



Dear Ms. Duran and Ms. Fresquez,

Again, our thanks to Kari and your staff for meeting with us on June 11 at the Secretary of State's Office. We appreciated your comments and hope that our input gave you some perspective on what the public needs in order to better access information on the Secretary of State's website.

As you recall, our discussion centered on a three-page summary we distributed called "Implementation of New Mexico's New Lobbying Disclosure Law." At the time of our meeting, you stated that the Secretary of State believes the SOS website already is in compliance with the new law, a position the office reiterated in Dan Boyd's recent article in the *Albuquerque Journal*.

Since we kept hearing from the media that it is very difficult to access information on the site, we decided to check with some "experts" in the field to determine whether they agree that the SOS has satisfactorily complied with the law. The language "downloadable, searchable and sortable" has become almost a term of art and is used throughout the country, not just in New Mexico's amended lobbyist disclosure bill. Here are their comments from journalists, the Sunlight Foundation and Follow the Money based in part on best practices in the 50 states.

**Lobbyist and Lobbyist Employer Search:**

1. There is no way to generate a list of lobbyists and their employers in one view or download via the [lobbyist search tool](#) or the [employer search tool](#).
2. Aside from the inability to create a list of lobbyists and their employers in one view or download, the search tools seem to not work properly in some instances. For example, in 2013, lobbyist Raymond Sanchez reported one of his employers as the Consumer Installment Loan Association. However, on the [lobbyist employer search](#), a search for INSTALLMENT or other terms does not return results. Also, at the [employer search tool](#), a search for Sanchez does not return any results. A search for Raymond, however, does return results (Sanchez does not have any accent marks in the result returned on the Raymond search). There is no way to generate a list of lobbyists and their employers in one view or download via the lobbyist search or the employer search.
3. Employer information is downloadable only for a single lobbyist. This means that

if the public wants to build a database of this information, they're going to have to download and append 1,169 lobbyist files. That's not 21st Century transparency.

### **Lobbyist/Employer Index**

4. A list of lobbyists and their employers for 2014 is available [here](#) in a PDF file. It is not available in a more usable, machine-readable format.

5. An index of lobbyists and their employers appears through the interface in that PDF file ONLY for 2014, although similar files for previous years exist. To get to a previous year, the user has to practice some light URL hacking. By right-clicking the link to the 2014 PDF file and copying the URL, you can paste that PDF's URL into your browser's URL box to see it

([http://www.sos.state.nm.us/uploads/FileLinks/fb2154f522fd4467a3b1f10ce4cec47d/rptLobbyistwEmployer\\_2014Registered.pdf](http://www.sos.state.nm.us/uploads/FileLinks/fb2154f522fd4467a3b1f10ce4cec47d/rptLobbyistwEmployer_2014Registered.pdf)). By changing the year within the URL from 2014 to 2013 or another year, you can download the PDFs for the older years. These files, in the traditional sense, are not publicly available online, and there appears to be no way for an average user to create a list of lobbyists and their employers.

### **Lobbyist Expenditures**

6. A person searching the website cannot download all lobbyists' spending details, but only by each individual lobbyist. You cannot download all lobbyists' employers or all employers' lobbyists, as it's on a case-by-case basis, which is incredibly inconvenient.

Finally, a search for all expenses for all years, adds up to nothing, as per the attached screenshot, so downloading this is no help.

We would welcome another opportunity to sit down with you to further discuss our concerns. Is there a time that works for you? Once again, we invite Secretary Duran to join us at the meeting.

Best regards,

Susan Boe

Heather Ferguson

## Search Lobbyists

Enter your search criteria below and click "Search." To see all results, click "Search" without entering criteria. To clear your search criteria, click "Reset Fields."

Registration Year:

First Name:

Last Name:

[Search](#) 

[Reset Fields](#) 

Download As:

All -> 2013

Lobbyist Name	View Employers	Total Contributions	Total Expenditures
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$737,374.84</b>	<b>\$496,549.77</b>
Aagard Sarah	<a href="#">View Employers</a>	\$0.00	\$0.00
Abram Daniel	<a href="#">View Employers</a>	\$0.00	\$0.00
Acorn Craig	<a href="#">View Employers</a>	\$0.00	\$0.00
Adams Dave	<a href="#">View Employers</a>	\$0.00	\$0.00
Adams Sally	<a href="#">View Employers</a>	\$0.00	\$0.00
Adondakis Sandra	<a href="#">View Employers</a>	\$75.00	\$0.00
Alarid Vanessa	<a href="#">View Employers</a>	\$12,400.00	\$7,392.83
Alcober Joyne	<a href="#">View Employers</a>	\$0.00	\$0.00
Alderete Felix	<a href="#">View Employers</a>	\$0.00	\$0.00
Allen Eric	<a href="#">View Employers</a>	\$0.00	\$0.00

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