

**Jake Lopez**  
Commissioner, District 1

**Richard "Rick" Leal**  
Commissioner, District 2

**Lewis "Shane" Lee**  
Commissioner, District 3



**Gene Creighton**  
Commissioner, District 4

**Paul Grider**  
Commissioner, District 5

**Amber Hamilton**  
County Manager  
575.356.5307

**County Manager's Office**  
109 West 1<sup>st</sup> Street • Portales, NM 88130

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Contact:** Amber Hamilton  
**Phone:** 575.356.5307  
**Email:** ahamilton@rooseveltcountry.com

### **Roosevelt County Responds to Frivolous Action**

**Portales, NM** - Roosevelt County Administration notifies the public that the Petition to Remove Roosevelt County Sheriff Malin Parker in its opinion is a frivolous action which has been filed by attorney Eric Dixon without legal basis or justification. Allegations which form the basis of the Petition were thoroughly investigated by an impartial and independent law enforcement agency which cleared Sheriff Malin Parker of any wrongdoing. Fifth Judicial District Attorney Dianna Luce concluded after reviewing all of the information surrounding these allegations that there was no basis to pursue any cause of action against Sheriff Parker. In addition, the New Mexico statutes relied upon by Mr. Dixon in filing his frivolous Petition contemplate that the action is initiated by presentment to the grand jury which did not occur in this case.

"Roosevelt County Administration has and will continue to fully support Sheriff Parker and his office," stated County Manager Amber Hamilton. "It's unfortunate for Roosevelt County residents that these frivolous lawsuits and motions continue to be filed as it forces the County to redirect vital financial resources from other projects to defending these baseless accusations."

The actual facts relating to matters referred to in Mr. Dixon's press release are as follows: Sheriff Parker's Office utilized a confidential informant in the investigation of multiple drug traffickers and thieves.

The information entered into the arrest affidavits were true to the belief of Sheriff Parker at the time the arrest warrant was presented to an impartial judge. It was only discovered after the arrests had occurred that two people who were listed in the arrest warrants had not yet actually

**Jake Lopez**  
Commissioner, District 1

**Richard “Rick” Leal**  
Commissioner, District 2

**Lewis “Shane” Lee**  
Commissioner, District 3



**County Manager’s Office**  
109 West 1<sup>st</sup> Street • Portales, NM 88130

**Gene Creighton**  
Commissioner, District 4

**Paul Grider**  
Commissioner, District 5

**Amber Hamilton**  
County Manager  
575.356.5307

been arrested as was stated. However, both of these subjects were in actual possession of stolen property and charges remain pending although they have not yet been filed.

Roosevelt County Chairman Rick Leal stated “Speaking as Chairman of the Roosevelt County Commission, I want the public to be aware that I fully support the hard work of Sheriff Malin Parker in protecting the public.”

###