

## STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

Hon. William F. Lang, Chair Jeffrey L. Baker, Member Stuart M. Bluestone, Member Hon. Celia Castillo, Member Hon. Dr. Terry McMillan, Member Ronald Solimon, Member Dr. Judy Villanueva, Member

## **RESOLUTION NO. 2024-06** Authorizing a demand and civil action to enforce the Campaign Reporting Act

WHEREAS, THE NEW MEXICO STATE ETHICS COMMISSION ("Commission") met virtually on May 24, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.;

WHEREAS, the Commission has the authority to investigate violations and bring a civil action to enforce the Campaign Reporting Act, NMSA 1978, §§ 1-19-25 to - 37 (1979, as amended through 2024);

WHEREAS, the Commission has reason to believe that The New Mexico Project (which upon information and belief is TNMP, a domestic nonprofit corporation doing business as "The New Mexico Project") violated either the Campaign Reporting Act's filing and disclosure requirements for political committees, as set forth in NMSA 1978, Section 1-19-31, or, alternatively, the Campaign Reporting Act's disclosure requirements for independent-expenditure makers, as set forth in NMSA 1978, Section 1-19-27.3; WHEREAS, the Commission alternatively has reason to believe that Jeff Apodaca violated the Campaign Reporting Act's disclosure requirements for independent-expenditure makers, as set forth in NMSA 1978, Section 1-19-27.3;

WHEREAS, the Executive Director has sought the approval of the Commission to initiate a civil action under NMSA 1978, Sections 1-19-34.6, and 10-16G-9(F) against The New Mexico Project and TNMP (which upon information and belief is the same thing), and has explained the proposed civil action and remedies to be sought;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the New Mexico State Ethics Commission:

1. The Commission's attorney staff are authorized to demand that The New Mexico Project and Jeff Apodaca comply with the Campaign Reporting Act and to voluntarily remedy its violations of the same and to prepare and file a civil action in a court of competent jurisdiction seeking to enforce the civil compliance provisions of the Campaign Reporting Act and any other relief that court deems just and proper.

2. If Commission staff file a lawsuit against The New Mexico Project, TNMP, or Jeff Apodaca, the Executive Director is instructed to provide regular updates on the status of the suit at the Commission's meetings during closed session. Commission staff shall communicate with the Chair as necessary between Commission meetings.

4. The Executive Director is authorized to enter an agreement to settle or dismiss claims brought against The New Mexico Project, TNMP, Jeff Apodaca, or any other other person, upon having conferred with the Chair or his designee.

Adopted by the New Mexico State Ethics Commission this 24th day of May 2024.

The Hon. William F. Lang New Mexico State Ethics Commission Chair