

STATE OF NEW MEXICO

Corrections Department

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SOUTHERN NEW MEXICO CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

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NEWS RELEASE

March 16, 2011

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SOUTHERN NM CORRECTIONAL FACILITY PASSES CORRECTIONAL AUDIT WITH 100 PERCENT

LAS CRUCES, NM - The American Correctional Association (ACA) Audit Committee has completed its audit of the Southern New Mexico Correctional Facility (SNMCF) in Las Cruces, New Mexico. SNMCF passed the audit with a 100 percent compliance of all mandatory standards and a 100 percent compliance of all non-mandatory standards.

The ACA Audit Committee conducted the standards compliance audit on March 14, 2011 and finished today, March 16, 2011. After touring the facility, reviewing documentation and conducting interviews with staff and inmates, the committee complimented the prison on their use of educational resources in the medical units, they were highly impressed with the prisons security practices, they complimented the staff for being professional and the facility overall for being clean and orderly, high praise was also given to the Medical, Mental Health and Dental services.

SNMCF is one of the longest standing accredited facilities, but this is the first time that SNMCF has received a 100 percent in both mandatory and non-mandatory standards. "This is a big deal for SNMCF and the Corrections Department. They have worked hard to improve and maintain excellence", said NMCD Secretary Lupe Martinez.

SNMCF was evaluated on 530 standards covering areas of prison operations including: sanitation, medical, programs and security. The ACA auditors were chairperson, Kathryn Slack from Colorado, Barbara Dennison from Texas and James Bailey from Texas. The audit team will present its recommendations and report to the Commission on Accreditation for Corrections Panel at the C.A.M.A or A.C.A hearing later this year in Florida. At this time, a final decision will be made to determine SNMCF's accreditation status and score. The accreditation panel, more often than not, follows the auditors' recommendation. Each accreditation is good for three years.

SNMCF located in Las Cruces, New Mexico has approximately 775 inmates and 330 staff members. The facility is a multi-custody level facility, housing Levels 2, 3, 4 and interim 6.

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