

Secretary of State Maggie Toulouse Oliver Announces New Staff

SANTA FE – New Mexico Secretary of State Maggie Toulouse Oliver today announces two additional staff who are joining her in the Office of the Secretary of State. John Blair joins the Office as the Deputy Secretary of State and Theresa Chavez-Romero as the Secretary’s Executive Assistant.

“As I begin my work to restore trust in the Secretary of State’s office and increase transparency and accountability in our elections, I’m grateful to have John and Theresa’s experience and leadership on my team,” said Secretary Toulouse Oliver. “John and Theresa will be a great compliment to the already strong team working in the Secretary of State’s office.”

Below is additional information on both employees:

John Blair

Born and raised in New Mexico, John Blair was most recently the Director of Intergovernmental & External Affairs in the Office of the Secretary at the U.S. Department of the Interior, and the Legislative Director and Communications Director for then-U.S. Congressman Martin Heinrich.

Prior to that, John was the New Mexico Political Director for President Obama's 2008 campaign, Chief of Staff to then-New Mexico State Auditor Hector Balderas and a Law Clerk for New Mexico Supreme Court Justice Edward L. Chavez. He received a bachelor’s degree from the University of Kansas and a juris doctorate from the University of New Mexico School of Law.

Theresa Chavez-Romero

An Albuquerque native, Theresa Chavez-Romero attended Valley High School in the heart of the North Valley and received her AAS degree in Secretarial Studies from the Central New Mexico Community College (formerly T-VI). Her administrative career includes work at Sandia National Labs, in the private sector, with numerous small businesses in Albuquerque, to local government and now State government.

Most recently, Theresa worked for Bernalillo County where she spent four years as the Assistant to the Bernalillo County Clerk and four years as the Executive Assistant to the Deputy County Manager of Public Safety.