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Q1

Candidate full name as it will appear on ballot:

Leanna Kay Derrick

Q2

Political Party Affiliation:

Republican

Q3

District #:

19

Q4

How long have you lived in the district you seek to represent?

2.5 years

Q5

Email address:

68sharpie@gmail.com

Q6

Phone number:

5052101460

Q7

No

Have you, or a business you have been associated with, ever been the subject of a tax lien or a bankruptcy proceeding?

Q8

Have you ever been arrested, charged, or convicted of a misdemeanor or felony crime in New Mexico or any other state?

Yes (please explain):

Incident: In 2006, I was arrested but never charged for domestic violence against a family member. I intervened on my former husband abusing my mentally handicapped 7-year-old son with a wood paddle he had made and kept secret. He had been abusing him without my knowledge. I called the police. My ex-husband put a red mark on his own arm and told the police I did it so that he would not be arrested. Instead, I was arrested. I was court ordered to anger management and the charges were dropped. Two years later the father was arrested for severe physical abuse against my son and was indicted by the Grand Jury of New Mexico. He took a plea deal. The situation was devastating for me and my son. We were divorced shortly after. What I learned As a Native American woman, I know that domestic abuse is systemic and many victims are in a cycle of generational abuse to where this behavior is minimized and even rationalized within the family. It took me two more years to have the courage to leave with my 6-month-old son and my 9-year-old son. We were traumatized by this event and struggled with poverty while I tried to get help and support services for my oldest son. I am getting my license to become a chaplain. I know the abuse escalates before a woman can recognize that the abuse and threats are not love. It takes courage for a woman to leave the familiar and determine to survive and to provide for herself and her children. I also know that learning from my past leaves me humbled. For me, I know that God and my relationship with Him gave me the courage to heal and recover from that traumatic time. I, like many women, as a child lived with physical, emotional, and sexual abuse that brought me into relationships that appeared promising but devolved into familiar repeated patterns of violence. We are seeing this pattern of violence, abuse, and neglect happening to our most vulnerable within the Children Youth and Family Department system. Cases are horribly backlogged. There is no guarantee that a child and family can get the support services needed to restore the family unit. Or worse, a child can die within the home. This is horribly backward and we need legislators who will defend our children. Today, our shared child is almost an adult. Time and purposed action to forgive the past and heal our heart and souls in the interest and love for our child is what is most important. Judges, social service workers, and counselors want families to recover. Frank discussion on the issue of domestic violence and available support systems are needed to assist families on the road to emotional, physical, and mental recovery and well-being. Bigger government is not the solution for families. We need solutions accessible within the communities that can

address the bigger problems of violence, drug addiction, and poverty so that we can break the cycle of violence. Incident 1991, age 23, I arrested but not convicted for driving under the influence in Washington state. I was court ordered to a drug and alcohol treatment program. I completed the program. Today, I maintain a lifestyle of no recreational drugs or alcohol as a personal choice to uphold my commitment to actively address my disease of alcoholism and prescription drug addiction as a treatment for pain management following a major car accident in 2002 What I learned: There is a line that divides social and recreational use from alcohol and drug addiction. Addiction is a dependency upon the substance and negatively impacts the individual struggling with the disease. Family members ache with emotional pain and grief while their loved one attempts to get clean and sober. Often these attempts are repeated. Today we have new drugs like fentanyl that are highly addictive and a one-time drug use can result in death. Illegal drugs including heroin, opioids, and methamphetamines and an open border are a deadly combination that threaten the fabric of our society especially the futures of our youth where drugs even moderate drug use is decriminalized and legal.

Q9

What will be your #1 priority and what is your plan of action to address it, if elected?

District 19 is formerly called the war zone due to the high crime. Despite our new name, it is still a zone of high crime which includes human trafficking, sex crimes, and drug tracking. Illegal drug trafficking of fentanyl further compounded by an open border directly affect the citizens in disproportionate numbers. It is an escalating crisis in District 19.

The issue of public safety which includes the homeless encampments affect residents and businessowners. This includes the cost of crime for the hundreds of small business owners along the major streets and families who are experience break-ins and burglary. Business owners must absorb the cost to repair and replace broken windows and doors, additional costs include stolen merchandise and displays and can include replacing intentionally damaged or stolen appliances needed to operate their business. This can cost thousands of dollars per each break in. Repeated crime eats away their profits which is why they are in business in the first place. After enough frustration businesses close their doors.

Moving populations from one area to another only creates a new problem for another community. Displacing our homeless population is not a solution. We must have a combination of workable alternatives that house the homeless with support programs to help families and individuals become productive, responsible, and most importantly become self-supporting citizens capable of maintaining employment to stay off the streets. In addition, men and women must make a personal decision to choose getting employment skills and learn a trade skill to work over government assistance for food and shelter. Deterrents such as penalties and fines for panhandling, loitering, and trespassing must be enforced to the point where the homeless population must adapt or leave to find a new city or face criminal enforcement.

The homeless populations who choose a path toward dignity and self-sufficiency should have some temporary but limited assistance as they are gaining skills.

Q10

Recently, New Mexico has enjoyed record budget surpluses in the \$3.5 billion range. What do you feel is the best use of surplus funds? (Please select and explain your top priority for surplus funds.)

Added to our reserves for the future.,

Other or comments::

My conservatism extends to my financial views on thrift. Surplus funds should be allocated to the greatest area of need. Our children, who are our future of New Mexico, are experiencing illiteracy in reading and failing competency in mathematics. Further spending on government funded programs will not be a timely solution for our students who are struggling in literacy and math beyond 4th grade levels. Instead, we need education reform and more opportunities for families to choose where their children's education is best served. New Mexico is a state abundant in natural resources which include gas and oil from the Permian Basin. Wealth must be reinvested and held in prudent reserve. Currently our state government is spending like there is no tomorrow and that is troubling.

Q11

Do you support or oppose the use of the Gross Receipts Tax system currently in effect?

Oppose (Please explain.)

Q12

Do you support or oppose the current bail system our courts are using?

Oppose (Please explain.),

Other or comments::

The constitutional amendment destroyed the bail bond industry and has resulted in the catch and release of very violent criminals who are capable of cold-blooded murder. We must again amend our New Mexico constitution to set right the bail system and restore a system that will protect the rights of the innocent until proven guilty and hold in custody criminals who must stand for sentencing of their dangerous crime.

Q13

Crime has reached an all-time high in New Mexico. What do you think the state legislature could do to address crime?

Pass legislation, similar to federal laws, with significant mandatory sentencing requirements for certain crimes and repeat offenders.

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Address addictions and other lifestyles that impact criminal behavior.

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Other or comments::

The bail reform system in place is a progressive policy meaning that our legislators want government regulation to correct the problem. Our current house of representatives is a 65% Democratic controlled majority who are primarily self-identified as progressives. Therefore, to change our state constitution the same majority must propose the changes to set right the bail system at our next regular session. To do otherwise is ignore the outcry and pleas from their constituents for relief and a resolution to crime. New Mexico has a shortage of mental health professionals to address the mental health of non-offenders and law-abiding public. Specific measures must be considered to provide services for the incarcerated. This includes using surplus money to include services for education, mental health, and better and safe living conditions for the incarcerated and the paroled to reduce recidivism.

Q14

New Mexico has passed laws that govern employer-employee relations such as increased minimum wage and paid time off among others. There have also been discussions about Paid Family Medical Leave Act (PFMLA), a living wage, and shortened work weeks. If elected, what position will you take on additional regulation of businesses on issues like those mentioned?

I will not support additional government regulations on employer-employee relations.

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Other or comments::

I do not support the PFMLA because it is another tax against small business. The SB3 bill did have protections against fraud and from abuse of the funds. Nor are there measures in place to protect the fund if it becomes depleted. If the concern is keeping money in the pocket of the working tax payer, it is important for the worker to know that the PFMLA will be deducted from the worker's wages. Increasing minimum wage in the food industry will force in businesses to reduce hours and hike food prices. Resulting in fewer people dining out because it becomes too expensive to feed a family of four. Businesses must respond by reducing the number of employees. It is a temporary measure and will stifle creating new food service businesses. If elected to serve in the house minority, I will push for a bi-partisan approach for less regulation on private small business and preserve the economic development for small business enterprise.

Q15

New Mexico's state tax revenue is largely funded by oil and gas producers who operate under some of the most stringent environmental regulations in the country. Do you support or oppose continued oil and gas production in NM?

Support.,

Other or comments::

I do support the oil and gas industry in NM. Members of my family have been commercial truck driver's. I hold a Commercial Driver's License. I am employed by the oil the gas industry as a researcher. NM is the second largest oil producer which has made our state one of the wealthiest, yet our people struggle in so many ways. This has created the surplus which means that our state has a very healthy budget to create new and wonderful opportunities for the people of this state.

Q16

Do you feel that environmental regulations need to be increased or expanded from their current levels regarding New Mexico's land, air, and water?

No; the environmental regulations we currently have in place work well for our state.

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Other or comments::

I oppose stricter environmental regulations for New Mexico when only 1 of 3 countries have legally mandated standards for air quality. Over regulation hurts private enterprise and creates a lockdown on productivity. The increase in regulation reduces economic growth and lowers Americans' incomes. As a member of the Navajo Nation, I can speak personally to the effects of regulations in the Chaco Canyon area and the San Juan Generating station. Imposing stricter regulations has negatively impacted both tribal and non-tribal people of the areas. Jobs are gone and livelihoods are diminished. The people are not allowed to prosper in their communities.

Q17

What is your position on mandatory requirements for state-funded incentives that include pay-back measures if the requirements are not met?

Support.,

Other or comments::

I support mandatory requirement for pay-back measures. I support prudent investment in new enterprise. The incentives were given in good faith in anticipation that the company would be successful and meet production goals. To reduce their risk the Economic Development department established eligibility requirements, benchmarks, and conditions. However, due to unforeseen economic issues and other factors, the business was not viable. The risk was fairly assessed and therefore the funds should be replaced to expand opportunities for another business participate. Longevity of the program and funds availability should be a priority.

Q18

Do you support or oppose changing the constitution and/or laws to require legislative approval for any emergency declaration/order lasting more than 60 days?

Oppose.,

Other or comments::

I oppose any branch of government overriding the state constitution. I oppose any laws that require the legislative approval for any emergency declaration/order lasting more than 60 days. Currently the Democratic party has close to 66% of a supermajority in both chambers. Our NM constitution has no specified protections for the minority members to be heard. This leaves the potential for conservative voices to be silenced by the majority.

Q19

What is your position on abiding by the state constitution?

I support abiding to the state Constitution as written.,

Other or comments::

Our state constitution is the governing document of our state and was established for the good of the people. Without this governing document, the structure of our state government would be left to one individual or groups of individuals to enact their own form of order for individuals and bodies. We would lose our statehood bill of rights which guarantee our freedoms. We would lose the separation of powers and much more to the misdirection of others who hold power by elected office. We must know our U.S. and state constitutional rights, uphold, and protect them or we will lose our constitutional rights and freedoms.

Q20

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

If I elected, I will uphold my oath of office to represent the constituents. I will not be held under any form of a binding contractual agreement to any special interest group.
