



New Mexico Office of Lt. Governor Data Sheet

As of August 23, 2016 Updated.

History of Office

The Office of the Lt. Governor of was established in 1912 with statehood and the Constitution adopted in 1911.¹

Origins of the Office

The Office of the Lt. Governor of New Mexico was created with the Constitution of 1911.²

Qualifications for Office

The Council of State Governments (CSG) publishes the Book of the States (BOS) 2015. In chapter 4, Table 4.13 lists the Qualifications and Terms of Office for lieutenant governors: [The Book of the States 2015 \(CSG\) at www.csg.org](#).

Method of Election

The National Lieutenant Governors Association (NLGA) maintains a list of the methods of electing gubernatorial successors at: <http://www.nlga.us/lt-governors/office-of-lieutenant-governor/methods-of-election/>.

Duties and Powers

A lieutenant governor may derive responsibilities one of four ways: from the Constitution, from the Legislature through statute, from the governor (thru gubernatorial appointment or executive order), thru personal initiative in office, and/or a combination of these. The principal and shared constitutional responsibility of every gubernatorial successor is to be the first official in the line of succession to the governor's office.

Succession to Office of Governor

In 1917, Governor Ezequiel Cabeza De Baca died in office and Lt. Governor Washington Ellsworth Lindsey finished his term in office.³ In 1933, Governor Arthur Seligman died in office and Lt. Governor Andrew W. Hockenhull completed Seligman's term. In 1962, Governor Edwin L. Mechem resigned, after losing his bid for reelection, and Lt. Governor Tom Bolack finished the remaining 32 days of Bolack's term.⁴

¹ New Mexico Constitution of 1911

² Ibid.

³ National Governors Association, Former Governors Bios

⁴ Ibid