

SANTA FE COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Santa Fe – November 15, 2024

Santa Fe County Certifies 2024 General Election Results Unanimously

The Santa Fe County Board of County Commissioners, acting as the County Canvassing Board, has unanimously certified the 2024 General Election results at the county level. This certification confirms that every valid ballot cast within Santa Fe County has been accurately recorded and counted.

The county certification marks the first step in the comprehensive election certification process, with the state canvass and post-election audits still to come.

“This certification reflects the incredible dedication of our entire team,” said Santa Fe County Clerk Katharine E. Clark. “I joined my team in staying up until nearly 2 a.m. to ensure every tally was counted. I want to thank all of our voters, our county support teams, our poll officials, and my amazing, hardworking staff who made this possible. Your efforts ensured that every vote truly counts.”

This year's election saw an extraordinary **threefold increase in hand-tally ballots**, driven by significant interest from UOCAVA (Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act) voters. Santa Fe County's election team worked tirelessly to process and count this unprecedented volume accurately and on time.

Additionally, Santa Fe County successfully cured **more than half of the 197 rejected ballots** through proactive outreach. In some cases, staff went door-to-door to assist voters, ensuring their voices were heard.

“Our strategic voter engagement efforts were not just about encouraging turnout but also about protecting every voter's right to have their ballot counted,” said Clerk Clark. “From assisting voters in curing rejected ballots to managing the surge in hand-tally votes, this team went above and beyond.”

Santa Fe County achieved a **voter turnout of over 74%**, far surpassing the state average of 67%. A critical factor in this success was the county's **strategic voter turnout campaign**, which encouraged early and absentee voting. As a result, **more than 78% of voters cast their ballots early or by absentee**, reducing Election Day wait times and ensuring smooth operations.

Innovative voter engagement initiatives also contributed to this success:

- **#KidsVote Initiative:** Children had the opportunity to "vote" at select voting sites using real tabulators, fostering civic engagement and family participation.
- **#PawsAtThePolls Partnership:** Early voting sites hosted pet adoption events in collaboration with Española Humane Society, creating a welcoming and community-oriented voting experience.

“This year's election was truly a community effort,” Clerk Clark added. “The enthusiasm and determination of our voters, combined with the hard work of our team, set a new standard for elections in Santa Fe County.”

For more information, please contact **Mitchell Cox, Voter Outreach Coordinator** at mcox@santafecountynm.gov or **505-992-9858**.

