

**Wayne A. Johnson**  
State Auditor



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**State Auditor Wayne Johnson to Look for Audit Solutions for  
New Mexico's Guardianship Program**

**Santa Fe, NM** – State Auditor Wayne Johnson today says he's honored to join a task force with the New Mexico Supreme Court and representatives from throughout state government to bring sunshine and accountability to New Mexico's adult guardianship system. The task force Johnson has joined is charged with implementing newly passed legislation for improving the adult guardianship system.

Family members and advocates have complained for years about a process shrouded in secrecy that can take advantage of incapacitated adults, including the possibility of fraud and the systematic siphoning away of an individual's life-savings.

"Implementing some type of audit system in the guardianship program just makes sense for people who are relying on strangers to manage their life-savings and expend it on their behalf," says Johnson. "I strongly believe in openness and transparency in government spending. I think a similar standard applies when a judge orders a guardianship for someone who doesn't have the ability to manage their own affairs. I'm committed to working with New Mexico families, judges, legislators, and anyone else with a stake in our guardianship program, to safeguard our seniors and other vulnerable adults."

The full announcement of the guardianship committees can be found here:  
[https://www.nmcourts.gov/uploads/FileLinks/a6efaf23676f4c45a95fdb3d71caea83/News\\_Release\\_Supreme\\_Court\\_Forms\\_Guardianship\\_Committees.pdf](https://www.nmcourts.gov/uploads/FileLinks/a6efaf23676f4c45a95fdb3d71caea83/News_Release_Supreme_Court_Forms_Guardianship_Committees.pdf)

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