

Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management

Vision

To protect New Mexicans and the citizens and visitors of the United States through a comprehensive, coordinated all hazard, all threat Homeland Security and Emergency Management program that maximizes the ability of New Mexico to be responsive to changing and emerging threats, regardless of cause.

History

The Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management was created as a cabinet level agency during the 2007 legislative session. With a staff of over 60, DHSEM leads the State's response to emergencies and disasters while providing for the safety and welfare of its citizens. Emergencies and disasters can be defined as something caused by natural or human-made events or any other circumstance as determined by the Governor. When necessary, the State assists local jurisdictions whose capabilities are overwhelmed serving as the conduit for assistance from the Federal government. The Department follows the principal of emergency management: preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery.

Goals

- Expand regional collaboration to prevent, protect, respond to and recover from a terrorist incident, disaster, or emergency.
- Ensure state and jurisdictions have an All Hazard Emergency Operation Plan (EOP) that addresses local vulnerabilities.
- Improve border security at the US/Mexico international border.
- Procure proper equipment necessary for jurisdictions to enable response to natural disasters or terrorist incidents.
- Train state and local jurisdictions to be ready for emergencies.
- Implement an exercise program for state and local jurisdictions to follow for local preparedness.
- Develop a common operating system throughout the state for response and recovery from a terrorist incident, disaster, or local emergency.
- Develop and enhance statewide interoperable communications capability.
- Improve health and medical response capacity consistent with the state's established emergency management infrastructure.
- Enhance the ability of the state and local jurisdictions to recover from a terrorist incident, disaster, or emergency.
- Increase public/private sector awareness and participation in emergency preparedness.
- Identify and protect critical infrastructure and key resources.

Top Initiatives

- Border Security
- Interoperable Communication
- Information Sharing and Analysis
- Specialized Equipment for Specialized Teams by Region
- Training and Exercise

Programs and Abilities

- Citizen Corps
- Urban Search and Rescue
- Hazardous Material Capabilities
- Intel Fusion
- Response and Recovery
- Mitigation
- Training and Exercise

