

Police Accountability

New Mexico has one of the highest rates of police shootings in the country. Our largest municipal police force is under a federal consent decree, and agencies across the state are pushing back against body-worn cameras — despite a new bill signed into law earlier this year. Excessive force erodes community trust, especially when law enforcement aren't held accountable. Legal accountability is crucial to maintaining public safety and public trust.



Legislative Priorities:

- Limitations on Use of Force
- Prohibit No-Knock Warrants and Quick-Knock Raids
- New Mexico Civil Rights Act
- Repeal Peace Office Employer-Employee Relations Act
- Confront Gender and Racial Disparities



Sensible Drug Policy

Substance use disorder has plagued New Mexico families for decades. For years, communities in New Mexico have had some of the highest overdose death rates in the country. At the same time, instead of providing treatment infrastructure, we incarcerate people for simply possessing controlled substances. It's time we treat substance use as a public health issue, not a criminal justice issue.

Legislative Priorities:

- Legalize & Regulate Cannabis for Adults^{\$}
- De-felonize Simple Drug Possession^{\$}
- Authorize Overdose Prevention Sites

^{\$} This proposal generates revenue, saves money or represents a reinvestment of money saved through criminal legal system reforms

Individualized Sentencing

New Mexico's prison population has skyrocketed over the last few decades, and the system has shifted away from a rehabilitation model to simply warehousing individuals. We fund the system on the backs of defendants by charging exorbitant fees at every stage of the criminal legal system. Collecting fees costs more than we collect, and we often incarcerate people for failure to pay, resulting in a debtor's prison. We also incarcerate probationers who miss appointments or struggle with addiction. These are not smart or sustainable practices, and they do nothing to improve public safety.



Legislative Priorities:

- End Debtor's Prisons and Eliminate Criminal Justice System Fees^{\$}
- Give Judges Discretion on Habitual Offender Enhancements^{\$}
- Statewide Technical Probation Violation Reform^{\$}

Restoring Communities

Overwhelming evidence shows that when we address the social factors driving criminal behavior, we reduce crime and increase public safety. Our current system provides little support to individuals to avoid recidivism and a cycle of incarceration. A better approach would prioritize non-coercive treatment, diversionary programs, and other alternatives to incarceration while providing the leg-up that our communities need.



Legislative Priorities:

- Non-police First Responders for Behavioral Health Calls
- Community Substance Use and Mental Health Treatment^{\$}
- Increase Housing Vouchers Generally and for Individuals Reentering After Jail or Prison^{\$}
- End Driver's License Suspensions for Failure to Appear or Pay
- Automatic Voting Rights Restoration
- Removing Barriers to Occupational Licensing for People with Criminal Records

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