

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 2, 2018

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2018 Primary Election: Ute Park Fire Contingency Voting Plan for Displaced Colfax County Voters *Ute Park and Village of Cimarron Under Evacuation Orders*

RATON – Colfax County Clerk Rayetta Trujillo today announced a plan that will allow Colfax County residents who have been displaced by the Ute Park Fire evacuation orders to cast their 2018 Primary Election ballots at alternative locations.

“Despite this terrible disaster, it’s important that we ensure all Colfax County voters are able to cast a ballot in this election if they so choose,” said County Clerk Trujillo.

“County Clerk Trujillo and her staff are committed to making sure every voter has a voice,” said New Mexico Secretary of State Maggie Toulouse Oliver. “I’ll provide whatever support they need as they deal with this unexpected catastrophe.”

Yesterday, a mandatory evacuation order was issued for the Village of Cimarron and an advisory evacuation order was issued for the community of Ute Park. The Red Cross is operating an evacuation center in Eagle Nest at the Senior Center. They are also supporting a second evacuation center at the Raton Convention Center.

On Primary Election Day, Tuesday, June 5, 2018, if evacuation orders are still in place for residents of Ute Park and the Village of Cimarron, these voters will be able to vote at the Raton Convention Center located at 901 S. 3rd Street.

Those displaced voters who take shelter at the Eagle Nest Senior Center may cast a provisional ballot at the Eagle Nest Community Center, located at 151 Willow Creek Drive, which will be qualified and counted after Election Day.

Clerk Trujillo extends a reminder to all Colfax County Voters that Early Voting will take place on Saturday June 2, 2018, at the Colfax County Clerk’s Office located at 230 N. 3rd Street, from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

This contingency plan will be updated if additional communities are evacuated as a result of the Ute Park Fire or if existing evacuation orders are lifted.

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