



Contact: Eli Magana  
702-714-0130  
[press@kimicole.com](mailto:press@kimicole.com)

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## **Democrat Kimi Cole announces historic bid for Nevada Lieutenant Governor**

*The longtime stalwart of the Nevada Democratic Party politics would be first Trans candidate nationwide elected to statewide office*

CARSON CITY, NEVADA—On Wednesday morning, Democrat Kimi Cole announced her intentions to seek the open Nevada Lieutenant Governor’s seat in 2022. Cole, former Chair of the Douglas County Democratic Party and who currently serves as Chair of the Nevada Democratic Rural Caucus, would be the first openly transgender candidate elected to statewide office in the country. She is the first Democratic candidate to formally announce a bid for the seat since it was vacated by former Lt. Governor Kate Marshall earlier this year after being appointed to a post in the Biden Administration.

“I’m a lifelong Nevadan with deep roots all across our state. I’m running for Lieutenant Governor because I believe Nevadans of all walks of life want and deserve authentic leadership, and that’s exactly what this campaign is about. Our economy, climate, and everyday life is rapidly changing, and we need someone who can help lead our transition into the new era,” **Cole said**. “This past year, we have proven our resilience—fighting COVID, the climate crisis, and economic collapse—but far too many of our political leaders remain intent upon dividing us up and even threatening the very essence of our Democracy. It’s time for us to come together and continue to make progress on the promise of Nevada for every Nevadan.”

**Kimi Cole**, a Nevadan since 1956, is currently based in Carson City, and is a retired construction project manager. Cole is openly transgender, having publicly transitioned a decade ago, and is a champion for LGBTQ+ rights. She has been a longtime fixture in Nevada Democratic politics since 2012, and formerly served as Chair of the Douglas County Democratic Party. Cole currently serves as Chair of the Rural Nevada Democratic Caucus, and has long advocated for more investment by the Party in Nevada’s rural counties. Her work organizing rural Democrats has served as a model for state Democratic parties across the nation. When elected, Kimi Cole will become the first transgender person to serve in statewide office in the United States.

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