



## Why are Governor Martinez, Republican operatives, and conservative leaning media attempting to unseat Representative Sheryl Williams Stapleton?

Let's look at some revealing questions and answers...

Q: Why would Republicans, including Gov. Martinez, try to impact the outcome of a Democratic primary?

A: Democratic House Majority Whip Sheryl Williams Stapleton has been very effective at stopping Governor Martinez's efforts to privatize public education and to eliminate worker protections.

Q: Is this part of an ongoing effort by Gov. Martinez's political team, or something that recently surfaced?

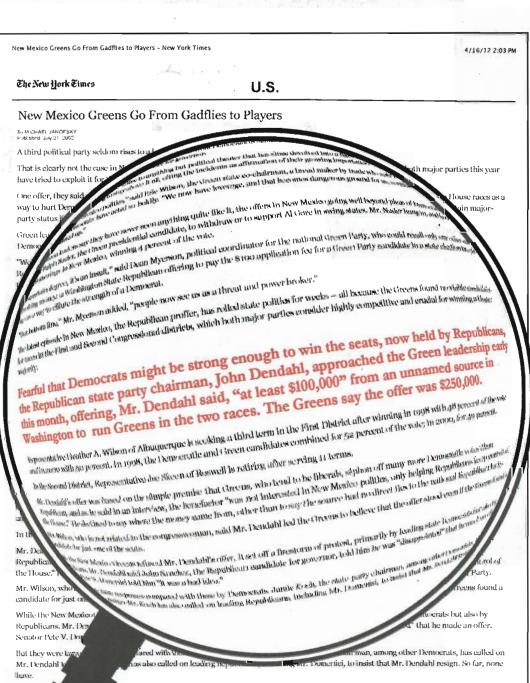
A: Martinez has used the Albuquerque Journal and KRQE-13 TV news to pressure Williams Stapleton's employer, APS, into forcing her to choose between keeping her job or serving in the legislature.

Martinez previously targeted Williams Stapleton by eliminating all funding for the African American Performing Arts Center that bears Williams Stapleton's name, thus punishing all black New Mexicans for one representative's opposition to her agenda.

Q: How are Martinez and the Republicans trying to use the Democratic primary race to keep Williams Stapleton from returning as House Majority Whip?

By manipulating the Democratic Party base to cast votes for Williams Stapleton's opponent against their own best interests. Republicans have a history of trying to manipulate the liberal wing of the Democratic Party.

In 2002, John Dendahl, Chairman of the Republican Party of New Mexico, offered to pay over \$100,000 to Green party candidates to run against Democrats because "Greens, who tend to be liberals, siphon off many more Democratic votes than Republican."



Steve Cabiedes has a long history of working with Republicans, including Republican attorney Pat Rogers who represented Martinez campaign

contributors in a highly questionable pay-to-play Downs Racino deal.

Q: Is there really someone working for Williams Stapleton's opponent's campaign who helped Republicans to manipulate Democrats against their best interests before?

A: Steve Cabiedes, who is running the campaign for Williams Stapleton's primary opponent, Cara Valente Compton, has an extensive history of working closely with Pat Rogers and other Republicans to undercut Democratic candidates. Rogers has served as a lawyer for the Republican Party for many years.

Rogers has been in the news recently as the lawyer for the Downs of Albuquerque, which worked with the Martinez administration to push through the "Dirty Downs Deal" against the wishes of the residents that live near the state fair.

**Q:** What evidence is there that shows Cabiedes worked with Republicans to undermine Democrats?

A: Cabiedes was a plaintiff in a lawsuit filed by Pat Rogers and other Republican Party lawyers accusing Democratic interest groups of engaging in "widespread" voter registration fraud. (CV-200405391).

The Democratic Party labeled the Cabiedes lawsuit a partisan Republican effort: "Complaint in this matter is filed by a Republican Party elected state officer, among others, and through representation by lawyers closely associated with the Republican Party."

Cabiedes made requiring all voters, including those who may not have easy access to legal identification, a cornerstone of his campaign as a Green Party candidate. Cabiedes told the ABQ Journal, "I will not shrink before partisan political pressures. Advocate Voter ID for all voters." (ABQ Journal election guide 10/17/04).



Steve Cabiedes, with Cara Valente Compton. Cabiedes, a Republican campaign operative, is running Valente Compton's campaign.

SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT BERNALILLO COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

LARRY LARRANAGA, JUAN PAUL ATENCIO, JR.,
STEVE CABIEDES, TOBY GUTIERREZ, CARLA
GONZALES, DEBORAH TORZA and GLEN STOUT,

Plaintiffs

CIV- U-202-CV-200405391

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MARY E. HERRERA, BERNALILLO COUNTY CLERK and REBECCA VIGIL-GIRON, NEW MEXICO SECRETARY OF STATE,

Defendants

#### FIRST AMENDED VERIFIED COMPLAINT FOR DECLARATORY AND INJUNCTIVE RELIEF REQUESTING COMPLIANCE WITH STATE LAW

Plaintiffs, by and through their attorneys, David A. Garcia, LLC (David A. Garcia), Modrall, Sperling, Roehl, Harris & Sisk, P.A. (Patrick J. Rogers), and the Barnett Law Firm, P.A. (Joseph M. Thompson), for this Complaint state:

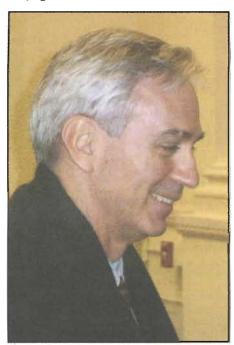
- Plaintiff Larry Larranaga is a citizen of the State of New Mexico residing in Bernalillo County, New Mexico. Mr. Larranaga is a registered and qualified elector in Bernalillo County and is the State Representative. Mr. Larranaga has been active with regard to voting rights issues in the State Legislature.
- Plaintiff Juan Paul Atencio, Jr. is a citizen of the State of the New Mexico
  residing in Bernalillo County, New Mexico. Mr. Atencio is a registered and qualified elector in
  Bernalillo County.

#### While representing Cabiedes, Rogers, in an email to national and state Republicans, labeled "Voter ID" "the single best wedge issue ever in NM."

Are Republican's efforts to push for stricter voter identification laws done for the purpose of harming Democrats by intimidating minority voters?

A: Yes. While representing Cabiedes in this lawsuit, Rogers, in an email to national and state Republicans, labeled "Voter ID" "the single best wedge issue ever in NM." He recommended the Voter "ID issue should be used at all levels-federal, state legislative races and Heather (Wilson)'s race." Cabiedes worked directly with Rogers to implement this "wedge issue" in New Mexico. (Source: An Investigation into the Removal of Nine U.S. Attorneys in 2006 by the US Department of Justice September 2009 pp 161-162).

David Iglesias, the Republican US Attorney for New Mexico fired from his job for not caving into Republican political pressure to file charges despite the absence of any prosecutable voter fraud, told the media "There was



Attorney Pat Rogers leaving redistricting hearing, at which he represented Republicans in the Fall of 2011.

a Republican attorney, Pat Rogers, who was a prominent local attorney who tried to pressure me to come up with cases." (Iglesias interview with Bill Moyers on 7/27/07).

Rogers was on the board of a shadowy Republican voter suppression group called the American Center for Voting Rights.

Iglesias reported during an interview with Bill Moyers that the Republican push alleging widespread fraud by Democratic leaning groups was "clearly partisan."



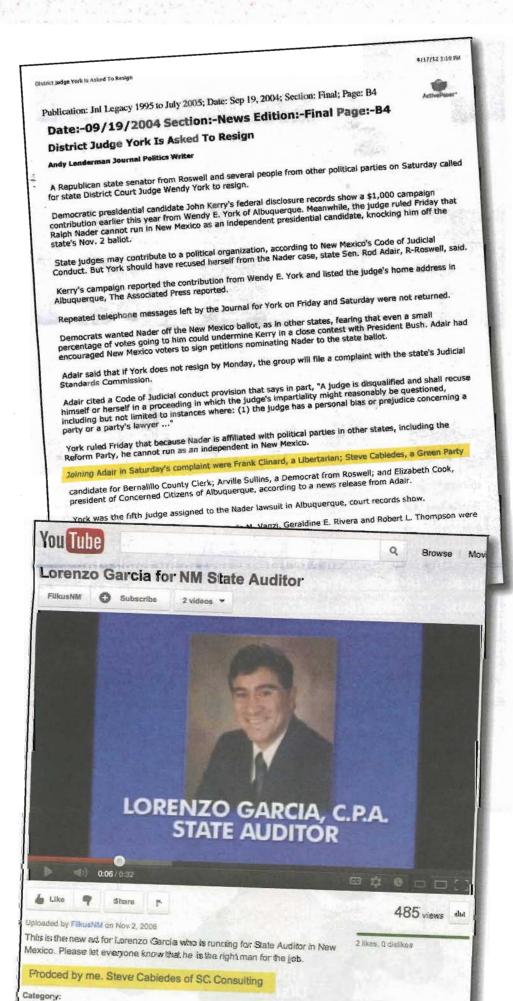
The screen capture above and the text below are from a 2009 broadcast of the Rachel Maddow Show on MSNBC.

MADDOW: "Former U.S. attorney David Iglesias – one of those U.S. attorneys who lost his job despite positive job reviews — maintains that his pink slip came after he resisted pressure from Republicans to pursue bogus voter registration cases involving ACORN. The pressure began as early as 2002 when Mr. Iglesias says in his book "In Justice," he received an e-mail from the Department of Justice in Washington, quote, "suggesting, in no uncertain terms "that U.S. attorneys "offer whatever assistance we could in investigating and prosecuting voter fraud cases."

Mr. Iglesias says he received similar e-mails from the Department of Justice in 2004and again in 2006. Hmm. What happens on even years in American politics? Oh, right. Elections."

IGLESIAS: "Well, in a state like New Mexico, what you have to remember, Rachel, is a minority/majority state. It has been for a number of years. A lot of the folks -- these low-income folks were people of color, and they tended to vote for Democrats. And the Republican Party at large and also, especially, locally there in New Mexicowanted to disable as much of that as possible.

So, they were looking at numbers, didn't like the demographic tidal wave that was coming their way. So, they wanted to engage the machinery of the Justice Department to stop that wave."



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#### Besides collaborating with Republicans, Cabiedes produced an ad for a Republican candidate for State Auditor.

Q: Did Cabiedes join with Republicans in any other efforts to undercut Democratic candidates?

A: Yes. Cabiedes also joined with Republican state Senator Rod Adair, who admitted to running a petition signature drive to get Ralph Nader on the ballot in order to siphon votes away from Democratic presidential candidate John Kerry.

Cabiedes and Adair filed a complaint against Judge Wendy York to try to force her to resign. (ABQ Journal 9/19/04).

Q: Did Cabiedes run any campaigns for Republicans against Democratic opponents?

A: Yes. Cabiedes ran Republican Lorenzo Garcia's campaign for State Auditor in 2006. Garcia ran against Hector Balderas.

### Why is Cabiedes now active in the Democratic primary?

Q: Cabiedes is clearly hostile towards Democrats. But is that enough of a reason to suggest he would help the Republicans try to unseat Williams Stapleton?

A: The Republicans have shown themselves more than willing to offer Greens money to sabotage elections, and Cabiedes is under significant financial strain.

On January 30, 2009, an arrest warrant was issued for Cabiedes. He was found in contempt of court by a judge for refusing to pay over \$22,000 in back child support. Cabiedes was given numerous chances to work out payment plans, but did not pay the required child support arrearage. The warrant for his arrest remained outstanding until September 23, 2011 when he paid a cash bond of \$2,500. This lump sum payment was forwarded to the Child Support Enforcement Division. As part of the warrant, Cabiedes was also ordered to participate in the

#### Cabiedes extensive involvement with the Republican Party raises questions as to whose behalf is he really working for in the Democratic race for House District 19.

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Community Custody Program (electronic monitoring). Cabiedes still owes payment on the bulk of his back child support. (DM-98-1800, State of New Mexico, ex rel. Human Services Department and Carol Cabiedes v. Steve Cabiedes.)

On 1/9/12, the same day Cabiedes announced on Facebook that he was running Valente Compton's campaign, he encumbered further financial difficulties.

According to Valente Compton's campaign report filed 4/9/12, she did not pay Cabiedes for any campaign related services until over two months after he began running her campaign, so apparently she did not pay him a retainer, as is traditionally done in politics.

However, Cabiedes resolved his financial difficulties less than two weeks after he signed on to assist Valente Compton despite receiving no payments from her until two months later.

Campaign Reporting Act

Ethics Administration

Report of Expenditures and Contributions

2012

#### FORM C **EXPENDITURES**

Candidate's Name

Valente-Compton, Cara

Date Submitted

4/9/2012 2:08:27 PM Date Run:

4/9/2012 2:08:27 PM Date Due:

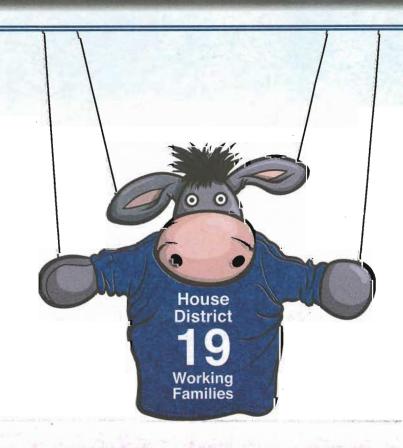
4/9/2012 5:00:00 PM

DATE	NAME and ADDRESS of PAYEE	PURPOSE	PRC Exp	AMOUNT
4/2/2012	Eddible Arrangements - 4770 Montgomery NE, Albuquerque NM 87109	fruit		\$42.19
4/1/2012	Starbucks - 5301 Gibson Blvd. SE, Albuquerque NM 87108	coffee		\$13.88
4/1/2012	Dunkin' Donuts - 1902 Central Ave. SE, Albuquerque NM 87106	donuts		\$16.01
3/30/2012	Focus Ink, Inc 335-B Jefferson SE, Albuquerque NM 87108	Printing		\$394.83
3/20/2012	CABQ Parking Structure - 600 2nd St. NW, Ste. 510, Albuquerque NM 87103	parking fee		\$2.00
3/20/2012	O'Niell's Pub - 4310 Central Ave. SE, STe. B, Albuquerque NM 87108	catering		\$408.80
3/20/2012	Bernalillo County Clerk - 1 Civic Plaza, 6th Floor, Albuquerque NM 87103	voter data		\$130.00
3/20/2012	City of Albuquerque Civic Center Garage - Civic Center, Albuquerque NM 87103	parking fee		\$4.00
3/17/2012	Michael Thomas Coffee - 1111 Carlisle SE, Albuquerque NM 87108	coffee for volunteers		\$8.56
3/16/2012	Costco - 500 Eubank "Blvd. SE, Albuquerque NM 87123	refreshments for volunteers		\$189.18
3/16/2012	Dion's Pizza - 4717 Central NE, Albuquerque NM 87108	pizza for volunteers		\$71.32
3/13/2012	Amazon - Amazon.com, Albuquerque NM 87108	campaign hardware		\$199.00
3/12/2012	SC Consulting - 209 Mesa St. SE, Albuquerque NM 87106	consulting		\$535.00
3/12/2012	DPNM - 3200 Monte Vista NE, Albuquerque NM 87106	Vote Builder payment		\$100.00
3/10/2012	Walmart - 301 San Mateo SE, Albuquerque NM 87108	office supplies		\$57.54
2/29/2012	Focus Ink, Inc 335-B Jefferson SE, Albuquerque NM 87108	printing		\$144.45
2/9/2012	Focus Ink, Inc 335-B Jefferson SE, Albuquerque NM 87108	printing	13	\$155.15
	TOTAL			\$2,471.91

#### Don't let the Republican Party and its CORPORATE sponsors pull the strings of the working people in House District 19.

**Q:** To what extent is Williams Stapleton's primary opponent aware of the forces trying to manipulate the Democratic primary voters?

A: It is not known whether Valente Compton is aware of the machinations around her. Perhaps she is simply naive and inexperienced to understand what's going on behind the scenes.



# K12, Inc. is trying to transfer millions of New Mexico school dollars to its Virginia-based company. Representative Williams Stapleton is standing in their way.

• Are there other signs of outside forces in the effort to defeat Williams Stapleton?

A: Yes. The CHILE-PAC, without polling of its members

and before endorsing any other candidate for the state legislature, endorsed Cara Valente Compton.

In the past Rep. Sheryl Williams Stapleton has been commended by LULAC, which operates the CHILE-PAC, for her work on behalf of minorities.

So why the sudden change in support?

Ralph Arellanes spearheaded the CHILE-PAC endorsement.

Arellanes is also a big promoter of privatizing public education—handing taxpayer dollars that normally go to school districts over to private out-of-state companies.

In fact, Arellanes teamed up with the Martinez' administration to help bring K12, Inc. into New Mexico.

According to Arellanes testimony before the Public Education Commission on 8/27/09 in the matter of Sandia Academy, K12, Inc. was to receive an annual payment of about \$700,000 from Arellanes' "virtual" charter school.

That money to be paid was to come directly out of the school district's available funds. K12 Inc is based in Virginia and its president was paid \$5,000,000 last year.

K12, Inc. is currently being sued for fraud, for "fraudulent recruiting and sales strategies designed to attract students irrespective of their potential to complete the curriculum, for having pressured its employees to pass students despite insufficient demonstration that the students had met the criteria for completion of the material, that it's results with math and reading performance did not meet minimum statewide standards for the subjects." (2012-CV-00103 US District Court Eastern District of Virginia.)

K12, Inc. is paid per student enrolled in its curriculum. A K12, Inc. school based in Colorado was caught receiving

funding for 120 students who could not be verified as actual students. (NY Times article Profits and Questions at Online Charter School.)

Williams Stapleton over his close connection to K12, Inc?

A: Williams Stapleton helped strip language from a key education bill, written with the assistance of the Martinez administration, that would have set up K12, Inc. to provide curriculum to all students from any public school within New Mexico that gets shut down for failing grades.

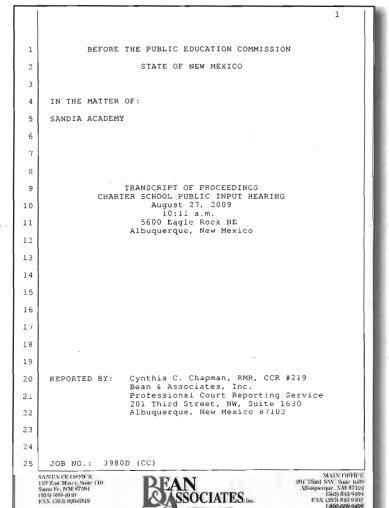
K12, Inc. received this favorable treatment after it gave a \$5,000 contribution to Martinez.

Williams Stapleton staunchly opposes sending money to out-of-state companies. She was one of

the legislators who worked to strike the wording meant to benefit K12, Inc.

Williams Stapleton's rewording of Martinez's bill, prevented K12, Inc. from moving millions of dollars out of the classroom to its shareholders.

Is retribution towards Williams Stapleton the reason Arellanes pushed for a CHILE-PAC endorsement for Cara Valente Compton?



#### An Open Letter to the Voters of District 19

Dear Voters:

As a parent with a child in public school in New Mexico, I know just how effective Rep. Sheryl Williams Stapleton is in blocking Governor Martinez's damaging education reform agenda.

Ms. Williams Stapleton stands firm against Martinez's efforts to strip away a parent's right to make critical decisions about their child's education. She stands firm against Martinez's efforts to send our tax dollars to out of state private education companies.

Martinez first targeted Sheryl Williams Stapleton in early 2011 by eliminating the entire budget of the African American Performing Arts Center.

She punished all Black New Mexicans in retaliation against Ms. Williams Stapleton's outspoken opposition to privatizing New Mexico's public schools.

Martinez and her political team also enlisted the help of KRQE and the Albuquerque Journal to create scandals where none existed in an attempt to destroy Ms. Williams Stapleton's good name and reputation.

Republican meddling in the District 19 primary may be much deeper than you realize.

Ms. Williams Stapleton's primary opponent has joined forces with a Republican Party operative, Steve Cabiedes, who has made a career out of sabotaging elections for Democrats.

Cabiedes has worked closely with GOP Lawyer (And Downs at Albuquerque lawyer) Pat Rogers, going so far as to sue Democratic elected officials for "widespread voter registration fraud" in order to force voter ID requirements on all voters.

Pat Rogers is on record calling their voter ID efforts the "single best wedge issue in NM". Democrats know that voter fraud allegations are really about vote suppression. David Iglesias, who Rogers helped fire, labeled the GOP allegations of widespread voter fraud as being "clearly partisan" in nature.

Mr. Cabiedes joined with Republican Senator Rod Adair to file a complaint against Judge Wendy York, attacking her credibility in an effort to siphon votes away from a Democratic presidential candidate.

Cabiedes also helped to run the campaign for the Republican who ran against Hector Balderas for the 2006 state auditors race.

Don't be fooled by the primary opponents' endorsement

by CHILE-PAC. There is an ulterior motive behind the endorsement. Ralph Arellanes of LULAC, is a big promoter of privatizing public education, and has teamed up with the Martinez administration to bring K12, Inc. into New Mexico.

Arrellanes is partnered with K12, Inc, an out of state private education corporation currently involved in multiple lawsuits for fraud. K12, Inc's chief executive took home \$5,000,000 in 2011.

K12, Inc contributed \$5,000 to Martinez, and in exchange, legislation was proposed to give the company special treatment.

But Rep. Williams Stapleton helped to eliminate that provision, preventing Arellanes's business partner from moving millions of dollars to an out-of-state corporation.

Arellanes and K12, Inc. want Rep. Williams Stapleton out of the way so they can send more of our public education tax dollars to Virginia.

Rep. Williams Stapleton has a long list of accomplishments. She has been a steadfast supporter of public education, early childhood education, and of working families throughout New Mexico.

She helped create and fund the Hispanic Education Act, the Minority Business Assistance Act, the Workforce Skills Development Fund, In-plant training fund for Small Businesses, funding for firefighters, Health Care for Native Americans, and many other programs that benefit all of New Mexico.

District 19 benefits directly from Ms. Williams Stapleton's tireless efforts. She has worked to secure and fund many improvements in the District, ranging from public safety issues, crime prevention, better streetlights, money for family health services, the Highland Senior Center, money for state fair improvements, money for construction at UNM Hospital and for the UNM Library, money for parks throughout the district, safe pedestrian passes and many other local projects.

Governor Martinez is counting on winning the House for Republicans and steam-rolling new legislators into doing her bidding. This is a critical time for New Mexico. New Mexico needs the tough, hard working, experienced Rep. Williams Stapleton to stop this from happening. Please vote for Sheryl Williams Stapleton.

Sincerely,

Michael Corwin, Executive Director Independent Source PAC

Independent Source PAC • 11024 Montgomery Blvd. NE #128 • Albuquerque, NM 87111
For further information and documents referred to in this publication go to: www.independentsourcepac.org

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