

Election Journal

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Santa Fe Woman Tried to Vote for Dead Brother

October 9, 2009 by [Mike Roman](#) — [Leave a Comment](#)



From the [Santa Fe New Mexican](#):

A Santa Fe real-estate agent is serving probation after she admitted to voter fraud in the city's special election over a proposed tax on sales of expensive homes.

Teresa Monahan, also known as Tess, was charged and pleaded guilty in June to attempting to cast a ballot in the name of her dead brother.

Monahan, 64, cast her own early ballot in the election. Then on Feb. 12, according to county records, she requested an absentee-by-mail ballot for Thomas E. Monahan, who had died the prior December.

She was caught by a diligent staff of election board workers who “Each morning, clip obituaries from local newspapers and attach them to voter files. As a backstop, they also get a monthly summary of deaths in the county.”

Monahan was sentenced to 18 months probation.

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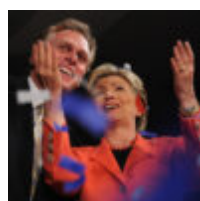
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