SANTA FE COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Santa Fe and San Juan County Clerks Achieve Prestigious National Election Administration Certification

Santa Fe County, NM — Santa Fe County Clerk Katharine E. Clark and San Juan County Clerk Alyssa Kuhn have both earned the designation of Certified Elections/Registration Administrator (CERA), the highest professional achievement for election officials in the United States. They are currently the only two sitting county clerks in New Mexico to hold this nationally recognized "gold standard" certification.

The CERA designation is awarded by the National Association of Election Officials, also known as the Election Center, upon completion of a rigorous multi-year program taught by Auburn University's Master of Public Administration faculty through the Institute of Election Administration Research & Practice. The program is designed to strengthen the professional management of elections and preserve public trust in the democratic process.

"This program represents years of commitment to advancing the practice of election administration," said Clerk Clark. "It is an honor to join colleagues across the country in setting the highest standard for secure, transparent, and accessible elections in New Mexico."

Tammy Patrick, Chief Program Officer for the Election Center, has described the certification as a milestone to be lauded and celebrated. With this graduating class, there are now more than 1,600 election professionals nationwide who have achieved the CERA designation.

Clark and Kuhn are to be recognized during the 40th Annual National Conference of the Election Center in Salt Lake City, Utah. Their achievement reflects years of coursework, professional development, and hands-on leadership experience in elections.

Katharine E. Clark has served as Santa Fe County Clerk since 2021, overseeing election administration, records management, and public engagement initiatives for one of New Mexico's largest and most diverse counties. Alyssa Kuhn serves as San Juan County Clerk, bringing extensive experience in election operations to her office.

This shared accomplishment underscores New Mexico's dedication to professional excellence in election administration and the ongoing work of local election officials to uphold public confidence in free and fair elections.

For Media Inquiries:
Margaret Gouws
Voter Outreach Coordinator
megillett@santafecountynm.gov
505-992-9858