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PRESS RELEASE

State Ethics Commission settles with former State Auditor Brian Colón for violations of the Campaign Reporting Act

Albuquerque, NM, November 9, 2023 – Today, the State Ethics Commission announces it has entered into a settlement with the former State Auditor Brian Colón. This settlement relates to Administrative Case No. 2023-038, *Goolsby v. Colón*, in which the complainant alleged that Mr. Colón violated the Campaign Reporting Act by receiving contributions in excess of the primary election contribution limit (\$5,200) and failing to specify specific purposes or descriptions for campaign expenditures.

To settle this administrative matter, Mr. Colón refunded the excess contributions to the original contributors. Further, to address and settle the complainant's claims, Mr. Colón highlighted specific explanations that were included in the original campaign reports which describe the specific purposes for campaign expenditures but were not reflected on the Secretary of State's campaign finance system.

On November 3, 2023, at a regularly scheduled Commission meeting, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the settlement agreement, and the administrative case was made public.

To view the settlement agreement and other filings related to this case, please visit the following link: [State Ethics Commission: Case Management & Filing System \(nm.gov\)](https://www.sec.state.nm.gov/case-management)

To view the Commission's meeting and minutes please visit the Commission's meetings page located at: [Meetings | New Mexico State Ethics Commission \(nm.gov\)](#).

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 Campaign Reporting Act. The Commission is comprised of three Democratic Commissioners, three Republican Commissioners, and one independent Commissioner who is registered as "decline to state." The New Mexico State Ethics Commission aims to ensure transparency in campaign finance reporting.

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