

State senator gets DWI conviction

Written by Staff Reports
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Resigns chair positions, continues as senator

SANTA FE – Following his conviction for DWI, Senator Richard Martinez, D-Los Alamos, Rio Arriba, Sandoval, Santa Fe, resigned his positions as Chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee and Co-Chair of the Courts, Corrections and Justice Interim Committee.

In a letter dated Dec. 27, Martinez told N. M. Sen. President Pro tem Mary Kay Papen and Sen. Majority leader Peter Wirth, “After extensive thought and consideration and given my recent DWI conviction, I have decided to resign my position as Chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee and Co-Chair of the Courts, Corrections and Justice Interim Committee. I want to thank those who made it possible for me to serve in these positions.”

In a separate statement he added, “I do intend to continue my service as a state senator in District 5.”

In response to the letter, Sens. Papen and Wirth issued the following statement: “Senator Martinez’s resignation as Chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee and Co-Chair of the Interim Courts, Corrections & Justice Committee is a positive development. We will make our recommendation for his replacement as Chair to the Committees’ Committee, which meets the first day of the legislative session.”

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Opening day of the 2020 N. M. Legislative Session is Jan. 21.