



## State of New Mexico Office of the State Auditor

CONSTITUENT SERVICES  
(505) 476-3821

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

August 18, 2021

**Office of the State Auditor Contact:**

**Stephanie W. Telles**  
(505) 476-3800

**Office of the State Treasurer Contact:**

**Kathy Duffy**  
(505) 231-8037

### **Office of the State Auditor and Office of the State Treasurer Applaud Hall of Fame Recognition of Honorable James B. Lewis**

*Former State Treasurer, James B. Lewis, to be inducted into 2021 National Association of State Auditors, Comptrollers, and Treasurers Hall of Fame*

ALBUQUERQUE, NM – Former State Treasurer, the Honorable James B. Lewis, on Tuesday, August 17th, was recognized by the National Association of State Auditors, Comptrollers and Treasurers (NASACT) during a Hall of Fame Induction ceremony in San Diego, CA.

The NASACT Hall of Fame honors those who have made major and enduring impacts on state government financial management and is meant to memorialize the vision, accomplishments, and lasting impacts of leaders among its membership and broader community.

Mr. Lewis was nominated for the 2021 NASACT Hall of Fame by State Auditor Brian S. Colón for utilizing his leadership, experience, and unwavering commitment as a champion for all New Mexicans.

“He truly is the embodiment of a Financial Superhero in New Mexico, coming to the rescue when New Mexicans needed him the most,” said Auditor Colón. “Mr. Lewis transformed the treasurer’s office by defining their vision, mission, and core values. He restored faith in the system that was sadly plagued by bad actors for too many years. His tenure as the longest serving state treasurer in

the history of New Mexico is truly exemplary. To nominate Mr. Lewis for this much deserved recognition is my honor and privilege.”

Mr. Lewis is known by many to speak about how inspired he was by President Kennedy. The quote, “Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country,” which was delivered by President John F. Kennedy during his inaugural address, left a lasting impression on the young James B. Lewis growing up in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Mr. Lewis, who was inspired by those words, has spent his lifetime in devotion and allegiance to his local community, the State of New Mexico, and the United States of America, while serving under mayors, governors, and presidents.

“Throughout his military, private and public career, Treasurer Lewis has inspired civil servants and elected officials with his humble personality and unmatched integrity.” Added Auditor Colón.

Mr. Lewis will tell you that it was never about him, but about what would be good, ethical, and legal for the community he served. Mr. Lewis will also mention that his biggest advocate was his late wife, Amanda. They formed a partnership in marriage, family, and on the campaign trail—never looking back, and always working toward betterment for all.

Deputy Treasurer Sam Collins, who has served under the former treasurer mentioned that “he instilled upon the staff the three C’s: communication, collaboration, and cooperation.” Mr. Collins added, “He was a good role model. He led by example, working diligently, and his staff strived to live up to his expectations.”

“James Lewis is a true leader,” said current State Treasurer Tim Eichenberg. “His integrity, intelligence, and service to others was a tremendous asset to the State Treasurer’s Office during his tenure, and that legacy continues as he serves New Mexico’s citizens in other capacities.”

### **About NASACT and the Hall of Fame**

NASACT is an organization for state officials tasked with the financial management of state government. NASACT’s membership is comprised of officials who have been elected or appointed to the offices of state auditor, state comptroller or state treasurer in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. territories.

NASACT Hall of Fame nominees are evaluated on four main criteria:

1. Promotion or enhancement of government accountability, efficiency or effectiveness.
2. Improvement of state government.
3. Impact upon the lives of citizens or upon those employed by state governments.
4. And peer recognition of excellence and achievement.

###



Photo 1: From Left: current State Treasurer Tim Eichenberg, Honorable James B. Lewis, State Auditor Brain S. Colón

Photo 2: From Left: Honorable James B. Lewis, State Auditor Brain S. Colón

Photo Credit, Deputy State Auditor, Natalie Cordova