

Re: Retraction Request

From editor <editor@estancia.news>

To NMHRCC <info@nmhrcc.com>

BCC [REDACTED]

Date Saturday, July 27th, 2024 at 4:07 AM

Mr. Montoya,

We are in receipt of your condescending email.

Our story was based on an official document filed by Eliseo Alcon with the Secretary of State's office. If the document contained errors as you claim, the proper course of action is not for the NMHRCC to pressure the SOS to "retract the complaint" which citizens have every right to file in good faith as that smacks of corruption, but for Mr. Alcon to amend his filing and correct the error if it was one.

In accordance with the Journalistic Code of Ethics, we did send you a request for comment on July 17th - four full days before we published our story. We also sent a request for comment to the NMGOP for their comments. You both ignored our inquiry.

As such, we will issue no apology. We will, however, update the story with your response, while we await confirmation that the official report filing document Mr. Alcon filed with the SOS was indeed an error and Mr. Alcon has no reason to believe the NMHRCC gave him an in-kind donation as the complaint process plays out in accordance with the law.

Signed,

The Editor of the Estancia News

Sent with [Proton Mail](#) secure email.

On Wednesday, July 24th, 2024 at 3:16 PM, NMHRCC <info@nmhrcc.com> wrote:

Estancia News Team,

I am writing to you in deep dismay at the irresponsible neglect of journalistic integrity that the Estancia News displayed when publishing a grossly inaccurate article this week. The article I am referring to is titled, "New Mexico House Republican Campaign Committee Backs Radical Democrat Over Member of Their Own Party." The Society of Professional Journalists Code of Ethics states that ethical reporters should "[take responsibility for the accuracy of their work. Verify information before releasing it. Use original sources whenever possible.](#)"

Unfortunately, your reporting in this article can hardly be considered as such, given that not a single member of your team reached out to the party accused in this article.

If you had done the ethical thing and gone straight to the source of your accusation, (easily done considering leadership contact information is listed on the New Mexico State Legislature website) I would have informed you that the Ethics Complaint #2024-040 was in response to a **reporting error made by Rep. Eliseo Alcon or his staff**. Under NO circumstances has the NMHRCC ever contributed to the representative NOR would we ever.

The NMHRCC is in contact with the New Mexico Secretary of State to attain a retraction of this complaint. We expect the Estancia News team to issue a full retraction and apology as well. I hope to see this small "news" outlet show respect for their readers by publishing factual information rather than smear campaigns going forward.

Signed,

Rod Montoya - Leader

NM Republican House Caucus