

EAGA Business Builder

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Today's presentation was by Jason Espinosa—President of New Mexico Association of Commerce & Industry



The Association of Commerce and Industry exists to make New Mexico a better place to do business. As the statewide chamber of commerce and business advocate, they give their members unmatched opportunity to access and engage the state government in the decisions that effect them. And, a wide array of workshops, events, and resources help members learn, network, and stay ahead of the curve. The Association primarily involves itself in matters that

pertain to the entire state, but will occasionally get involved on the local level when an issue has the potential of becoming a state-wide issue within the foreseeable future. The proposed sick leave ordinance for Albuquerque is one of those local, but potentially state-wide issues. If that proposed ordinance were to actually become a law for Albuquerque, it is all but a guarantee that the supporters will move to have similar proposals in Las Cruces, Santa Fe, and on throughout all major cities of the state. NMACI's staff has spent a good amount of time reviewing and analyzing the proposed ordinance. The overall conclusion is that such a regulation would have a negative impact on business. The sound of the intent appears to have merit—allowing people to take days away from work so that they can get well and not expose other workers, or the public to whatever illness exists. But, as with almost all “cause based initiatives” (when a group has a cause they want advanced), the initial actions are simply friendly and beneficial sounding proposals, but they carry an underlying, less overall friendly and less mutually beneficial, intent. When reviewing the much less publicized details of proposed sick leave ordinance, the business unfriendly and confusing details are revealed. A few of the more onerous details, from a business operation perspective, are: A) those that pertain to the amount of time allowed [accrued at 1 hour for every 30 hours worked; usable up to 40 hours per year for employees of smaller companies and up to 56 hours per year for employee of larger companies]; B) paperwork required to document the accrual of time and the specific reason for its use; C) the specification that any action by an employer toward an employee, will have a “presumption of retaliation” [the employer faces the possibility of a ‘triple-damages’ ruling if, within 90 days prior to the employer’s action, that employee has exercised their option to take time off under any of the multiple options allowed by the sick leave ordinance]. In addition to the financial burden and the disruption to a business’ operation, there is also the burden to the municipality itself. In this case the city of Albuquerque would have to figure out how to monitor the program; adjudicate disputes; and in general, provide its own Department of Labor to administer the new ordinance. The City’s duties would then have to be funded and it is very likely that all those city side requirements would result in restriction of other services, or increases of taxes, to all people live, or purchase goods or services, within the city. Then there is the general confusion of patchwork regulations where different operating rules pertain to operations at any given point within the state. Business plans, and overall operation. That situation is not enticing to any business with an interest of expanding within New Mexico, let alone one looking at coming to New Mexico in the first place. In order to eliminate much of the confusion, and to direct the labor discussions to an arena of discussion and compromise, NMACI intends to support upcoming legislation that would restrict local labor laws that differ from those of the state. NMACI has some helpful information regarding Albuquerque’s proposed sick leave ordinance and is quite willing to share it with interested parties. You can find information about the New Mexico Association of Commerce and Industry; current projects; initiatives; and also how to assist their efforts by becoming a member or making a contribution, or enticing organization participation by visiting their website at www.nmaci.org . We also have some members well versed in the paid sick leave initiative and, all would be interested in assisting if you would like to become more educated on the actual details and requirements of that proposed ordinance. As of September 13th, the court rulings were, that the ordinance need not be on this November’s ballots. It will be on the ballot for the city elections in 2017; and the entire ordinance must be published on that ballot, not just a summary version. Obviously more to come in the near future. Stay aware and stay involved.

- ◆ The annual Jim Fanning Memorial Trap Shoot will be on Friday, September 23rd. Last call for sign ups. Members are free; Honorary Retire can participate for \$60 and guests may participate at a fee of \$75. There will be burritos and drinks for breakfast; gifts; prizes and a great amount of fun. Contact Damian Lusch or TJ Maloy right now for last minute raffle tickets. Drawing will be September 20th.

Contact information for Executive Director: Mario Hernandez

Phone: 505-239-0259

email: hernmar129@yahoo.com

Business Leads:

J's HAIR STORE is opening at 10200 Corrales Rd., D-4

FRAME NOW is opening at 3700 Osuna NE, Suite 502.

RAY'S 3 SMOKE SHOP 518 Central SW has a name change to R&D SMOKE SHOP.

-Lionel Specter—Zeon Signs

Reciprocity:

Thank you to Jay Weingardt-Fitness Superstore for purchase of a new service vehicle/
—Damian Lusch - Rich Ford

Thank you to Rion Marcus for his patronage at Eldorado Hotel & Spa/
—Jeff Sakamoto - Heritage Hotels & Resorts

Thank you to Kit Turpin for the business lead.
—Chairman Nick Minetos - PEO Emperor

◆ Second announcement of prospective new members:

Comfort Systems USA Southwest
Representative: Leonard Otero
Category: HVAC Install / Service
Sponsor: Mario Hernandez

Black Briar Inc.
Representative: Michael Predika
Category: Firearms Manufacturing
Sponsor: Rion Marcus

If you have an objection to either of these companies becoming a member, or if you have any information that you feel should be considered during the application review process, please contact Committee Chairman, Jack Zipper, (jdzipper@comcast.net - 505-259-5959), as soon as possible.

Badge Board Greeters

Sept 20th Raul Rodriguez—Kings of Wrap
Sept 27th Rick Reese—Blue Ristra; Mark Abramson—Los Ranchos Gun Shop
Oct 4th Kit Turpen—HUB International Insurance
Oct 11th Leon Marler—Marler Manor
Oct 18th Mike Deveraux—Document Imaging of the Southwest
Oct 25th Lou Rodges—Retriever Merchant Solutions

Upcoming Speakers

Sept 20th Brandon Saylor—The Community Lighthouse
Sept 27th
Oct 4th Steven Douglas—Design Printing Solutions
Oct 11th
Oct 18th
Oct 25th

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