

SANTA FE COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Santa Fe County Clerk's Office Completes Post-Election Audit; State Certification Confirms Accuracy of 2025 Regular Local Election Results

Santa Fe, NM — The Santa Fe County Clerk's Office has successfully completed every required post-election procedure for the 2025 Regular Local Election, including the county canvass, state certification, and this week's full hand tally audit of randomly selected precincts. These checks confirm what voters expect and deserve: accurate, secure, and professionally run elections in Santa Fe County.

"Santa Fe County continues to demonstrate what strong election administration looks like," said Clerk Katharine E. Clark. "Our team follows every safeguard built into New Mexico law, and this year we built even more capacity by training staff in best practices so they can confidently carry forward these duties in future elections."

Post-Election Audit Completed

This week, Clerk Clark led Santa Fe County's required post-election audit, in which randomly selected precincts are hand-tallied to verify the accuracy of the voting machines.

- Every polling site except one was opened and hand-tallied as part of the audit.
- Results matched the machine tabulations, confirming the accuracy of the vote count.
- The Clerk's Office used custom hand-tallying software designed by Clerk Clark to add an additional layer of quality control, improving speed, organization, and reliability.

Clerk Clark also trained her team throughout the process so they can independently conduct audit procedures going forward. This effort supports the office's long-term succession planning and commitment to professional excellence. Clerk Clark is one of only three people in New Mexico to earn a national Certified Elections/Registration Administrator (CERA) credential, the highest professional certification available to election administrators in the United States. She has also received specialized training in risk-limiting audits.

State Certification Confirms County's Accurate Work

Following Santa Fe County's certification of results, the Secretary of State's Office conducted the statewide canvass—step two of New Mexico's multi-layered verification process. The State

Canvassing Board (Governor, Secretary of State, and Chief Justice of the NM Supreme Court) formally certified the election results on November 25.

This certification confirms that all county canvasses were completed properly, all results were accurate, and no recounts were required in Santa Fe County.

Observer Report Confirms Well-Run Election

Independent observers noted that Santa Fe County's election was well administered—from polling locations closing on time, to a smooth and easily observable absentee ballot process. Their preliminary report reinforces that Santa Fe County followed state law and best practices throughout Election Day and the post-election process.

Misinformation continues to be a challenge nationwide, but we appreciate the work of nonpartisan observation groups whose efforts help promote transparency and provide voters with accurate information about how elections are run in New Mexico.

Transparency, Accuracy, and Innovation

Santa Fe County continues to be recognized statewide for its strong election processes. From pre-election logic & accuracy testing, to chain-of-custody protections, to post-election audits and checks, the County maintains one of the most transparent and accountable election systems in New Mexico.

“Our voters deserve elections that are accurate, fair, and fully verifiable,” Clerk Clark said. “This year showed once again that Santa Fe County is doing this work extremely well, and we’re always improving.”

For more information on Santa Fe County elections, visit SantaFe.vote or contact the Clerk's Office at elections@santafecountynm.gov.

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