

NMSC Members

Hon. Edward Chavez (retd.), Chair
Bob Cleavall, Vice Chair
Cindy Aragon, appointed by the State Bar
Hector Balderas, Attorney General
Bennett Baur, Chief Public Defender
Hon. Marci Beyer, appointed by the District and
Metropolitan Court Judge's Association
Brian Blalock, Secretary of the Children, Youth, and Families
Department
Neal A. Bowen, Ph.D., Behavioral Health Director
Sheriff Mark Cage, appointed by the House Minority Floor
Leader
Hon. John Chavez, appointed by the New Mexico Supreme
Court
Mark Donatelli, appointed by the Speaker of the House
Sheriff Manuel Gonzales III, appointed by New Mexico
Counties
Claire Harwell, appointed by the Governor
Brady Horn, Ph.D., appointed by the New Mexico Supreme
Court
April Land, for the Dean of UNM School of Law
Michael Lilley, appointed by the Senate President Pro Tem
Angela "Spence" Pacheco, appointed by the Speaker of the
House
Arthur Pepin, Director of the Administrative Office of the
Courts, appointed by the New Mexico Supreme Court
Nina Safier, appointed by the Governor
David Schmidt, appointed by the Senate President Pro Tem
Tim Johnson, Acting Secretary of the Department of Public
Safety
Ryan Stewart, Secretary of Education
Martin Suazo, appointed by the Senate President Pro Tem
Alisha Tafoya Lucero, Secretary of Corrections
Clint Wellborn, appointed by the New Mexico District
Attorneys' Association
Ron West, appointed by the Senate Minority Floor Leader

Current Projects & Reports

- NMSC produces a series of annual reports concerning prison populations, meritorious deduction, and controlled release. These and other issue-specific reports are available on: nmsc.unm.edu/reports
- Newly established Crime Reduction Grants Program: The Crime Reduction Grants Act, passed by the Legislature in 2019, tasked the NMSC with coordinating the disbursement of crime reduction grants to Criminal Justice Coordinating Councils in the state to support local-level innovation in criminal justice systems. The program launched with a data integration program that awarded grants to develop a criminal justice data sharing network and governance infrastructure.
- The NMSC has been charged with overseeing a program to integrate criminal justice data systems across the state. The first step of this effort is to implement the use of a unique identification number for offenders to be used in all criminal justice records pertaining to that person.
- The NMSC is spearheading an effort to create standards to collect better racial and ethnic data in the state's criminal justice systems.



NEW MEXICO
**Sentencing
Commission**

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About the Commission

The New Mexico Sentencing Commission (NMSC) serves as a criminal and juvenile justice policy resource to the three branches of state government and interested citizens.

Its mission is to provide impartial information, analysis, recommendations, and assistance from a coordinated cross-agency perspective, with an emphasis on maintaining public safety and making the best use of our criminal and juvenile justice resources.

The Commission is made up of representatives from across the criminal justice system, including members of the Executive and Judicial branches, legislative appointees, law enforcement officials, criminal justice attorneys, and citizens.

NMSC Staff

Linda Freeman, Executive Director
Douglas Carver, Deputy Director
Amanda Armstrong, CFO/Business Manager
Shari Houk, Research Scientist
Nicole Devereaux, Research Scientist
Angelica Gurule, Research Scientist
Derek Chin, Research Scientist

Research Partnerships

NMSC partners with a variety of agencies. In some cases, the agency provides NMSC with data on an ongoing basis. Often NMSC works with an organization to conduct a one-time analysis or evaluation, or to prepare a single report.

Research Partners:

- New Mexico Corrections Department
- New Mexico Administrative Office of the Courts
- New Mexico Department of Public Safety
- Fathers Building Futures
- Rio Arriba County
- Pojoaque Tribal Court
- City of Santa Fe

Institute for Social Research (ISR)

NMSC is a research unit housed within ISR. ISR is a well-regarded provider of program evaluation and policy research in New Mexico. Known as an authority on adult and juvenile justice issues in New Mexico, ISR staff members and faculty affiliates also have expertise in the fields of education, economics, substance abuse treatment programs, poverty and homelessness, domestic violence, employee workloads and staffing levels, election sciences and administration, evaluation research, public policy, and public administration.

NMSC Committees

Justice Information Sharing Council (JISC)

JISC is a statewide criminal and juvenile justice agency team with the core mission of improving efficient and timely sharing of criminal justice data through the use of information technology.

Juvenile Committee

The Juvenile Committee focuses on New Mexico juvenile justice issues. The committee visits programs and facilities throughout the state and makes recommendations to the Full Commission as appropriate.

Legislative Committee

The Legislative Committee operates during the Legislative Sessions and makes recommendations to policy makers on justice-related legislation.

Reform Committee

The Reform Committee's work is focused on advising the Executive, Judicial, and Legislative branches of government on policy matters relating to criminal and juvenile justice, and making recommendations to the Executive and Legislative branches of government concerning proposed changes to laws relating to the criminal and juvenile justice systems that would improve those systems.

Sex Offender Management Board (SOMB)

The core mission of the SOMB is to develop and recommend to the Full Commission the best practices in the management and treatment of adult and juvenile sex offenders, while protecting current victims and preventing future victims of sex offenses.