New Mexico State University
Fire Department

2018 Annual Report

BE BOLD! Shape the Future.
Mission Statement

It is the mission of the New Mexico State University Fire Department (NMSU-FD) to provide the highest level of emergent and non-emergency response within the New Mexico State University main campus and adjacent community. Our goal is to mitigate and minimize the loss of life, loss due to injury and to protect resources and property.

Vision Statement

Quality
We provide the students, facility, staff and visitors the highest quality of service possible, characterized by responsiveness, integrity and professionalism.

Service
We provide the university our full commitment and dedication; we will promote teamwork and inspire each other through pride in our department and community.

People
Each member of NMSU-FD has their own personality and bears many quality traits. We provide each other a working environment characterized by trust and respect by fostering open and honest communication at all levels. We owe ourselves personal and professional growth. When combined through new knowledge and greater challenges we remain at the leading edge of our profession.

BE BOLD! Shape the Future.
NMSU does not discriminate on the basis of age, ancestry, color, disability, gender identity, genetic information, national origin, race, religion, retaliation, serious medical condition, sex (including pregnancy) sexual orientation, spousal affiliation, or protected veteran status in its programs and activities, including employment, admissions, and educational programs and activities. Inquires may be directed to the Executive Director of the Office of Institutional Equity, Title IX and Section 504 Coordinator, O’Loughlin House, E. 1130 University Avenue, Las Cruces, NM 88003; 575.646.3635; 575.646.7802 (TTY); equity@nmsu.edu.

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Human Dignity Statement

As cultural diversity increases among the American people, that change is being reflected in the composition of our Nation’s fire and emergency services personnel. The New Mexico State University Fire Department (NMSU-FD) recognizes the uniqueness of each individual and supports human dignity by:

- Prohibiting all discrimination and harassment;
- Supporting affirmative employment policies and practices on behalf of minorities;
- Encouraging employees to communicate and behave in a manner which is sensitive to, and acknowledges the viewpoints of others;
- Regarding diversity as a resource that enriches the learning environment through the sharing of differing perspectives, experiences and ideas;
- Removing barriers to teamwork through collaborative problem solving and the constructive resolution of conflicts;
- Continue to identify and eliminate barriers to training, employment and advancement of minorities;
- Treating all fellow members with respect.
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BE BOLD! Shape the Future.
Welcome!

Facilities and Services is a professional service organization that supports the New Mexico State University (NMSU) system in its mission of instruction, research, public service and extension education by providing support and service to students, faculty, staff and the community. The NMSU Las Cruces campus is much like a small city, and through the efforts of 325 staff, Facilities and Services is responsible for the physical environment, fire protection, and environmental health safety and risk management for the students, faculty, visitors and staff.

This will be my last introductory message to the Fire Department Annual Report, as I will be retiring this year after a decade of service to NMSU. I was able to hire Chief Carrillo in 2013, after a reorganization moved the Fire Department into Facilities and Services. In turn, he brought Deputy Chief Huber and Captains Tarkington and Guerin on board.

We have measurable goals in our units, and the Fire Department is no exception. When we look at what has been accomplished, the Key Performance Result of Insurance Services Office (ISO) rating speaks the loudest – the NMSU Fire Department was 5/9 and has a 2/2X rating today, putting it in the top 3% of fire departments in the country.

Chief Carrillo and I set a goal of improving our prevention capabilities, and we have succeeded. I have great pride in what he and his team have accomplished, and we can look back with satisfaction on a job well done.

In addition, their team is situated to take their department to the next level, as expansion at Arrowhead Research Park and Aggie Uptown will provide new opportunities. There are many exciting activities and accomplishments in the NMSU Fire Department this year, and we are proud to share them with you!

Glen Haubold
Glen Haubold
Associate Vice President for Facilities and Services

BE BOLD! Shape the Future.
2018 marked the start of a new era at NMSU with the announcement of our new Chancellor Dan Arvizu and President John Floros, followed by our new vision statement: “Be Bold. Shape the Future”.

The Fire Department was one of the first to display the vision statement by posting it on our aerial fire apparatus. This vision statement has a deep meaning to our unique fire department which boasts that 70% of our firefighters are students and more importantly “they are our future”.

Each of these students are full-time students at either NMSU’s main campus or our affiliated DACC campus. They are “Bold” by pursuing their educational goals while at the same time giving back to their community by serving as firefighters. They spend every other day at the fire station to include holidays and summer time. After their tour of duty ends here at the NMSU Fire Department they move on to successful careers. Some of our students have become doctors, paramedics, police officers, military generals, structural engineers and of course many have followed on with a career in the fire service. They are all leaders in their chosen fields and shaping the future in their own unique ways.

With over 150 combined years spread amongst our six career firefighters, our team has a wealth of experience to support our student fire fighting team, fire prevention, plan review, fire code compliance, building inspection and community outreach programs.

It is with great pride that I continue to lead our student firefighters and career staff. We’ve built a team that’s goal oriented, motivated and well prepared. We are BOLD! as we do our best to “Shape the Future”.

Johnny Carrillo

Fire Chief
Meet Our Leadership Team

L to R: Captain Kellen Tarkington, Captain John Guerin, Fire Chief Johnny Carrillo, Deputy Fire Chief Louis K. Huber, and Administrative Assistant Mary Ann Ventura.

Our highly skilled and dedicated staff work closely with our student fire fighters and career staff to prepare, train and respond to all the many emergencies that occur on NMSU’s main campus and adjacent communities. In addition, they insure the safety of all those that visit NMSU by enforcing our adopted fire safety and building codes.

“True leadership lies in guiding others to success—in ensuring that everyone is performing at their best, doing the work they are pledged to do and doing it well.” — Bill Owens
Meet Our Firefighters

“They are our future”

Carlos Alonzo
Nursing

Dominic Anderson
Business

Robert Boehms
Business

Brennen Chambers
Business

Isaiah Tellez
Business

Chase Thomas
Digital Films

Lucas Cadena
Kinesiology

Aaron Cruz
Fire / E. Medicine

Rogelio Hernandez
Aeronautical Engineer

Sandro Roque
Fire / E. Medicine

BE BOLD! Shape the Future.™

“"A good firefighter knows how, an educated firefighter knows why."

- Chris Walker

Serai Knighton
Psychology

Richard Largent
Emergency Mgmt

Ethan Klein
Agriculture Economics

April Lopez
Pre-Medicine

Ozzie Gorbitz
Electrical Engineer

Thomas Ontiveros
Wilderness Conservation

BE BOLD! Shape the Future.™

Richard Largent
Emergency Mgmt

Ethan Klein
Agriculture Economics

April Lopez
Pre-Medicine

Ozzie Gorbitz
Electrical Engineer

BE BOLD! Shape the Future.™

Richard Largent
Emergency Mgmt

Ethan Klein
Agriculture Economics

April Lopez
Pre-Medicine

Ozzie Gorbitz
Electrical Engineer

BE BOLD! Shape the Future.™
The Fire Departments budget for FY 2018/19 was $651,663.

This includes funds for salaries and administrative operating costs as provided through NMSU, NM State Fire Funds and NM Department of Health EMS Funds. Below is a breakdown.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount (USD)</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NMSU</td>
<td>$536,250</td>
<td>Salaries and administrative operating costs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$498,079 salaries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$38,171 administrative operating costs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NM State Fire Fund</td>
<td>$106,847</td>
<td>Used to purchase firefighting equipment, fuel, vehicle maintenance, uniforms, personal protective equipment, communications and firefighter training.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMS Fund</td>
<td>$8,566</td>
<td>EMS equipment, medical supplies, and EMS training.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NMSU was awarded $94,104 in grant funding in support of its fire department in FY 2018/19.

- **NM Fire Protection Grant**: $91,094 Command Vehicle, communication and training equipment.
- **EMS Grant**: $3,010 Personnel Protective Equipment Body Armor
Tradition is everywhere at New Mexico State University. As NMSU celebrates 130 years, it’s a perfect time to remember the rich history of this University we all take so much pride in.

Las Cruces College opened its doors for its first year in 1888. Documents from NMSU’s historical archive described three fires that occurred in between 1908-1910. One of which occurred in 1910 where Mc Fie Hall, fondly known as “Old Main” burnt to the ground. The corner stone still stands on the NMSU Horseshoe, next to the flagpole. Reminding us of the fire that occurred on September 12, 1910 and pledge to ensure that fire safety and safety in general are always on our mind.

In 1921, the College Fire Department was established by volunteer staff with Willie Preciado being appointed as its first Fire Chief. Today, we honor Chief Preciado for his contributions by naming NMSU’s Preciado Park after him.

In 1958, the State of New Mexico Department of Insurance classified our Insurance Service (ISO) rating to a class 8 and required the department to maintain at least ten volunteer firemen available at all times and confined us to campus boundaries.

Our current fire station was built in 1965 under Chief George R. Huff. The University Fire Department was under the Physical Plant Department and comprised of volunteer full-time employees and three students.

In 2013, the Fire Department, under the direction of NMSU’s newly appointed Fire Chief Johnny Carrillo made changes in the response, staffing model, fire and fire and life safety code enforcement procedures. These changes resulted in an upgrade to our ISO rating. In 2014, we were awarded a 3X public protection classification rating. We didn’t stop there. Fire staff members identified other ways to improve and four years later we earned our current ISO 2 rating!

For more information on our history, please join us at fire.nmsu.edu.
In 2018, we responded to 1,101 calls for service.

Almost half of those responses were for rescue and emergency medical service, followed by good intent (cancelled en-route or nothing found) and false alarms. Fires accounted for less than 4% of the total call volume. **Our average response time on NMSU ‘s main campus for 2018 was 4:41.** This includes both emergent and non-emergent responses.

**Emergency Response Statistics**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MAJOR INCIDENT TYPE</th>
<th># INCIDENTS</th>
<th>% of TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fires</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>3.91%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overpressure rupture, explosion, overheat - no fire</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.09%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rescue &amp; Emergency Medical Service</td>
<td>542</td>
<td>49.23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hazardous Condition (No Fire)</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>3.72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service Call</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>7.81%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good Intent Call</td>
<td>231</td>
<td>20.98%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>False Alarm &amp; False Call</td>
<td>155</td>
<td>14.06%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Severe Weather &amp; Natural Disaster</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>1101</strong></td>
<td><strong>100.00%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Detailed Breakdown by Incident Type


NMSU utilizes a NFIRS web-based compatible system to track and capture all applicable data.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>INCIDENT TYPE</th>
<th># INCIDENTS</th>
<th>% of TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>111 - Building fire</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>0.73%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>113 - Cooking fire, confined to container</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0.27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>118 - Trash or rubbish fire, contained</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0.27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>131 - Passenger vehicle fire</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>1.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>138 - Off-road vehicle or heavy equipment fire</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.09%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>140 - Natural vegetation fire, other</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0.36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>141 - Forest, woods or wildland fire</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.09%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>142 - Brush or brush-and-grass mixture fire</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0.27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>143 - Grass fire</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.09%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>151 - Outside rubbish, trash or waste fire</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0.54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>161 - Outside storage fire</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.09%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>171 - Cultivated grain or crop fire</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.09%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>251 - Excessive heat, scorch burns with no ignition</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.09%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>300 - Rescue, EMS incident, other</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>311 - Medical assist, assist EMS crew</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>11.63%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>320 - Emergency medical service, other</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>321 - EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury</td>
<td>307</td>
<td>27.88%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>322 - Motor vehicle accident with injuries</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>3.09%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>323 - Motor vehicle/pedestrian accident (MV Ped)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>324 - Motor vehicle accident with no injuries</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0.36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>341 - Search for person on land</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.09%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>353 - Removal of victim(s) from stalled elevator</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0.54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>356 - High-angle rescue</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.09%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>381 - Rescue or EMS standby</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>5.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>411 - Gasoline or other flammable liquid spill</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.09%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>412 - Gas leak (natural gas or LPG)</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>2.63%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>413 - Oil or other combustible liquid spill</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.09%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>422 - Chemical spill or leak</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.09%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>424 - Carbon monoxide incident</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0.27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>440 - Electrical wiring/equipment problem, other</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.09%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>441 - Heat from short circuit (wiring), defective/worn</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.09%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>446 - Arcing, shorted electrical equipment</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0.27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>451 - Biological hazard, confirmed or suspected</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.09%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>511 - Lock-out</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0.54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>520 - Water problem, other</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0.27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>521 - Water evacuation</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.09%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>522 - Water or steam leak</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0.45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>550 - Public service assistance, other</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>551 - Assist police or other governmental agency</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0.54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>552 - Police matter</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.09%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>553 - Public service</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0.64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>554 - Assist invalid</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>4.54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>561 - Unauthorized burning</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0.36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>571 - Cover assignment, standby, moveup</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.09%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Detailed Breakdown by Incident Type

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Incident Type</th>
<th>Incidents</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>611 - Dispatched &amp; cancelled on route</td>
<td>172</td>
<td>15.62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>621 - Wrong location</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.09%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>622 - No incident found on arrival at dispatch address</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>3.72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>631 - Authorized controlled burning</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>650 - Steam, other gas mistaken for smoke, other</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.09%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>651 - Smoke scare, odor of smoke</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0.45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>652 - Steam, vapor, fog or dust thought to be smoke</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>661 - EMS call, partly transported by non-fire agency</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.09%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>661 - HazMat release investigation who HazMat</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>710 - Malicious, mischievous false call, other</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1.09%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>711 - Municipal alarm system, malicious false alarm</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0.27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>713 - Telephone, malicious false alarm</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.09%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>721 - Bomb scare - no bomb</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>730 - System malfunction, other</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.09%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>731 - Sprinkler activation due to malfunction</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>733 - Smoke detector activation due to malfunction</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>2.27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>734 - Heat detector activation due to malfunction</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0.27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>735 - Alarm system sounded due to malfunction</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>1.63%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>736 - CO detector activation due to malfunction</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>740 - Unintentional transmission of alarm, other</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.09%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>741 - Sprinkler activation, no fire - unintentional</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>742 - Smoke detector activation, no fire - unintentional</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>4.09%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>744 - Detector activation, no fire - unintentional</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>1.18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>745 - Alarm system activation, no fire - unintentional</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>2.91%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>746 - Carbon monoxide detector activation, no CO</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0.36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>812 - Flood assessment</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.18%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL INCIDENTS:** 1101  100.00%

Engine 301 is our first-out fire apparatus. The engine is a 2011 Pierce Contender Class A pumper outfitted with a 1,250 gpm pump and 500gallon tank. It carries a full compliment of extrication equipment in addition to all Insurance Service Office required fire equipment.

The most important resource it carries is up to five (5) firefighters.

This apparatus responds to approximately 80—100 incidents each month.
Response Analysis

Call Volume by Month of the Year, 3 year comparison

May and December were our busiest months in 2018. In 2017, our busiest months were April and September. In 2016, it was May and September. The spikes in April/May timeframe correspond with the end of Spring semester here at NMSU. The spikes in August/September corresponds with the start of the Fall semester and cold and flu season in our geographical area. During the summer months of June and July there are only about 2,000 Aggies living on campus. In all other months, we average about 16,000

Truck 321 is our 75’ aerial ladder.

This apparatus is an E-One Typhoon and has a 1,250 gpm pump and 300 gallon tank. It carries a full compliment of EMS equipment in additional to all Insurance Service Office required fire equipment for aerial apparatus.

This apparatus responds to all second alarm responses on campus and backs up the City of Las Cruces when an additional aerial is required or during down times of their aerials. Truck 301 is one of two aerials in the Dona Ana County fire service fleet. The other is located in the Santa Teresa fire district.
Call Volume by Day of the Week, 3 year comparison

In 2018, our highest incident call volume was on Thursday and Friday. In 2017, it was Monday and Saturday. For 2016, it was Friday and Saturday. Analysis suggests that we experience a higher amount of calls towards the end of the week with the number of calls trending downward on Sunday.

Engine 302 is our reserve fire apparatus.

It is a 2001 Spartan Class A pumper outfitted with a 1,250 gpm pump and 750 gallon tank. It carries a full compliment of extrication equipment in addition to all Insurance Service Office required fire equipment.
Response Analysis

Call Volume by Hour of the Day, 3 year comparison

Between 8am—7pm continue to be our peak hours for emergency responses. This corresponds with the times when we have more people on campus. Call volume starts trending downward at about 8pm and stays that way until about 6am.

Rescue 341 is our special response unit.

It is a 2005 E-One Typhoon. Although this apparatus does not have a fire pump, it does carry specialized equipment to include: lighting, on-board air cylinder filling station, heavy rescue equipment, technical rescue equipment such as ropes and confined space rescue gear as well as a full compliment of EMS equipment.
In Support of Our Neighbors

Otherwise known as Dona Ana Fire District 3, NMSU FD is one of 16 fire districts in Dona Ana County.

NMSU FD, like the other fire districts in Dona Ana County offer and receive aid upon request. In 2018, NMSU FD responded to 524 calls for aid. Our average response time outside NMSU campus was **10:09**. Most of our support is to the fire districts that are adjacent to NMSU, but we have been known to respond to the farther districts in Dona Ana County.

**2018**

![Bar chart showing calls for aid in 2018 for different fire districts in Dona Ana County. The chart highlights the highest contributions from Las Alturas and Las Cruces FD.]
In Support of Our Neighbors

NMSU’s Fire Department is staffed 24 hours a day every day of the year.
NMSU fire fighters are trained to NFPA standards and most are licensed to New Mexico Emergency Medical Technician Basic level or higher.

The comparison chart below shows the amount of emergency responses given in support of our surrounding communities. Those numbers have significantly increased in the last eight years.
NMSU’s Fire Department is the Authority Having Jurisdiction for fire, building and life safety within the boundaries of NMSU’s main campus.

This authority is granted by the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission through the State Fire Marshal’s Office. The NMSU Fire Department ensures that all construction on campus follows the latest iterations of the International Fire Code and the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standards. In 2018, NMSU’s main campus had several of its buildings undergo renovation as well as new construction. Below are our newest buildings.

- Juniper Hall - 300 bed student dorms, construction scheduled for completion by Fall 2019.
- Devastali Hall - Visual arts building and gallery, construction scheduled for completion by Fall of 2019.

Juniper Hall, current along side architectural rendition

Devastali Hall, current along side architectural rendition
NMSU’s Fire Department jurisdictional boundary is the NMSU Las Cruces campus and DACC Espina Campus.

Las Cruces campus is much like a small city, and through the efforts of 325 staff, Facilities and Services is responsible for the physical environment, the fire protection, and the environmental health safety and risk management for the students, faculty, visitors and staff.

Our Fall 2018 census on the Las Cruces Campus was 14,289 students. We have approximately 2,000 students/families that live here year around.
Every Second Counts. The Fire Department is updating its emergency evacuation maps throughout NMSU’s main campus and also completed a year long project of up-dating all its fire response pre-plans.

In 2018, NMSU’s Fire Department completed 130 fire safety building inspections on NMSU’s main campus. We supported the NMSU system by visiting our satellite campus’s at Alamogordo, Carlsbad, Grants, Dona Ana, Gadsden Center, Sunland Park Center and Chaparral Center to complete their annual fire safety building inspection and offer guidance on fire safety. Fire safety training is available upon request.

We are entrusted to ensure that all life safety protection devices are tested and inspected to the latest National Fire Protection Agency standards. This includes all fire hydrants, fire alarms, fire sprinkler, fire standpipes, alternative fire suppression systems, fire pumps, hood systems, smoke handling systems, emergency eye wash and emergency shower systems.

Our Facilities and Services fire alarm technicians is another component of our team as they maintain our fire extinguisher program. There are approximately 3,800 fire extinguishers on our main campus alone. Our alarm technicians also conduct the fire alarm and duress signal testing for each of the systems on campus and well as complete minor repairs. All our emergency alarms are monitored locally by our emergency dispatchers here on campus.

538 emergency eye wash/ showers
187 fire hydrants
117 fire alarm systems
53 fire sprinkler systems
28 commercial hood systems
12 fire stand pipe systems
4 alternative fire suppression systems
3 fire pumps
3 smoke handling systems
NMSU’s is recognized for its efforts in risk reduction by the Insurance Service Office (ISO) as NMSU earned an upgrade to its Public Protection Classification rating.

The new rating ranks NMSU’s Fire Department in the top 3% of all Fire Departments rated in the United States. This rating is the second upgrade in the last four (4) years for NMSU.

ISO rates a communities fire response capability, water distribution system and emergency communication system to establish a score. Scoring for the rating is one (1) to ten (10), where as a lower number signifies a better rating.

In 2013, the Fire Department experienced a re-organizational change to include a new Fire Chief and reporting directly to the Associate Vice President of Facilities and Services. Our fire team was expanded to include a fire deputy chief and two career firefighters that not only respond to emergencies but also provide the backbone to our prevention and safety efforts. Our efforts were quickly realized by better emergency response times and a visual presence on campus as we continued to build on our fire prevention and safety program. We drafted and adopted a compliance statement for the NMSU system where we established standards for testing and inspection of all life safety devices, developed a building fire safety inspection program and re-affirmed the NMSU Fire Department as the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) for NMSU main campus. In 2014, we earned our first ISO upgrade to an ISO Class #3. Previous to this upgrade, NMSU was recognized as having a split rating of 5/9.

We didn’t stop there! We identified other areas of improvement and four (4) years later, we now have our ISO Class #2. This new classification is a true indication that NMSU has taken a serious approach to reducing risk on campus.
2018 was a busy year for us!

Here are some of the events we participated in throughout the year:

- New Employee Orientation
- Student Orientation
- Young Achievers Forum
- Halloween Howl
- Tortugas Annual Pilgrimage
- Career Expo
- Faculty Orientation
- Move-In Day
- Student Employment Fair
- Aggie Memorial
- Southern NM Fallen Peace Officer Memorial
- Facilities and Service Picnic
- Spring Wellness Fair
- Myrna’s Children’s Village Carnival
- Tours at the Fire Station
- Facilities and Service Safety Blitz
- Aggie Safety Fair
- Finals Late Night Breakfast
- Aggie Athletic Games
- Special Events at Pan Am
- Santa’s Escort through NMSU
- Graduation Day
- Firefighter training with DACC and County Fire Service
Engaged with our Community

Community Outreach Focus

Our partnership with NMSU’s Environmental Health Safety & Risk Management, Dean of Students, Housing & Residential Life, Police Department and Sodexo has continued to flourish. This year we teamed up with Housing and Residential Life by providing an open house at the fire station where we served a pancake breakfast to our Aggie community. As part of the event we brought in the Dona Ana County Fire Prevention trailer where we taught on safe usage for fire extinguishers and Exit Drills in the Home. There was plenty of opportunity for the kids to talk with the student firefighters and see all the fire trucks. Canned food donations were collected and given to support our Aggie Cupboard.

Halloween Howl!

There was a great turnout at the Halloween Howl event held at the Upper Intramural Field, next to the NMSU Fire Station. Over 500 NMSU community youths and students stopped by to enjoy the festivities. Sparky joined NMSU Firefighters and Dona Ana County Fire Administration Firefighters who brought the Fire Safety Prevention Trailer to the event.
Holiday Parade with Santa

2018 marks the 18th year that NMSU’s Fire Department has been providing holiday spirit on NMSU’s main campus by providing a parade with plenty of flashing lights and the grand marshal “Santa”. The parade is held on Saturday evening, the week before Christmas Day.

The parade route starts at the fire department and travels through our South Campus housing area and ends at the NMSU Community Center. This marks the 2nd year that Housing and Residential Life has teamed up with the fire department to make the event even better. Cookies, hot cocoa, children’s activities and the chance to take a photo with Santa were part of the highlights. Santa listened carefully as children shared their Christmas wishes.
Engaged with Our Community

Each year the NMSU Fire Department participates in a variety of events to support our NMSU community.

This year was no different

Annual Tortugas Pilgrimage to “A” Mountain

Facilities and Services Annual Picnic

Emergency evacuation stair chair training

Supporting blood donations

NMSU PD / FIRE Charity Kickball Team
Most Americans today can remember where they were on the morning of September 11, 2001. The tragic events that occurred forever changed the way emergency responders prepare and respond today.

To commemorate the 17-year anniversary of 9/11, NMSU partnered with the City of Las Cruces with a Patriot Day Ceremony held at the Horseshoe Park.

Keynote speaker was Las Cruces Police Chief Patrick Gallagher who is a native New Yorker and was a Captain with the New York City Police Department during the 9/11 attack on the World Trade Center.
Student Firefighters

NMSU has a Very Unique Student Firefighter Program

We employ 14 full-time students from either the NMSU main campus or Dona Ana Community College. This comprises 70% of our firefighting team. As part of the program, each student firefighter must maintain their GPA above 2.5 and meet the same qualifications and standards as professional firefighters. This includes obtaining their New Mexico Emergency Medical Technician Basic license and Firefighter I / II certification. Our students graduate with a degree and experiences that few jobs can offer!

Congratulations to those students who met their educational goals and began their new careers in their chosen profession.

In 2018, three of our student firefighters joined the Las Cruces Fire Department. Congratulations to Aubrey Baily, Ross Chavez and Cameron Clark who graduated from the 32nd Fire Academy and are now serving the citizens of Las Cruces.

Congratulations to Dominic Guerrero who graduated from the City of El Paso 124th Police Academy and is now serving the citizens of El Paso, Texas.

Special Thanks to all of our student firefighters. In addition to their full academic schedule, they spend much of their free time here at the fire station, training, preparing and responding to a variety of emergencies. Our student firefighters serve a year long commitment to include weekends, holidays and summers. Their sacrifice is so others may rest assured that emergency responders on NMSU campus are only minutes away.
Our Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT)

We employee approximately 10 part-time EMT’s to staff sporting events, concerts and other special events throughout the year.
The NMSU Fire Department participates with DACC as an advisor and participates in labs to help support the Fire Science Program.

As part of a committee, NMSU Fire Department provides insight on types of trainings that would benefit students and course review for the Fire Science Program. In 2018, we developed and assisted with a fire apparatus obstacle course, forcible entry lab, fire sprinkler testing lab, fire apparatus and equipment inspection lab.

As part of our student firefighter recruiting program, we actively recruit at both the fire science program and emergency medical program at DACC.
Training

Training plays a vital role in the development and preparation of our firefighters to respond to the many emergencies that arise.

In 2018, we logged **7,305 hours** of in-house firefighter and emergency medical training. This is a significant increase from previous years. The increase in training hours is due to a renewed focus on capturing recognized firefighter training efforts. These efforts have lead NMSU to being able to achieve a higher ISO Public Protection Classification.

A few categories we train on include: building familiarization, fire pre-planning, emergency medical, hazardous materials, technical rescue, vehicle extrication, driver / operator, company officer and basic firefighter skills.

![Training Hours](image)

NMSU student firefighters train to NFPA Fire Training Standards to achieve the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress (IFSAC) certifications. Our goal is that each firefighter reaches the Fire Fighter II level along with the NM Emergency Medical Technician Basic level or higher in their first year. Many of our firefighters seek and specialize in other areas of firefighting such as Confined Space Rescue, Hazardous Materials, Rope Rescue, Vehicle and Heavy Machinery Extrication. Others expand on their emergency medical skills by obtaining their Intermediate or Advance level licensure.
Our firefighters routinely train on campus every day of the year.

Here are a few pictures.

Firefighters drilling on fire behavioral patterns, rescue techniques, fire hose line deployment and fire ground pumping operations at the Dona Ana County Fire Training Facility. The fire training building allows our firefighters to practice what they’ve learned in a somewhat controlled environment.

NMSU Police and Fire conducting preparedness drills for an "Active Shooter" event.
Here are a few more pictures..

- Water shuttle operations.
- Rope rescue training.
- Forced entry with DACC Fire Science program.
- Haz-mat Decontamination training.
- Aerial apparatus training.
NMSU Fire Department prides itself on the amount of community preparedness training we provide.

The Fire Department conducts fire safety extinguisher training the first Wednesday of each month and CPR training on the third Thursday of each month. Throughout the year, we offer fire safety training upon request. In 2018, we trained or certified:

- 225 persons on proper use of a fire extinguisher. We offer this class to our satellite campus’s as well.
- 99 persons were certified to American Heart Association CPR standard.
- 125 persons received hand-only CPR instruction.

In 2018, NMSU Fire Department instructed 225 persons on proper use of a fire extinguisher. This was a significant increase from 2017 where we taught 56 persons. The fire department has been providing fire extinguisher classes for 28 years with an annual average of 194 trained persons over that time period. Our first documented classes began in 1991.

Following national trends, NMSU began to teach hands-only CPR in 2017 which is a non-certified course to persons that are not in the medical field. In our first year we taught 67 persons. In 2018 we nearly doubled that by instructing 123 persons.

The number of AHA trained persons was down as compared to the previous two years. This can be attributed to the recent trend in hands-only CPR.
The current NMSU uniform shoulder patch was designed in 2013 by a committee made up of current Fire Chief Johnny Carrillo and student firefighters Sean O’Neill and William Guin. Both students have moved on to a career in fire fighting.

NMSU Fire Department challenge coins were designed in 2018. These coins are awarded to student firefighters upon graduating from NMSU, or graduating from a fire or police academy as part of being hired by a professional organization. NMSU Fire Department staff can become eligible for a coin by nomination by another staff member for work that is truly above and beyond of what is expected of them. Lastly, an individual or group may be recognized for an act of heroism, kindness or act that supports the safety of our NMSU community.
Acknowledgements, Awards and Recognition

The fire department takes great pride in providing quality service to our community and strive to continue meeting the expectations of all those we serve.

The Fire Department first started participating with the Fall Facilities & Services Customer Satisfaction Survey in 2013. We have exceeded a 90% satisfaction rating of satisfied or very satisfied in all reporting categories during each survey. This translates to the highest satisfaction rating amongst our peers in Facilities and Services for the past 6 consecutive years.

As a service provider, this is the single most highest award we receive. We thank you for supporting us, and by all means please let us know how we can better support you!

NMSU’s 2018 Student Firefighter of the Year

Congratulations to Sandro Roque for being selected as the 2018 NMSU Student Firefighter of the Year. Sandro began his employment with NMSU’s Fire Department in March of 2017. In addition to being a student firefighter, Sandro attended DACC in pursuit of his Associates degree in Fire Science and Emergency Medicine. Sandro has been selected to join the Las Cruces Fire Department and is attending the 33rd Fire Academy.

(Picture on left) Captain John Guerin awarded the 2018 Strickland Award for exceptional service within Facilities and Services.

(Picture on right) Captain John Guerin and FF Richard Largent completed the EMS Incident Operations course at the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, MD.
For more information about NMSU Fire Department and other community outreach and public education programs, please call:

NMSU Fire Department
575.646.2519
or visit us on our website at
fire.nmsu.edu
Facebook.com/NMSUFD