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.

To request this document in an alternate format or request a disability accommodation, please contact Student Accessibility Services, 575.646.6840 (V/TTY) or the Office of Institutional Equity, 575.646.3635; 575.7802 (TTY) and equity@nmsu.edu. (7/2018 version)
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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Welcome to the Fire Departments Annual Report for 2019!

Every report tells the story of a snapshot in time. This report represents 365 days in the life of every person in NMSU’s Fire Department, with each of its 21 members contributing to the 1019 individual events that measure and define 2019.

Chief Carrillo, Deputy Chief Huber, Captains Tarkington and Guerin, Fire Fighters Boehms and Largent, and Mary Ann accomplish the statistics you see with college students under their care, guidance, and training. The respect, discipline, focus and professionalism these young adults exhibit with each action, along with their willingness to perform on the level this career demands is impressive by any standard.

As you look through the statistic presented, remember our NMSU Fire Department represent the top 3% of this country’s best fire departments. Since 55% of all incidents fall into the Rescue and Emergency Medical Services category, we are fortunate to have these young professionals responding to our emergencies.

We are very proud of our Fire Department.

Alton Looney
Interim Associate Vice President of Facilities and Services
Community risk reduction at NMSU is what we do. It is a process of identifying and prioritizing local risk, followed by an integrated and strategic investment of resources (emergency response and prevention) to reduce their occurrence and impact. Here at NMSU, the Fire Department plays a significant role to insure that our students, staff, faculty and visitors have a safe environment while on our beautiful campus.

With over 150 years of experience spread amongst our six career firefighters, our team offers a wealth of knowledge and proficiency in emergency response, fire pre-plans, fire prevention, building plan review, fire code compliance, and fire investigation.

Our career team is supported by fourteen NMSU student firefighters. All of which are trained to National Fire Protection Agency Standards and are licensed as NM Emergency Medical Technician’s. We are also supported by our Emergency Medical Technicians that are deployed to many of the special events that occur on campus.

Students, Staff, Faculty and Visitors to NMSU can count on effective, professional and timely responses to any emergency that may occur as well as can rest assured that the buildings they enter on NMSU are safe and in good condition.

We are BOLD! Our team takes AGGIE pride in our role and responsibility here at NMSU. We continually evaluate our services as we shape the future.
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 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 BOLD and They are Our Future”

NMSU has a Very Unique Student Firefighter Program

We employ 14 full-time students from NMSU main campus and 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 NFPA 1001 Firefighter I / II certification. Our students graduate with a diverse array of NMSU degrees and experiences that few jobs can offer!

Carlos Alonzo      Dominic Anderson    Lucas Cardenas    Damian Davila   Angela De Pasquale   Ozzie Gorbitz  Rogelio Hernandez  Matthew Holguin

NMSU employees two career firefighters with over 50 years of combined experience to support emergency response and fire prevention efforts through the regular work week. They provide guidance and mentorship to our student firefighters.

Ehan Klein   Serai Knighton      April Lopez  Ivan Molina    Thomas Ontiveros  Isaiah Tellez    Thomas Chase   Johnathon Urquidi

Career Firefighters

Richard Largent

Robert Boehms

BE BOLD! Shape the Future. TM
The Fire Departments budget for FY 2019/20 was $640,280.

This includes funds for salaries and administrative operating costs 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</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NMSU</td>
<td>$520,438</td>
<td>Salaries and administrative operating costs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$482,267 salaries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$38,171 administrative operating costs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NM State Fire Fund</td>
<td>$111,744</td>
<td>Used to purchase firefighting equipment, fuel,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>vehicle maintenance, uniforms, personal protective equipment, communications</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>and firefighter training.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMS Fund</td>
<td>$8,098</td>
<td>EMS equipment, medical supplies, and EMS training.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NMSU was awarded $320,500 by NM Legislative grant funding in support of NMSU’s fire department in FY 2019/20.

The funds were awarded for repair and maintenance of the fire station to include re-roofing, raising the height of the fire apparatus bay room and replacement of two of its apparatus bay doors.
Our History

 Tradition is everywhere at New Mexico State University. Our doors first opened in 1888. As NMSU celebrates 131 years, it’s a perfect time to remember the rich history of this University and its Fire Department.

 Documents from NMSU’s historical archive described three fires that occurred between 1908-1910. One of which occurred on September 12, 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. This corner stone serves as a continual reminder and pledge to our community that fire safety and safety in general will forever be in our minds as we plan and shape the future.

 In 1921, the College Fire Department was established by volunteer staff with Willie Preciado being appointed as its first Fire Chief.

 In 1958, the State of New Mexico Department of Insurance classified NMSU’s Public Protection Classification Insurance Service (ISO) rating to a class 8, (class 10 is the worst and class 1 being the best) and required the department to maintain at least ten volunteer firemen available at all times and set our fire district to NMSU campus boundaries.

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

 In 1984, NMSU earned its first ISO upgrade to a 5/9 split rating. The staffing at the fire station had changed by this time to include a shift from volunteer firefighters to a student firefighter program, employing 14 NMSU students.

 In 2013, under the direction of Fire Chief Johnny Carrillo, changes were made in the response, staffing model, 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 in 2018 we earned our current ISO 2 rating! 2021 will be an exciting year! NMSU’s Fire Department will be celebrating “100 Years of Service”.

 For more information on our history, please join us at fire.nmsu.edu.
In 2019, we responded to 1,019 calls for service.

Over 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 2019 was 4:27**. This includes both emergent and non-emergent responses.
Detailed Breakdown by Incident Type


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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INCIDENT TYPE</th>
<th># INCIDENTS</th>
<th>% of TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>111 - Building fire</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>1.07%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>118 - Trash or rubbish fire, contained</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0.59%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>122 - Fire in motor home, camper, recreational vehicle</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0.29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>131 - Passenger vehicle fire</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0.29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>132 - Road freight or transport vehicle fire</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>137 - Camper or recreational vehicle (RV) fire</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>140 - Natural vegetation fire, other</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>142 - Brush or brush-and-grass mixture fire</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0.99%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>143 - Grass fire</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>151 - Outside rubbish, trash or waste fire</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>154 - Dumpster or other outside trash receptacle fire</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0.29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>162 - Outside equipment fire</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>173 - Cultivated trees or nursery stock fire</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>240 - Explosion (no fire), other</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>311 - Medical assist, assist EMS crew</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>8.83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>320 - Emergency medical service, other</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>321 - EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury</td>
<td>368</td>
<td>36.11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>322 - Motor vehicle accident with injuries</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>4.32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>323 - Motor vehicle/pedestrian accident (MV Ped)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>324 - Motor vehicle accident with no injuries.</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>0.79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>341 - Search for person on land</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>352 - Extrication of victim(s) from vehicle</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>353 - Removal of victim(s) from stalled elevator</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>381 - Rescue or EMS standby</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>4.22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>411 - Gasoline or other flammable liquid spill</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>412 - Gas leak (natural gas or LPG)</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>2.75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>421 - Chemical hazard (no spill or leak)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>424 - Carbon monoxide incident</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0.29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>441 - Heat from short circuit (wiring), defective/worn</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>445 - Arcing, shorted electrical equipment</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>511 - Lock-out</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>0.79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>522 - Water or steam leak</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0.29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>531 - Smoke or odor removal</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>542 - Animal rescue</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>551 - Assist police or other governmental agency</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>1.13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>552 - Police matter</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>553 - Public service</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0.39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>554 - Assist invalid</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>2.45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>555 - Defective elevator, no occupants</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>561 - Unauthorized burning</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0.39%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Detailed Breakdown by Incident Type

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Incident Type</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>600 - Good intent call, other</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>611 - Dispatched &amp; cancelled en route</td>
<td>133</td>
<td>13.05%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>622 - No incident found on arrival at dispatch address</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>3.14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>631 - Authorized controlled burning</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>632 - Prescribed fire</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>651 - Smoke scare, odor of smoke</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0.59%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>652 - Steam, vapor, fog or dust thought to be smoke</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>671 - HazMat release investigation w/no HazMat</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0.49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>700 - False alarm or false call, other</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>710 - Malicious, mischievous false call, other</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>711 - Municipal alarm system, malicious false alarm</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>730 - System malfunction, other</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0.29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>731 - Sprinkler activation due to malfunction</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>733 - Smoke detector activation due to malfunction</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>1.77%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>735 - Alarm system sounded due to malfunction</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>4.32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>736 - CO detector activation due to malfunction</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>740 - Unintentional transmission of alarm, other</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>743 - Smoke detector activation, no fire - unintentional</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>2.75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>744 - Detector activation, no fire - unintentional</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0.69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>745 - Alarm system activation, no fire - unintentional</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>2.36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>746 - Carbon monoxide detector activation, no CO</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>812 - Flood assessment</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL INCIDENTS:</strong></td>
<td>1019</td>
<td>100.00%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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 500 gallon tank. It carries a full compliment of emergency medical equipment, forcible entry tools and 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.
Call Volume by Month of the Year, 3 year comparison

NMSU’s Fire Department responds both to Fire and EMS emergencies at NMSU and in support of our neighboring fire districts in Dona Ana County. Approximately 55% of our responses are for EMS related emergencies.

The spikes in August thru December corresponds with the start of the Fall semester and cold and flu season in our geographical area. Our peak month in 2019 was in November where the Fire Department responded to 108 calls for service.

Our peak in April and May can be attributed to allergy season. During the summer months of June and July there are only about 2,000 Aggies living on campus. During the Fall and Spring semester we average about 16,000 Aggies.

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 321 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 2019, Thursdays and Fridays were our busiest days. This trend was very similar to 2018. Generally, Sundays are the day that we get the least amount of emergency calls.

Response Analysis

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 emergency medical equipment, forcible entry tools and all Insurance Service Office required fire equipment.
**Response Analysis**

**Call Volume by Hour of the Day, 3 year comparison**

The hours between 8am—7pm continue to be our peak hours for emergency responses. This corresponds with the times when we have more people on campus. The amount of emergency responses trend downward starting at about 8pm and stays that way until about 6am.

![Graph showing call volume by hour of the day with 3 years of comparison](image)

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

NMSU FD, like the other fire districts in Dona Ana County offer and receive aid upon request. In 2019, NMSU FD responded to 537 (53% of total responses) calls for aid out of district. Our average response time outside NMSU campus was 10:59. 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.
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 2019, NMSU’s main campus had several of its buildings undergo renovation as well as new construction.

- Juniper Hall - 300 bed student dorms, construction completed in the Fall of 2019.
- Devastali Hall - Visual arts building and gallery, construction completed in the Fall of 2019.
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 2019 census on the Las Cruces Campus was 14,296 students. We have approximately 2,000 students/families that live here year around.
Fire Prevention & Preparedness

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 2019, NMSU’s Fire Department completed 188 fire safety building inspections on NMSU’s main campus. We also 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, and emergency eye wash and shower systems.

- 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
- 6 alternative fire suppression systems
- 3 fire pumps
- 3 smoke handling 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.
ISO Class #2

NMSU received its most recent upgrade to its Public Protection Classification rating by the Insurance Service Office (ISO) in 2018.

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.

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 five (5) years for NMSU.

In 2013, the Fire Department experienced a re-organizational change to include reporting directly to the Associate Vice President of Facilities and Services and a new Fire Chief. 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.
2019 was a busy year!
You may have seen us at:

- 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
- Open House Pancake Breakfast at the Fire Station
- Firefighter training with DACC and County Fire Service
- Arrowhead Early College High School
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 Sodexo served a pancake breakfast to our Aggie community while we demonstrated and allowed visitors to practice how to safely use a fire extinguisher in an emergency using our newly acquired fire extinguisher simulator. There was plenty of opportunity for the kids to talk with the student firefighters and see all the fire trucks.

Another event we sponsored this year was the Aggie Safety Fun Fest where there were plenty of fun activities for young and young at heart!

Canned food donations were collected at both events and given to support our Aggie Cupboard.
Holiday Parade with Santa

2019 marks the 19th year NMSU’s Fire Department has provided 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 year is the 3rd 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.
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 18-year anniversary of 9/11 NMSU partnered with the City of Las Cruces with a Patriot Day Ceremony held at the Horseshoe Park.
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. The NMSU Fire Department has developed and assists with the 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.

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

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

In 2019, we logged 5,660 hours of in-house firefighter and emergency medical training. 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.

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.
Preparing for the real event.

Vehicle Extrication Training

Active Shooter Training (Live Scenario)

Fire Hose Training

Fire Extinguisher Training

Fire Attack and Hose Deployment
The NMSU Fire Department takes a great deal of pride in providing preparedness training opportunities for our NMSU community.

Fire extinguisher training is held on 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 2019, we trained or certified:

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

The fire department recently acquired a mobile fire extinguisher simulator. This simulator includes a digital fire that can be extinguished by proper use of the accompanying fire extinguisher. This allows for students to get an experience of putting out a simulated fire in a safe environment.

The fire department has been providing fire extinguisher classes for 28 years with an annual average of 194 trained persons over that time period.

Following national trends, NMSU’s Fire Department 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 2019, NMSU’s Fire Department instructed 91 persons. This training is provided to NMSU’s Facilities and Service personnel each August during our Annual Safety Blitz training. This provides our employees the knowledge and skills on how to help someone that may be suffering from a severe cardiac event.

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.
Shaping the Future

One way we measure the success of our student firefighter program is by the success our students have as they search out their careers and gain the employment that they desire. As our students move on, they leave with degrees, various firefighting certifications, emergency medical licensure, life experiences and lifelong friendships. All of these play a part in their future. 2019 was no different. These students chose to continue on with a career in Public Service. Join us in celebrating their accomplishments and wishing them successful careers!

Sandro Roque
City of Las Cruces Firefighter
33rd Fire Academy

Brennan Chambers
City of Albuquerque Fire Rescue
94th Fire Academy

Arthur Trujillo
City of Albuquerque Fire Rescue
94th Fire Academy

Dominick Guerrero (left)
City of El Paso Police Officer, 124th Academy

Isaiah Telles, (right) Dona Ana County & Spaceport America Firefighter

Aaron Cruz (left) and Ozzie Gorbitz (right)
City of Las Cruces Firefighters
34th Academy

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.
Acknowledgements, Awards and Recognition

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. Our students, are our future! When their tour of duty is complete here at NMSU, they go on to leaders in their community in their chosen profession. These firefighters received their earned coin in 2019.

William Grooms
Bat. Chief, Las Cruces FD

Ben Ojinaga
Bat. Chief, Greenly Colorado FD

Kellen Tarkington
Captain, NMSU FD
Above and Beyond 2019 Strickland Award

Justin Chepsongol
Driver Las Cruces FD

William Guin
Firefighter, City of Artesia FD

Mark Bridges
Captain, Austin Texas FD

Eric Adair
Fire Fighter Albuquerque Fire & Rescue

Justin Whitefield
Fire Lieutenant, Las Cruces FD

Ben Ojinaga
Bat. Chief, Greenly Colorado FD

Mark Bridges
Captain, Austin Texas FD

William Guin
Firefighter, City of Artesia FD

Kellen Tarkington
Captain, NMSU FD
Above and Beyond 2019 Strickland Award

Justin Whitefield
Fire Lieutenant, Las Cruces FD
Acknowledgements, Awards and Recognition

The fire department takes great pride in providing quality service to our community and strives 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 7 consecutive years on survey.

As a service provider, this is the 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 2019 Student Firefighter of the Year

Congratulations to Isaiah Telles for being selected as the 2019 NMSU Student Firefighter of the Year. Isaiah began his employment with NMSU’s Fire Department in March of 2017. In addition to being a student firefighter, Isaiah attends NMSU in pursuit of his Bachelor’s in Business degree. Isaiah has chosen to continue his path at becoming a career firefighter. He was recently selected to join the Dona Ana County Fire & Emergency Service Fire Department.

Dona Ana County 2019 Firefighter of the Year

Congratulations to NMSU Fire Captain Kellen Tarkington who received the prestigious award from the American Legion, Post #10.

Kellen also was recognized by Facilities and Service as one of the “Strickland” award winners for 2019.
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

BE BOLD! Shape the Future.