

GANGS



Lemuel L. Martinez

13th Judicial District Attorney

Serving: Cibola, Sandoval and Valencia Counties

What is a Gang?

A Gang is a group of individuals that is generally involved in delinquent or criminal activities. The group includes: core members, regulars and peripheral members. The leadership, or core members, determines the nature, level and goals of gang activity. Some characteristics attributed to gangs include: group organization, leadership, violent behavior, territory, recurrent interaction, violent behavior and the use of symbolism. A link exists between youth gang members and later adult crime. Gangs typically engage in illegal money-making activities such as: drug and firearms trafficking. The increase in the violent behavior of youth gangs has resulted in its members engaging in illegal money-making activities.

Gang Recruitment

- ◆ Peer pressure, the promise of protection, community association or a sense of family.
- ◆ Monetary incentives.
- ◆ Intimidation.
- ◆ A history of family involvement with a particular gang.

Reasons For Kids Joining a Gang:

- ◆ Low self-esteem
- ◆ A sense of belonging due to lack of friends or family involvement.
- ◆ Real or perceived protection.
- ◆ Friend(s) or other acquaintances are gang members.
- ◆ Family members already belong to a gang.

Signs of Gang Involvement:

- ◆ New friends or associations with known gang members.
- ◆ A loss in family interest.
- ◆ Shows a disregard for others and their property.
- ◆ Exhibits signs of likely drug or alcohol use.
- ◆ Trouble with law enforcement
- ◆ An Unwillingness to discuss their activities

What Makes New Mexico Susceptible to Gang Crime?

- ◆ New Mexico is the only state in the Southwest that has not enacted some form of gang legislation.
- ◆ Lack of recognition and constant reporting of gang-related crime.
- ◆ Inadequate funding at all levels of the state's criminal justice system
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- ◆ Close proximity to the Mexican border.
- ◆ Limited treatment, prevention and intervention.

New Mexico consistently ranks at or near the bottom of the fifty states in areas that are prime indicators of gang susceptibility.

- ◆ Drop-out rates, public school scores and teacher salaries.
- ◆ Teenage pregnancy
- ◆ Median household income
- ◆ Single parent households

Resources:

Cibola County Law Enforcement:

Cibola County Sheriff Office (505)876-2040

Acoma Pueblo Police Department (505)552-6601

Grants Police Department (505)287-5144

Laguna Pueblo Police Department (505)552-6685

Milan Police Department (505)287-4491

Pine Hill – Ramah Navajo Police Department (505)775-3226

New Mexico State Police (505)287-4377

Sandoval County Law Enforcement:

Sandoval County Sheriff Office (505)867-7526
Bernalillo Police Department (505)867-2304
Cochiti Pueblo Police Department (505)465-3136
Corrales Police Department (505)898-7585
Cuba Police Department (505)289-9157
Jemez Pueblo Police Department (575)834-0468
Jemez Springs Police Department (575)829-3345
Kewa Pueblo - B.I.A. Police (505)346-2868/2869
Rio Rancho Police Department (505)891-5900
Sandia Pueblo Police Department (505)890-1428
San Felipe Pueblo – B.I.A. Police (505)346-2868/2869
Santa Ana Pueblo Police Department (505)891-7226
San Ysidro Police Department (575)834-7581
New Mexico State Police (505)841-9256

Valencia County Law Enforcement:

Valencia County Sheriff Department (505)865-9603
Belen Police Department (505)864-6288
Bosque Farms Police Department (505)869-2358
Isleta Pueblo Police Department (505)869-6511
Los Lunas Police Department (505)865-9130
New Mexico State Police (505)841-9256

New Mexico State Law Enforcement

New Mexico State Police: (505)-827-9300

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