

Republican Secretary 65 Charges

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New Mexico Republican Secretary Of State Facing 65 Criminal Charges For Corruption

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Dianna Duran

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Dianna Duran, New Mexico's Republican Secretary of State, faces 65 criminal charges for corruption, ranging from fraud, embezzlement, and money laundering to identity theft. The identity theft charge was added by Democratic Attorney General Hector Balderas' office on Friday, after it was alleged that she falsely listed former State Senator Don Kidd as her campaign treasurer, without Kidd's knowledge or involvement in filling out Duran's campaign reports.

Duran's prosecution will test the state's tough new public corruption law that was enacted in 2012. The law provides strong sentencing enhancements for elected officials found guilty of public corruption.

Duran was elected in 2010 during the tea party wave, and ironically, she won by decrying the "culture of corruption" in the state of New Mexico. Inexplicably, New Mexico voters elected her to a second term in 2014, despite the ethical cloud hanging over her.



