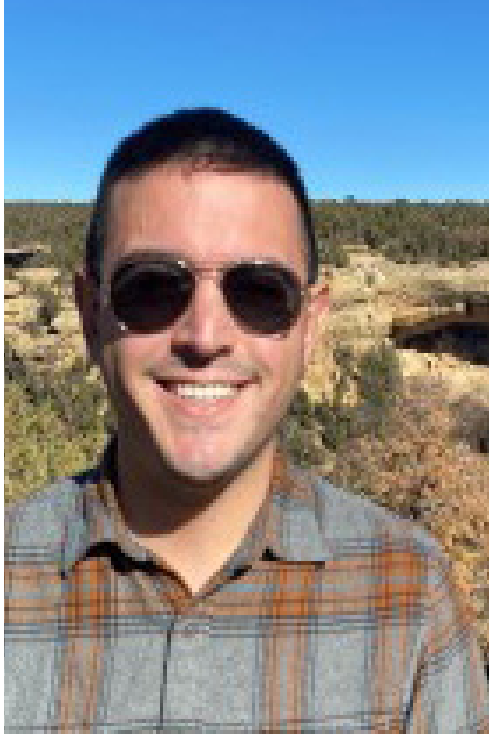
Andrea is a 17th generation Northern New Mexican. After attending school in the Santa Fe Public Schools, Andrea graduated from Stanford University with a degree in Political Science. She formerly worked with the Regional Coalition of LANL Communities, and volunteer service to various organizations throughout the region. Romero also runs a small business startup, Tall Foods, a ranch that seeks to cultivate the next generation of nutritious and sustainable eating through ostrich farming. Romero supports legislation protecting and encouraging small business, entrepreneurs and local jobs. She also supports investing in public education, community health programs, defending women's rights, and protecting worker's rights. Romero is a strong supporter of water rights and conservation, she has stated her priorities include clean and safe drinking water for all, ensuring the traditional and agricultural uses of water, and making sure every resident affected by the Aamodt Settlement agreement understands their rights and way forward.

House of Representatives

District46

Ryan Erik Salazar (D)

A lifelong resident of the district, Salazar, 30, works for Los Alamos National Laboratory as a buyer for federal acquisitions



Website: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/ryaneriksalazar>

House of Representatives

District 46

Henry Roybal (D)



Henry has served his community for years. He has volunteered countless hours serving his community. His charitable works include: President for Young American Football League (YAFL), President of the Pojoaque Valley Little League, Head Coach at the Pojoaque Valley Junior High School and Assistant Coach Pojoaque Valley High School, and the Athletic Coordinator for the Pojoaque Valley Intermediate School and as a Foster Parent for children in need. Commissioner Roybal and his parents Henry and Amelia Roybal are both life-long residents of the Pojoaque community, as well as extended members of his family. Henry has been married to Marlene (Naranjo) Roybal for 23 years he has 3 children that he has also raised in Pojoaque Valley Amber Roybal, Alyssa Roybal and Henry Paul Roybal JR. He received his degrees at NNMC in Electronic Packaging and Design and Electromechanical Engineering Design. In his professional life, Henry has 19 years of experience Federal and County government working for Los Alamos National Laboratory and Santa Fe County.

Commissioner Roybal also serves on Santa Fe Metropolitan Planning Organization (Vice Chair), Regional Coalition of LANL Communities, Santa Fe Solid Waste Management Agency, Santa Fe County Housing Authority, Santa Fe County Board of Finance and also serves as an alternate board member to Buckman Direct diversion and North Central Regional Transit District.

House of Representatives

District 51

Rachel Black (R)*



Black was born in Virginia but moved to Alamogordo with her family when she was only five-years-old. Black is currently the Otero County Chief Deputy Clerk; an office she has held since 2017. She has worked for the Otero County Treasurer's Office since 2007. Black is married to Kenny Black; they have five children. She attended a few classes at NMSU-A but she decided that she wanted to start a family and work.

House of Representatives

District 51

John Block (R)



A native New Mexican, John grew up watching his parents work long hours to put food on the table, his mother an elementary school teacher, and his father helping folks with disabilities find guardians. Through years of bussing tables, volunteering at a community farm, and checking in guests at a hotel front desk, he worked his way through college and became active in local politics. Throughout his work, he served as a staffer at the New Mexico Legislature, at the pro-life legal group, Americans United for Life, worked alongside the Trump Administration by coordinating government affairs at Chevron, and helped defeat far-left legislation, such as an abortion up-to-birth bill in 2019 and an anti-gun proposal in 2021.

He has a bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Rutgers University and an M.B.A. from Eastern New Mexico University in Portales.

Website: <https://johnformm.com>

House of Representatives

District 61

Randall Pettigrew (R)*



Randall T. Pettigrew, PE is the Senior Vice-President and Principal Construction Services Engineer for Pettigrew & Associates with 35 years of engineering experience with the last 20 serving as a corporate executive for multi-billion dollar international firms to multi-million dollar corporations, in this role he focused on business efficiencies, development, and growth. Mr. Pettigrew is an alumnus of New Mexico State University where he obtained a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering. He is a professional engineer licensed in Texas. Past and current professional affiliations include National, Texas, and New Mexico Society of Professional Engineers, American Concrete Pipe Association, American Society of civil engineers, American Concrete Institute and New Mexico American Concrete Institute Chapter. Randy is a 2011 Graduate of Leadership NM Core Class of 2011 and is a lifetime member and is a life member of the Academy of Civil Engineers, NMSU. Randy served as President of the Lovington Economic Development Corporation from 2011 to 2016 and currently serves as Vice-President. He currently serves as chairman of the Lovington Planning and zoning Board, Chairman of the Lea County Road Advisory Board, board member of the Lea County Planning and Zoning Board, and director for NM American Concrete Institute Chapter. Randy past local community involvements include Lea County Fair and Rodeo Board, Kiwanis, Rotary, Lovington Extra-Territorial Zoning Board. Randy has been a member of the New Mexico Goodwill Ambassador organization, NM Amigos since 2013.

He has been married to Shannon Pettigrew for 29 years. Shannon is a small business owner with a focus on Life and Health Coach for Women. They have 3 children – Brittany who works for the City of Lovington as Construction Projects Inspector; Raine, currently seeking her special education teaching degree at New Mexico State University; and Alie who serves in the New Mexico Army National Guard and will continue her college degree at New Mexico Military Institute in the Fall of 2020.

House of Representatives

District 61

Rebecca Jill Jones (R)

No information found on this Candidate.

Website: <https://m.facebook.com/JillJonesforNM>

House of Representatives

District 62

Larry Scott (R)*



Scott was born on March 24, 1952 in Hobbs, New Mexico. He attended the University of Texas at Austin, earning a Bachelor of Science degree in electrical engineering. Prior to entering politics, Scott worked as an engineer and was the president of Lynx Petroleum Consultants, an oil and gas company based in Hobbs, New Mexico. Scott is the member of the Republican Party. Since his election in 2014, Scott has not faced an opponent for re-election. In 2020, Scott opposed an economic recovery bill, criticizing the state's decision to shut down the economy during the COVID-19 pandemic.

House of Representatives

District 62

Elaine Sena Cortez (R)



Elaine Sena Cortez is a life-long resident of Hobbs, New Mexico, and currently serves as the Executive Director of MyPower, Inc., the largest youth development program in Lea County. Elaine is also the owner of Sena Cortez Consulting, LLC. Elaine is married to the love of her life and best friend, Efren Cortez, a practicing attorney in Lea County. The couple shares a loving home with their two dogs, Termite and Brinkley. Elaine is the daughter of pastors and is a faithful member of King's Gate Church in Hobbs, New Mexico, a non-denominational Christian Church founded by her family. Elaine is a proud American and the daughter of a Vietnam Veteran. Elaine is a staunch believer that New Mexicans have the potential to move our Nation forward.

Website: <https://www.elainesenacortez.com/about>

House of Representatives

District 69

Harry Garcia (D)*



Garcia's professional experience includes owning his own business. He served in the United States Marine Corps and is a veteran of the Vietnam War

Website: <https://www.facebook.com/harrygarciaform>

House of Representatives

District 69

Marvin Anthony Trujillo(D)

No information found on
this Candidate

House of Representatives

District 70

Ambrose Castellano (D)*



Ambrose has served over a decade on educational Boards at both Luna Community College and West Las Vegas School District. He has consistently championed measures that increased resources in the classroom, including adequate compensation for teachers and district employees. He elected to sustain union rights when former Governor Martinez moved to eliminate them.

As a member of the Northern Area Local Workforce Development Board, Ambrose worked to bring awareness to the federal resources that strengthen in-demand occupations and funded training and educational opportunities that prepared New Mexicans for our changing economy. He understands the value of both an advanced degree, as well as a trade school education.

As a business owner, Ambrose knows first hand how the pandemic impacted employers and employees. He looks forward to working with other state leaders and innovators to explore opportunities to effectively revive the State's economy and put citizens to work.

Website: <https://castellanoforstaterrep70.com/>

House of Representatives

District 70

Anita Amalia Gonzales (D)



A native New Mexican, Anita was born in Las Vegas, NM to both the Lopez Family of Villanueva, NM and the Gallegos Family of Las Vegas, NM. She is the proud mother to Curtis Gonzales and is the daughter of Lucille and Ross White and Clarence Gallegos and Anna Vigil. She is the grand-daughter of Rudolpho and Bersabe Lopez, Arturo R. and Cecelia Gallegos, and Jack and Betty White. After completing the majority of her degree at Texas A&M University, she returned home to Las Vegas to complete her bachelor's and master's degrees at New Mexico Highlands University.

Anita has worked at New Mexico Mathematics, Engineering, Science Achievement (NM MESA), Inc for over 19 years and is the current Deputy Director. NM MESA is a statewide pre-college program which empowers and motivates New Mexico's culturally diverse students with science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) enrichment

Website: <https://anita4newmexico.com/>