



The Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management
13 Bataan Blvd., Santa Fe 87501

Jackie Lindsey
Cabinet Secretary

jackie.lindsey@state.nm.us
(505) 382-2453

2019 Legislative Priorities

1. A draft statute to establish on domestic terrorism crimes in the state has been sent for review and consideration. The proposed laws include the act of Soliciting or Providing Material Support to an Act of Terrorism, Making a Terroristic Threat and the crime of Terrorism as it applies to our state. Special attention was given in drafting this proposed legislation to use best practices from states such as New York and New Jersey where these statutes have passed the litmus tests of courtroom practice and public opinion. The statutes also provide for special penalties for the use of high capacity weapons without regulating legal ownership and possession – a key element to reduce the potential for mass shootings and similar acts of violence.
2. A legislative proposal to provide supplemental funding to the DHSEM Homeland Security Bureau was drafted. This legislation is intended to fund a state of the art fusion center with a dedicated community partnerships element, to ensure that information and intelligence is collected, analyzed and used to inform decision making and responses. Efforts to seek federal funding for this effort in 2020 were not successful and the increasing work and expectations of the Homeland Security Bureau need supplemental funding to ensure we are able to address the threats, risks and vulnerabilities to our communities.
3. A proposal to clarify the law enforcement – criminal justice role of DHSEM through its Homeland Security Bureau has been forwarded for consideration. This is essential to meet the legal standards and accreditation requirements, and to ensure that these functions of the department are adequately protected and delivered to our clients statewide. This is an add-in to Article 28 NMSA.
4. Continuity of Operations (COOP) throughout the state is an essential risk mitigation and preparedness effort, and state government operations require a dedicated element to ensure COOP is supported and implemented. DHSEM is requesting supplemental support to ensure that all state agencies, programs and activities have a COOP process and that these processes are practiced to ensure operational integrity.