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For Immediate Release

New Mexico Libertarians Vote in Primary for First Time

ALBUQUERQUE, NM, June 5, 2018 – For the first time, New Mexico Libertarians today are voting in a primary election, thanks to their party having gained <u>major party status</u> in the state earlier this year. While all the party's candidates are running unopposed, chairperson Chris Luchini hopes Libertarians nonetheless will participate in the primary process by marking a ballot.

"This is a historic day in New Mexico politics," Luchini said. "Libertarians have earned their seat at the table, and we urge all registered Libertarians to get out the vote today to send the message that we intend to put our party's principles forward as the best way to end partisan gridlock and make real progress at solving New Mexico's problems for the benefit of all our fellow citizens."

Record numbers of voters have joined the Libertarian Party of New Mexico since former governor Gary Johnson's failed presidential bid in 2016. That campaign captured the imagination of New Mexicans, and more than 5,000 voters have changed their registration to Libertarian over the ensuing months.

"Registered Libertarian voters now number more than 8,000 in the state, with more registering every day," Luchini said. "Our party now holds one percent of voter registrations in the state, and we expect to reach five percent within the next year or two."

Eight candidates filed the required petitions for state or federal office and subsequently were nominated by the Libertarian Party's membership in convention in March. In addition, four candidates are running for local office in Los Alamos and Chaves counties. Two candidates later filed petitions as write-in candidates for governor and lieutenant governor.

The candidates running for office as Libertarians are:

Bob Walsh, Governor (write-in)
Robin L. Dunn, Lieutenant Governor (write-in)
Aubrey Dunn, U.S. Senate
Lloyd Princeton, U.S. Representative District 1
Chris Manning, U.S. Representative District 3
A. Blair Dunn, New Mexico Attorney General
Sandra Jeff, New Mexico Secretary of State
Michael Lucero, New Mexico Land Commissioner
Carl "Marty" Swinney, New Mexico House District 59
Mayna Myers, Chaves County Division 2 Magistrate Judge
Helen Milenski, Los Alamos County Council
Chris Luchini, Los Alamos County Sheriff
James E. Rickman, Los Alamos Magistrate

For more information about the Libertarian Party of New Mexico, visit its website: http://www.lpnm.us.

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