



State of New Mexico

Office of the Governor

Bill Richardson

Governor

News Release

Governor Bill Richardson Names Appointees to Key Boards and Commissions

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SANTA FE- Governor Bill Richardson today announced six appointments to various New Mexico boards and commissions:

John Loehr to the New Mexico Board of Finance, (2-year term, replaces Paul Blanchard, whose term expires 12/31/06). A Democrat, Mr. Loehr is an outgoing Regent at New Mexico Highlands University (NMHU) with extensive experience in business and education. He is a graduate of NMHU, and also attended the University of New Mexico School of Law.

Governor Robert Benavides to the Board of Regents, New Mexico Highlands University (6-year term, replaces John Loehr, whose term expires 12/31/06). He is currently Governor of Isleta Pueblo. Governor Benavides is a Republican who has spent much of his career working to advance Tribal interests and improve government-to-government relations, and working in law enforcement.

Mayor Bob Forrest to the Board of Regents, New Mexico Military Institute (6-year term, replaces Bruce Ritter, whose term expires 12/31/06). A Republican, he is currently Mayor of Carlsbad, NM. Mayor Forrest is a native New Mexican, and a businessman who is involved in ranching, banking, and the hotel industry.

John Henderson, III to the Board of Regents, New Mexico Military Institute (6-year term, replaces Stephen Elliott, whose term expires 12/31/06). A Republican, he is an Army Veteran and graduate who attended high school and junior college at NMMI and earned his undergraduate degree at the University of New Mexico. Mr. Henderson is a licensed Realtor working in Albuquerque.

Marshall Stinnett to the Board of Regents, Eastern New Mexico University (6-year term, re-appointment). He is a native of Portales, NM and a graduate of ENMU, and has spent more than 40 years in the newspaper business, including his current position as Vice President of Southern Newspapers. He is a registered Republican.

Paul Blanchard to the State Investment Council, (5-year term, replaces Ike Kalangis, whose term expires 12/31/06). An experienced businessman and developer, he is currently Chairman and CEO of the Downs at Albuquerque, Inc., and a Shareholder and Director of Zia Race Track and Casino in Hobbs, NM. A graduate of the University of New Mexico, Mr. Blanchard is registered as an Independent.

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