



NEW MEXICO CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES DEPARTMENT CONTINUES TO BE A CESSPOOL OF CORRUPTION

*RPNM CONDEMNS THE FIRING OF TWO HIGH-LEVEL CYFD
WORKERS WHO RAISED A RED FLAG FOR DESTROYING
RECORDS*

Albuquerque May 21—The Republican Party of New Mexico is demanding answers after new revelations have surfaced surrounding the illegal activities at the Children, Youth and Families Department, namely the dismissal of employees who protested the deletion of important communications.

A [Searchlight New Mexico investigation](#) uncovered the latest developments that again show a pattern of secrecy and violations inside the embattled Department.

Two high-level workers at CYFD had been fired after they raised concerns about the accepted practice of encrypting and destroying public documents and other information. CYFD had been using a special secure text messaging app, Signal, that allowed automatic deletion of texts and other information. This procedure made it impossible for attorneys, journalists and others to access vital information involving possible child abuse, foster families and other operations. Government transparency on sensitive information vanished.

The firings are the latest in a series of clandestine happenings designed to prevent the public from learning what is really happening inside CYFD.

And where is New Mexico's Attorney General, Hector Balderas, as things get out of control at this Department? He remains silent.

"These firings are nothing less than retaliation," said Republican Party of New Mexico Chairman Steve Pearce. "These employees knew that CYFD was breaking the law by destroying important documents that may have impacted the lives of foster kids and parents. This Department knows no bounds and continues its corrupt behavior and ignores the notion of government transparency. There are countless instances of child abuse and injury that center around the poor decisions at CYFD. This agency has no watchdog, and there's no true oversight as far as what goes on behind the CYFD doors."