

October 1, 2024

To Whom It May Concern:

I am the Sheriff of Rio Arriba County and I am proud to provide my full endorsement of Norman R. Wheeler for District Attorney, in the Sixth Judicial District. Norm has supported and maintained a strong professional relationship with the Sheriff's office in Rio Arriba County even while serving as a Deputy District Attorney in the Third Judicial District by taking personal vacation time to donate his own personal time to my deputies for training purposes.

Additionally, having worked directly with Norm professionally for several years. I can attest that he is the consummate professional, has great integrity and is always available to answer any of my deputies calls day and night. Norm has a reputation in our office for helping hundreds of victims while being hard on criminals and holding those criminals accountable. In today's society, I strongly believe, we can no longer have a "weak on crime" representation from our District Attorneys. We need strong, proactive, District Attorneys who will prosecute cases and not blame others for his or her failures to exercise the power of the District Attorney's office.

I am confident that Norman R. Wheeler will work hard to build strong partnerships with law enforcement, the citizens in the communities, as well as working hard to provide services all the way down to women's shelters and drug rehabilitation centers to make the community a safer place to live for all citizens.

Respectfully,

Sheriff Billy A. Merrifield

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