

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 12, 2017

Contact: Joey Keefe (505) 469-2783

Secretary of State Toulouse Oliver Marks One-Year Anniversary in Office

SANTA FE – It's been one year since New Mexico Secretary of State Maggie Toulouse Oliver's first day on the job. Secretary of State Toulouse Oliver was elected on November 8, 2016, to fill the unexpired term of former Secretary of State Dianna Duran who resigned from the office.

"I am even more committed to restoring transparency and accountability to New Mexico's government as I was my first day on the job," said Secretary Toulouse Oliver. "While I am proud of what we have been able to achieve so far, the work is far from finished. I will continue working to improve and modernize our elections, eliminate dark money from politics, and make it easier for New Mexicans to start and grow their businesses."

Since taking office a year ago, Secretary Toulouse Oliver has accomplished many of the goals she outlined during her campaign:

Secretary Toulouse Oliver took a major step toward exposing dark money in New Mexico politics when she adopted [a new campaign finance rule](#) that is bringing much-needed guidance to New Mexico's outdated campaign finance system and providing voters with more information as to who is spending money to influence their voting decisions and how much is being spent. Secretary Toulouse Oliver has said that, "the rule will help to shine a light on the dark money that has been plaguing our state's campaigns." The final version of the rule was adopted in October following a robust public comment process that included four public hearings and hundreds of public comments.

Secretary Toulouse Oliver has cracked down on campaign violations by enforcing legally-binding arbitration orders against candidates, political parties and political action committees who have not paid their fees and chose to arbitrate instead. She is also in the process of enforcing campaign finance violations that have occurred in the past year. Throughout this process Secretary Toulouse Oliver has remained committed to educating candidates, political parties and political action committees so they can voluntarily comply with campaign finance regulations and avoid violations in the first place.

Keeping her promise to make state government more transparent, Secretary Toulouse Oliver posted the financial disclosure statements of public officials dating back five years [on her office's website](#), which are searchable by name and year. Future financial disclosure statements will be added to the website when they are submitted, and Secretary Toulouse Oliver plans to update the forms with the goal of improving the quality of information

collected. “By making the financial dealings of public officials more accessible, we give taxpayers the power to hold government leaders accountable,” said Secretary Toulouse Oliver.

Secretary Toulouse Oliver protected the rights of every voter in our State when she denied two separate requests for the personally-identifiable information of New Mexico’s voters from U.S. President Donald Trump’s Advisory Commission on Election Integrity. On denying the two requests, Secretary Toulouse Oliver said, “As New Mexico’s Chief Election Official, I will continue to ensure the integrity of our elections while protecting the voting rights and personal privacy of our voters.”

Secretary Toulouse Oliver is working to eliminate sexual harassment from the Roundhouse. As part of this, registered lobbyists will now be provided access to draft policies and avenues for voluntary trainings to combat these types of abuse. Secretary Toulouse Oliver will also push the legislature to require mandatory sexual harassment training for all lobbyists. These are first steps in Secretary Toulouse Oliver’s efforts to ensure that all New Mexicans feel safe in their workplace.

Secretary Toulouse Oliver entered into a partnership with Family Friendly New Mexico to promote family-friendly policies for all New Mexico businesses-including paid sick leave and flexible hours. Secretary Toulouse Oliver will be expanding on that partnership this month by providing business owners with information on how to implement their own family-friendly policies. The goal is to encourage New Mexico-based companies to improve their employees’ quality of life by helping them balance their responsibilities at the workplace and at home.

Secretary Toulouse Oliver convened the first-ever meeting of the Native American Voting Task Force. The task force, composed of leaders from New Mexico’s major tribes and pueblos, is charged with providing guidance and recommendations to Secretary Toulouse Oliver on policies that will improve voter registration, voter education, and election participation in Native communities.

#

Follow Secretary Toulouse Oliver on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).