

**Q9** What are your past political activities (Offices held, candidate, volunteer, etc)

Have never held elected public office

Have previously run for the State House (2018) and lost that race.

Have volunteered ... Chair, Governing Board for East Mtn Charter High School (first three years of the schools existence), EM Chamber of Commerce board of directors, member (five years, one year as President),

Cub Scout Pack Leader for one year (1990-91) in Newport RI

Soccer Linesman, kids sports, Brandon FL and in Albuquerque (nine years)

Interstate Stream Commission ad hoc committee on Regional Water Planning, member (five years),

Estancia Basin Water Planning Committee, member (14 years, three as Chair)

Bernalillo County Water Conservation Committee (I've lost track of the number of years ... about four)

NM Rural Water Association, board of directors, 22 years (three as President, 18 as Legislative Chair, two as treasurer)

National Rural Water Association, board of directors, five years (representing NM, Regulatory Committee)

Phi Delta Theta Fraternity at UNM - Chapter Advisor (1996-2004) and Omega Province President (2005-2013) with oversight of chapters in Nevada, Arizona, NM and El Paso.

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**Q10** Why are you seeking this office?

Because I want a NM that works - and it doesn't. I've had two successful careers (23 years Navy, 21 years Water utility CEO) and three are three generations of my family in the State - I want them to be able to stay. I have time, the inclination, skill and temperament to help create a state that can work. I've lived in my current home for 26 years - I love it here.

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**Q11** Have you or your business, if you are a business owner, ever been the subject of any state or federal tax liens? If yes, please explain. **No**

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**Q12** Have you ever been involved in a personal or business bankruptcy proceeding? If yes, please explain. **No**

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**Q13** Have you ever been arrested, charged, or convicted of a misdemeanor or felony crime in New Mexico or any other state? If yes, please explain. Yes (please explain):  
As a 19 year old college student, I was arrested for possession of a conceal weapon (a rifle) during a misdirected act of chivalry. Case was dismissed with prejudice,

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**Q14 State Budget:** New Mexico's state budget provides for the state's recurring expenses such as general management, education, facility maintenance . . . etc. Other expenditures are not recurring, such as road construction, infrastructure expansion, ... etc. What do you think is most important for New Mexico to do when there is surplus revenue?

**Other,**

Please explain your answer:

Income also falls into recurring and nonrecurring categories, which is a consideration for the expenses ... and all three of the other answer apply at different times. From a 30,000 foot level, I'd like to see a bottoms up evaluation of where the money goes, and the services provided by the state (and by whom) - prioritize our efforts and put funding and effort where it do the best job of meeting the goals of the State. (education, public safety, general management, facility maintenance ...). Some areas of state government would most likely expand, some would contract or go away. Once we have that template, if there are surplus nonrecurring revenues I'd put it toward infrastructure desperately needed by the state - roads, bridges, dam repair, construction/reconstruction-repair/consolidation of needed state facilities and budget for their maintenance. If there are surplus funds remaining, a strong consideration is to return tax funds to our citizens.

**Q15 Legislator funds:** Legislators are usually provided funds for specific projects within their districts. How do you think these funds should be distributed to legislators?

**Equally distributed to each legislator,**

Briefly explain your answer :

Assuming the current distribution algorithm doesn't change, then an equal distribution is most equitable and least subject to political favoritism. That said, I think the current system needs to be changed and focus on funding projects with broad spread impacts - roads and communication infrastructure come to mind, but we also need a formula that enables the legislator to focus funding to fulfill critical needs within their communities or within other communities. A flexible formula that meets critical needs - large and small.

**Q16 State Tax Code:** On a scale of one (critical) to five (unimportant), how important is it that New Mexico completely restructure its tax code?

(no label)  
Comment:

**1 (Critical)**

We've created a swiss cheese tax code that does NOT meet the logical criteria of tax policy .... taxes should be low, broad, fair, easy to understand and easy to administer. We've created a code that plays favorites and helps selects winners and losers.

**Q17 State Tax Code:** Are you in favor of the current Gross Receipts Tax (GRT) system for NM or moving to a sales tax?

**Sales Tax,**

Explain your answer:

A sales tax, on the face of it, would be less confusing and help correct the inequities we've built into the GRT code.

**Q18 Crime:** Do you believe that the crime rate and the court's handling of existing laws (sentencing, catch & release protocols, etc.) in New Mexico negatively impacts our ability to attract new businesses and industries to our state?

**Yes,**

Please explain your answer:

Our Constitution provides that an individual to be innocent until proven guilty and that bail shall not be unreasonable. We now find ourselves in a situation where bail is the exception, as opposed to the rule, the justice system is often underfunded and staffed, and the public becomes the victim. Reinstating reasonable bail as a tool of compliance, not a tool of punishment, must be reestablished.

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**Q19 Energy:** What is your position on government mandates for renewable energy like the Energy Transition Act?

**Oppose,**

Please explain your position:

Specifically, the ETA is an overreach. Renewable energy has a strong future but there remain significant shortcomings in legislation like the ETA - it assumes technologies that do not yet exist (adequate energy storage), it fails to acknowledge the need for base production, ignores the options available to the State with micro nuclear technologies, and guaranteed by legislation that the County of San Juan and the community of BlueWater would be destroyed.

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**Q20 Energy:** NM's oil and gas producers were largely responsible for the dramatic increase in state tax revenue for 2019. Do you support effective land and resource management that allows these extractive industries to maximize production and budgetary support for NM?

**Yes,**

Please briefly explain your answer:

It matters not what you think about fossil fuels, their merits and demerits ... but we must cast a budget with resources that are available, not resources we'd like to have. Our state budget rises and falls on oil and gas, until we get other sources of employment and state income. I'd like to help us get there. Yes.

**Q21 Regulation:** On a scale of one (critical) to five (unimportant), how important is environmental regulation to protect New Mexico's land, air, and water?

(no label)

Briefly explain your answer:

**3**

For more than 20 years, I worked in an industry that was highly regulated (drinking water and wastewater). I can attest to the need for regulatory oversight by government entities to reassure the public as to the safety of drinking water and proper handling and disposal of waste products. I can also attest that some regulations are "aggressively" created or interpreted beyond the original intent of the legislation. We should rely as much on science as we do 'sense' (or lack thereof). I have found that people of the land (ranchers, farmers) take care of the environment ... in part, because it is their livelihood and their future - the same is true of water purveyors like community water systems - regulations should help guide them in their efforts but not be obstacles to achieving good deeds.

**Q22 Regulation:** On a scale of one (critical) to five (unimportant), how important is it that New Mexico thoroughly review regulations to determine use and usefulness in regards to protecting citizens without unnecessarily overburdening business?

(no label)

Please explain your answer:

**1 (critical)**

Obsolete and overly aggressive regulations not only cost us (the public) money, they impede progress. For example, current mining law and regulation requires retention of restoration bonds well beyond their need by not acknowledging the use of technology and organics that enables us to accelerate restoration programs by a factor of five (taking two years vice ten or more). Every written regulation has its day - it is our duty to review them for sufficiency and to make them current. Such actions will make NM more attractive to economic growth.

**Q23 Land Grant Permanent Fund:** Do you support or oppose increased distributions (above the current 5%) from the Land Grant Permanent Fund?

**Oppose,**

Please explain your answer:

Oppose ... the permanent funds were visionary in nature. We've been growing the corpus of the funds for 100+ year and the process is prudent. There is a LOT of money in the funds and they are an attractive target for project or process hungry legislators and bureaucrats. The formula for the funds is tried and true - keep it ... the distribution targets of the funds are focused and necessary. Leave'm alone.

**Q24** Employment Laws: What is your position on government mandated employee benefits like sick leave, PTO,... etc?

**Oppose,**

Comments:

My fear is that the evolution of these kinds of mandates are inevitable. As a businessman, it is in my interest to create benefits and have work policies that help attract the best employee available. I've accepted the mandates that provide for workmans' comp, overtime and unemployment insurance - and as a businessman, I chose to provide health and disability insurance, vacation, paid time off, and a Thanksgiving turkey ... but the structure and economic value of my business enabled me to do those things.

**Q25** Employment Laws: In recent years, legislation is proposed each session concerning the state's minimum wage. Please state how you feel wages should be determined and explain your answer.

**Wages should be determined by allowing the free market or supply/demand to determine an appropriate amount**

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Please explain your answer:

Businesses don't exist to provide people jobs - businesses exist to provide product or service that others will buy, and often employees (skilled or otherwise) are needed to meet the needs of the business. Each business has an economic value to the owner, to share holders, to customers and to the economy. Wages should be based on an algorithm that takes that value into account. That said, The Fair Labor Act of 1936 settled the issue, and minimum wage is a fact of life. In my opinion, the minimum wage has become as much of a ceiling to wages than the floor it was intended to be. It has placed the market force of economic value and labor at a disadvantage.

**Q26** Workforce Development: On a scale of 1 (critical) to 5 (unimportant), how important do you feel is it that New Mexico's higher learning institutions offer technical and trade related degrees and certifications?

(no label)

Explain your reasoning:

**1 (Critical)**

This may be one of the best things that government could do to help diversify our economic and support the proliferation of the Trades. Industry would support it - financially, with instructors and curriculum.

**Q27** Economic Incentives: On a scale of one (critical) to five (unimportant), how important is it that state incentives for businesses, such as LEDA, JTIP and tax abatement include mandatory achievement requirements for use of the money as well as enforceable claw back parameters, if those requirements are not met?

(no label)

Please explain your answer:

**1 (critical)**

These favorable contributions of public funds are made with the promise and assurance of specific economic benefit by the recipient. Clawbacks as part of the agreement are not unreasonable - and if they are, the recipient will decline.

**Q28** Do you support an Article V, Convention of States to address proposals that would limit the power and jurisdiction of the federal government, impose fiscal restraints (balanced budget amendment), and place term limits on federal officials?

**Other,**

Please explain your answer:

My jury is out on an Article V Convention and its process, but maybe I don't know enough about it ... as for term limits on federal officials, I assume you're addressing those elected to Congress. The average career of a congressional, today, is nine years ... but I get that term limits is really focused on those who spend 30-50 years in office. The devil is always in the details, but if we do that, then the staffers take even more power than they have now - and that is a hazard. Until I can see that kind of language to achieve the desired result, my answer would be 'no'.

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**Q29** Is there anything else you would like to share about your candidacy or your desire to serve the people of your district?

My agenda, and the reason I'm running, is to get a New Mexico that works - in all ways. I'm not looking for praise and honors (I've had those), I'm not looking for money (I've had two successful careers), and I'll never seek higher office - THIS is the elected position I seek. Lastly, I'm not looking for power, other than that of the elected office I'm seeking to get a NM that works - to have a voice, and a seat at the table. I'm a problem solver.