

WE FOUND THE RAISE YOU DIDN'T GET THIS YEAR.

Find what **your job** is missing.

FIND LOCAL JOBS



Eddy County declares itself a "Sanctuary for the Unborn"

Mike Smith, Carlsbad Current-Argus Published 7:00 a.m. MT April 18, 2019 | Updated 12:54 p.m. MT April 18, 2019



A statewide anti-abortion organization said it was "concerned" about a new Carlsbad OB/GYN based on her past as an abortion practitioner and a series of past tweets supporting abortion.

Dr. Leah Torres was hired in early March at Carlsbad Medical Center, according to Melissa Suggs, marketing director.

Torres took up residency in Carlsbad after leaving Utah, read a March 26 news release from the New Mexico Alliance for Life (NMAFL).

Executive Director of NMAFL Elisa Martinez said Torres' hiring at Carlsbad Medical Center and the Pecos Valley Physician Group was controversial because it is in what she called a "conservative community."

2 free articles left. Only 99¢ per month for 3 months. Save 90%. | ^

Carlsbad Medical Center)

Leah Torres, MD 
@LeahNTorres 

I perform abortions.

I am not evil.

I keep my patients safe.

I respect my patients.

I am a person.

I do not deserve to be murdered.

 19.8K  10:30 PM - Nov 30, 2015 

 9,581 people are talking about this 

More: [Christianity and its stance on anti-abortion \(/story/life/faith/2018/07/07/christianity-anti-abortion/763603002/\)](/story/life/faith/2018/07/07/christianity-anti-abortion/763603002/)

“Like many citizens across the state, especially in a more conservative area like Carlsbad, we were surprised and concerned,” she said.

Torres did not respond to multiple requests for comment by the *Current-Argus*.

Martinez said Carlsbad and New Mexico residents contacted the NMAFL with concerns that she would perform abortions in her new role.

Suggs said abortions were never performed at the hospital or its Women’s Health Services department, and the medical facility does not plan on doing so.

“Abortions are legally limited in New Mexico, and hospitals must meet certain requirements to provide abortion services,” she said. “Carlsbad Medical Center does not perform abortions, therefore, abortions may not be performed.”

2 free articles left.
Only 99¢ per month for 3 months. Save 90%. 



Leah Torres, MD  
@LeahNTorres

I will not apologize for providing evidence-based medical care.

I will not apologize for providing evidence-based medical care.

I will not apologize for providing evidence-based medical care.

I will not apologize for providing evidence-based medical care.

 3,185  3:04 PM - Apr 9, 2019 


 777 people are talking about this 

A 1969 New Mexico law made it a felony for an abortion provider to terminate a pregnancy, with exceptions for rape, birth defects and serious threats to a woman's health.

The law has been unenforceable for more than 40 years, after a 1973 U.S. Supreme Court decision in the case of Roe v. Wade made abortion legal nationwide.

New Mexico is one of several states that retain abortion bans that are not enforced because of the Supreme Court decision.

A bill proposed in the New Mexico Legislature to decriminalize abortion at the state level this year failed to be passed into law.

2 free articles left.
Only 99¢ per month for 3 months. Save 90%. | 



Diane Horvath, MD, MPH ❤️💜💙
@GynAndTonic



Good for you, @LeahNTorres. It matters when people lie about our work, and target our friends, families, & employers. Fighting back is difficult but necessary. #IStandWithDrTorres 🙏
[sltrib.com/news/2019/03/1...](https://www.sltrib.com/news/2019/03/1...)



A Utah doctor is suing a conservative news outlet for publishi...

A prominent Utah doctor and abortion provider is suing a conservative national news outlet, alleging libelous reporting that she
[sltrib.com](https://www.sltrib.com)

♡ 352 6:46 AM - Mar 14, 2019



💬 134 people are talking about this



House Bill 51 passed the New Mexico House but died in the New Mexico Senate on March 14.

Nearly a week after the bill failed in Santa Fe, the Eddy County Board of Commissioners passed a resolution declaring the county a "Sanctuary for the

U

2 free articles left.
Only 99¢ per month for 3 months. Save 90%. | ^

T legislature on the limitations on abortiob

District 4 County Commissioner Steve McCutcheon said Carlsbad Medical Center has the right to hire whomever they chose.

"They've got to go out and find qualified candidates," he said. "They're a private company and can do what they want."

McCutcheon said his concern is "protecting" citizens — even those not yet born.



District 4 Eddy County Board of Commissioner Steve McCutcheon said government has a duty to protect all citizens, including fetuses. (Photo: Mike Smith-Current-Argus)

"I want to protect her rights, just like I want to protect the unborn," he said. "I don't agree with state, local or federal governments being in people's business to protect the citizens."

2 free articles left.
Only 99¢ per month for 3 months. Save 90%. | ^

"I think it's our duty and by us not protecting those unborn citizens, it's not an affront on the mother or anything like that at all. It's about the citizen that she carries."

Prior to being hired, hospital staff reviewed Torres' application and credentials.

"Carlsbad Medical Center considers the services used by our patient population to identify when we need to recruit physicians to the community. The medical staff reviews credentials to confirm that physicians have the training, licensing and skills to provide care," Suggs said.

Get the **Daily Briefing** newsletter in your inbox.

Start your day with the morning's top news

Delivery: Daily

Your Email



Mike Smith can be reached at 575-628-5546 or by email at MSmith@currentargus.com or @ArgusMichae on Twitter.

Editor's note: This story was updated April 18 to reflect a correction on statements made by the New Mexico Alliance For Life. The organization said it was "concerned" about the hiring of Dr. Leah Torres. Officials with the organization did not state they would have Torres resign her position.

Read or Share this story: <https://www.currentargus.com/story/news/2019/04/18/doctor-leah-torres-carlsbad-medical-center/3497731002/>



Ad



Yahoo Search

Senior Living Near Rogers - Here's the Cost

Learn More



2 free articles left.
Only 99¢ per month for 3 months. Save 90%.

