



NEW MEXICO BUSINESS COALITION

Q1

Candidate Name:

Stephanie Telles

Q2

For what City Council District are you running?

District 1

Q3

How long have you lived in the District you're running for?

8

Q4

Email address where voters can reach you:

stephanieforabq@gmail.com

Q5

Phone number where voters can reach you:

505-225-8942

Q6

Other Information

Campaign Website

<https://www.stephanieforabq.com/>

Social Media

<https://www.instagram.com/stephanieforabq/>;

<https://www.facebook.com/StephanieForABQ>

Campaign Manager (name & phone)

Tommy Hernandez; 505-604-4554

Q7

If elected, what would be your first priority as a City Councilor?

My first priority will be improving public safety and community stability through investments in prevention, housing, and support for first responders to ensure Albuquerque families feel safe and supported. With my fraud examination and risk management background, I will bring evidence-based accountability to city systems so businesses and residents can trust their government.

Q8

What would you do to streamline permitting and other government red tape in order to attract new business to Albuquerque?

I support a single point-of-contact system, a real-time public dashboard for permit status, and regular roundtables with developers and neighborhoods to cut red tape and improve accountability. My risk management experience ensures these reforms are transparent, fraud-resistant, and predictable for businesses.

Q9

What specifically would you do to reduce crime in ABQ and help ensure citizen safety?

Reducing crime starts with addressing its root causes; more investment into ACS and reclassifying 911 operators as first responders. These steps free police to focus on violent crime while ensuring people in crisis receive the right help quickly and effectively.

Q10

What policies would you enact or repeal to ensure ABQ is more business-friendly?

I support zoning modernization, efficient permitting, and transparency in city contracting. Public-private partnerships should expand housing, childcare, and small business opportunities while ensuring accountability, and I will work with local businesses to help fund initiatives that address workers' needs as well. My fraud prevention expertise ensures these partnerships are transparent and low-risk for taxpayers and investors.

Q11

Regarding the growing homeless situation, what is your plan as a City Councilor to address the needs of this population while better protecting safety of law abiding citizens?

I support a housing first approach by expanding affordable units, utilizing city land for housing, and pairing shelter with behavioral health and job support, while ensuring safety for law-abiding residents. I will also engage local businesses as partners in funding workforce training and services that help unhoused individuals transition into stability and employment. My risk management lens helps ensure these investments are accountable, sustainable, and effective.

Q12

While some say ABQ is immigrant-friendly, in practice it is a 'Sanctuary City'. That designation could cause the loss of some federal funding. Do you support or oppose ABQ's current Sanctuary City Status? Please explain your answer.

Support,

Additional Comments::

Sanctuary policies improve trust, protect local resources, and make us safer. Immigrants are vital to Albuquerque's economy and culture, and I will work with businesses to ensure immigrant workers are treated fairly and included in economic growth. As a fraud examiner, I know trust and stability are essential for safe, thriving economies.

Q13

What measures will you take as Councilor to deal with illegal encampments in the city?

I support a focus on outreach, rapid rehousing, and mental health services, while keeping public spaces safe and accessible for all. Business and community partners will be engaged to support resources that provide long-term solutions, not just temporary fixes. With my background in accountability and oversight, I understand how develop solutions that are measurable, transparent, and fraud-resistant.

Q14

Relating to 2nd Amendment rights, do you support or oppose city ordinances or laws that would outlaw high-capacity magazines and/or certain semi-automatic weapons? Please explain your answer.

I support common-sense safety measures, including restricting high-capacity magazines and military-style weapons, while respecting responsible gun ownership. Public safety must come first so both residents and businesses can thrive in a secure environment. Risk reduction is at the heart of my professional background, and I will apply that same lens to public safety policy.

Q15

Do you support or oppose city mandates regarding employer/employee relations, such as minimum wage, paid time off policies, ...etc? Please explain your answer.

Additional Comments::

I support a true living wage, paid sick leave, and fair workplace policies so businesses thrive through stable, supported workers. I will collaborate with businesses to design policies that balance worker dignity with long-term economic growth. As a fraud examiner and risk management consultant, I know these policies not only improve employee engagement but are also evidence-backed fraud-reducing and risk-management tools that protect businesses and strengthen their bottom line.

Q16

2025 City Council Candidate Survey

Have you ever been arrested for a felony or misdemeanor crime? If yes, please explain.

No, I have never been arrested for a felony or misdemeanor.

Q17

Why are you seeking this office and what makes you the most qualified person to be a City Councilor in this District?

I am running to restore accountability, transparency, and compassion to City Hall. As a mom, caregiver, and educator, I understand the challenges Albuquerque families face every day. As a fraud examiner, risk management expert, and small business owner, I know how to protect taxpayer dollars, reduce waste, and create systems that deliver real results. I will bring both vigilance and innovation to city government so that families, neighborhoods, and businesses can thrive together. Believe Albuquerque's best days are ahead if we govern with integrity and true partnership.
