

# SANTA FE COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE

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**Santa Fe – July 29, 2024**

### **Santa Fe County Clerk's Office Celebrates National Poll Worker Recruitment Day on August 1st**

Thursday, August 1st is National Poll Worker Recruitment Day, a nationwide initiative aimed at encouraging citizens to volunteer as poll workers for upcoming elections. This day emphasizes the crucial role poll workers play in ensuring free and fair elections, and it seeks to bolster the ranks of these essential volunteers.

In celebration of National Poll Worker Recruitment Day, the Santa Fe County Clerk's Office is highlighting the success of its Election Worker Mentorship and Debrief Program.

In addition to several other awards, the Santa Fe County Clerk's Office has received an honorable mention from the U.S. Election Assistance Commission's (EAC) 2023 'Clearie' Awards. This recognition highlights the office's efforts to improve the poll worker experience and increase retention.

Since taking office in 2021, Clerk Clark has been dedicated to advancing the county's election systems, even amid the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. Her innovative approaches have focused on ensuring a seamless and efficient election process for both voters and poll workers. Clark recently discussed these efforts [in an in-depth interview](#) with EAC commissioner Donald Palmer.

#### **Debriefing Program Enhances Training and Feedback**

A cornerstone of Clark's strategy is the implementation of a debriefing program for election workers. This program enables poll workers to share their experiences and provide constructive feedback, which is then used to make improvements. "Meeting with our presiding judges and election judges in person allows us to gather invaluable insights through detailed questionnaires and conversations," said Clerk Clark. "These insights help us refine our processes and enhance the overall election experience."

#### **Mentorship Program for New Presiding Judges**

To support and retain new poll workers and as a response to feedback, the office has introduced a mentorship program. This initiative pairs new presiding judges with experienced veterans, offering hands-on training and support. "By learning directly from seasoned judges, new recruits gain confidence and competence," explained Clark. "This mentorship not only empowers them for future elections but also helps us retain knowledgeable and experienced poll workers."

#### **Continuous Recruitment and Community Engagement**

The Clerk's Office actively recruits new poll workers throughout the year. Utilizing community events, social media, and media outreach, the office ensures a steady flow of workers. "Serving as a poll worker is a crucial way to support our community and democracy," emphasized Clerk Clark. "We are always looking for ways to engage with the public and encourage participation in this vital civic duty."

#### **Join the Effort to Support Fair Elections**

As National Poll Worker Recruitment Day approaches, Clerk Clark encourages community members to consider becoming poll workers. "Poll workers are essential to the success of our elections," she said. "We invite everyone interested to learn more and sign up by visiting [SantaFe.vote](https://SantaFe.vote)."

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For more information, contact Mitchell Cox, the Voter Outreach Coordinator for the Clerk's office at [mcox@santafecountynm.gov](mailto:mcox@santafecountynm.gov) or 505-992-9858