Q7	
Email address	
vote@johnclark4nm.com	
Q8	
Phone number	
505-362-2230	
Q9	
What are your past political activities (Offices held, candida	ate, volunteer, etc)
I graduated with a Bachelors of Science in Political Science at the University of Northern Colorado. I was a Legislative Intern for Republican Colorado State Senator, Al Meiklejohn. I am a Delegate for the Republican Party, Sandoval County.	
Q10	
Why are you seeking this office?	
I have lived in NM for 26 years, and initially came here because of it's beauty and potential for growing a successful business and to raise a family. I am dismayed by the decline of our state and the national reports of NM on every level. Crime has skyrocketed, the budget is based on unrealistic projections, people and businesses are leaving the state, our education testing scores are horrendous, and our infrastructure is collapsing. I am a life-long Republican, and I aspire to add a much needed Republican Seat to the NM State Senate and end the 90 plus years of Democratic rule and economic failures. We need more conservative business minded people to advocate sound common sense values. We need common sense conservatives in the Senate that will legislate laws that make NM strong and safe, and strengthen small businesses which are the heartbeat of economic growth. I am a proven leader of a successful business, and I believe I can use my expertise and make a difference as a NM State Senator.	
Q11	No
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.	
Q12	No
Have you ever been involved in a personal or business bankruptcy proceeding? If yes, please explain.	
Q13	No
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.	

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?

Surplus tax revenue should be used to build reserve funds

Please explain your answer:

We need to put surplus funds into a savings account for potential economic challenges such as we are currently experiencing with the unprecedented affects of COVID-19.

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:

Until a more effective fair and equitable plan can be developed by both parties that supports merit based distribution of funds, I stand on equally distributing funds for specific projects within districts.

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)

In order for us to be more competitive with neighboring states, and attract more businesses to NM, we need to fix the State Tax Code. One example is the Tax on Labor - we don't need a regressive Tax on Labor, which makes it less cost effective to do business in NM.

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:

Businesses will pay less tax by moving to Sales Tax.

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:

The NM Court system are too soft on criminals, which then produces more repeat crimes.

Q19

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

Oppose,

Please explain your position:

Mandating the use of renewable energy will result in unnecessary higher costs to the residents and businesses of New Mexico.

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:

I support every effort to make energy abundant, efficient and clean in New Mexico.

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)

2

Briefly explain your answer:

The air, water and land in NM should be protected, however, mandating the care of it really depends on the type of regulation imposed - For example, I believe you can effectively frack and keep a clean safe environment for all.

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)

1 (critical)

Please explain your answer:

We need to look at all regulations that affect doing business in New Mexico. Conducting business in NM is already difficult with the regulations in place - no need to overregulate businesses.

Q23

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

Support,

Please explain your answer:

We need to make sure that in a downturn that we have additional money as a back up. Rainy day funds are necessary for unforeseen situations such as we are now experiencing with the COVID-19 Virus.

Q24

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

Oppose,

Comments:

Employee benefits should be an incentive to work for a company or business, not an entitlement.

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:

The market should determine the wages, otherwise when the market is down, businesses close.

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)

All people should have the opportunity to get an education, however, education is relative to the individual. We need to offer education for both higher learning and technical and trade related degrees, and both are essential to keep NM economically viable.

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)

It emboldens accountability of businesses receiving the incentives.

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?

Yes,

Please explain your answer:

This would encourage the Federal Government to balance the budget and bring into accountability those who make policy.

Q29

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

It would be a great honor to serve the citizens of New Mexico, echo their voice and represent the core values that make a state strong and safe.