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STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

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PRESS RELEASE

District Court Judge Orders The New Mexico Project to Register as a Political Committee and Disclose its Vendors and Contributors

Albuquerque, NM, August 28, 2024 – The Honorable Joshua A. Allison, District Court Judge, has granted in part the State Ethics Commission’s Motion for Preliminary Injunction, ordering TNMP, Inc. (“The New Mexico Project”) to register as a political committee with the Secretary of State and report information about its contributions and expenditures, as required by the Campaign Reporting Act (“CRA”). The Court separately denied Defendants’ request that the Court stop the Commission’s enforcement action against The New Mexico Project and Mr. Apodaca.

The order granting the Commission’s motion for a preliminary injunction requires The New Mexico Project to take several steps to comply with the CRA:

1. Registration and Filing Fee: **No later than September 4, 2024**, TNMP is required to comply with the provisions of NMSA 1978, Sections 1-19-26(A), (B), and (C) (2021), including filing the necessary statement of organization with the Secretary of State and paying the associated filing fee.
2. Reporting Requirements: TNMP must fulfill the provisions of NMSA 1978, Sections 1-19-29 (2019) and 1-19-31 (2019) **no later than September 9, 2024**, for all previous months not reported in which TNMP was in existence. This includes disclosing all expenditures made and contributions received on

or before September 2, 2024. TNMP is further required to comply with ongoing reporting obligations as outlined in Section 1-19-29.

Additionally, the Court denied TNMP, Inc. and Jeff Apodaca’s Verified Motion for Preliminary Injunction. Summarizing its reasons set forth in its order granting the Commission’s motion, the Court concluded that: (1) the Commission is authorized by the CRA to seek injunctive relief in District Court against TNMP without first engaging in any administrative processes before the Commission; (2) the Court possesses jurisdiction over the parties and the subject matter; and (3) TNMP and Mr. Apodaca have been afforded procedural due process.

To read the Court’s Order Granting In Part the State Ethics Commission’s Motion for Preliminary Injunction, read [here](#).

To read the Court’s Order Denying TNMP, Inc. and Jeff Apodaca’s Verified Motion for Preliminary Injunction, read [here](#).

“The State Ethics Commission is committed to ensuring transparency in New Mexico’s political process,” said Jeremy Farris, Executive Director of the State Ethics Commission. “The Court’s ruling underscores the importance of New Mexico’s campaign finance laws. New Mexicans have a right to know who is spending money to influence their votes. The Commission will continue to work so that the public’s right is realized.”

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, visit www.sec.nm.gov.