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STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

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PRESS RELEASE

State Ethics Commission successfully ensures compliance with the Financial Disclosure Act

Albuquerque, NM, October 18, 2023 – The State Ethics Commission announces that it has achieved financial disclosure filings from individuals referred by the Secretary of State who are either state agency heads or members of significant boards and commissions, including the Office of the State Engineer, the Military Base Planning Commission, the State Board of Finance, the State Investment Council, and the State Racing Commission.

The Financial Disclosure Act mandates that individuals holding legislative or statewide offices, candidates for legislative or statewide offices, and state agency heads file financial disclosures with the Secretary of State in January of each year. This filing requirement encompasses approximately 675 individuals who must report their financial disclosures to the Secretary of State. The Secretary of State endeavors to obtain voluntary financial filings. If individuals do not come into voluntary compliance despite those efforts, the Secretary of State refers those individuals to the State Ethics Commission, which may pursue civil enforcement actions against non-compliant individuals. Under this authority, the Commission achieved the filings from the agency heads of the Office of the State Engineer and the Military Base Planning Commission, as well as from members of the State Board of Finance, the State Investment Council, and the State Racing Commission

Financial disclosures are a cornerstone of any ethical democratic government. Disclosures remind public servants of ethics principles, detects and deters conflicts of interest, facilitates enforcement of ethics rules, and promotes public confidence in government. By achieving these disclosures, the Commission reaffirms its dedication to promoting a transparent and conflict-free government that is accountable to the people of New Mexico.

About the State Ethics Commission

The State Ethics Commission is an independent, constitutional state agency with the authority to enforce civil violations of New Mexico’s governmental ethics and disclosure statutes, including the Financial Disclosure Act. The Commission is comprised of three Democratic Commissioners, three Republican Commissioners, and one independent Commissioner who is registered as “decline to state.”

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For more information about the State Ethics Commission, visit www.sec.nm.gov.