



REPUBLICAN PARTY OF NEW MEXICO STATEMENT ON THE RESIGNATION OF CYFD'S SECRETARY

Albuquerque, August 10--The following is a statement from RPNM Chairman Steve Pearce on the resignation of CYFD Secretary Brian Blalock:

"The Lujan Grisham Administration has failed on so many levels it's hard to keep track— education, unemployment benefits and the list goes on-- but it's been particularly disturbing what's happened at the Children, Youth and Families Department. CYFD has violated state law, ignored cries for help that have led to children being killed, disabled or abused. This Department has refused to acknowledge red flags in the child welfare system. Under Secretary Blalock's watch, CYFD has lacked transparency and has made excuses when called out about Department practices. This Department has seen no progress in protecting our most precious resource--our children. CYFD has been the subject of investigations in a number of cases involving the abuse of children. To make matters worse, CYFD has been its own watchdog and has recently fired workers for raising concerns about the Department's actions and methods. We can only hope that in the future Gov. Lujan Grisham will pay more attention about what's happening in all of her departments, especially the ones that are supposed to be taking care of our kids."