New Mexico Corrections Department (NMCD)

Mike Estrada
Program Manager
Community Corrections
NMCD is comprised mainly of two (2) divisions. They are:

- Adult Prisons
- Probation and Parole
NMCD works with individuals convicted of state crimes.

State crimes are primarily those that carry a sentence of over one (1) year.
What is the difference between jail and prison?
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- Prisons are run by the state. When people go to prison, they usually stay there for more than one (1) year.
NMCD works with individuals who are or have been in jail or prison, and others who are on probation and/or parole.
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- Parole means a period of supervision that *follows* a period of prison time.
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- Probation generally means supervision by an officer in the community instead of going to jail or prison.
- Parole means a period of supervision that follows a period of prison time.
- NMCD officers handle both Probation and Parole cases.
For the most part:
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- Following prison, no more than two (2) years of parole.
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- New Mexico cases carry no more than five (5) years of probation and
- Following prison, no more than two (2) years of parole.
- The amount of time a person spends on probation or parole depends on the severity of the crime.
New Mexico Probation-Parole Officers:
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- Provide community supervision to individuals convicted of crimes.
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- Prepare reports for the courts and Parole Board.
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- Refer individuals to treatment such as substance abuse, mental health, anger management, etc.
New Mexico Probation-Parole Officers:

- Provide community supervision to individuals convicted of crimes.
- Prepare reports for the courts and Parole Board.
- Testify at hearings.
- Refer individuals to treatment such as substance abuse, mental health, anger management, etc.
- Help probationers and parolees with employment, housing, health care access, transportation, etc.
If someone allegedly violates his or her probation or parole conditions:
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- The Probation-Parole Officer can arrest the individual and
- Must tell the court or Parole Board about the alleged violation.
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- Most people who go to prison do come home, but
- They face special barriers to reintegrating themselves back into the community.
- These barriers include ongoing difficulties with substance abuse, problems finding work with a criminal conviction, problems finding housing, and family difficulties, among others.
NMCD tries to help people coming out of prison with:
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- Getting connected with a community treatment provider.
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- Acquiring ID cards and re-establishing disability benefits.
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- Acquiring ID cards and re-establishing disability benefits.
- Accessing halfway houses or other affordable housing, and
- Identifying employers willing to give people a “second chance.”
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- County Probation in Bernalillo County and some other areas,
- Federal (U.S.) Probation,
- Pre-trial services,
- Specialized “Drug Court” and “Mental Health Court” programs, and
- Community supervision by jails, among others.
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- So people can access mental health care and other services that support their overall well being.
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- So people can access mental health care and other services that support their overall well being.
- NMCD works closely with other Collaborative agencies to make sure probationers/parolees are not forgotten and can receive behavioral health care services available to all New Mexicans.
Questions
Contact Information

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