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Monthly Newsletter

YOUR SOURCE FOR COMMUNITY INFORMATION

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DO I HAVE RIGHTS OR PROTECTIONS AS A VOTER?

According to the New Mexico Secretary of State's website, every voter in "the land of enchantment" enjoys a variety of rights and protections. According to state law, every voter has a right to:

- Be treated with respect by election officials
- Vote free from intimidation by election officials or any other person
- Vote in private
- Be assisted by a person of your choice if you are disabled OR need help reading or marking the ballot - you may not receive assistance from your employer or an agent of your employer, an officer or agent of your union, or a candidate on the ballot for this election
- Inspect a sample ballot before voting
- Ask for and receive instructions on how to operate the voting machine or mark a paper ballot
- Vote by emergency paper ballot if the voting machine is broken
- Ask for and receive and vote another paper ballot if your paper ballot is spoiled or defective
- Ask for and receive instructions on how to cast a provisional ballot if:
 - your name is not on the list of eligible voters, OR
 - you are required to provide identification and did not bring it to the polls
- Vote a provisional ballot if you registered by mail for the first time in this county and did not provide identification when you registered, AND you do not have identification with you on the day you vote
- If you did not provide identification when you registered by mail for the first time in this county, you may vote on the voting machine the day of the election IF you provide:
 - a current address in this county, AND a current and valid photo ID, utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document that shows your name and address
- Information regarding how to determine if your provisional vote was counted
- Cast a ballot if you are in line to vote when the polls close
- Election crimes that are subject to prosecution include: false voting, false swearing, double voting, bribery, coercion, intimidation, and obstructing or disturbing the polling place.



By Krausotkin (derivative), Gage Skidmore (Donald Trump), Gage Skidmore (Hillary Clinton)

ANALYSIS: HILLARY & TRUMP ON IMMIGRATION

In the 2016 election, the two main candidates for president couldn't possibly have more different platforms on the issues that are directly affecting millions of Latin@ families currently living in the U.S, such as immigration.

The following analysis presents a list of facts directly taken from Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump's campaign websites. The goal for our analysis is to provide comprehensive information to keep you informed on national politics.

Immigration has taken a central spot for both candidates' campaigns. The reality is that more than 11 million people and their families in our country are in need of immigration reform that can bring a viable solution and that will keep our families safe.

When it comes to immigration reform, the candidate for the Republican party, Donald Trump, has established the idea of "building an impenetrable wall along the southern border", and that according to him, "Mexico will pay for the wall." The New York realtor has also laid out an immigration plan that will "suspend the issuance of visas to any place where adequate screening cannot occur", affecting millions of people that come to our country looking for refuge.

On the other hand, on the same issues, the initiatives by former Secretary of State– Hillary Clinton– present another perspective. According to her website, the Democrat highlights her commitment to introducing, within her first 100 days in office, "legislation to reform the current immigration system". The candidate

also makes it clear that her administration would be devoted to "fixing the family visa backlog" without forgetting about national security that would focus on "protecting our borders".

DACA, the executive action that is currently providing protection from deportation to hundred of thousands of young people in our country, is something also on both candidates' radars. Clinton describes in her plan that she will "protect the executive actions from any partisan attacks". She also states that she "won't stop fighting until we see it [DAPA] through". On Trump's side, his plan is presented in a very clear and direct way. His campaign states that he will "immediately terminate the executive actions by President Obama", because according to him, "Anyone who enters the U.S. illegally is subject to deportation".

With the differences presented between both candidates, it is our job as a community to inform ourselves and then choose the candidate that we feel best reflects our values. Remember that these elections are about fighting to leave a better country for our children. This is an opportunity for our community to take a strong position against hate, bigotry, anti-immigrant sentiment, and the xenophobia that we are seeing in the political environment

Are you eligible to vote but haven't registered yet? Don't wait anymore, come to our offices at 714 4th St. SW, Monday through Thursday, between 12 pm - 7 pm and we will assist you to register before the deadline on October 11th (so you can vote on November 8th) as part of our "My Vote Counts" campaign.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

WAGETHEFT WORKSHOPS

WHEN: Call (505) 246-1627 for more information
 WHERE: 714 4th St SW 87102
 DESCRIPTION: Attend these free workshops if you think you've been a victim of wage theft and/or discrimination, and want to learn about your rights and options. Visit our website www.elcentronm.org for more information.

VOTER REGISTRATION - EL CENTRO

WHEN: Monday thru Thursday, 12 pm - 7 pm; until October 11th.
 WHERE: 714 4th St. SW 87102
 DESCRIPTION: Are you eligible to vote, or know someone who is but hasn't registered yet? We can help you at El CENTRO. Remember, your vote counts!

TRAININGS - DEFENSOR@S DE FAMILIAS

WHEN: Saturdays, October 8, 15, 22 and 29
 9 am - 1 pm
 WHERE: 714 4th St. SW 87102
 DESCRIPTION: Join us and learn how you can support our communities by teaching them about their rights with the police and immigration, as well as to defend or change policies that benefit and protect our families. For more information call (505) 246-1627.

BARACUTANGA - CONCERT & FUNDRAISER

WHEN: Friday, October 14th
 WHERE: Sister Bar - 9:30 am to 1:30 am
 DESCRIPTION: Come and enjoy some good music and help El CENTRO raise funds to continue our fight for the respect and dignity for our families. For more information visit our Facebook page.

DEFENSOR@S DE FAMILIAS / ANTI-RACISM WORKSHOP

WHEN: Saturday, October 15th
 @ 9 am - 1 pm
 WHERE 714 4th St. SW 87102
 DESCRIPTION: This is an introductory workshop on the history and influence that racism has on our society. Develop a critical analysis about hate and oppression ideologies that are part of the foundation of the U.S. *There's childcare available. Visit our website www.elcentronm.org to register.

COMMUNITY DIALOGUES - ENCUENTRO

WHEN: October 19 and 20 - Hours: Call for information.
 WHERE: 714 4th St. SW 87106
 DESCRIPTION: These dialogues offer you direct access to information on the opportunities and resources around our community. For more information call (505) 247-2920.

CLÍNICAS GRATUITAS - DACA2012

WHEN: October 5, 12, 19 and 26
 1 pm - 5 pm
 WHERE: (El CENTRO) 714 4th St. SW 87102
 DESCRIPTION: The New Mexico Immigrant Law Center invites you to their Free Workshops to learn more about DACA 2012, to find out if you are eligible, where you will receive help filling out your application and you'll have a chance to speak with a lawyer about your DACA case. (Appointment is not necessary).

JUST A SMALL BUMP IN THE ROAD TO OCTOBER 2017

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M.– Within 60 days– the Healthy Workforce ABQ Coalition, of which El CENTRO is a member, made thousands of calls were made, thousands of door to door interactions happened, and over 28 thousand signatures were collected from voters for the Healthy Workforce ABQ initiative.

The community following the rules in our democratic system does not always indicate that politicians will follow suit and support working families. In this occasion, keeping Business Associations and Chambers of Commerce happy got in the way of establishing a platform that would improve the health of all workers in Albuquerque and that will make our local economy thrive.

Healthy Workforce ABQ, which seeks to provide Earned Sick Days, followed every single step in the necessary process to put this great benefit up for a vote before Albuquerque residents during the upcoming November election.

On Sept. 8th, the Bernalillo County Commission had the opportunity to work for the well-being of the working families in our city. Unfortunately the initiative that deserved to be put up for vote in November was denied its space on the ballot. The coalition challenged this decision before the New Mexico Second Judicial District Court presided over by Judge Alan Malott. The court upheld the decision by the Commission to not require the introduction of the proposed ordinance on the ballot in November and to require the entire

OPINION: AN OPPORTUNITY... WITH CAUTION

In case you haven't heard, currently there are conversations about an initiative to inaugurate an Office of Immigrant and Refugee Affairs right here in Albuquerque.

Establishing a central office in collaboration with the city's administration, that could bring information services about immigration and services for refugees, could represent an amazing opportunity for collaboration between our community and elected officials to advance the rights of our immigrant and refugee communities.

At the same time, this opportunity raises some concerns due to the history of the elected official involved in the proposed office.

We are cautious due to Mayor Richard Berry's past positions and actions taken on immigration issues– the same positions that helped him win his seat as our city's mayor.

During his 2008 campaign, Berry's platform was clearly anti-immigrant. His main tactic was to point a finger at our immigrant communities and using us as scapegoats to explain criminal activity in Albuquerque. His main issue was to dismantle "Sanctuary Cities" policies which limited the cooperation between police and ICE. In a historic moment, after nearly 30 years without a Republican mayor, Richard Berry

text of the initiative to be placed on the ballot. These two arguments were the same used by the Commission to deny a place for Healthy Workforce ABQ on the November ballot.

Although the decision seems to cloud our panorama, Judge Malott's decision made it clear that Albuquerque residents have the right to vote on the issue of Earned Sick Days on the October 2017 election.

The attempt to silence our community by the politicians who continue to play with the well-being of our families failed!

Now, we have an entire year to reach out to the more than 28 thousand people who have already shown their support for the initiative. It gives us time to inform our families, in an even more detailed way, about the need and benefits of having Earned Sick Days. Our movement for the rights of all workers in Albuquerque does not stop, on the contrary, it has been recharged and will come back stronger to make sure our voices are heard.

If you want to learn about more opportunities to get involved in the campaign for Earned Sick Days with El CENTRO, follow us in Facebook, on Twitter: @elcentro_nm or visit our website www.elcentronm.org and become a member. You can also call us at (505) 246-1627 and we will be able to guide you to upcoming opportunities to join our fight for change for our communities.

was elected into our city's office by getting 44% of the popular vote.

Once in power, Mayor Berry expanded the program known as S-Comm (Secure Communities). S-Comm is a program in which Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) relied on the criminal justice system to identify immigrants with the sole objective of deporting our immigrant community. This program caused a huge wave of deportations. This wave caused the separation of hundred of families and it brought about a feeling of mistrust with law enforcement due to the fear in our community of deportation.

Since the program's implementation, El CENTRO and allies fought tirelessly to dismantle the program in our city and around the country.

Although we believe in creating a space to benefit thousands of immigrant and refugee families in Albuquerque, we want to be clear that Mayor Berry needs to earn the trust of our communities due to the suffering and trauma his policies caused. This is the only way that our families can progress towards a reconciliation and can strengthen our ties with the political institution of our city. Look for opportunities in the near future to get involved in this process!