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## STATEMENT

### **Most Reverend John C. Wester on the Assassination Attempt of Donald J. Trump**

ALBUQUERQUE – Monday, July 15, 2024—IMMEDIATE RELEASE— The following is a statement from Most Reverend John C. Wester, Archbishop of Santa Fe, on the attempted assassination of Donald J. Trump:

Joining my voice with the voices of the members of the Archdiocese of Santa Fe, I wish to express my shock and sadness at the attempted assassination of Mr. Trump and at the shooting of several innocent victims, one of whom died. Once again, our nation must face the tragedy of political violence, which is an affront to our democracy and the freedoms we enjoy in our country. We are all keenly aware of the polarization that exists in the United States and of the vitriol that characterizes our political discourse. While we pray for the safety of all those who run for public office and for those who currently serve us as elected officials, we must also commit ourselves to supporting the principles undergirding the political process. Freedom of speech, tolerance, respect and humility are essential ingredients to a successful democracy. In this general election year, the Archdiocese of Santa Fe commits itself to supporting those principles and to praying for the safety of our government leaders and those seeking office as we consider their candidacy with respect and thoughtfulness.

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