

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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TODAY: Filing Day for Minor Party, Independent and Judicial Retention Candidates

General Election Write-In Candidates Also File Today

SANTA FE – Minor party and independent candidates for the offices of United States Senator, United States Representative, all statewide offices, the Public Regulation Commission, District Judges, District Attorneys and all state representative district offices that cover more than one county must officially file for the 2018 General Election with the Office of the New Mexico Secretary of State today between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. General Election write-in candidates for these offices and statewide judicial retention candidates are also required to file with the Secretary of State today. As these candidates file, their names will appear on the General Election candidate listing page on the Secretary of State’s website in near-real time. You find the list of General Election candidates by visiting NMVote.org and clicking on “2018 General Election Candidates.”

“The General Election is a great opportunity for voters of all party affiliations to have a say in how their government will look moving forward,” said Secretary Toulouse Oliver. “Now that the General Election is just over four months away, I encourage everyone to register to vote as quickly as possible if they haven’t already. Democracy works best when we all participate.”

Minor party, independent and General Election write-in candidates for countywide offices or for state representative district offices that cover only one county must also file with their County Clerk today. Contact information for all 33 New Mexico County Clerks is available on the Secretary of State’s website [here](#).

Minor party candidates must submit a declaration of candidacy and nominating petition pages containing signatures from registered voters. The number of signatures collected must be equal to at least one percent of the overall number of votes cast for Governor by voters of any party affiliation in the state or the candidate’s district the last time the office of Governor was on the General Election ballot. They also must submit a financial disclosure statement if they are running for a statewide or legislative office. Minor parties are required to certify and submit the names of their party’s nominees through a political convention or to the Secretary of State or the County Clerk, depending on the office sought by the candidates, in accordance with their party rule.

Independent candidates must submit a declaration of candidacy and nominating pages containing signatures from registered voters. The number of signatures collected must be equal to at least three percent of the overall number of votes cast for Governor by New

Mexico voters of any party affiliation in the state or the candidate's district the last time the office of Governor was on the General Election ballot. They also must submit a financial disclosure statement if they are running for a statewide or legislative office.

The total number of signatures minor party and independent candidates are required to submit for each office are available on the Secretary of State's website [here](#).

General Election write-in candidates must submit a declaration of intent to be a write-in candidate and a financial disclosure statement if they are running for a statewide or legislative office. Candidates who lost their Primary Election contest are not eligible to be write-in candidates for the same office they sought in the Primary Election. Major party candidates who were not on the Primary Election ballot are eligible to file as General Election write-in candidates.

Judges on the Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, District Court, or Metropolitan Court must file a declaration of candidacy for judicial retention if they have already been elected in a partisan election. Those who fail to file the declaration of candidacy for judicial retention will vacate their office on January 1, 2019.

All minor party, independent and General Election candidates must also submit a candidate campaign committee registration form in order to establish an account in the Secretary of State's Campaign Finance Information System (CFIS).

The Secretary of State and each County Clerk will certify all candidates who successfully meet all filing requirements with their office today no later than 5 p.m. on Tuesday, July 3.

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