



State of New Mexico

Office of the Governor

Bill Richardson
Governor

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Republican Political Attack Dishonors Fallen Officer

(Santa Fe, NM) – Pahl Shipley, Communications Director for Governor Bill Richardson, released the following statement today after reviewing comments made by Republican Party leaders disparaging Governor Richardson's proven crime-fighting record.

"It is shameful the Republicans are using the murder of this officer in a desperate attempt to score political points.

The Governor's strong crime-fighting record is clear. As Governor, he has increased penalties for violent criminals, enacted mandatory prison sentences for child molesters, and cracked down on drunk drivers. This is a baseless, cheap attack

The Governor has directed Secretary of Public Safety John Denko to offer whatever help is needed to support this manhunt and investigation. Since the shooting, 15 state law enforcement officers including a mobile strike team and tactical team members have hunted night and day for the man who committed this heinous crime.

At a time when the focus should be on finding Deputy McGrane's killer and supporting his family, incredibly, the Republicans have seen an opportunity to sling mud. This is politics at its worst.

This is a time when we should put partisanship aside and come together as New Mexicans to support all of our law enforcement officers. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family of Deputy McGrane and his fellow officers."