

A PLAN TO RESTORE THE COSTILLA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Accountability • Staffing • Safety • Sound Finances

A candidate platform for the people of Costilla County, Colorado

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Why This Plan Exists

Costilla County deserves a Sheriff's Office that protects people, spends tax dollars honestly, and answers to the public it serves. Over the last several years, that trust was broken. The current Sheriff and four deputies have been indicted, and a review of the office's own financial records revealed deeply troubling patterns — most notably in the jail food account.

Working from public records obtained through Colorado Open Records Act (CORA) requests, we documented tens of thousands of dollars charged to a "Prisoners Meals" account (account 4212.96) for a jail that was effectively closed — including untracked prepaid gift cards, retail purchases of household groceries and personal items, and roughly \$400,000 spent on the jail line in 2025 alone with no inmates to feed. These are not abstractions. They are the receipts. And the jail food account was only the beginning. The county's own records document a pattern of budget mismanagement that goes far deeper: budgets built on unrealistic and even fictional line items, basic accounting practices ignored, and spending that bears little resemblance to the budget the public was shown — money flowing in ways the official budget lines simply do not account for.

This document lays out exactly how I will fix it: how I will staff the office, how I will pay for it, how I will keep our roads and neighborhoods safe, and how I will make certain this never happens again. Every commitment below is specific, measurable, and tied to a realistic source of funding.

My First-Year Priorities at a Glance

These priorities are sequenced deliberately. Accountability and budget control come first, because they protect the public and free up the money everything else depends on.

Priority	Commitment	Primary Funding / Tool
1	Transparency & accountability systems	Existing budget; policy
2	Take control of the budget; reclaim the jail money	Re-appropriation of jail line
3	Fix ticket revenue so it stays in our county	Model Traffic Code adoption
4	Hire and fund deputies; build 24-hour patrol	Reallocated funds + state grants
5	Bring a full-time co-responder for crisis and mental-health calls	State co-responder grant
6	Attack drugs and theft; protect schools; cut response times	Staffing + regional partnerships
7	Daily community engagement and transparency	Existing channels; no new cost
8	Retain good people so we stop starting over	Pay structure + culture

Priority	Commitment	Primary Funding / Tool
9	Support the investigation; demand a clean county audit	Independent audit + DA

1. Transparency and Accountability

Trust is rebuilt with sunlight, not promises. From day one, the office will operate as if the public is always watching — because they should be able to.

What I will do

- Publish a quarterly public spending report. Every account, every major vendor, and every credit-card statement summarized in plain language and posted publicly. No more spending hidden inside a single line item.
- End untraceable spending. No prepaid gift cards, no general-purpose retail credit cards used as a workaround. Every purchase will require an itemized receipt matched to the general ledger before it is paid.
- Adopt a written purchasing policy with dollar thresholds, dual sign-off on larger purchases, and a ban on splitting transactions to dodge approval limits.
- Stand up a clear complaint process. Residents will be able to file a complaint against any deputy and receive a tracked case number and a response, with annual statistics published.
- Use body-worn and in-car cameras as standard practice, with a retention and release policy written in advance, not after an incident.
- Cooperate fully and openly with the District Attorney's ongoing investigation, and treat its findings as a roadmap for further reform.

Fair, consistent internal accountability

Discipline in this office will be predictable and equal — the opposite of the favoritism that helped create the current crisis. I will adopt a written disciplinary matrix: a published scale that matches categories of misconduct to a consistent range of consequences, so that the same infraction is handled the same way no matter who commits it or who their friends are.

- Tiered handling. Minor administrative matters are handled internally by supervisors. Serious misconduct — anything criminal, serious uses of force, or major violations — is referred to an independent outside investigator, the Colorado Bureau of Investigation (CBI).
- A rule that binds even me. Any complaint involving the Sheriff, command staff, relatives, or political allies goes automatically to an independent investigator — regardless of how minor it seems. I will not investigate matters in which I have a stake. The conflict of interest, not the severity, is what triggers the referral.

- A citizen review board. A vetted volunteer board, operating within the limits of Colorado law on personnel confidentiality, will review how complaints were handled and advise on fairness and policy — giving the community a real window into accountability.
- Full compliance with state law. The office will follow Colorado's police-accountability laws — use-of-force reporting, body-camera requirements, and mandatory reporting of decertifiable conduct to POST — not as a box to check, but as the floor we build on.

2. Taking Control of the Budget

The Sheriff is the steward of public money. The first job is to know where every dollar goes and to redirect what was being wasted toward what the county actually needs.

Reclaim the jail money

The jail is now officially closed and has no employees. The roughly \$400,000 that ran through the jail line in 2025 — including the “Prisoners Meals” account — should not continue to be budgeted to a facility that holds no one. I will work with the County Commissioners to formally re-appropriate those funds toward patrol staffing, vehicles, and a plan for appropriate future detention arrangements.

Building Costilla County a real detention facility

Right now the county has no working jail. That is not a small inconvenience — it means deputies spend hours hauling arrestees to other counties and off our roads, it leaves us dependent on our neighbors' goodwill and space, and it means there is nowhere appropriate to hold someone during booking. Costilla County needs its own detention facility, and I will lead the effort to build one.

And there is already a dedicated funding source to build it. Costilla County voters approved a 1% law-enforcement sales tax intended to go toward a new jail. My plan is to put that money to its promised use: pursue bonding against that dedicated revenue stream — combined with grants such as USDA Rural Development funding — to raise the construction dollars and finally build the facility the tax was meant for. The first question I will answer publicly is a simple one: that tax has been collecting for years — where has the money gone, and how much is there?

I will do it the right way — the opposite of how the last administration handled the jail. That means an honest needs assessment, the right size and type of facility, and a clear-eyed accounting of BOTH the construction cost and the ongoing cost to staff and operate a jail — because operating costs, not construction, are what strain a small county, and they must be funded sustainably before a single cell is built. Because issuing bonds requires voter approval under Colorado law, I will make the full case publicly and put the real numbers before the people who pay for it. After what this county just went through, no detention decision will be made in the dark.

In the meantime: closer, cheaper inmate housing

Building takes time, so we need a sound solution now — and I have already secured one. Today the county hauls inmates as far as Archuleta County near Pagosa Springs, roughly two and a half hours each way. I am working toward an agreement with Rio Grande County to house our inmates there instead — about 55 minutes away, at a reduced cost — and I will formalize it as a written intergovernmental agreement, along with backup agreements with other nearby counties for the times Rio Grande is full.

This is not just cheaper detention — it is more deputies on our roads. Every hour cut from a transport is a deputy back on patrol sooner instead of spending most of a shift driving. And because we will have a solid, affordable interim solution in place, we can build the permanent facility the right way — carefully and on honest numbers — rather than rushing an expensive project under pressure.

Right-size the fleet

The office spent roughly \$140,000 on vehicles. Owning an aging, mismatched fleet means unpredictable repair bills, rapid depreciation, and surprise costs that hit the county budget without warning. There is a strong case for moving to a leased, standardized fleet, and I will pursue it — with the final decision made on the actual numbers, with the Commissioners, and shared publicly.

The case for a uniform leased fleet:

- Lower maintenance costs through standardization. When every vehicle is the same make and model, the office buys one set of parts — tires, oil and air filters, wipers, brakes — in bulk, stocks far less inventory, and services every vehicle the same way, which means less labor per repair.
- Warranty protection. A leased late-model fleet stays under manufacturer warranty, so major repairs are covered instead of landing on the county as unexpected bills. Predictable monthly cost replaces unpredictable breakdowns.
- A professional, recognizable presence. Matching, clearly marked vehicles make the office look professional and let residents recognize their Sheriff's Office on sight — a visible presence that both reassures the public and deters crime.

And it connects to the reserve program: a few of the paid-off older vehicles can be kept and assigned to reserves rather than surplus, so the change redeploys the county's vehicles rather than simply discarding them.

Ending personal use — and using take-home vehicles the right way

Residents are rightly angry that county vehicles were used for personal errands. Let me be clear about the difference: the problem was personal use with no rules — not deputies taking a patrol vehicle home. I will end personal use of county vehicles entirely, and at the same time run a sensible take-home vehicle program under a written policy.

- A clear no-personal-use rule. County vehicles are for official duties and commuting only — no personal errands, no family transport — with mileage logged and the same accountability applied to vehicles as to all county property.

- Take-home vehicles for deputies within a reasonable distance. A deputy who lives within a set radius, or who is on call, may take their vehicle home. This gets help to residents faster, puts more marked patrol vehicles across more of the county as a deterrent, keeps vehicles better maintained, and helps us keep good deputies — at less cost than a raise.
- A cost-based limit, not a personal one. Beyond that radius, the added mileage and fuel outweigh the benefit, so the vehicle is garaged at the office rather than driven long distances home. The line is about protecting taxpayer dollars — not about where any one deputy chooses to live.

Build and defend a real budget

- Adopt zero-based budgeting for the first year — every line must be justified, not simply rolled over from the prior (compromised) budget.
- Reconcile the general ledger to bank and card statements every month, with the Treasurer's office.
- Bring purchasing back to legitimate institutional suppliers and competitive bids rather than retail shopping trips.

Grants as a bridge to a sustainable budget

Several of the programs in this plan will be launched with grant funding that runs for a limited term. I want to be clear about the long game. The grant years are a bridge: they let us stand up programs and prove they work while the county's finances are brought into order through the independent investigation now underway, a forensic audit, and an open, honest budget process. The expectation is that by the time these grants conclude, a properly audited and transparently managed county budget will be able to sustain what the grants started — so the progress does not disappear when the grant does.

3. Keeping Ticket Revenue in Costilla County

Right now, much of the money from traffic citations appears to be leaving our county. Here is why, in plain terms.

When a deputy writes a citation under Colorado state statute as a "Penalty Assessment," the driver pays the Colorado Department of Revenue in Denver — and that revenue goes to the state, not to Costilla County. To keep that money local, citations for routine traffic offenses generally need to be written under a county-adopted Model Traffic Code so they are payable to and handled by the Costilla County Court.

What I will do

- Confirm with the County Attorney whether Costilla County has formally adopted the Model Traffic Code, and if not, work with the Commissioners to adopt it.
- Retrain deputies on which citation form to use so that appropriate violations are cited into county court rather than as state penalty assessments.
- Track citation revenue monthly so the public can see the difference this fix makes.

This is one of the fastest, lowest-cost wins available — it is an administrative correction, not new spending.

4. Staffing the Office and Building 24-Hour Patrol

Public safety is impossible without people on the road. I have already identified roughly eight qualified individuals willing to serve. The goal is to grow responsibly to a patrol core of twelve deputies — the deputies who fill the around-the-clock rotation — fund them honestly, and cover the county every hour of every day.

Hiring plan

1. Onboard the committed candidates first. Verify Colorado POST certification status for each; identify who is certified, who needs the academy, and who can transfer in.
2. Use POST rural and small-agency programs to pay for academy training. Costilla County qualifies as both “rural” and “small” (35 or fewer officers), which opens doors many agencies cannot use.
3. Phase the growth to twelve. Build to full strength as funding and training timelines allow, rather than over-hiring before the money is secured.

How I will pay for staff

- Reallocated jail funds. The re-appropriated jail money is the single largest local source and is intended for exactly this kind of front-line need.
- State workforce grants. Colorado’s Law Enforcement Workforce Recruitment, Retention, and Tuition grant program and the related SMART grant program set aside funding specifically for rural agencies serving fewer than 50,000 residents — which describes Costilla County.
- POST academy scholarships. The Rural & Small Agency Academy Scholarship reimburses basic-academy tuition for candidates who commit to serving a rural jurisdiction for three years — a strong retention tool as well as a hiring one.
- POST Regional & In-Service grants for ongoing training, equipment, travel, and overtime backfill.
- Federal options such as the COPS Hiring Program, which can fund a share of new deputy positions, and Byrne JAG for equipment and drug enforcement — used carefully, since some carry matching and multi-year retention requirements the county must be ready to meet.

Issuing deputies the equipment they need

Today, deputies have to buy their own equipment. That is wrong. It pushes an out-of-pocket cost onto people we are asking to serve, and it invites a dangerous outcome — a deputy buying a cheap vest or an unreliable firearm to save money. I will issue standardized duty equipment — body armor, firearm, patrol rifle, handcuffs, and the rest of the duty gear — so every deputy is properly equipped, the office controls the quality and knows exactly what each deputy carries, and no one’s safety depends on what they can personally afford. Body armor can be funded in

part through the federal Bulletproof Vest Partnership, which matches up to half the cost; the remainder comes through equipment grants such as Byrne JAG and the equipment budget.

Grants to grow from 8 to 12 deputies

I will assign a single point person (initially myself) to own a grant calendar so deadlines are never missed. The priority targets are the state workforce/recruitment grants for salary support, POST scholarships for academy tuition, and federal rural-law-enforcement programs where eligible. Grant funding will supplement — not replace — county funding, as the rules require, so we never build a position we cannot sustain when a grant ends.

24-hour patrol scheduling

Covering a full day, every day, in a rural county is a math problem before it is a scheduling problem. Continuous coverage requires enough deputies that shifts can rotate without burning anyone out.

- Run two platoons on 12-hour shifts — one on days, one on nights — using a fixed, predictable rotation (such as the 2-3-2 Pitman schedule) chosen with deputy input, so coverage never has a gap and deputies can plan their lives.
- Stagger and position deputies so the busiest hours — evenings and weekends — have overlapping coverage rather than a single deputy stretched thin.
- Use mutual-aid and dispatch agreements with neighboring agencies and the State Patrol to backstop coverage during training, leave, and major incidents.
- Publish minimum-staffing targets so the public knows what “covered” actually means and can hold the office to it.

I will be honest about the limits: across 1,200 square miles, the hardest nights may still be thin. Twelve deputies and solid mutual aid cannot put a car on every road at every moment — but they make the lone, unsupported deputy the rare exception instead of the routine, and they ensure that deputy always has backup to call. A separate, detailed staffing and patrol operations plan lays out the schedule, the funding, and the patrol map in full.

A volunteer reserve program

I will also establish a volunteer reserve deputy program — POST-certified reserves who serve without salary to back up patrol on tough calls, cover events and traffic, and assist with search-and-rescue. Reserves add trained feet on the ground at a small fraction of the cost of a full-time deputy, and a few of the paid-off older patrol vehicles can be kept and assigned to them rather than surplus. Reserves supplement our deputies; they never replace the patrol core that staffs the 24/7 rotation.

Well-trained deputies

A professional office is a trained office. Good training protects the public, protects deputies, and protects the county from the lawsuits that poor training invites. I will make ongoing training a standing priority, not an afterthought — covering the tactical skills (firearms, defensive tactics, emergency vehicle operation, active-shooter response, and crisis intervention), the legal

knowledge (use-of-force law, search and seizure, civil rights, and proper report writing and testimony), and the community-facing skills (de-escalation, ethics, and professional conduct) that together make a deputy someone the public can trust. Much of this is funded through Colorado POST training grants, which cover instruction, equipment, travel, and the overtime needed to backfill shifts while deputies train.

I also bring training credentials to the office myself. As a Krav Maga instructor and a tactical shooting instructor, I will obtain the appropriate Colorado POST instructor certifications so the office can deliver defensive-tactics and firearms training in-house — saving the cost of outside instructors and allowing more frequent, hands-on training, including for our reserves and school resource officers. Qualified local legal professionals will help teach the law blocks. All training will follow recognized POST standards and be properly documented, so doing it in-house saves money without ever cutting corners on quality or accountability.

5. A Full-Time Co-Responder: The Right Help for the Right Call

This is the change I am proudest to promise, because it fits Costilla County exactly. In a county our size — rural, isolated, with deep need and no operating jail — many of the calls our deputies answer are not really crimes. They are crises. A neighbor in a mental-health emergency. Someone struggling with addiction. An elderly resident alone and freezing in the winter with no one else to call.

Right now, the only help we can send to those calls is an armed deputy, because there is no one else. That is the wrong answer for the person in crisis, and it pulls our deputies away from the police work only they can do. With no local jail, a deputy who responds to a mental-health crisis has nowhere appropriate to take that person except a long drive to a distant emergency room. That helps no one.

What I will do

I will bring a full-time co-responder to Costilla County — a licensed behavioral-health clinician, partnered through our regional behavioral-health provider, who responds alongside deputies on crisis, mental-health, addiction, and welfare calls. The clinician de-escalates the situation on scene, conducts an immediate behavioral-health assessment, and connects the person to real treatment and follow-up care instead of a jail cell or a card with a phone number.

I will also train every deputy in Crisis Intervention (CIT), so that even when the clinician is not on scene, the response is calm, safe, and pointed toward help rather than handcuffs.

How we pay for it — without raising the county's burden

Colorado runs a dedicated state co-responder grant program, administered through the Behavioral Health Administration, specifically to bring these clinician-and-deputy teams to communities like ours. Other small rural Colorado counties have used it to fund co-responder positions housed in cooperation with their sheriff's offices, with awards substantial enough to cover a full-time clinician and program costs. Because the entire San Luis Valley is federally designated as medically underserved, our need is exactly what these funds are meant to address.

In practice, the grant flows to the behavioral-health partner that employs the clinician, and the sheriff's office brings the program to the county and houses the partnership. My job is to make that program happen — not to add a salary the county cannot yet afford.

Built to last beyond the grant

Grant terms are limited, and I will be honest about that. The plan is to use the initial grant years to stand the program up and prove it works — tracking calls diverted from arrest, emergency-room trips avoided, and people connected to lasting care. Co-responder programs elsewhere in Colorado report that the overwhelming majority of their calls are resolved without an arrest. That record is what makes grant renewal straightforward and gives the county every reason to sustain the program through honest, properly audited budgeting once our finances are in order.

An honest word about poverty

Some of these calls are not mental-health emergencies at all — they are poverty. People so poor they cannot get firewood or water in the depth of winter, calling the only number that always answers. I will not pretend a sheriff can end poverty in Costilla County; that would be a promise I could not keep. What I can promise is this: when you call for help, the right person will show up — and that person will connect you to help that lasts longer than one visit, through the energy-assistance programs, county human services, and local aid that already exist but that too many isolated residents cannot reach on their own.

6. Safer Roads and Neighborhoods

Tackling drugs in Costilla County

- Join or strengthen a regional drug task force so a small county is not fighting trafficking alone, and so we share intelligence and resources with neighboring jurisdictions and the State Patrol.
- Pair enforcement with treatment and diversion. Arrests alone will not fix addiction; partnerships with the San Luis Valley's behavioral-health and public-health resources address the demand side.
- Pursue HIDTA and state drug-enforcement grant funding to support investigations and equipment.
- Build trust so residents will report. Most rural drug intelligence comes from neighbors who trust the office enough to call.

Tackling theft

- Restore visible, consistent patrol — the single biggest deterrent to property crime — which 24-hour coverage makes possible.
- Improve case follow-through with proper report-writing, evidence handling, and coordination with the DA so cases actually get filed and prosecuted.

- Launch a simple community reporting and neighborhood-watch effort, especially for rural property, equipment, and livestock theft. (See the crime-prevention education and standing programs in the community section.)
- Track theft data by area and type so patrols are directed where crime is actually occurring.

Improving response times

- More deputies and round-the-clock coverage mean someone is already on shift when a call comes in.
- Pre-position deputies across the county's geography rather than clustering them, so no corner of the county waits far longer than another.
- Strengthen dispatch and radio coverage and mutual-aid response so the nearest available unit responds regardless of agency.
- Publish average response times by area annually — another measure the public can hold me to.

Protecting our schools

Keeping our children safe — and being prepared for the worst, including an active-shooter event — is a responsibility I will not treat lightly. I will build a School Resource Officer program: a consistent, trained, trusted officer presence in our schools, grown in stages toward dedicated full-time SROs as funding allows, and staffed in the meantime by deputies and thoroughly vetted reserves on a committed schedule. Every officer assigned to a school will clear enhanced background screening and complete recognized SRO training — that standard never bends. Beyond a presence in the building, real safety comes from a coordinated system: rapid-response training with the school district, joint drills, threat assessment, and facility reviews. Our SROs will also mentor students and provide prevention education, including through the DARE program. Federal school-safety funding, including the COPS Hiring Program's priority for School Resource Officers and the STOP School Violence Program, will help pay for it.

7. Staying Connected to the Community — Every Day

An office that hides its work earns suspicion; an office that shows its work earns trust. I will keep the people of Costilla County informed on a daily basis — not once a year at a budget meeting, but as a regular habit of the office.

What daily contact looks like

- A daily public update. A short post, log, or video covering what the office is working on — notable calls, road and weather hazards, scams making the rounds, found property, and safety reminders — so residents always know what is happening in their county.
- A human face, not just a badge. Room for the lighter side too — introducing deputies, recognizing good neighbors, county history, and the occasional bit of humor. People support an office they feel they actually know.
- Two-way, not one-way. Easy ways to ask questions, report concerns, and get a real answer — turning passive followers into an extra set of eyes across a large, rural county.

- Plain-language alerts when it matters. Road closures, missing persons, severe weather, and public-safety warnings pushed out quickly through the channels residents already use.
- Consistency over polish. The goal is showing up every day, reliably, in the public's view — the same reliability the office will show on the road.

This is also accountability in action. The quarterly spending reports, response-time data, and complaint statistics promised earlier in this plan will be part of that same steady public conversation.

Helping you protect your own property

In a county this large, the most powerful crime-fighting tool is often a well-prepared resident. A big part of the daily contact will be practical crime-prevention education — simple, free or low-cost steps people can take to make themselves a harder target. This is force multiplication: every home that is harder to burglarize is a crime that never happens.

- Regular prevention tips. How to secure doors, windows, sheds, vehicles, and equipment; how to make a home look occupied when you are away (light timers, holding mail and deliveries, varying routines); how to protect rural property, trailers, and livestock; and how to spot the scams that target our residents.
- Straight talk on security cameras. Practical guidance on what to look for — field of view, local versus cloud storage, night vision, and power and connectivity options that actually work on rural properties without reliable internet — and how to place and aim cameras well. The office will teach you how to choose wisely rather than endorse any particular brand.
- Seasonal and situational alerts. Targeted reminders tied to what is actually happening — a string of break-ins, holiday-season package theft, hunting-season property issues — so the advice is timely, not generic.

Standing prevention programs

Beyond daily tips, I will stand up three proven programs that turn good advice into lasting structure:

- Neighborhood Watch. Organized, supported groups of neighbors looking out for one another — the classic, effective backbone of rural crime prevention.
- A voluntary camera registry. Residents and businesses who have security cameras can choose to let the office know, so that after a nearby crime, deputies can ask whether their footage caught anything. Participation is entirely opt-in, the office never accesses any camera directly, and residents can withdraw at any time — it simply helps us know who to ask.
- Operation Identification. A program to help residents mark and record serial numbers on valuables, tools, and equipment, so stolen property can be identified and returned and is harder for thieves to sell.

Anonymous tips — and a way to report the office itself

People often know something but are afraid to speak up, especially in a small county where everyone knows everyone. I will put two clearly separated options on the Sheriff's Office website:

- Submit a crime tip — anonymously. An anonymous web form for reporting crime or suspicious activity, so residents can help without fear of retaliation. Tips will be reviewed promptly and acted on.
- File a complaint about the office. A clearly marked channel for reporting misconduct by the office or its members. These complaints feed directly into the tracked accountability system described earlier — including the rule that any complaint involving the Sheriff, command staff, or their allies is automatically referred to an independent investigator. You will never have to bring a complaint about the Sheriff to the Sheriff.

I will also use our Facebook page to fight crime in the open: posting about incidents and asking the public for information that helps solve them. I will do this responsibly — seeking information about an incident, not publicly accusing people who have not been charged — so it builds safety and trust rather than rumor.

8. Keeping Good People

Constant turnover is expensive and dangerous. Every deputy who leaves takes training dollars and community knowledge with them. Retention is a budget strategy as much as a morale strategy.

- Build a fair, written pay scale with predictable step increases, so deputies can see a future here.
- Use the POST scholarship's three-year service commitment to anchor new hires, paired with our own reasons to stay.
- Invest in training and advancement so deputies grow their careers in Costilla County instead of leaving for larger agencies.
- Issue proper duty equipment instead of making deputies buy their own — a real, tangible benefit that removes an out-of-pocket burden and helps us compete with larger agencies for good people.
- Fix the culture. A professional, honest, well-led office where people are treated with respect is the strongest retention tool there is.
- Schedule humanely. Predictable time off and balanced workloads keep people healthy and on the job.

9. Cleaning House and Investigating Corruption

The financial review that started with the jail food account has already prompted the District Attorney to examine the rest of county government. I will be a partner in that work, not an obstacle to it.

- Cooperate fully with the District Attorney and any outside investigators, and preserve all records.
- Refer, do not bury. Where the Sheriff's Office uncovers evidence of wrongdoing, it goes to the appropriate independent authority — never handled quietly in-house.
- Request an independent forensic audit of the Sheriff's Office accounts covering the period in question, so the public gets a complete, professional accounting.
- Set the standard internally first. The same transparency and purchasing rules I demand of others will govern my own office, in full public view.

My Commitment

I am not asking voters to trust words — I am asking them to hold me to a plan. Every promise in this document is measurable, and I will report on each of them publicly. The people of Costilla County paid for an office that was supposed to protect them. It is time they got one.

— Kirk Taylor, Kirk Taylor for Costilla County Sheriff

A note on sources: Financial findings in this plan are drawn from Costilla County's own records obtained through Colorado Open Records Act requests. Grant programs referenced are administered by Colorado POST and the Colorado Division of Criminal Justice; specific award amounts and eligibility should be confirmed at application. This is a campaign platform, not legal advice.