

The Guardian

The monthly newsletter of the New Mexico Dept. of Veterans' Services May 2025

•Website: <u>www.nmdvs.org</u>

•Facebook: <u>NMDVSHealthcare2015</u>

•Instagram: <u>newmexicoveterans</u>

New Mexico Department of Veterans' Services Women Veterans Conference 2025



Details of the event:

- Date: June 14th, 2025
- Time: 8:00am 4:00pm
- Location: The Greater Albuquerque Association of Realtors Event Center (GAAR), 1635 University Blvd. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87102
- **RSVP:** Register using the QR Code located on the following flyer to hold your spot, or click <u>here</u>, as attendance is limited.

If you are interested in attending the event as a speaker or exhibitor, please contact Amberly Viner, the Women Veteran Program Manager, at 505-372-9106 or <u>amberly.viner@dvs.nm.gov</u>. Please note: You will also need to register to confirm your participation.

More information, including the lineup of speakers, workshops, and networking opportunities, will soon be announced. Stay connected via our NMDVS social media pages.

State Benefits personnel will be at the conference to assist eligible Veterans and unmarried widows/widowers applying for property tax waivers, exemptions, and park passes.

Our Certified Veterans Service Officers will be on-site to assist with VA benefits claims and help with questions regarding VA healthcare eligibility and enrollment, disability compensation, and state benefits.

Documents needed to verify eligibility:

- A copy of DD-214, NA 13038, NOAA Form 56-16, or PHS Form 1867
- VA Award Letter and any other VA correspondence to claim benefits
- NM Driver's License, ID, voter registration card, or your most recent NM State Personal Income Tax Return

Claim the benefits you have earned and join us for this event. To find an office near you, call NMDVS at 1-866-433-8387 or visit <u>https://www.nmdvs.org/</u>

We invite you to the New Mexico Department of Veterans' Services (NMDVS) Women Veterans Conference 2025. This year's conference theme, *"Honoring Our Past, Shaping Our Future"*, will bring together community leaders and advocates as we celebrate women Veterans' contributions, achievements, along with their ongoing resilience.

Let's honor your service, share your stories, and forge a brighter future together. Whether you're attending to learn, network, or find inspiration, this event is for you and can truly make a difference in the lives of our New Mexico women Veterans.



"Honoring our past, shaping our future"
SATURDAY, JUNE 14TH, 2025 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM (S)
GREATER ALBUQUERQUE ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS 1635 UNIVERSITY BLVD NE, ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87102

SCAN QR CODE TO REGISTER LIMITED TO 150 ATTENDEES







Memorial Day Ceremonies at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Angel Fire

Monday, May 26^{th,} the New Mexico Department of Veterans' Services (NMDVS) will honor and mourn those who paid the ultimate sacrifice in our nation's service at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Angel Fire, New Mexico. For the last 54 years, Memorial Day weekend has been an emotional and healing time for Veterans and their families at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. NMDVS Deputy Secretary Eric James will be one of the speakers at the ceremony in the Memorial Amphitheater with this year's keynote speaker, Mr. Steven Trout, professor at the University of Alabama and author of "The Vietnam Veterans Memorial at Angel Fire: War, Remembrance and an American Tragedy," published in 2020.





This year's Angel Fire Memorial Day activities include the "Run For The Wall Riders" on Friday, May 16^{th,} at 3:30 p.m. The annual cross-country motorcycle ride to Washington, D.C. stops at the Memorial and the half-scale replica of the Vietnam Wall located across the road from the Chapel.

On the eve of Memorial Day, Sunday, May 25th, starting at 6:00 p.m., a remembrance vigil for Veterans who have passed will include a performance from the New Mexico National Guard's 44th Army Ensemble Band, a flag presentation by the Vietnam Vets Legacy Vets Motorcycle Club, a presentation by the Woman Veteran Warriors Color Guard, and special guest speaker Carla Dean of Gold Star Spouses of America Inc.

The Memorial Day Ceremony begins at 9:00 a.m. with the annual flag march starting at the corner of US Highway 64 and Highway 434 and concludes at the Memorial. The ceremony will feature special guests and a musical performance by the 44th Army Band Ensemble starting at 10:45 a.m. It will also feature a rifle volley by Tsidi Toii Veterans Organization, the presentation of colors by the Women Veteran Warriors Honor Guard, and a static display of a UH-60 Blackhawk Helicopter.

NMDVS manages the Memorial which now features the newly dedicated half-scale replica of the Vietnam Memorial Wall. The 123-foot-long black granite wall is engraved with the 58,318 names of every American Servicemember known to have been killed in Vietnam, including those of 400 New Mexicans.

The memorial also includes a museum, library, visitor center, memorabilia exhibit, artwork, and sculptures that provide a glimpse into the daily lives of our military history. The Memorial amphitheater, memorial walkway, and memorial gardens provide a space for reflection and remembrance. The Memorial overlooks the Angel Fire State Veterans Cemetery, which opened in July 2020. Approximately 45,000 individuals visit each year.

The Angel Fire Vietnam Veterans Memorial and Vietnam Memorial Wall are at 34 Country Club Rd. Angel Fire, NM 87710. For more information, visit the NMDVS website at <u>https://www.nmdvs.org/</u><u>nm-memorials/</u> and the David Westphall Veterans Foundation at https://www.vietnamveteransmemorial.org/



Memorial Day Events



REMEMBERING THEIR SACRIFICE. SUPPORTING VETERANS. New Mexico Department of Veterans' Services (NMDVS) Cabinet Secretary Jamison Herrera will speak at the annual City of Albuquerque's Memorial Day Ceremony on Monday, May 26th, beginning at 10:30 a.m.

The event is held yearly at the New Mexico Veterans Memorial Park, 1100 Louisiana SE, Albuquerque, NM 87108. The ceremony includes the presentation of colors, the national anthem, and guest speakers who pay tribute to our fallen heroes, offering us a chance to honor their sacrifice.

Before the ceremony, the Memorial Day Parade will start at 9:00 a.m. at USS Bullhead Memorial Park, 1606 San Pedro SE, Albuquerque, NM 87108. The parade will feature a procession of veterans, active-duty military personnel, and community groups. It will travel east on Gibson Boulevard from San Mateo Boulevard, culminating at Veterans Memorial Park. NMDVS encourages everyone to attend a Memorial Day/Memorial Day weekend ceremony at any of the communities listed below.

City	Event	Venue	Time	Point of Contact	Phone #
		Friday, May 23rd			
Farmington	ceremony	Three Rivers Estates Senior Home	1pm	Mark Decker	(505) 947-5179
		Saturday, May 24th			
Roswell	flag placements	Memory Lawn Cemetery	9:30am	Don Weld	(575) 495-3325
Santa Fe	flag placements	Santa Fe National Cemetery	8am	Sergio Briones	(505) 988-6400
Santa Rosa	ceremony	David J. Flores Verterans Center	11am	Andrew Sanchez	(575) 472-0380
		Sunday, May 25th			
Questa	ceremony	Questa Healing Field/Hwy 522	1pm	Village of Questa	(575) 586-0694
		Memorial Day, Monday, May 26th			
Albuquerque	parade	USS Bullhead Memorial	8am	Tom Tozier	(505) 768-4495
Albuquerque	ceremony	New Mexico Veterans Memorial	10:30am	Tom Tozier	(505) 768-4495
Cloudcroft	ceremony	Zenith Park/Blue Star Memorial	9am	Paul Benshoof	(702) 701-1691
Cloudcroft	ceremony	James Canyon Cemetery	10:30am	Paul Benshoof	(702) 701-1691
Estancia	ceremony	Estancia Cemetery	10am	Amer. Legion Post 22	(910) 988-5098
Fort Bayard	ceremony	Fort Bayard National Cemetery	10am	Phil Torres	(575) 537-3982
Ignacio (CO)	ceremony	Southern Ute Veterans Park	10am	Southern Ute Vets Assoc.	(970) 563-0100
Las Cruces	ceremony	Veterans Memorial Park	7:30pm	City of Las Cruces	(575) 541-2000
Los Alamos	ceremony	Guaje Pines Cemetery	11am	Ken Nadeau	(505) 695-0528
Mayhill	ceremony	Mayhill Cemetery	11am	Paul Benshoof	(702) 701-1691
Newcomb	ceremony	Newcomb Chapterhouse	4pm	Mark Decker	(505) 947-5179
Roswell	ceremony	McBride Veterans Cemetery	10am	Jeremy Hurley	(575) 626-5888
Sacramento	ceremony	Weed Cemetery	noon	Paul Benshoof	(702) 701-1691
Santa Fe	ceremony	Santa Fe National Cemetery	10am	Sergio Briones	(505) 988-6400
Shiprock	flag placements	Shiprock Cemetery	6am	Mark Decker	(505) 947-5179
Shiprock	ceremony	Shiprock Cemetery	11am	Mark Decker	(505) 947-5179
Shiprock	retiring of flags	Shiprock Cemetery	1pm	Mark Decker	(505) 947-5179
Window Rock	ceremony	Navajo Veterans Memorial Park (AZ)	7:30am	Bobbie Ann Baldwin	(928) 871-7307
Zuni Pueblo	ceremony	Veterans Memorial Park	9am	Angela Waseta-Rivera	(505) 728-1275

Veterans - Related & Memorial Weekend Programs



New Mexico PBS / KNME -- Ch. 5.1 & Ch. 5.4 & Ch.5.3 (FNX) <u>Veterans - Related & Memorial Weekend Programs: May 25 – June 3, 2025</u> For Those Who Serve / Served, and Their Families, Friends & Communities



THE NATIONAL MEMORIAL DAY CONCERT 2025

Ch. 5.1: Sunday, May 25 7PM (LIVE) / 8:30PM (REPEAT); Ch. 5.4: Tuesday, May 27 7PM / 8:30PM

Join NMPBS for the 36th annual broadcast of America's national night of remembrance, live from the U.S. Capitol, featuring stories and tributes woven with musical performances by world-renowned artists and the National Symphony Orchestra. The multi-award-winning event honors the military service of all our men and women in uniform, their families and those who have made the ultimate sacrifice for our country.

ELVIS AND THE USS ARIZONA --- Ch. 5.1 – Sunday, May 25, 10PM

This program tells the surprising story of how one of music's biggest icons helped to finish a USS Arizona memorial in Pearl Harbor.

MILES, MORALE AND MEMORIES: BOB HOPE AND WORLD WAR II

Ch. 5.1 – Monday, May 26, 9PM / Wednesday, May 28, 3PM; Ch. 5.4 – Tuesday, May 27, 10PM

Legendary entertainer Bob Hope and his troupe of performers & stars traveled more than 80,000 miles during World War II to entertain the troops.

DEFYING DEATH ON THE ATLANTIC --- Ch. 5.1 - Monday, May 26, 10PM

For four Air Force veterans, "The World's Toughest Row," an unassisted boat race crossing the Atlantic, with plans to raise funds and awareness for other Vets, became the ultimate test of body & mind.

NATIONAL NATIVE AMERICAN VETERANS MEMORIAL DEDICATION

Ch. 5.3 FNX – Monday, May 26, 5:30PM / Tuesday, June 3, 11:30PM

Property Tax Exemption Events

The New Mexico Department of Veterans' Services (NMDVS) is still accepting applications from Veterans for the new property tax exemptions recently signed into law on March 20, 2025.

The standard Veteran property tax exemption is now \$10,000 and will be applied to the Veteran/unmarried Spouse survivor's 2025 notice of value. In 2026 and subsequent tax years the amount shall be adjusted for inflation.

For the tax year 2026, the Disabled Veterans Exemption allows for the Veteran/unmarried surviving spouse to apply for an adjusted exemption in an amount equal to the percentage of the Veteran's disability as determined by federal law. Veterans who choose to add the new Disabled Veteran tax exemption must submit an application to NMDVS and file it with their County Assessor. These exemptions are designed to provide financial relief to all Veterans for their service and sacrifice to our state and nation.

NMDVS has scheduled Veteran property tax exemption events throughout the state to explain the changes. NMDVS will also have Veteran Service Officers (VSOs) on-site to assist Veterans and their eligible dependents with filing VA claims and obtaining federal and state benefits.

Two Albuquerque events will be held simultaneously at Bernalillo County Assessor satellite locations at Bernalillo County My Vote Centers.

Desumants needed to verify aligibility:			
Santa Fe	5/21	La Cienega Community Center, 136 Camino San Jose, Santa Fe, NM 87507	10am-2pm
Bernalillo	5/14	Northeast, The Shoppes, 6001 San Mateo Blvd. NE Albuquerque, NM 87109	9am-3pm
Bernalillo	5/14	Westside, Andalucia Center, 5600 Coors Blvd. NW Albuquerque, NM 87120	9am-3pm

Documents needed to verify eligibility:

- A copy of DD-214, NA 13038, NOAA Form 56-16, or PHS Form 1867
- VA Award Letter showing percentage of disability
- NM Driver's License, ID, Voter registration card or most recent NM Personal Income Tax Return
- Widow/Widower copy of marriage and death certificates

If you have questions on the new Veteran's property tax law, please call the New Mexico Department of Veterans' Services at 505-827-6300 or 505-383-2400. Visit <u>nmdvs.org</u> for a property tax exemption form and get your certificate now.





OF VETERANS' SERVICES

BERNALILLO COUNTY ASSESSORS VETERANS PROPERTY TAX EVENT

Two Convenient Bernalillo County locations available:

- 1. Your Vote Center @ Andalucia Shopping Center 5600 Coors Blvd NW, Albuquerque, NM 87120
- 2. Your Vote Center @ The Shoppes 6001 San Mateo Blvd NE, Albuquerque, NM 87109

Wednesday May 14, 2025 / 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM



NM Dept of Veterans' Services & Bernalillo County Assessor's office representatives will be on site to assist eligible veterans and unmarried widows applying for:

- * \$10,000 Standard Veterans Property Tax Exemption.
- * Percentage Based Disabled Veterans Property Tax Exemption.
- * Disabled Veterans Permanent & Total property Tax Waiver.

The following documents will be required to verify Property Tax certificate eligibility:

1. A copy of your DD-214, NA 13038, NOAA form 56-16, or PHS form 1867

* DD214 must be full form, unredacted and include character of service

* Visit www.archives.gov to request discharge paperwork if needed.

2. If applicable, VA Federal Award letter verifying service-connected disability rating

* If you do not have a copy of your current VA Award letter, a free copy can be obtained by establishing an account at www.va.gov or by calling 1-800-827-1000.

3. Proof of New Mexico Residency - Includes one of the following documents:

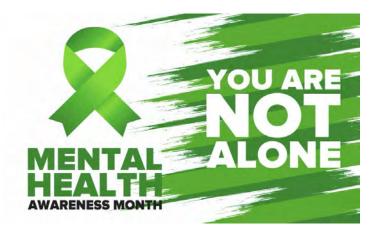
Valid NM Driver's license / Current voters registration card / Most recent NM income tax return

May is Mental Health Awareness Month

Mental Health Awareness Month was established in 1949 to increase awareness of the importance of mental health and wellness in Americans' lives and to celebrate recovery from mental illness.

The New Mexico Department of Veterans' Services Healthcare Division works with the VA and other organizations to increase awareness about the vital role mental health plays in our

overall health and well-being and provides resources and information to support Veterans and communities who may need mental health support.





You don't have to go through whatever you're facing alone; support is available here in New Mexico. Whether you're feeling overwhelmed, struggling with stress, or need someone to talk to, trained professionals are available 24/7, free of charge, and completely confidential.

Call or text the Veterans Crisis Line at 988 and press 1 to speak with a counselor specializing in serving Veterans.

For more information on the services and programs offered by NMDVS and it's partners please contact the Healthcare Division at 1-866-433-8387 or visit our website at <u>https://www.nmdvs.org/healthcare/</u>

Diane Mourning Brown, Healthcare Coordination Director, Retires



Ms. Mourning Brown retired from the State of New Mexico and the Department of Veterans' Services (NMDVS) on May 1, 2025. She worked as the Division Director for nearly 4 years. Before NMDVS, Mourning Brown served in a Governor-appointed position as the Director for the New Mexico Division of Vocational Rehabilitation. She started at the state level as the associate director of the New Mexico Martin Luther King Jr. Commission, where she elevated services for youth and the African American community in New Mexico. In that role, Ms. Mourning Brown planned and implemented the annual MLK Parade and Ceremonies held throughout the state.

Ms. Mourning Brown spent over 30 years working in the non-profit sector as executive director, including the YWCA of Albuquerque, the Community College of Denver, and management positions at the United Way (Denver, Tucson, and Albuquerque).

Diane Mourning Brown and NMDVS Deputy Secretary, Eric James

NMDVS thanks Diane for her contributions to Veteran healthcare in New Mexico and wishes her the best as she enjoys her retirement with her daughter, son-in-law, and four grandchildren.

Spring Honor Guard Training Conference and Competition

On Friday, April 25th, at the Sonoma Ranch Golf Course in Las Cruces, Honor Guard teams took part in the 16th semi annual conference. Dedicated to training and performance review, the conference included an overview of the New Mexico Army National Guard (NMANG), Military Funeral Honor Team (MFHT) program, presented by the New Mexico Department of Veterans' Services (NMDVS). NMDVS manages and supports the state's 32 all-volunteer teams registered with the agency that render military honors at funerals of honorably discharged Veterans throughout the state of New Mexico.



After training, each team rendered honors at a mock funeral. A panel of judges graded their performances based on how the teams performed the flag fold, presented the flag, and, in the case of larger units, provided a rifle volley.

The judges awarded first place in the following four categories: **Small division**: American Legion Post 13 (Albuquerque) **Medium division**: American Legion Post 12 (Santa Fe) **Large division**: Marine Corps League/Detachment 478, El Pedro Diablo (Las Cruces) **Bugle competition:** Alfred Bourguet, American Legion Post 13 (Albuquerque)



NMDVS, the New Mexico National Guard, and AARP New Mexico created the *Military Honors Burial Program* to help Honor Guards comply with federal law, allowing a military funeral for anyone with a discharge other than dishonorable. Due to our state's large size, these all-volunteer honor guards are called upon to render honors at most veterans, funerals throughout New Mexico. Neither NMDVS nor the NMANG is involved with scheduling an Honor Guard. Families must work with funeral homes to arrange for a military funeral. For more information about all-volunteer Honor Guards, contact Michael Saiz at <u>Michael.Saiz@dvs.nm.gov</u> or call (505) 487-6740.

Spring Honor Guard Training Conference and Competition



First place Small Honor Guard competition: American Legion Post 13/Albuquerque (from left to right): NMANG Sgt. Ivan Cano, Alfred Gomez, Sean Kassebaum, Chris Sedillo, NMDVS Director of Benefits Ed Mendez.



First place Medium Honor Guard competition: American Legion Post 12/Santa Fe (from left to right): NMANG Sgt. Ivan Cano, Leo Gorospe Jr., Mike Luna, Terry Becker, Ezequiel, Acevedo, Daniel Nava, Gary Bland, Patricia Finley, NMDVS Director of Benefits Ed Mendez.





First place large Honor Guard competition: Marine Corp League 478/Las Cruces (from left to right): NMANG Sgt. Ivan Cano, Andres Rivera, Ed Clark, Richard Turk, George Hernandez, Larry Rodriguez, Don Marquez, Ruben Telles, Gilbert Tarin, Joe Montoya, Frank Brennan, Jeff Eakman, NMDVS Director of Benefits Ed Mendez.

Top "live" bugler honors went to Alfred Bourguet from American Legion Post 13 Albuquerque (from left to right): NMANG Sgt. Ivan Cano, Alfred Bourguet, NMDVS Director of Benefits Ed Mendez.

2025 NACVSO Leadership Summit Unites National Leaders in Veterans Advocacy

The 2025 NACVSO Leadership Summit convened in Washington, D.C. in April, bringing together state and county Veterans Service Officers from across the nation for a pivotal four-day event. This year's summit emphasized collaboration, innovation, and strategic planning to strengthen the delivery of Veterans' benefits nationwide. The gathering featured information briefings from top Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) leaders.

Veterans Administration Secretary Doug Collins addressed the summit on the future of Veterans' policy, emphasizing accountability, modernization, and outreach to underserved veteran populations. He praised the essential role of NACVSO members in bridging the gap between federal benefits and local communities. Following Secretary Collins, Under Secretary for Benefits Michael Frueh delivered an update on VBA's modernization initiatives, including advancements in claims automation, PACT Act implementation, and efforts to reduce the claims backlog.

Acting VHA Under Secretary for Health Dr. Steven Lieberman spoke about expanding access to mental health services, enhancing rural care delivery, and investing in Veteran-centric innovation. Gary Powers, Acting Principal Deputy Under Secretary for the National Cemetery Administration, reemphasized the importance of honoring Veterans with dignity in their final resting places. With renewed energy and a unified vision, NACVSO leaders left the summit inspired to continue their critical work serving Veterans and their families across the country.

New Mexico Department of Veterans' Services was represented at the summit by Robin Wilson, Division Director of Field Services, Dagmar Youngberg, Quality Control and Training Manager, and Amberly Viner, Women Veterans Program Manager. In addition to attending the VA leadership briefings, the NMDVS team met with Congressman Gabe Vasquez and key staff members from the offices of Representative Melanie Stansbury, Representative Teresa Leger Fernández, Senator Ben Ray Luján, and Senator Martin Heinrich. These vital discussions focused on current legislation impacting New Mexico Veterans and provided an opportunity to share updates on the unique challenges faced by Veterans across the state. Their presence at the summit underscored New Mexico's Department of Veterans' Services commitment to ensuring that Veterans' voices were heard.







Left Photo: (left to right): Amberly Viner, VA Sec. Doug Collins. Middle Photo: (left to right): Dagmar Youngberg, Amberly Viner, Robin Wilson. Photo Right: (left to right) VA Sec. Doug Collins, Robin Wilson.

Governor's Veteran Advisory Council Quarterly Meeting

The Governor's Veterans Advisory Council (GVAC) meeting was held April 12th in Roswell at the ENMU Campus Union Building. The GVAC council is attached to the New Mexico Department of Veterans' Services (NMDVS) and supports the needs of Veterans, reviews policies, provides recommendations, and consults with the Veteran community.

GVAC Co-Chair Rudy Martinez began the meeting by focusing on the Veterans transportation program, accessibility of medical care, and communicating the availability of benefits to younger generations. (NMDVS) Deputy Secretary Eric James shared the yearto-date report of the statewide transportation program statistics, highlighting over 931 confirmed rides and



ride request growth of over 27 percent from January to March 2025. NMDVS Cabinet Secretary Jamison Herrera said, "NMDVS is continuing to build on the growing program with more ride service providers and advertising, with a combination of federal and state funding."

NMDVS Program Directors shared updates on the statewide outreach efforts to inform Veterans about new property tax exemption increases, suicide prevention, and the expansion of state Veterans Cemeteries. The meeting concluded with a question-and-answer period for attendees and an opportunity to visit with Veteran Service Officers to check on additional benefits and services they may not be aware of.





Left Photo (left to right): DAV Commander Kevin Dasing; American Legion Commander Post 28, Greg Seely; and VFW Commander Post 12184, Mack Dyer. Right Photo NMDVS Cabinet Secretary Jamison Herrera visits with Veterans seeking more information on NMDVS programs.

Upcoming DVS Veterans' Benefits Outreach Visits

NMDVS is scheduled to make the following outreach visits at the locations listed below. Veterans and/or their eligible dependents are encouraged to stop by to file for or ask information about--VA disability ratings, VA medical or mental health care, retiree pensions, military burials, and many other VA benefits.

Staff can also help with applying for state Veterans' benefits such as discounted fishing and hunting licenses, Veterans' license plates, new property tax exemptions, state park passes, and many more state Veterans' benefits.

Please bring a copy of your DD Form 214 Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty, which are necessary for filing all Veterans' benefits claims. NMDVS can help Veterans file for lost or misplaced DD 214s.

Albuquerque	5/14	Andalucia Center, 5600 Coors Blvd. NW	9am-2pm
Albuquerque	5/14	The Shoppes, 6001 San Mateo Blvd. NE	9am-2pm
Artesia	5/20, 6/17	United Veterans Hall, 402 W Hermosa Dr.	10am-3pm
Carlsbad	5/27, 6/10	VFW Post 8703, 1919 San Jose Blvd.	10am-3pm
Cannon AFB	6/03, 6/24	Military & Family Readiness Center	2:30-5:30pm
Capitan	6/4, 8/6,10/1,11/5	Capitan Library, 101 E 2nd St.	10am-2pm
Deming	5/14, 6/11	Old VFW Bldg., 4045 Overhill Dr. NW	10am-1pm
Deming	5/28, 6/25	Luna County Senior Center, 800 Granite St.	10am-3pm
Española	6/4	702 Bond St.	9am-3pm
Española	5/15	Santa Clara Event Center, 406 Riverside Dr.	9am-2pm
Holloman AFB	6/9, 6/23	Military Family Readiness Center	8am-10am
Ruidoso	7/9, 9/10, 11/5	Ruidoso Community Ctr/501 Sudderth Dr.	10am-3pm
Santa Fe	5/21	La Cienega Community Center	10am-2pm
Socorro/Belen	1st & 3rd Tue.	Forget Me Not Veteran Ctr/705 N. California	9am-3pm

The following are weekly outreach visits:

Santa Fe	Mon. & Fri.	Santa Fe Vet Center/2209 Brothers Rd.	9am-3pm
T or C Vet. Home	Wed.	State Veterans' Home/992 S. Broadway	9am-4pm

Veterans and their eligible dependents can always contact any of the NMDVS field offices statewide listed on the last two pages of this newsletter. Each office is staffed by nationally certified Veterans Service Officers (VSO), who can also offer assistance by phone or email.

If you know of or are hosting a veterans' or community event that would benefit from having a Veterans' Service Officer on site to help answer questions on benefits available please contact DVS Field Services Director Robin Wilson at <u>Robin.Wilson@dvs.nm.gov</u>

Department of Veterans' Services Employee Spotlight

The New Mexico Department of Veterans' Services (NMDVS) recognizes Randy Perez, Supervisor of Accounts Receivable/Accounts Payable and Account Auditor Supervisor for the department. Randy works in the Administrative Services Division (ASD) and has been with NMDVS just over two years. Randy's supervisor, Danelle Lucero, CFO, Acting ASD Director, describes him as, "an invaluable asset to the agency, contributing significantly across numerous areas. Beyond the workplace, Randy's kindness extends into everyday life. I've witnessed him help a stranger load groceries into their car and even purchase a meal for someone outside a restaurant—genuine acts of kindness that reflect his character."

What brought you to NMDVS?

The mission of the Agency is to serve those who have served. I am not a Veteran; however, I am a strong supporter of our military and Veterans. When I heard what this agency does for our Veterans and their families, I said, that's it, that is how I give back to those who have given everything for me, my family, and our country. It is because of our Veterans that I have the life I do; they have and continue to protect us daily, and I am forever grateful for this.

What is your connection to the Veteran community?

My father served in the Navy, my Uncles served in the Army and Air Force, and my two Grandfathers served in the Army. I have many other relatives and friends who have also served in many of our military branches.

Could you tell us a little about yourself, your hobbies, and what you enjoy in your free time?

I love spending time with my 5 children and being a father. We enjoy fishing, camping, bowling, video games, riding skateboards, cooking, and having fun with each other on road trips. I have a couple of football players; we are always at practice, attending games, and attending football camps. At Christmas you can usually find me and my little brother playing Santa and the Grinch, passing out coloring books and cheer to all the children.

What do you enjoy most about your work with NMDVS?

I love everything we do here at NMDVS because it's connected to serving our Veterans and their families.

Three words to describe you:

Proud, loving, awesome

Photos: (top) Randy Perez at the Sate Capitol. (bottom) Randy and his brother during Christmas.

NMDVS is hiring! View new job postings on the State of New Mexico careers page at https://careers.share.nm.gov/

Join our Team!





New Mexico Veteran's Business Outreach Center "Boots to Business" Classes

Join us at the New Mexico Veterans' Business Outreach Center (VBOC) for our dynamic "Boots to Business" classes! We're passionately committed to empowering Veterans, transitioning service members, National Guard and Reserve members, and military spouses ready to launch or expand their businesses.

Experience these engaging, full-day sessions held from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. On-base privileges are required for the sessions listed below. We can't wait to support you on your entrepreneurial journey!

City	Dates	Location
Albuquerque, NM	May 19 & 20	Kirtland Air-Force Base
Clovis, NM	July 17 & 18	Cannon Air-Force Base
Alamogordo, NM	August 7 & 8	Hollman Air-Force Base
Albuquerque, NM	August 11 & 12	Kirtland Air-Force Base

The Boots to Business Program

These free, two-day introductory entrepreneurship courses are designed to equip you with the essential knowledge and tools to confidently launch or grow your business. You'll dive into the core elements of small business ownership, learn how to evaluate the feasibility of your business idea, and discover how to craft a winning business plan—an essential roadmap for any aspiring or current entrepreneur.

Participants will also gain insight into a wide range of key business concepts, including how to access capital for start-up or expansion, tap into valuable technical assistance, and explore federal contracting opportunities.

For additional information about the Boots to Business program or the New Mexico VBOC, contact the VBOC advisor Christina Stover by email at <u>christina.stover@dvs.nm.gov</u> or call (505) 469-8501.

Funded in part through a Cooperative Agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration.

The New Mexico Veteran's Business Outreach Center (VBOC)

The VBOC is funded by a U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) grant managed by NMDVS to help Veterans, transitioning active service members, National Guard & Reserve members, and their spouses who are interested in starting or growing a small business. It can help with everything from business planning, start-up and expansion funding, marketing, landing federal contracts, and anything else a small business needs to launch and grow.

NMDVS was the first state agency in the nation funded by the SBA to offer this "one-stop-shop" when the SBA launched this grant program in 2010.

The VBOC is located in the NMDVS Albuquerque office at 4801 Indian School Road NE/Building 2. Drop-in visits for business counseling are welcome—but scheduling an appointment is strongly recommended.



We Would Love To Help You Promote Your Business!

Register your veteran-owned business with VBOC today! Scan the code below to fill out the form.









News from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)

Scammers Target Special Monthly Compensation

Scammers frequently target veterans who receive higher compensation with Special Monthly Compensation (SMC), Purple Heart recipients, Veterans receiving income-based or survivors' pensions, and those receiving specially adapted housing (SAH) benefits. The increased financial compensation associated with SMC benefits and the visibility of Purple Heart recipients can attract those looking to exploit Veterans. These scams range from identity theft and fraudulent investment schemes to fraudulent financial services charging unnecessary fees for services VA offers for free.



The VA is committed to safeguarding Veterans, their families, and caregivers against fraudulent activity. To protect Veterans' benefits and avoid benefit payment redirection, the VA provides the following guidance.

- Do not share VA.gov usernames, passwords, or answers to security questions with anyone, including family members, accredited representatives, or anyone who receives compensation from their VA benefits.
- Do not deposit VA benefits directly into a bank account that does not have the Veteran's name on it, such as a caregiver's bank account. VA benefits should be deposited into a bank account that the beneficiary can access and where the beneficiary's name is included on the account.

Pension poaching

VA pension and survivors' pension are income-based benefits that are frequently targeted in a scam called 'Pension Poaching'. Pension poaching is a financial scam where bad actors advise Veterans to transfer assets or add unnecessary home health care expenses so they can adjust their income to qualify for VA pension or survivors' pension benefits. Obtaining VA benefits through deceptive practices may require Veterans (and not the bad actor) to repay any falsified amounts. If a Veteran needs assistance filing a claim for VA benefits or services, they should work with a VA-accredited Veterans Service Organization representative, attorney, or claims agent.

Specially Adapted Housing Grant recipients

Veterans with a service-connected disability who have been approved for Specially Adapted Housing grants should exercise caution when hiring contractors. Many scammers go door to door, so be wary of uninvited home improvement salespeople. Veterans should obtain multiple bids for any home improvement project, take time to decide on a contractor, seek references, read reviews and contact licensing agencies for verification.

If a Veteran is missing a VA benefits payment, identifies a discrepancy in payments or finds suspicious activity with their direct deposit account, they should contact VA immediately at 800-827-1000. Veterans who suspect they have experienced fraud can find resources to file a report to the appropriate agency at VSAFE.gov, by visiting https://vsafe.gov/, or calling 833-38V-SAFE.

The New Mexico Department of Veterans' Services offers free help from Accredited Veterans Service Officers throughout the state. Call 1-866-433-8387 or visit <u>https://www.nmdvs.org/</u>.

Veterans' Community Bulletin Board

The following pages feature events and informational flyers provided to the New Mexico Department of Veterans' Services (NMDVS) by Veterans and community service agencies. These flyers are published for the convenience of New Mexico's Veteran community. Inclusion in The Guardian does not constitute an endorsement by NMDVS of the organization, content, products, or services contained therein.

NMDVS invites government agencies and <u>non-profit</u> service organizations to send flyers for publication in *The Guardian* announcing an upcoming or ongoing veteran-related event. NMDVS will run these flyers as a public service courtesy to the Veteran community.

Please note:

- Flyers <u>must</u> have the name of a point-of-contact from the organization...along with the contact's phone number or email address. Flyers without this information will not be published.
- \cdot NMDVS is not responsible for the accuracy of the content, products, or services in these flyers.
- Views expressed in these flyers are the independent views of the authors/owners of the third-party entity that created the flyer and do not necessarily reflect the views of DVS.
- To the maximum extent permitted by law, NMDVS expressly denies liability for any losses suffered by any persons or organizations who, in their independent discretion and reliance, either directly or indirectly rely on content, products, services, or information offered by these independent third-party organizations.
- \cdot NMVS reserves the right to edit or decline to publish any flyer.

Please send you submissions to DVS.PIO@dvs.nm.gov







TO REGISTER FOR CLASS: SCAN QR CODE ...OR GO ONLINE to www.goodwilinm.org/events...OR CALL 505.314.1875...OR EMAIL mimartinez@goodwilinm.org FOR ASSISTANCE.



MAY 2025

FREE CLASSES FOR THE COMMUNITY !

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY SATURDAY FRIDAY 3 10 CAREER COMPASS N: CAREER COMPASS E: CAREER COMPASS S: CAREER COMPASS W COMMUNITY YOU DONATE classes Explore A Career Resume/Applying Interviewing CAREER FAIR Your New Job **ITEMSTO** held at 1-3 pm 1:00 pm - 2:15 pm 1:00 pm - 2:15 pm 1:00 pm - 2:15 pm :00 pm - 2:15 pm GOODWILL 5000 SAN Meet company hiring Internet Basics Thinking Critically Money Management agers.. job leads MATEO 2:30 pm - 3:30 pm 2:30 pm - 3:30 pm 2:30 pm - 3:30 pm **BLVD NE** 5000 SAN MATEO 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 Microsoft: Explorer Resiliency Microsoft Word Excel-Beginners DONATIONS SOLD classes 9:30 am - 10:45 am 9:30 am- 11:00 am 9:30 am - 10:45 am 9:30 am - 11:00 am IN GOODWILL held at Internet Basics Microsoft PowerPoint First Impressions STORES 6001 11:30 am - 12:30 pm 11:00 am - 12:00 pm 11:00 am -12:15 pm LOMAS BLVD NE 5 0 18 19 20 21 22 24 Excel-Functions Intro to Coding Game Development COMMUNITY **REVENUE FUNDS** classes 1:00 pm- 2:30 pm 9:00 am - 10:15 am 9:00 am - 10:30 am CAREER FAIR OUR FREE held at GROW. Coding Workshop 1-3 pm App Development PROGRAMS & 5000 SAN Meet company hiring managers.. Job leads! SERVICES SUCCEED. 10:30 am - 11:30 am 11:00 am- 12:30 pm MATEO INSPIRE. 5000 SAN MATEO **BLVD NE** 000 26 25 28 30 31 Stress Management Public Speaking Intro Resiliency Workshop **Discovering Data** NEW MEXICANS classes Workshop 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm 9:30 am - 11:00 am 1:00 pm-2:00 pm FIND JOBS! held at Money Management Microsoft Outlook 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm 6001 NEW Cybersecurity 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm 2:30 pm- 3:45 pm LOMAS 3:00 pm -4:00 pm BLVD NE

DigitalSkills

INTERNET BASICS: Learn about the internet, search engines, browsers & online safety, **EXCEL-BEGINNERS:** Intro to spreadsheet features: sort, formatt, filter & basic formulas EXCEL-FUNCTIONS: VLOOKUP, WEEKDAY, SUMIES, 'absolute vs relative" cells & data validation. MICROSOFT WORD: Format, save, spellcheck documents.Insert images/shapes. Design layout. MICROSOFT POWERPOINT: Learn to design, animate slides and play/save presentations. MICROSOFT EXPLORER: How to download, save, organize & find files, Navigating Windows OS. MICROSOFT OUTLOOK: Navigating the interface, composing/sorting email & calendar usage. NEW CYBERSECURITY: Learn to identify cyber threats, phishing & protect your digital assets.

INTRO TO CODING: Programming overview of JavaScript, Python and web development. CODING WORKSHOP: Fun coding games to build coding skills in JavaScript & Python APP DEVELOPMENT: Intro to app coding, a look at iOS & Android, interactive learning exercises. GAME DEVELOPMENT: Intro to creating video games and using game engines. DISCOVERING DATA: Learn ways to collect and

interpret data to guide decision making. NEW

PUBLIC SPEAKING INTRO: Build communication skills. Know, manage & influence your audience. Learn the basics, followed by a practice session.

Career Compass Employment Skills Series (NESW):

LifeSkills/WellnessSkills

STRESS MANAGEMENT: Detailed look at causes of stress & strategies to overcome. RESILIENCY: In-depth look at how to withstand & recover from the difficulties of life. STRESS MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP: Discover meditative/other practice to relieve stress RESILIENCY WORKSHOP: Discover tools to develop plan to strengthen resiliency skills MONEY MANAGEMENT: Financial literacy class on paychecks, budgets, expenses & credit THINKING CRITICALLY: Become better thinkers. Build analytical skills, learn to determine the validity of information.

EmploymentSkills

N/EXPLORE A CAREER: Explore career interests, identify existing skills & analyze for potential jobs E/RESUME & APPLYING: Create/improve resume and learn how to apply for jobs online better. S/INTERVIEWING: Best practices in interviewing & professional communication for success. W/YOUR NEW JOB: Building relationships, good attitude & behavior skills to grow in your new position.

FIRST IMPRESSIONS: Using time management, words, appearance & body language to make good impression.

Santa Clara Pueblo hosts New Mexico Tribal Veterans Symposium

Save the Date

May 15, 2025

Resource Tables

Please bring:

- A copy of discharge paper DD214
- Award letter
- Last year's taxes
- Medical/Insurance cards

9:00AM - 2:00PM REGISTRATION BEGINS AT 8AM SANTA CLARA EVENTS CENTER 460 NORTH RIVERSIDE DR. ESPANOLA

More information and to RSVP, Contact Virginia at vhalfmoon@santaclarapueblo.org Please RSVP by Monday, May 5, 2025





BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SUMMIT The Strength of Our Community FRIDAY, MAY 16, 2025 Bam-4:30pm

NASC

NATIVE AMERICAN SUB-COMMITTEE

ISLETA RESORT & CASINO

Special NASC Summit Room Rate: \$169 CODE: IAD0525

REGISTER NOW







ARE YOU A VETERAN IN SEARCH OF GUIDANCE?

Enjoy a complimentary week filled with mindful education, body rejuvenation, and uplifting camaraderie alongside fellow veterans and their partners in the beautiful mountains of New Mexico. Discover valuable therapeutic and holistic tools while embracing Post Traumatic Growth.

NATIONAL VETERANS WELLNESS & HEALING CENTER **2025 RETREAT SCHEDULE**

NEW DATE ADDED!! April 6-13

September 7-14

October 19-26

Retreats offer

April 27- May 4

complimentary lodging, meals, and a variety of activities such as massage therapy, acupuncture, yoga, horseback riding, and much more! Please note that travel expenses are not included.

505-501-8337 retreats@vethealingcenter.org



June 1-8

Eligibility Criteria for Attendance:

- 1. Veterans diagnosed with PTS
- 2.A support partner must accompany vou
- 3. Participants must have been free from drug or alcohol abuse for at least 12 months

Note: New Mexico veterans will receive priority. Veterans from other states will be accepted as funding permits.







Donate Today!

NVWHC is a non-profit serving veterans and their families since 2009.

New Mexico State Veterans Home Memorial Day Come Join Us! When: Friday May 23rd, 2025 Services start at 10am at the Veteran's Museum Park 996 S. Broadway St. Lunch starts at 11am at the New Mexico State Veterans Home 992 S. Broadway St.





New Mexico Department of Veterans Services Angel Fire Vietnam Veterans Memorial Memorial Day Weekend 2025

"Run For the Wall Riders" Friday May 16th, at approximately 3:30 P.M. Please join us as we salute, welcome, and honor approximately 350 of our "Run for the Wall" riders as they make their 14th stop on the ride from Ontario, CA to Washington, DC. The Vietnam Veterans Memorial is one of the most important stops on the ride due to the significance and meaning of the memorial to so many of the riders.

"Remembrance Ceremony" Sunday May 25th, Starting at 6:00 P.M.

A remembrance vigil on the eve of Memorial Day to remember, reflect, and heal for families and friends of beloved Veterans who have passed on. The Ceremony highlights include: 44th Army Ensemble Band performance, The Woman Veterans Warriors Color Guard, Flag Presentation by the Vietnam Vets Legacy Vets Motorcycle Club, Guest Speaker, Carla Dean Gold Star Spouses of America Inc. Member, and Missing Man Table/ "Those who Came Before Us" Presentation by the Woman Veteran Warriors Color Guard.

"Memorial Day Ceremony" Monday May 26th, Starting at 9:00 A.M. For over 50 years, the Vietnam Veterens Memorial "Memorial Day Ceremony" has been ar

For over 50 years, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial "Memorial Day Ceremony" has been and continues to be an emotional yet healing time for veterans and their families as we honor those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice by dying in the service of our nation. This year's activities include: The Annual Vietnam Veterans' Memorial Flag March, which starts at the corner of U5 Highway 64 and Highway 434 and concludes at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial; 44th Army Band Ensemble performance; Keynote Speaker Steven Trout, Professor at the University of Alabama. Mr. Trout is the Author of "The Vietnam Veterans Memorial at Angel Fire: War, Remembrance, and an American Tragedy" that was published in 2020; Woman Veteran Warriors Honor Guard; 21 Gun Salute by the Tsidi Toli Veterans. Plus, a UH-60 Blackhawk Static Display Helicopter.

Please Join Us!

City of Albuquerque's Annual REAL AND A STATE OF A DE ANNUAL REAL AND A DE ANNUAL REAL ANNUAL ANNUA

1100 Louisiana Blvd, Albuquerque NM, 87108

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In support of the City of Albuquerque's Annual Memorial Day Ceremony, the City of Albuquerque has partnered with Bernalillo County and the Department of Veterans' Services to offer shuttle service to and from the ceremony.

> To register for a ride to the ceremony, please contact your preferred location listed below:

For Westside Albuquerque Los Volcanes Senior Center 505-767-5999

6500 Los Volcanes Rd NW ABQ NM 87121 For Eastside Albuquerque Palo Duro Senior Center 27

505-888-8102 5221 Palo Duro Ave NE ABQ NM 87110

SPACE IS LIMITED; ADA ACCOMMODATIONS ARE AVAILABLE.



ONE

ALBUQUE



Start - 9:00 a.m.

USS Bullhead Memorial Park 1606 San Pedro SE, Albuquerque, NM

End - 10:00 a.m.

New Mexico Veterans Memorial Park 1100 Louisiana SE, Albuquerque, NM

For more information or to participate, please contact ttozier@cabq.gov



City of Albuquerque's Annual MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY

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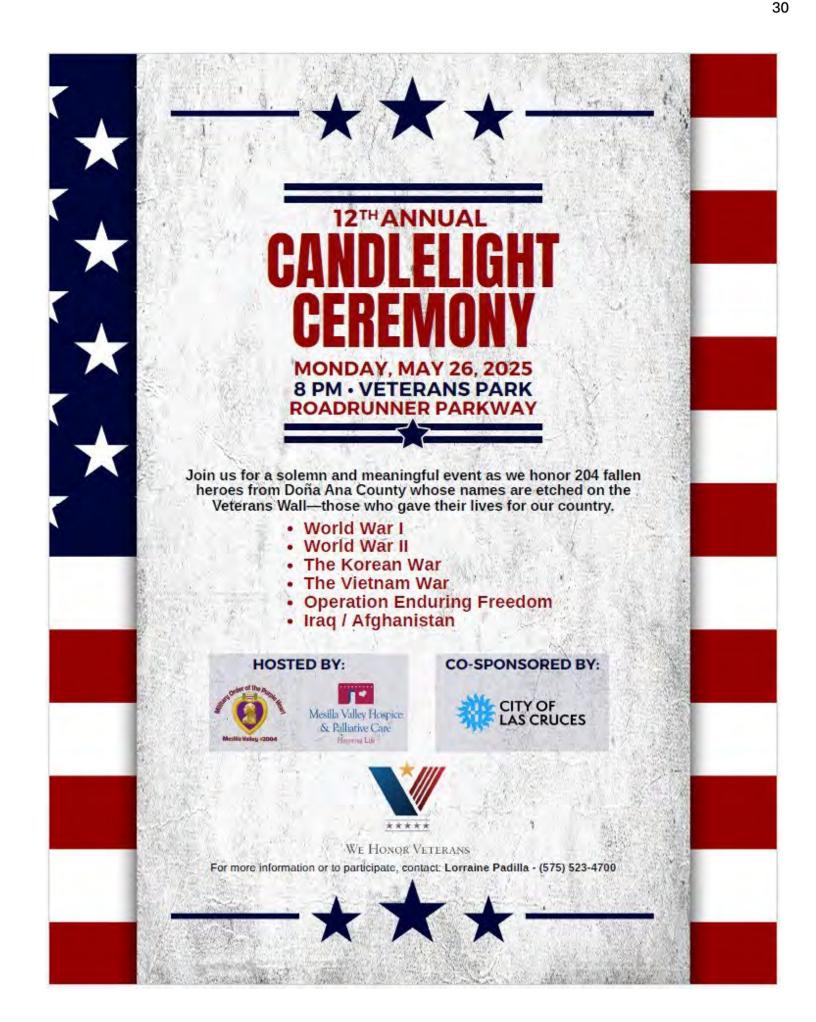


May 26, 2025 10:30 a.m.

New Mexico Veterans Memorial Park 1100 Louisiana SE, Albuquerque, NM









For more information Scan the QR code

KIRTLAND AFB



JUNEDisabled Veterans - Veterans - Active Duty7Fly Fishing 101 Class - It's Free!2025Eagle Nest Lake State Park



Fly Fishing 101 Beginners Class For Disabled Veterans - Veterans - Active Duty June 7, 2025 - Eagle Nest Lake State Park - It's free!

- · Learn how to fly fish
- Bring a military buddy
- Lunch provided! Door prizes!

Space is limited - Sign-up with the link below Or scan QR code

tu.myeventscenter.com/event/101june7-105499



POC: Doc Thompson - Trout Warriors Volunteer - Email: doct@flyfishnewmexico.com

Patriot Pa

Join us in celebrating and supporting our Veterans!

Route 66 car show

COMMUNITY RESOURCES EMPLOYERS

NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES

ENTERTAINMENT

SCAN THE QR CODE TO RSVP OR

REQUEST A TABLE!



Saturday, June 14, 2025 10AM-1PM

5000 San Mateo Blvd. NE Albuquerque, NM 87108

Hosted by Goodwill Industries of NM's Veterans Services Team

Questions? Call us: 505.881.6401 x1941







4th Annual Dennis Geshel Memorial Golf Tournament

Benefiting Honor Flight of Northern New Mexico

Honor Flight of Northern New Mexico is a non-profit organization created to honor New Mexico's veterans for all their sacrifices. Funds raised from the golf tournament help take our heroes on a FREE 3-day trip to Washington, D.C. to visit and reflect at their memorials. Current priority is given to World War II, Korean War and Vietnam War Veterans along with Veterans from other conflicts who may be terminally ill.



Breakfast and registration at 8AM. Lunch will be served directly following the tournament. Collared shirts are required.

Isleta Eagle Golf Course 4001 New Mexico 47 Friday, September 12, 2025 Morning Shotgun—9AM



For registration and more information, please contact Mark Reynolds at 505.321.2968 or Adeline Herrera at 505.250.6662 https://www.honorflightnorthernnm.org/golf-tournament.html





NMDVS Field Offices in New Mexico

NMDVS has field offices throughout the state that are staffed with nationally accredited veterans service officers VSOs) dedicated to helping veterans with filing VA claims, applying for state veterans benefits, or with anything else a veteran or their family needs.

Office hours are Monday-Friday from 8am-5pm, (excluding holidays). Though this service is free, appointments are required and can be made by contacting the VSOs below. **Please note: VSOs can also provide help by phone or email for** <u>any veteran or eligible dependent anywhere in New Mexico.</u>

Alamogordo/Southeast NM David Henley 411 10th Street #107

(575) 937-5620 david.henley@dvs.nm.gov

Albuquerque Metro Area

May Chavez (ABQ metro supervisor) Pinetree Corporate Center/Bldg. 2 4801 Indian School Rd. NE/2nd floor (505) 527-2302 helen.chavez@dvs.nm.gov

Albuquerque (Bernalillo/Moriarty) David Swisher

Pinetree Corporate Center/Bldg. 2

Albuquerque (VARO)

Dennis Chavez Federal Bldg.

500 Gold Ave. SW/3rd floor

corey.riedel@dvs.nm.gov

4801 Indian School Rd. NE/2nd floor (505) 525-3331 david.swisher@dvs.nm.gov

Albuquerque (Bernalillo/Moriarty) Albuquerque Metro Area

Melissa Sena

Good Will Office 5000 San Mateo Blvd. NE (505) 274-0939 melissa.sena@dvs.nm.gov

James Brandon

Pinetree Corporate Center/Bldg. 2 4801 Indian School Rd. NE/2nd floor (505) 470-7503 james.brandon@dvs.nm.gov

Albuquerque (VA Hospital)

Joseph Lovato

Raymond G. Murphy VA Medical Ctr. 1501 San Pedro Dr. SE (505) 623-1729 joseph.lovato@dvs.nm.gov

(no appointment needed)

Clovis/Southeast NM

Matt Barela (SE region supervisor) 904 W. Sixth St. (575) 825-9602 matthew.barela@dvs.nm.gov

Farmington/Northwest NM

Jenny Iser 1800 East 30th St. (505) 327-2861 jenny.iser@dvs.nm.gov

Belen/ABQ Metro & Central NM Rob Miller (Albuquerque Supervisor)

Belen Business Center 719 South Main St. (505) 537-9339 <u>rob.miller@dvs.nm.gov</u>

Clovis/Southeast NM Ben Padilla 904 W. Sixth St. (505) 537, 1445

(505) 537-1445 <u>ben.padilla@dvs.nm.gov</u>

Gallup/Northwest NM

John Livingston (NW supervisor) 908 E. Buena Vista Ave/Room 1A (505) 389-8731 john.livingston@dvs.nm.gov

(continued on next page)

Carlsbad

(505) 479-0672

Corey Riedel

Every 2nd & 4th Tuesday

VFW Post 8703 1916 San Jose Blvd.

(575) 988-5900 (575) 416-2284 fred.solis-little@dvs.nm.gov Danielle.thompson@dvs.nm.gov

Farmington/Northwest NM Ambrose Oliver

1800 East 30th St. (505) 916-4835 ambrose.oliver@dvs.nm.gov

Grants/Northwest NM

April Ball 551 Washington Ave. (505) 521-8132 april.ball@dvs.nm.gov

Hobbs/Southeast NM

Freddy Solis-Littlejohn 2120 North Alto St. (575) 241-0714 fred.solis-little@dvs.nm.gov

Las Cruces/Southwest NM

Clint Anderson 2024 E. Griggs Ave. (505) 261-8782 Clint.anderson@dvs.nm.gov

Las Vegas/Northeast NM Dennis Esquibel 917 Douglas Ave.

(575) 520-5079 dennis.esquibel@dvs.nm.gov

Roswell/Southeast NM Danielle Thompson 1600 SE Main Street /Suite A

(575) 416-2284 danielle.thompson@dvs.nm.gov

Taos/Northeast NM

Letica "Lety" Cano Health and Human Services Bldg. 145 Roy Rd. (505)-709-5263 leticia.cano@dvs.nm.gov

Woman Veterans Program

Amberly Viner (Program Manager) Pinetree Corporate Center/Bldg. 2 4801 Indian School Rd. NE/2nd floor 4601 College Blvd./Room 1715-B

(505) 372-9106

Amberly.viner@dvs.nm.gov

NMDVS women veterans program is committed to making sure women veterans have equitable access to programs and services and claims-filing for women.

Las Cruces/Southwest NM

Miguel Martinez (supervisor) 2024 E. Griggs Ave. (575) 644-6869 miguel.martinez@dvs.nm.gov

Las Vegas, NM/Northeast NM

Arturo Marlow (supervisor) 917 Douglas Ave. (505) 331-8838 arturo.marlow@dvs.nm.gov

Rio Rancho/Northeast NM

Dustin Newsom Sandoval County Admin. Bldg. 1500 Idalia Rd./Bldg. D/room 2041 (505) 221-7190 dustin.newsom@dvs.nm.gov

Santa Fe/Northeast NM

Phillip Hernandez Bataan Memorial Bldg. 407 Galisteo St./1st Floor, Rm 134

(505) 218-3125 phillip.hernandez@dvs.nm.gov

State Veterans Home/T or C NM VSO Staff/Every Thursday

922 South Broadway St. Truth or Consequences, NM

Tribal Liaison

Beverly Charley

San Juan College Veterans Center

(575) 241-3322

beverly.charley@dvs.nm.gov

NMDVS tribal liaison focuses on educational outreach assistance for Native Americans.

Las Cruces/Southwest NM Vincent Tellez 2024 E. Griggs Ave. (575) 361-5298 vincent.tellez@dvs.nm.gov

Las Vegas/Northeast NM

Tracy Knox 917 Douglas Ave. (505) 520-5079 tracy.knox@dvs.nm.gov

Roswell/Southeast NM

Ben Mendoza 1600 SE Main Street /Suite A

(575) 988-5900 benjamin.mendoza@dvs.nm.gov

Silver City/Southwest NM Clarissa Sierra Western New Mexico University 1000 West College Ave. Juan Chacon Bldg./Rm. 138A (575) 313-5627 clarissa.sierra@dvs.nm.gov

NM Veterans Business Outreach Center (ABQ)

Johnny Martinez (Director) Pinetree Corporate Center/Bldg. 2 4801 Indian School Rd. NE/2nd floor

(505) 372-9106

johnny.martinez@dvs.nm.gov

VBOC provides assistance for veterans and spouses who are looking to open a small business, expanding an existing operation, or securing federal contracts.