SANTA FE COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 13, 2023

County Clerk Katharine E. Clark Talks Turnout, Mail-In Ballots

Santa Fe - Santa Fe County Clerk, Katharine E. Clark, is pleased to announce that the clerk's office has already processed nearly 4000 mail-in ballot requests as the Regular Local Election approaches. "These numbers are much higher than expected;" explained Clerk Clark, "after we sent out a mailing last week, voters are starting to wake up."

In response to this enthusiasm, the office reintroduced the <u>turnout tracker</u>, which updates in real-time, available on the Clerk's elections website, <u>SantaFe.vote</u>. As of 5 pm Thursday, 383 voters have already voted early in person. Clark expects this number to grow exponentially in the coming weeks as more sites open up throughout the county and voters begin to mail in their ballots.

"Our community's commitment to the democratic process is truly commendable," County Clerk Katharine E. Clark remarked. "We are dedicated to ensuring every eligible voter can make a plan and safely participate in our elections."

Voters have until October 24th to request a mailed ballot, and Clerk Clark emphasized that voters should submit their requests online at the <u>Secretary of State's online portal</u> to ensure they receive their ballots on time. Clark explained, "If a voter requests an absentee application over the mail, we cannot guarantee we'll receive back it before the October 24th deadline. There is, however, still plenty of time for voters to request online."

Voters can also call the Clerk's Office at 505-986-6280 and staff can assist them through the online application.

For further information and media inquiries, please contact: Mitchell Steven Cox, Voter Outreach Coordinator at 505-992-9858 or <u>mcox@santafecountynm.gov</u>