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STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

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For Immediate Release:

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PRESS RELEASE

State Ethics Commission files motion for preliminary injunction against The New Mexico Project to enforce disclosure provisions of the Campaign Reporting Act

The Commission asks the court to compel TNMP to register as a political committee with the secretary of state and to file reports of its contributions and expenditures ahead of the 2024 general election

Albuquerque, NM, June 25, 2024 – The State Ethics Commission filed a motion for preliminary injunction against The New Mexico Project ("TNMP") and Jeff Apodaca to enforce the disclosure provisions of the Campaign Reporting Act ("CRA"). The Commission filed this motion to ensure that New Mexican voters have access to information on who is funding independent expenditures that seek to influence their votes before the upcoming general election in November.

The CRA requires political committees like TNMP to disclose their expenditures and contributions. It also requires persons who have made aggregate independent expenditures in excess of \$1,000 dollars in a non-statewide election to disclose to whom those expenditures were made and the source of the contributions that funded the expenditures. On May 24, the Commission filed suit against TNMP and Apodaca to enforce these disclosure requirements. To date, TNMP has not

complied, and Apodaca has indicated that the organization plans to continue making independent expenditures without the required reporting. Consequently, the Commission has applied for an injunction to compel TNMP's disclosures.

Click here to read: The Commission's Motion for Preliminary Injunction

Through this lawsuit, the Commission aims to provide New Mexico voters with the transparency the law requires, vindicating New Mexicans' right to know who funds advertisements seeking to influence their votes. Since its inception, the Commission has brought similar action to enforce the CRA's disclosure provisions, irrespective of any defendant's political or policy positions.

<u>Click here to read</u>: The State Ethics Commission settles Campaign Reporting Act lawsuit with the Working Families Organization, Inc.

<u>Click here to read</u>: The State Ethics Commission settles with New Mexico Value PAC for Campaign Reporting Act violations

<u>Click here to read</u>: The State Ethics Commission settles lawsuit with the Council for a Competitive New Mexico

<u>Click here to read</u>: Committee to Protect New Mexico Consumers agrees to disclose over \$264,000 in expenditures supporting PRC ballot question

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."

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