

STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
**CORRECTIONS DEPARTMENT**

Central Office Administration: 4337 State Road 14, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87508  
Post Office Box 27116, Santa Fe, NM 87502-0116  
Main Number (505) 827-8600 Fax (505) 827-8533  
[www.corrections.state.nm.us](http://www.corrections.state.nm.us)

Susana Martinez, Governor  
John Sanchez, Lt. Governor

**Lupe Martinez**

Secretary of Corrections (505) 827-8884

**Jolene M. Gonzales**

Deputy Secretary of Administration/CFO (505) 827-8667



Administrative Services	(505) 827-8601
Adult Prisons	(505) 827-8767
Corrections Industries	(505) 827-8597
General Counsel	(505) 827-8698
Information Technology	(505) 827-8713
Probation and Parole	(505) 827-8830
Reentry & Prison Reform	(505) 827-8541
Training Academy	(505) 827-8900

**NEWS RELEASE**

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Contact: Deanna Hoisington  
Acting Warden/PIO  
505-876-8301 Office  
505-290-7766 Cell

**WESTERN NEW MEXICO CORRECTIONAL FACILITY EARNS A 100%**

**Grants, NM** - The American Correctional Association (ACA) audit committee has completed its audit of the Western New Mexico Correctional Facility (WNMCF) in Grants. WNMCF passed the audit with a 100 percent compliance of all mandatory standards and a 100 percent compliance of non-mandatory standards.

The ACA audit committee conducted the standards compliance audit on June 13-15, 2011. After touring the facility, reviewing documentation and conducting interviews with staff and inmates, the committee complimented WNMCF on fulfilling its obligations to offenders, staff and the community. They were very impressed by the cleanliness of the facility and the staffs' ability to achieve a 100 percent at this time, considering the facility is not fully staffed.

WNMCF was evaluated on 529 standards covering areas of prison operations including: sanitation, medical, programs and security. The ACA auditors were Chairman, Jack Falconer from Arizona, Jean Motlz from Colorado and Warden Steve Hargett from Wyoming. The audit team will present its recommendations and report to the Commission on Accreditation for Corrections Panel in Kissimmee, Florida, in August. At this time, a final decision will be made to determine WNMCF's accreditation status and score. The accreditation panel, more often than not, follows the auditors' recommendation. Accreditation is valid for three years.

WNMCF has approximately 420 inmates and 200 staff. The facility is a minimum-level and medium-level security prison, incarcerating inmates classified as Levels II, III, and IV.

**Additional Information:** The New Mexico Corrections Department maintains the prestigious Eagle Award. This award is presented to correctional agencies that have all applicable entities (Probation/Parole, Training Academy, Central Office, prison facilities, and Corrections Industries) ACA accredited.

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