FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Joey Keefe (505) 469-2783

SOS Toulouse Oliver Encourages Sexual Assault Victims to Join Confidential Address Program

SANTA FE – In light of recent national news on sexual assault and harassment, and the "#MeToo" movement that gained momentum on social media this week, New Mexico Secretary of State Maggie Toulouse Oliver is encouraging victims of sexual assault to enroll in the state's Confidential Address Program (CAP) if they feel unsafe.

"No one should have to live in constant fear of their attackers," said Secretary of State Toulouse Oliver. "Enrolling in CAP allows victims to go about their lives with greater confidence that their attackers will not be able to find them easily."

To be eligible for CAP, you must be a New Mexico resident or in the process of moving to the state in the near future, and you must be a victim of domestic violence, sexual assault, attempted sexual assault, stalking, and/or fear for your safety or the safety of a family member.

CAP participants are granted the use of a fictitious mailing address, which is maintained by the Office of the New Mexico Secretary of State. Mail that is sent to a participant first goes to CAP and then is forwarded to the participant's real mailing address. This process maintains the victim's confidentiality.

To sign up for CAP or for more information, call CAP toll-free at 1-888-432-5469, email at <u>CAP.sos@state.nm.us</u>, or send direct mail to P.O. Box 1888, Santa Fe, NM 87504.

Added Toulouse Oliver, "I urge any victims who fear for their safety to apply to CAP immediately."

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