

**State of New Mexico
Corrections Department**

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“We commit to the safety and well-being of the people of New Mexico by doing the right thing, always.”

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Outlets Sent – Statewide Media Release

Reference: Statewide Lockdown

Date of Release: March 14, 2016

Details: The New Mexico Corrections Department (NMCD) has been on lockdown status at all facilities statewide since March 10, 2016 due to the escape of two inmates while being transported from the Santa Fe Penitentiary of New Mexico to the Southern New Mexico Correctional Facility.

Inmate Joseph Cruz was taken into custody on March 11, 2016 and subsequently Inmate Lionel Clah was taken into custody on March 12, 2016.

NMCD recognizes the value of inmate and family contact while inmates are incarcerated. Because we value your connectivity to your family, as we go through our security assessment, we will attempt to phase in contact between inmates and their families. NMCD is also committed to ensuring the safety and security of the prisons and the public as a priority therefore will continue the lockdown status until further notice.

Visitors can visit New Mexico Corrections Department website and our social media Facebook page for updates on lifting the restriction.

Thank you

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